

[Petty, May Ballou]

MRS. MAY BALLOU PETTY

In November, a serious state developed in the condition of Mrs. Charles E. Petty which necessitated treatment in the Binghamton hospital. For three weeks, she suffered and radium treatment brought no recovery. On December 31, she was taken to her home in Hop Bottom, Penn., where she slowly failed, death coming on the morning of March 10. She is survived by her husband, the Rev. Charles E. Petty, a sister, Mrs. Charles [Flora] Palmatier, Newark, and a brother, Willard Ballou, Binghamton. The memorial service was held on Sunday afternoon, March 12, in the Universalist church, Hop Bottom, Penn. It was a largely attended service with the Rev. G. [George] C. Boorne, pastor, and the Rev. J. D. Herrick, Towanda, Penn., officiating.

She lived most of her adult life in Hop Bottom, where her father, the Rev. James H. Ballou, had a brief pastorate. She was born in Seneca, Kan. Her father had pastorates in Osage, Iowa; Minden, Herkimer and Mohawk. He then served as superintendent of churches in Pennsylvania, followed by pastorates in Morris and Southold. In the latter place, she studied music and painting and became accomplished in both. She was married to Mr. E. M. Tiffany in Hop Bottom, a successful merchant. After his death, she was married to Dr. W. B. Van de Sand. After his death, she was married to Mr. Petty, the marriage taking place in 1929. They made their home for two years in Binghamton, where Mr. Petty was pastor of the Universalist church. Upon his retirement as pastor of this church, she returned to Hop Bottom where they lived, with Mrs. Petty steadily failing in health.

Previous to her first marriage, she had the appointment as soprano soloist in the First Congregational church, Binghamton. In her home there are sixty paintings which she made, showing a remarkable ability. She was a talented woman, with many friends, intensely interested in her church and denomination. She lived a most useful life.

*Empire State Universalist, Cortland NY, April 1933*