

[Dorchester, Delia Ann]

OLDEST RESIDENT DIES, AGED 101 YEARS

Father in War of 1812, Grandfather in Revolution

She Leaves 129 Relatives

Miss Delia Ann Dorchester Was a Native of This
County and Had Lived Many Years in Town

Aged 100 years and seven months, Miss Delia Ann Dorchester, one of the oldest residents of New York state, and the oldest resident of Jefferson county, died at the home of her niece, Mrs. Erskine H. Gilmore, of Dexter, about 8 Sunday morning from a general physical breakdown resulting from a severe cold with which she first became afflicted in January. She leaves a sister, Mrs. Eli Witt, of Chaumont, and 128 other relatives.

Miss Dorchester was a real daughter of the War of 1812, and was qualified to be a member of the Daughters of 1812, and also of the Daughters of the American Revolution, but held membership in neither of these. Her father, Hooker Thompson Dorchester, fought in the War of 1812, and her grandfather, Alexander Dorchester, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War. With her father and mother and grandparents, she will rest in the Muscallonge cemetery, her funeral being held at 1 Tuesday afternoon from the home of her niece, Mrs. Gilmore. Rev. Harry Westerbrook Reed, pastor of All Souls Universalist church, will officiate.

Because of her age and the fact that she had been practically free from illness all the years of her life up to the time of her death, Miss Dorchester was a remarkable woman. She was a lifelong member of the Universalist church, having been one of the first in this section, and she held membership in the church of that denomination at Dexter. Her life had been quietly spent and aside from her church, she belonged to no societies or institutions. Early in her life, her brother, Alfred Dorchester, lost his wife and she took up her residence with him on Pillar Point, bringing up his three children. Later Hooker Dorchester, one of these three children, removed to Bellville, Ia., and asked her to go there to reside with him. She was about 40 years of age at the time she left this section and from that time on until about four or five years ago, she spent the greater part of her time in the west, making occasional trips back here.

When she was 96 years of age she made a trip back to Dexter, unaccompanied. After remaining here for a few weeks, she returned to the west, but stayed for only a comparatively brief period, when she returned here to permanently reside with her niece, Mrs. Gilmore. She had resided there for about two and a half years.

She was one of the oldest of eight children, Mrs. Eli Witt, of the Morris Tract near Limerick, aged 89 years, being now the only one of these children surviving. Besides her sister she is survived by the following nieces and nephews, Edwin N. Dorchester, Mrs. Frank D. Pierce, Mrs. Mary Lee, Miss Kate Dorchester, of this city; Mrs. Mercy Everett, Saranac Lake; Miss Delia Dorchester, Butte, Mont.; Mrs. Erskine H. Gilmore, Dexter; Hooker Dorchester, Bellville, Ia.; Edwin Dorchester, Aurora, Ill.; Hardy Dorchester, Idaho.

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