

[Chase, Jacob]

OBITUARY OF REV. JACOB CHASE

Rev. Jacob Chase departed this life at his residence in Fairport, January 3, at the age of 86 years. The demise of a citizen of such an age, and one who has, in his day, filled so large a part in the local history of the country, should not be permitted to pass without a brief notice. "Elder" Chase was a pioneer in the Universalist Church. He was born in Townshend, Windham county, Vt., and moved with his father to Oneida county, N.Y. He lived there until he was 23 years of age, then moved to Marcellus, Onondaga county, N.Y., where he commenced his work as a minister of Christ, preaching God's love to all. During his career as a minister he held seven theological discussions, and was accorded the meed of success every time. The doctrine he preached, the faith he taught and the glad fruition which were to be gathered from them, were to him as ever present reality. He was a firm believer in the goodness of our Heavenly Father. He has filled the pulpits of all the leading Universalist churches in Western New York. He edited the *Herald of Truth*, of Geneva; the *Western Luminary*, of Rochester, N.Y., and was corresponding editor of the *Magazine and Advocate*, a Universalist paper published at Utica. He also published a book called the *Defence of Truth*. At one time he owned one quarter interest in the old *Rochester Advertiser*, and he frequently furnished communication for that paper. During his pastoral career Elder Chase would preach three sermons a day; never tiring, never wearying in doing what he thought the right demanded. He leaves a widow [Mary] and one son, W[illiam] P. Chase, of Fairport, N.Y., besides a host of friends to mourn his loss.

Union and Advertiser, Rochester NY, 9 Jan 1887

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[Chase, Jacob]

REV. JACOB CHASE

Rev. G[eorge] W. Montgomery writes us of the death of this veteran of our cause, as follows:

At the venerable age of eighty-six years, Rev. Jacob Chase departed this life, in the village of Fairport, N.Y., on Wednesday, Jan. 3d, 1887. The separation of his soul and body was not caused by disease, but by the decay of his bodily powers. He was worn out by age and went to sleep as gently as a babe falls into slumber.

Br. Chase commenced preaching in April, 1828, in Marcellus, N.Y. In the same year he was called to the charge of the society in the village of Genoa, N.Y. Thence he removed in 1831 to Speedsville, N.Y. Thence in 1833, he was called to Mottville, N.Y. and thence to Geneva, N.Y., and successively to Rochester, N.Y., to Middleport, N.Y., and then again back to Rochester.

Br. Chase was editor of several denominational papers, either as principal or assistant, notably as editor of the *Herald of Truth*, whose publication commenced in Geneva and ended in Rochester, N.Y. During his ministry he held nine public discussions lasting from one to three days. He never failed of victory. He was always self-possessed, and was thoroughly equipped with the armor of his faith. He was ready at all points. If his opponent attempted to assail Universalism by wit, sarcasm, or misrepresentation, he did not attempt it twice. He crushed all such efforts at once, and completely. As a controversialist, he had no superior.

Of late years, Br. Chase has been superannuated as to the ministry, yet without failure of his mental faculties. In the decay of bodily power, as well as in the years of vigorous life, he was loyal to his faith. To the last, there was no wavering. His conviction of the ultimate victory of God and the Saviour over death, sin, and error, was complete and thorough. On the Rock of Ages he stood, and was sustained to the end. Faithful to his Lord, his Lord stood by him, and so he went home to find the fruition of his faith.

The funeral occurred on Saturday, the 6th, Br. H[arvey] Boughton of Macedon officiating, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Gardner of the Congregationalist Church in Fairport, who spoke very highly of the deceased. Br. Chase left a widow [Mary] and one son [William], and hosts of warm friends to mourn his loss. To them the Gospel will afford abundant consolation.

Christian Leader, Boston MA, 18 Jan 1887
[a Universalist newspaper]