

[Willard, Erastus Hall]

Death of Dr. Erastus H. Willard

Dr. Erastus H. Willard died at the residence of his son Ambrose Willard on the night of July 18th, 1886, aged 78 years. He was born in Brattleboro, Vt., in 1808. He came with his father's family to Friendship in 1816, when he was 8 years old. He chose for his life work the noble profession of physician. He read medicine with Dr. Lorenzo Dana, familiarly known to the earlier inhabitants of this town. He attended medical lectures in Castleton, Vt. He settled as a physician in Belmont, then Phillipsville in 1838, practicing medicine there 6 years. He came back to Friendship in 1844, and has resided here ever since. He was the father of 12 children<sup>1</sup>, 9 of whom survive him.

He was a man of extensive reading and of more than ordinary intelligence and intellectual power. He represented his county in the Legislature at Albany in 1848. He was eminently successful in his profession. As a physician he ranked among the ablest and best. How many under divine Providence are indebted to him for the rich boon of health. How much good has he done to humanity, in relieving pain, in arresting the progress of disease and in carrying hope into darkened homes.

He rests in peace at last. His funeral was attended by a large circle of his neighbors and friends at his late home July 20, Rev. F. M. Alvord [Universalist] officiating.

He was a member of Van Campen Lodge of I.O. and O.F. His brethren followed his remains to Maple Grove cemetery, where beautiful and appropriate service was rendered.

F. M. A. [Rev. Francis Milton Alvord]

*Friendship Register*, Utica NY, Thu. 22 Jul 1886

Transcribed on 20 Jul 2019 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

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<sup>1</sup> including Clayton, Edmund, Almira, Caroline, Erastus, Mary, Ambrose, Lucinda, and Florence (not in birth order)