

[Nickerson, Harriet Barber]

MRS. MYRON NICKERSON
SAID TO BE DAUGHTER OF FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN CANTON

Harriet Barber Nickerson, wife of Myron A. Nickerson, passed away at her home, Judson street, this village, at about 5 o'clock. Mrs. Nickerson suffered a stroke the previous week, from which she never rallied, death coming without a return to consciousness. Funeral services were conducted at the Nickerson residence Saturday afternoon at 2:30, the Rev. Harry Adams Hersey, pastor of the First Universalist church, and Dr. James M. Payson, officiating. Burial was made at Fairview.

Mrs. Nickerson was born on a farm, a few miles from this village, the daughter [of] Josiah Barber and Nancy Pierce Barber. It is interesting here to know that Nancy Pierce Barber is said to be the first girl white child born in the town of Canton. Mrs. Nickerson was one of a family of nine children all of whom but one are now dead.

She was married on Feby. 2, 1869 to Myron A. Nickerson of Canton and their home life was taken up on a farm south of this village where they lived many years. Mr. and Mrs. Nickerson were married in the old Fisher house, Judson street, recently sold by Joseph F. Brown to a college sorority. The ceremony was performed by the late Dr. Ebenezer Fisher, president of Canton Theological school.

Thirty-nine years ago Mr. and Mrs. Nickerson moved to this village where Mr. Nickerson built the house, long known as the Fisher home on Park street, occupied and recently rebuilt into the handsome chapter house by the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity. This house they occupied and later disposed of. Their home has been for many years on Judson street where death came on Thursday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Nickerson lived to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary five years ago last winter, and in each succeeding year the day found the devoted couple in health and happiness, going down the westward slope surrounded by loved ones and with comfort and content.

Mrs. Nickerson was long a member of the First Universalist church and of the Order of Eastern Star and when in health was an active worker in these bodies. Mrs. Nickerson was a charming personality, a fine wife, mother, friend and neighbor. Though frail in body she never shirked or placed on others the burden that she could herself carry. She was the type of the early resident of the town—a true daughter of that little girl, Nancy Pierce Barber, who saw Canton even before it bore the name, nearly a century and a quarter ago.

She leaves her husband, Myron A. Nickerson, now past his four score years, a daughter, Mrs. W. A. McPhee, and a grandson, Halsey McPhee, all of Canton. One brother, G. R. Barber, of Watertown, also remains.

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