MISS RHODA PALMER DIES AT ADVANCED AGE OF 103 YEARS

Was Oldest Resident of This Vicinity—Attended First Suffrage Convention in 1848 and Lived to Cast Her First Ballot at the Last Election.

Miss Rhoda Palmer, aged 103 years, Geneva’s oldest resident, died Saturday evening at the home of her nephew, Edward Palmer, on the Lyons Road, two miles north of this city after rapidly failing in health for the last three weeks.

Miss Palmer was born just two doors from where she died, June 15, 1818, in a house which her father, Asa Palmer, built in 1808 and which is still standing. She lived in this house until she was 94 years of age, at which time she had an accident which left her unable to get about and she then made her home with her nephew, at whose home she died. She was the only surviving member of a family of ten children.

Suffragists every year on Miss Palmer’s birthday have made it a point to call on Miss Palmer, who has always been an ardent supporter of the cause. She was in attendance at the first suffrage convention which was held in Seneca Falls in 1848 and liked to recall to her visitors instances which happened on that occasion. Her one wish that she would live to vote was realized when she was driven to the polls at the last election and cast her first ballot.

Miss Palmer has always appeared much younger than she really was and kept in touch with all the present day affairs. Although during the past years she had partially lost her hearing she had retained her sight which was splendid and she could see without the use of glasses.

A fact of which Miss Palmer was immensely proud and of which she often spoke was of her descent from James Wood, her great-grandfather who was the first settler on the White Springs Farm and this section of the country about 1794. Mr. Wood was of the sixth generation of the noted Roger Williams. Although Miss Pal-

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MER has a number of distant relatives, her nearest are two nephews, Edward Palmer, with whom she lived, and Robert A. Palmer of Hamilton, N. Y.

The funeral will be held on Tuesday afternoon at 2 o’clock at the residence of Rev. Kenneth A. Bray officiating. Burial will be made in Quaker Cemetery, north of Waterloo. The bearers will be Calvin Dye, Henry Cook, Daniel Bennett, E. O. Butland, Frank Stause and Edgar Smith.