

[Elderkin, Ella S. Colman]

MRS. SHELDON H. ELDERKIN  
(Contributed)

On Friday morning, Jan. 22 at her home in Flycreek Valley, occurred the death of Mrs. Ella S. Elderkin, after an illness of three days. The deceased was born in the town of Richfield, September 21, 1853, and was the oldest daughter of Lester and Mariette Colman and niece of the late ex-Secretary of Agriculture, Norman S. Colman.

On December 13, 1871 she became the wife of Sheldon H. Elderkin. For forty-two years they have lived on the farm where she passed away. Two daughters were born to them: Mrs. Jennie McDonough, who died in July, 1904, and Mary, wife of Lee Fitch, residing at South Hartwick. Besides the husband and daughter mentioned above, she is survived by two brothers, Arthur J. Colman of Springfield, Mass. and Hamilton F. Colman, of Washington, D.C., five grandchildren, two nephews and four nieces.

Mrs. Elderkin was a woman most highly esteemed for her lovable character and unselfishness... Many are the relatives and friends who have enjoyed the generous hospitality of her home. Seldom is there one taken from our midst who will be so widely missed and whose loss will be so deeply regretted. So beautiful and useful a life cannot fail to leave its impress upon all, and she will continue to live in their hearts—a precious memory. She was a most devoted wife and mother, and a true friend to all who knew her, a faithful and helpful member of the Universalist Church at Flycreek, and of the Flycreek Grange No. 844, from whose circles she will be greatly missed.

The funeral was held at her late home, Monday at 2 p.m., the Rev. L. H. Robinson of Richfield Springs officiating, with interment in the Flycreek cemetery. The floral tributes were many and beautiful, expressing the love and esteem in which she was held by the community.

The sympathy of the entire community is with the bereaved husband and family.

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*Otsego Farmer*, Cooperstown NY, Fri. 29 Jan 1915  
[extensively abridged]