

Sarah J. Selleck
Oct. 5, 1844 - March 30, 1930

Former Local Lady Dies; Interment Here

The remains of Mrs. Sarah Selleck, aged 86, former resident of Monticello, who passed away at 2:30 Monday morning at the home of her son, E. M. Selleck, living near River Falls, were brought here for burial this morning, interment taking place in the family lot in the Railroad avenue cemetery. The body was accompanied here by Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Selleck.

Funeral services were conducted at the Selleck home yesterday afternoon, after which the remains were taken to Hudson for shipment to Monticello. F. W. Voegeli, local undertaker, met the train at Madison. Preceding the burial service here, many old friends and former neighbors called at the Voegeli funeral parlors to view the remains.

NOTE: Info added.

Sarah J. Hill was a native of Lycoming Co., Penn., and had two children – Ernest Mead Selleck and Floyd H. Selleck. She was the daughter of Daniel and Margaret Hill. Her father died on the trip to Wisconsin from Pennsylvania in Ohio. The family continued without him to Sylvester Township in Green County, Wisconsin.

She was the widow of Private Eli Fitch, Company G of the 1st Regiment, United States Sharpshooters (U.S. Volunteers - Berdan's). They were married in Green County on December 3rd, 1861 in Monroe by C. E. Weirich. Eli was killed at Gettysburg, PA, on July 2nd, 1863, three months after he enlisted. Apparently, his body was not returned to Sarah, who filed for his pension in September of the same year. There is no headstone where it should be, next to his comrades that died beside him that day. The unknown soldier in Grave #22, Section D, U.S. Regulars plot, which is next to U.S. Sharpshooters Lt. Sheldon and Private Woodruff is almost certainly Eli's. Woodruff died near where Eli did, forward of the Roger's house and the Emmitsburg Pike.

Ten years after being widowed by Eli's sacrifice to his country, on Dec. 11, 1873, she remarried to Hanford M. Selleck in Green County.

Hanford M. Selleck came to Green county in 1856, and purchased a farm in the town of New Glarus. His children managed the farm while he worked at his trade as carpenter and joiner in different parts of the county. In 1870 he sold the farm and went to Monticello, and bought a house and some land adjoining the village, and has since made that his home. He was born on Hart Island, Long Island Sound, Aug. 20, 1820. When he was but an infant his parents moved to Connecticut, lived at Stanford a short time and then moved to Greenwich. He made his home with them there until fourteen years old, then went to live with an uncle on Long Island, where he remained one year, when he went to New York city and apprenticed to a carpenter and joiner to learn the trade, and served five years, nine months and seventeen days. He then did journey work in the city for a short time, then engaged with Peter Lorillard, at Westchester, and worked for him two years. Then in 1845, went to Pittsburg, Penn., and remained one year; then, 1848, went to Nashville, Tenn., and spent one year, then returned to Pittsburg, where he remained until 1855; then he came to Wisconsin, and located at Janesville, where he remained one year, then came to this county. Sarah was his second wife. They were married in 1873. He had seven children from a previous marriage.

By 1900, Sarah was (again widowed) and living with her first son Earnest Mead Selleck in Monticello, Wisconsin. He married Janna B. Selleck in 1902, and by 1910, Sarah had moved with Earnest and his family (with four children) to Warren, St. Croix County, Wisconsin. In 1920 they lived in Troy (River Falls), St. Croix County, Wisconsin. She died 30 March, 1930 in Monticello, Green County, Wisconsin. Her son Earnest died on July 12th, 1965 in River Falls, St. Croix County, Wisconsin at the age of 88. He is probably buried there. He and Janna had six children: Vera M., Ralph H., John Stanley, Ruth M., Edith L., and Arthur E.

Floyd H. Selleck, her second son, had died in April of 1891 at the age of 8. He is buried in this cemetery in the family plot.