

MRS. MARY J. (HOLTON) WHITCOMB

DIED. NOV. 9, 1922

Mrs. Mary J. (Holton) Whitcomb, widow of the late J. Hartwell Whitcomb, passed away early Thursday morning at the age of eighty-seven years, lacking four days. The funeral will be held from her home this Saturday afternoon at two o'clock.

The deceased had been sick with pneumonia about a week, but had not enjoyed good health for many years. She is the last member of the Holton family and is survived by four children; Mrs. George A. Gardner, Mrs. Paul L. Brown, J. H. Douglas Whitcomb and Jonathan H. Whitcomb, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. Whitcomb died five years ago this month and the funeral was two days before his birthday, as in his wife's case.

Mary J. Holton was born in Boston on November 20, 1835, and on April 1, 1857, became the bride of Mr. Whitcomb, the marriage ceremony being performed in her present home by Rev. Eugene De Normandie. The greater part of their life was spent in the ancestral homestead, built more than 200 years ago on land bought directly of the Indians by a Whitcomb ancestor. Here Mr. and Mrs. Whitcomb celebrated their fiftieth and sixtieth wedding anniversaries and many other memorable occasions have passed into family history.

Mrs. Whitcomb was a loyal member of the Forget-Not-Circle of King's Daughters, faithfully meeting the duties of membership until the infirmities of advanced age made it impossible, but her interest in the organization and its activities never abated.

Mrs. Whitcomb was of the Unitarian faith and formerly allied herself with the activities of the church and its organizations, but, virtuous woman that she was, whose price is far above rubies, she looked first to the ways of her household, eating not the bread of idleness, and her children rise up and call her blessed. In the home chiefly her love and devotion to family sought expression in full measure. Given to hospitality, she rejoiced in the entertainment of friends, and her young heart yearned for the companionship not only of children and grandchildren, but of their friends and many others who knew that a welcome awaited them at her glowing hearth. Of the devotion and tender care she received from her children we cannot speak too highly.

Through her removal by death the community loses another of its esteemed residents whose long life has contributed no small amount in shaping the character of its young people. Mrs. Whitcomb has left her home but seldom in recent years, but her interests were ever with us and we cherish the memory of a good woman, a devoted wife and mother, a true friend.