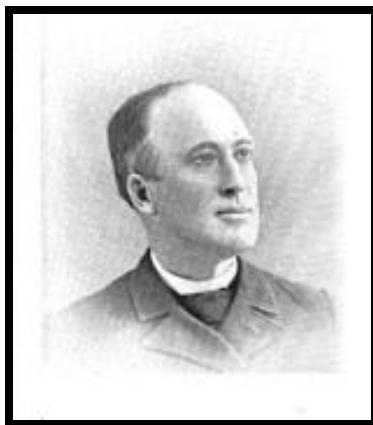




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Excerpted from: "Men of Vermont An Illustrated Biographical History of Vermonters and Sons of Vermont" compiled by Jacob G Ullery under the editorial supervision of Hiram A. Huse, 1894



FULLER, Jonathan Kingsley, of Barton Landing, son of Samuel Freeman and Elizabeth (Kingsley) Fuller, was born in Montgomery, May 13, 1848.

Mr. Fuller attended the common, select and private schools of his native town until twenty-one years of age. His parents being limited in their circumstances, and young Fuller being somewhat delicate in health, he had to forego the great desire of his heart, a classical education. In 1870 he entered the law office of John S. Tupper. Here he gave himself earnestly to the study of law, and having access not only to a large law library, but also to a fine collection of theological and historical works, his reading covered a wide field. During this time also, while teaching school, he felt moved to enter upon the work of the ministry. The M. E. Church, of which he was a member, urged him to take a license to preach, and, forsaking the legal profession, he began the course of study prescribed by the church. This was continued for four years, and ordination followed at St. Johnsbury, April 23, 1873. He was stationed at Eden in 1872-'73, at Richford in 1874-'76. At the close of a very successful pastorate in this thriving center, he handed his resignation to the Vermont Conference.

Uniting with the Congregational church at East Berkshire, he immediately received a hearty call to the parish of that denomination in Bakersfield. Free to control and direct his own labors his congregations increased, while a steady demand was made for his sermons and other writings upon the popular questions of the day. Six of the twelve years of this pastorate he was superintendent of schools aiding in the establishment of Brigham Academy. As a testimony of appreciation of such service he was on Dec 15 1885 made a life member of the General Theological Library of Boston.

While at Bakersfield Mr Fuller devoted a little time to farming in which pursuit he was highly successful He was a frequent lecturer before the State Board of Agriculture. Politically, Mr. Fuller is an independent Republican. He has written and lectured often on such themes as " Civil Service Reform," "Political Methods," "Political Reform," "Religious and Political Liberty," "Moral Training in Our Schools," "Opportunity ; or, the Uses and Abuses of Wealth."

In 1883, Mr. Fuller was made honorary member of the A. B. C. F. M.; in 1885 he was instrumental in organizing a Congregational church at East Fairfield ; in 1888 he became an original member of the Congregational Club of Western Vermont. In 1889 he severed his connection with the church in Bakersfield, and of the several calls which he received, accepted the one from Barton Landing, where he now ministers to a thrifty church in a flourishing community.

In 1890 he received under Professor Harper the appointment of examiner in the American Institute of Sacred Literature. In 1891 he was elected to membership in the American Academy of Political and Social Science in Philadelphia. In this same year he was chosen superintendent of schools for the town of Barton, which office he now holds; he is also one of the directors of the Orleans County Summer School.

In 1892 he was constituted a member of the Orleans County Historical Society. In this same year he was sent from the state convention of Congregational churches as delegate to the Free Will Baptist yearly meeting. In 1892 he was unanimously chosen chairman of the board of school directors for the town of Barton.

Mr. Fuller was married Sept. 16, 1875, to Gertrude Florence Smith of Richford. Of this union there have been born : John Harold, Hawley Leigh, Raymond Garfield, and Robert Samuel.