

[Houston, Mary Catherine Eaton]

OCTOGENARIAN PASSES AWAY AFTER ACTIVE AND HELPFUL LIFE

A cheerful, courageous life came to its earthly close Monday morning March 17th, when Mrs. James Houston passed away at the home of her daughter Mrs. William F. Hill on the Victor Mendon road. Mrs. Houston had been in failing health for more than a year and for six weeks had been confined to her room. Always ambitious and helpful, Mrs. Houston was unwilling to yield to the weakness that came upon her with advancing years, and even during the past winter she busied herself with needlework at which she was very skillful. She was a sweet singer and the quality of her voice endured so that she was able to give pleasure by singing for her friends after she had passed the Biblical three score and ten years. Through the varying experiences of a life of more than 64 years she ever displayed a happy and buoyant spirit and many friends gave her their deep admiration and warm love.

Mary Catherine Eaton was born in Milford, Michigan November 17, 1845. She was twice married. Her first husband Curtis A. Kellogg, a prominent produce merchant who was born in the town of West Bloomfield, was killed in a railroad in March 1878. She was married on June 1, 1880 to James F. Houston and came to live in the old Victor Hotel on the corner of Main street and Maple avenue which Mr. Houston had served as clerk from 1872 to 1876 and of which he was proprietor from 1878 to 1888. Following the sale of the hotel Mr. and Mrs. Houston moved to a farm in Victor township which they had bought out. At the end of four years they returned to the hotel, conducting it in partnership with D. H. Finucan until 1896. After three and one half years of retirement from active business Mr. Houston again conducted the hotel in partnership with Mr. Berry until 1905. During those years when her home was in the principal hostelry of the town, Mrs. Houston came in contact with many people and took an active part in community life. She was a faithful and helpful member of the congregation of St. Paul's Universalist Church and enjoyed social events, thus forming a wide circle of acquaintances and friends. Soon after the death of Mr. Houston several years ago [in 1920] Mrs. Houston went to make her home with her daughter, Mrs. Lottie Kellogg Hill. Other surviving relatives are a grandson Russell H. Hill and two grandchildren, Jane and Billie Hill of Detroit.

Funeral services were held at the Hill residence at 2:30 Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. Nelson V. Lobdell of Victor [her pastor] officiating. Interment was made in the Boughton Hill cemetery.

*The Victor Herald*, Victor NY, Fri. 21 Mar 1930