

[Elmer, Caroline "Carrie" Sanderson]

MRS. CARRIE ELMER, AGED CANTON
DIES FROM HEART ATTACK SUNDAY AFTERNOON
Grandparents Settled Here In Farm Still In the Family

Canton reveres the memory of Mrs. Caroline Sanderson Elmer whose death occurred from a heart attack at her home on Elm street at five Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Elmer was probably the oldest native resident of the town of Canton, having been born in the old Sanderson farm house three miles out on the Pierpont road on April (16?), 1845, making her nearly ninety years of age.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon from her late home at 2 and burial will be at Evergreen cemetery.

When one thinks of Mrs. Carrie Elmer it is to recall a woman who never grew old in spirit or mind. She had resided for over forty years in her home on Elm street, living alone after the death of her husband George N. Elmer, in 1898. Many college students had roomed there and she mothered them and cared for them as she would her own children. So long as she was able she remained active in many things [in] which she was interested, such as church, the W.C.T.U., the Grange and Gouverneur Morris Chapter of the D.A.R. Her mind was a veritable storehouse of information of facts about the early families and happenings of Canton, and even though the years continued their march she never flagged in keeping in touch with the trend of world events.

For her, life held its charm and sweetness. She remained youthful in spirit and took both pride and interest in her children, her grandchildren and her great grandchildren, keeping constantly in touch with them and what they were doing, as she did with the many college students who had lived with her and always called on her when they returned to Canton.

Her life and family history go far back, for she came from among the first Canton settlers, her people coming here shortly after the War of 1812. Her grandfather, Ebenezer Sanderson, was born in Vermont in 1793 and her grandmother, (Lula?) Priest, was born in the same state in 1795... Ebenezer and (Lula?) were married February 12, 1814, in Shrewsbury, Vt. It was not long after that when they set forth for the Valley of the St. Lawrence, crossing Lake Champlain and following the old Chateaugay Trail to arrive at what has ever since been "the Sanderson place" on the Pierrepoint road...

Those early settlers were thrifty and seven years after the Sandersons arrived here they had paid for their home. The farm still remains in the family. It was there on Sept. 5, 1818, that Mrs. Elmer's father Nelson Sanderson was born. It was from this home that the boy Nelson trudged three miles to the old Canton Academy in the '30s and with Stillman Foote

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2d, received a substantial education. It was to the present fine old home now standing, with its colonial architecture, its fine old fireplaces, its ball room and other evidences of the taste and homelike contentment that was built into the better homes of Canton a hundred years ago, that he brought his bride Zalda Langdon, daughter of Peter Langdon, a pioneer of South Canton, on the day of the wedding, Christmas Day, 1839. And here were born three children, Ebenezer, Carrie and Emma, all now gone.

It was in that sturdy old house, which had withstood the ravages of the years so well, that she [Carrie] was born in 1845 and where she grew up as a girl. She was eleven years old when St. Lawrence University was established and the first building erected. In 1862 she and her sister Emma entered the preparatory school of the University and studied there a period of two or three years. She then taught at Pierrepont, Hannawa Falls and in the Sykes District.

On October 6, 1867, she married George N. Elmer, who had but lately returned from three years' service with the 71st Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War. Their first years were spent on their farm. Then on moving to the village they lived for two years in what is now Miss Fannie Wead's home on Miner street, one year on Pine street and then purchased the home on Elm street. Mr. Elmer died in Dec. 7, 189(8?).

Mrs. Elmer was a member of the Universalist church, of Gouverneur Morris Chapter, G.A.R., of the W.C.T.U. and had been a member of the Woman's Relief Corps and of Silas Wright Grange. She is survived by two children, Mrs. Maude Wass, of New York City, and the son, Dickinson B. Elmer, of this village. Another daughter, Mrs. George Jamieson, is deceased. There are seven grandchildren: Harold E. Jamieson, of St. Louis, Mo., Stanley Jamieson, of Forest Hills, L.I., Mrs. Ethel O'Brien, of New York City, George Elmer of Portchester, N.Y., Mrs. Ruth Boge and Herbert Elmer, of Syracuse, N.Y., and Caroline Wass, of New York. The four great grandchildren are: John D. Elmer, of Portchester, Cevilla Elmer, of Syracuse, Jane and Frank Boge, of Syracuse.

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