

[Thompson, Robert]

AGED RESIDENT OF DEXTER PASSES AWAY

Robert Thompson, 95, Was Prominent Resident—At One Time President  
(Special to The Standard.)

DEXTER, Feb. 22.—Robert Thompson, 95, one of the oldest and most prominent residents of this place, died at his home here last night shortly before midnight, following an illness of two weeks. He had been in failing health for some time.

Mr. Thompson was known far and wide in this vicinity, having been president of the village at one time, one of its first postmasters, and one of its first shoemakers. This profession he followed for over 50 years, retiring just a few years ago, due to his advanced age.

The funeral services will be held from his home Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock with Rev. Harry Westbrook Reed officiating. The body will be placed in the vault until spring.

Mr. Thompson was born in Ireland in 1828 and came to this country with his parents in 1845, when he was 17 years of age. He was the youngest child of a family of eight children, several of whom had preceded the parents and came to this country. They came to Watertown and this place, where they entered the woolen mills.

Mr. Thompson entered the woolen mills when the family arrived, but shortly after served an apprenticeship under a Mr. Wynn, one of the first shoemakers of the village.

When the Civil War broke out he joined the ranks of Co. I of the old 10th New York Heavy Artillery, serving until the end of the war. He enlisted at Sacket's Harbor.

His wife, formerly Miss Helen Riggs, who died in December, 1899, was the sister of Mrs. Sarah Rounds, one of the oldest, if not the oldest resident of the North Country, who is over 100 years of age.

He was postmaster of the village about 50 years ago and kept the mail in his shoe shop. It is said that when a person came after the mail he could always tell if there was any for them without looking, such was the small quantity of the mail. He held the position of postmaster for 10 years and became well known at that time.

He had been a member of the Dexter Universalist Church for over 70 years. His only near surviving relative is a son, Wilbur A. Thompson, of this place. One of Mr. Thompson's last requests was that no flowers be placed on or near the casket after his death as he did not believe in this custom. Friends are requested to omit the flowers.

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