

[Holbrook, Giles Eliphet]

GILES E. HOLBROOK

One of Our Oldest Residents and Prominent Citizens Has Passed On
MERCHANT HERE MANY YEARS

Giles E. Holbrook, one of Norwood's oldest, most prominent and respected citizens, died at his home, 36 North Main street, Sunday evening, June 25. Funeral will be held from the house today at 2 o'clock, Rev. J. R. Marvin officiating. Burial at Riverside cemetery.

Giles Eliphet Holbrook, son of Reuben Holbrook and Mary Tously, was born March 19, 1839, on a farm settled by his grandfather, Eliphet Holbrook, in the town of Potsdam near Norwood, N.Y., in the year 1809, as an emigrant from Georgia, Vermont.

Mr. Holbrook's early life was spent on the ancestral farm. He was educated in the common schools and in the old St. Lawrence Academy at Potsdam. Upon leaving school he taught three winters and in the spring of 1863 joined with Edwin H. Atwater in a general mercantile business at Norfolk, N. Y. In the fall of 1866 the partnership of Holbrook and Atwater was dissolved and Mr. Holbrook removed to Norwood, erected a substantial brick block and established a general store, continuing in business there until about ten years ago. Mr. Holbrook was always interested in the welfare of the community and took an active part in the strenuous work of incorporating the village of Norwood and changing the name of the village from the much disliked Potsdam Junction to Norwood, and in the establishment of the Potsdam and Norfolk Union Free School from parts of the various school districts which surrounded the village. He served many years as village trustee and president and as a member of the board of education.

He secured in 1889, part of the old Benjamin G. Baldwin homestead, and added not a little to the growth of the village by laying out streets and opening up desirable building lots.

Mr. Holbrook married in 1862, Jennette E., daughter of Moses B. Hale, of North Stockholm, N. Y. But [only] one child was born to them, a son, Frederick S., now superintendent of transportation of the Wells Fargo Express Co., and living at East Orange, New Jersey.

In his religious life Mr. Holbrook's inclinations were toward the church of his father and grandfather, who were Universalists; but in the absence of any Universalist church at Norwood he was a regular attendant at, and a liberal contributor to the First Congregational church of Norwood.

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