

REV. JOHN LADD SEWALL

(SON-IN-LAW OF SHATTUCK HARTWELL)

DIED JUNE 12, 1923

Word has been received of the death of Rev. John Ladd Sewall, which occurred June 12 at Seabreeze, Fla. Mr. Sewall was a frequent visitor in Northampton and vicinity and will be affectionately remembered by a wide circle of friends. Of Mayflower ancestry, he was born February 27, 1856, at Lunenburg, Vt., where his father, Rev. William Sewall, was then pastor of the Congregational church. Having received his early training in the schools of Lunenburg and Norwich, Vt., he was graduated from Dartmouth college in 1877. He then taught for one year at Olivet college, Michigan. Having fully decided to devote his life to the christian ministry, he entered Andover Theological seminary, graduating in 1883.

Beginning his pastoral work at Westminster, Vt., he later served Congregational churches in Milton and St. Albans, Vt., Plymouth, North Brookfield, Randolph and Worcester, and in St. Louis and Kansas City. At length, failing health led him to go south, where for five years he was pastor of the church at Lake Helen, Fla. He resigned his pastorate there just a year ago.

He was an active, earnest and efficient worker, always maintaining a high standard of excellence in both pulpit and parish. A clear and forceful writer, he served for three years on the editorial staff of the Golden Rule, which later became more widely known as the Christian Endeavor World. He was also one of the originators of the Congregational conference at the Isles of Shoals, and his enthusiastic, painstaking labors contributed largely to its success. He will be best remembered, however, by his genial, kindly manner, his unfailing good humor, and his broad human interest. By these qualities he endeared himself to a great many people who will always think of him as a much beloved pastor and friend.

In October, 1883, he married Katherine Mussey Hartwell, daughter of Shattuck and Catherine (Mussey) Hartwell of Littleton. He is survived by the widow and four children—Mrs. Harry S. Whitbeck of Manasquan, N. J., Mrs. Roswell M. Austin of St. Albans, Vt., Miss Carolyn T. Sewall, missionary at Tientsin, China, and William Sewall of Wakefield, advertising manager of the Converse Rubber Co. Another daughter, Mrs. Donnell Brooks Young, who taught for three years in the music department at Smith college, died in March, 1919. The sisters of Mrs. Sewall, Misses Mary and Helen Hartwell, who were for several years connected with the Capen school in Northampton, are now residents in charge of the Sophia Smith homestead in Hatfield.

Funeral services were held in the Congregational church at Daytona, Fla., on Thursday, June 14. Interment will be in Littleton.