

[Haskell, Margaret L.]

MADRID WOMAN FOUND DEAD IN HER BEAD [sic]
Margaret L. Haskell Succumbs to Heart Trouble—Was Teacher and Artist

Madrid, N.Y., January 21.—Miss Martha L. Haskell, one of the older residents, who has lived alone since the death of her mother about sixteen years ago, was found dead in her home in Goss street Wednesday [sic] morning, Jan. 16, 1924. Her near neighbors not seeing any stir about the place since the day before decided they would see what was the matter. They went in and found her lying on the couch just as she had lain down, but dead. The health officer, Dr. James W. Aitchison, was immediately summoned and decided that death was due to chronic heart trouble. She had been dead several hours. Her near friends and relatives were immediately telephoned and came in a little while and took charge. The funeral was held from the Congregational church Friday afternoon at two o'clock, Rev. Isaac Steenson officiating, assisted by Dr. [H. P.] Morrell of St. Lawrence University, as Miss Haskell was a staunch Universalist, always attending their conventions or meetings when possible. Dr. Morrell gave a beautiful tribute to her well stored mind and worthy life. Rev. Steenson's remarks were equally fitting.

Mrs. Edgar Beckwith sang a solo. A duet, "My Heavenly Home," was sweetly sung by Miss F. J. Merriman and Mrs. Edgar Beckwith. This was one of Miss Haskell's favorite pieces as long ago as when she was a teacher in the Universalist Sunday School. She attended the Congregational church since the Universalist society disbanded. The burial was in the Haskell cemetery on the Norfolk road.

Martha L. Haskell was the eldest child of Jesse G. Haskell and Rhoda McEuen Haskell, and was born December 21, 1849, in Madrid on the Haskell farm on the Norfolk road which was always her home. After the death of her father she and her mother came to the village which has since been her home.

She received her education at the district school, St Lawrence Academy, Potsdam and later she attended St. Lawrence university and was among the first to graduate from that institution. She taught her first school when seventeen, but after graduating she taught for several years in the central part of the state, going from there to Arizona where she had relatives. She taught in the West until she had to return home on account of the health of her family. While teaching she took lessons in crayon drawing and oil painting. After her return home she had classes in drawing and painting in different nearby towns. In this work she excelled as it was natural for her and she enjoyed it.

For years she was a member of the W.C.T.U. and for eleven years was their secretary. The members attended the funeral in a body.

She was always ready to do her part in any way which was for the betterment of our community. She will be sadly missed by her neighbors as hardly a day passed without seeing her. It was a pleasure to talk with her. She was well informed and kept herself posted on the events of the day. The flowers were mutely eloquent of the esteem in which she was held by her friends.

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