

Mrs. Augustine “Gusta” Pierce, Monticello’s Oldest Resident, Expires Feb. 12, 1861 – July 1955

Mrs. Gusta Pierce, 94 years of age, Monticello’s oldest resident, passed away at 12:15 Monday noon at her home here after an illness of three weeks.

Gusta Rolph was born on the Rolph homestead, northwest of Monticello, Feb. 12, 1861, the daughter of Charles and Mary Ann Trogner Rolph. She attended rural school at Farmers Grove. On Aug. 17, 1884, she was united in marriage in New Glarus to Samuel H. Pierce by the late Rev. Etter. They resided on farms in the Monticello area until moving to the village in 1904. She had always lived here since with the exception of three years spent in Beloit with aged relatives.

Mrs. Pierce was a former member of the Women’s Relief Corps. A devout Christian, she read the Bible daily until her eyesight began to fail last spring.

In the last decade or more, birthdays were a pleasant experience for Monticello’s oldest resident. On those occasions her children and their families came to her home with food for a big birthday dinner.

She is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Jacob Schultz and Mrs. Stillman Huntley, Monticello, Mrs. LuVerne Prien, Monroe, and Mrs. Clark Wilcox, Elkhorn; two sons, James K., New Glarus, and Samuel, at home; one sister, Mrs. Ellen Soper, Monticello; 12 grandchildren, and 28 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1908, three daughters, Lilly in infancy, 1889, Mabel, 1907, and Susan, 1913; six brothers, John, Charles, William, Hiram, George and Fred, and by four sisters. Mrs. Frank Dorr, Mrs. Jacob Klassy, Mrs. August Ruegg and Miss Anna Rolph.

Funeral Services Today

Funeral services will be held at 2 this (Thursday) afternoon in the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church. The Rev. A. R. Achtemeier, church pastor, will officiate, and burial will be in the church cemetery. The two sons and four sons-in-law will be pallbearers.