

[Daniels, Herman]

HARFORD MILLS

Mr. Herman Daniels, Sen., died at his residence, in this place March 6th, aged 95 years, 4 months and 10 days. The funeral was held at the Congregational church in Harford, on Friday the 9th. A sermon was preached by the Rev. H. W. [Harry Willis] Hand, pastor of the Universalist church of Cortland. He was buried with masonic honors. Grandfather Daniels was born in Brandon, Rutland Co., Vt. in 1787. When about 8 years of age, he came to Oneida Co. N.Y. with his parents; where he remained until he was twenty-one, when he was married to Miss Elvira Walker, in 1808. In 1816 they moved to Richford, Tioga Co. N.Y. and settled where A. Davis now lives, in an almost unbroken wilderness. Here they shared together the hardships and privations of pioneer life. But before his sturdy stroke the forest receded, and retiring with its shades, the fawn and the wolf withdrew their curious gazing into his cabin door, and as the genial sun shone in, a farm blossomed and fruited before their gladdened view. Here, three sons and two daughters grew to mature man and womanhood, while two little forms were laid to rest, beneath the myrtle blossoms in the silent city. Their patient toil and frugal care continued to be rewarded, and ere long, a substantial frame house arose to take the place of the rustic log ribbed cabin. In 1836 a dark cloud enveloped this happy home, and the gentle wife and mother passed away. About two years later he married again and subsequently sold his farm, and bought a hotel in Dryden. Here, he lost his second wife; and soon after moved to Erie Co., N.Y., where he also married and buried his third wife. In 1854 he moved to Wisconsin, where he married his last wife, Mrs. Lucy Simon, who died last September. With her he moved to the eastern states, and in 1877 they moved to Harford Mills. Mr. Daniels was made a mason in 1812; he soon became an efficient workman, and rendered valuable service in the formation of several new lodges, in the different places where he has lived, and was once master of the old Dryden lodge. He has been a Mason about 70 years, and is believed to have been the oldest mason in the state. He was a pensioner of the war of 1812, and a staunch Democrat. Religiously he was a lifelong universalist. His quiet conversation upon the subject, with his friends, and his cool preparation in making his toilet [burial arrangements] for the final change, during his last hours, was a scathing rebuke, to those persons of small caliber, who, from their pulpits, attempt to ridicule and make light of the cosolancy [sic] and firm faith of universalist. He retained [The rest of the notice is cut off here in my source.]

*Cortland Democrat*, Cortland NY, Fri. 16 Mar 1883