

7-23- OBITUARY-1886

REV. STEPHEN LEONARD HERRICK
was born in Rutland, Vt., April 29th,
1800, and died July 21st, aged 86 years,
2 months, and 22 days.

He was of a family of six sons. He graduated from Vermont University with most honorable scholarship in the summer of 1824, having been dependent upon his own exertions and earnings for his preparation for it and his college education, during which and subsequently he was a most successful teacher, winning and effective in his influence upon the characters of his pupils. He studied theology and began the work of the Christian ministry with Rev. Josiah Hopkins, D. D., of New Haven, Vt., a man of rare ability to impress himself, through the truth, upon his pupils, of whom he had many. He was married in 1824 to Miss Delia Lyes, who died in 1871.

His first pastorate was at the Congregational church of Crown Point, N. Y., where he commenced his ministry in 1827. Here he remained for 25 years, having several out-stations, at which he preached on Sabbath afternoons or during the week most of the time, summer and winter, with a regularity and punctuality rarely equaled. He was given a large place in the hearts of all the people, and through the truth he won many to Christ. The home church was made strong in numbers and good work, and his out-stations grew into churches. Few communities have so changed for the better during a single pastorate.

His much exposure and labor having brought on a bronchial affection, he resigned his charge and accepted a call to Fair Haven, Vt., where he could be relieved from the troublesome exposure. He remained there three years, when he came west and settled in Grinnel, 1858. His coming to the west was the throat affection, in consequence of which he abandoned the expectation of further pastoral work.

His life among us as teacher, preacher, business man and citizen, need not be reviewed here and now. His memorial is with us, and none will desire to have it effaced. It is more honorable, it is greater, it will be more lasting, and more reverently and lovingly cherished, than he ever presumed to hope.

See H. L. Hollister's
article on building
of "The Old Church"