

[Clark, Orson B.]

Death of Chaplain Clark—Sketch of a Well Known Clergyman and Citizen.

The Rev. Orson B. Clark dead at his home on East Fifth street at a quarter past eight o'clock this morning, after an illness lasting several months. His death has been expected for some time and yet when it actually came it was a great shock to the numerous friends he possessed in this village, where he has long occupied a prominent position and has been identified with every movement to further the best interests of the community.

The Rev. O. B. Clark was born in Hartwick, Otsego county, New York, September 14, 1810, and was consequently 74 years, 8 months and 21 days old at the time of his death. Much of his earlier life was, however, spent in Pike, Wyoming county, New York. At Gainsville, New York, March 11, 1834, he was united in marriage to Diadama Webster, who survives him and with whom he duly observed their golden wedding last year.

Mr. Clark was in 1845 ordained a minister of the Universalist church and has held charges in many different places in this state. About thirty years since he removed to this county, where he was in charge of a church in Sinclairville, and afterward at Busti whence he moved to Tionesta, Pa., where he was at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion. He raised a company of fifty men and received a commission as captain and also as chaplain of the 83d regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers. He served with credit through the war, performing the duties of army chaplain in a way which gained him thousands of earnest friends. A part of the battles through which he passed are Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburgh, Rappahannock, Kelly's Ford, Mine Run, Preeble's Station, Quaker Run, Five Forks, Wilderness Farm, Laurel Hill, Old Church, Cold Harbor and those before Petersburg. He received a wound at Meade's Station. After being honorably discharged in the spring of 1865, he resumed his duties as pastor; his last charge being at Portageville, N.Y. He removed from this place to Jamestown thirteen years since, and has since resided here. During his residence he has officiated on many occasions, but his health has not permitted him taking any regular charge. The Rev. Mr. Clark during much of his life was a teacher, and about forty years ago conducted a select school at Hornellsville, N.Y., and afterwards taught at Canisteo. He has been feeble for some years past, and has failed much during the past winter. The last of March he gave up and has not been out since. His sickness has been almost entirely painless until within the last few days. His wife survives him and three children, Mrs. S. [Sarah] E. Woodin [Wooden] of Jamestown, D. W. [Webster] Clark of Tionesta, Pa., and Mrs. J. D. Frank of Busti, N.Y.

[Clark, Orson B.]

The subject of this sketch has been a member of the Masonic order for the past forty years. He has also been an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, having been the chaplain of Post Brown since its organization. Mr. Clark has been known by his unpretending charities and many an old soldier and his family have reason to bless "Chaplain" Clark as he was generally called for the assistance he has extended where it was most needed. He was a man of extensive reading and fine education. By his death Jamestown loses one of her oldest and most esteemed citizens.

Notice will be given of the funeral to-morrow. The remains are to be interred in Lake View cemetery.

*Evening Journal*, Jamestown NY, Fri. 5 Jun 1885

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NECROLOGY

ORSON B. CLARK died at his house in Jamestown, N.Y., Aug. 5, 1885, aged 74 years and 8 months. He was born in Hartwick, Otsego Co., N.Y., in 1810, Sept. 14. He was ordained to the ministry of the Universalist church in 1845, bearing the labors and burdens and wearing the honors of the ministry for forty years. After his ordination he preached at North Bloomfield and South Dansville; thence he moved to Phillip's Creek, Allegany Co., where he labored five years, building a church edifice for the society in that place. He then returned to Steuben Co., and preached in Branchport, Greenwood, Liberty, and other places for short periods of time. In 1865[??], or thereabouts, he located in Sinclaresville [Sinclairville]; thence he removed to Busti, and from there to Tionesta, Pa., from which place he entered the army as a chaplain of the Eighty-third Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers on the breaking out of the war. The brother who attended his funeral thus speaks of him—"He served with credit through the war, performing the duties of army chaplain in a way which gained him thousands of earnest friends. A part of the battles through which he passed are Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Rappahannock, Kelly's Ford, Mine Run, Preeble's Station, Quaker Run, Five Forks, Wilderness Farm, Laurel Hill, Old Church, Cold Harbor, and those before Petersburg. He received a wound at Meade's Station. After being honorably discharged in the spring of 1865, he resumed his duties as pastor; his last charge being at Portageville, N.Y. He removed from this place to Jamestown thirteen years since, and since has resided here until the time of his death. Mr. Clark has been known by his unpretending charities, and many an old soldier and his family have reason to bless 'Chaplain' Clark, as he was generally called, for the assistance he has extended where it was most needed. He was a man of extensive reading and fine education. By his death, Jamestown loses one of her oldest and most esteemed citizens."

*The Universalist Register*, Boston MA, 1886, pp. 93-4

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