

## REV. RALPH W. GRIDLEY.

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THE father of Eliza Barnes Gridley Collins, was the son of Reverend Elijah Gridley, who was born in Farmington, Connecticut, March 27, 1760. He graduated from Yale College in 1788, and in 1789 was settled as a pastor in Mansfield, Connecticut. In 1797, he was installed pastor of the Congregational church of Granby, Massachusetts. Died at Granby, June 10, 1834, having been pastor of the church thirty-seven years. He married April 27, 1789, Ruth White of Chatham, Connecticut, who was born November 11, 1767, and died at Granby, May 13, 1851.

Nine children were born of their marriage. One of these was Reverend Ralph Wells Gridley. He was a graduate of Yale College and of Andover Theological Seminary. He was pastor of the Congregational Church in Williamstown, Massachusetts. As a home missionary, he came to Illinois. For a time he held his meetings in a large tent, moving it from place to place. For a time he was pastor of the Congregational Church in Ottawa, afterward was pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville. He married Eliza Barnes, of New Haven, before his settlement in Williamstown. Her father was a sea captain. Her mother was Wealthy Trowbridge. The Barnes family was thus related to the Hayes and Trowbridge families of New Haven.

Reverend Ralph W. Gridley was a man of great earnestness and devotion, and was worn out in early middle life. His wife, unequal to the hard conditions of missionary life on the frontier, soon followed him. They were buried at South Ottawa, Illinois.