

[Merrill, Mead]

DEATHS.

In Cortlandville, Cortland Co., Oct. 21st, Mr. Mead Merrill, aged 89 years and (2?) months. Thus has another aged and venerable Father in Israel left the lower, for the higher sphere to ever bask in the sunlight of that everlasting inheritance. The deceased was one of the oldest settlers in Cortland Co., having removed from Conn. in 1804. He retained his physical and mental powers remarkably—adjusted his affairs—spoke resignedly of his departure for the better mansion, and calmly, peacefully died, as the righteous dieth. The blessing of the Abrahamic faith which sustained him, abide with the mourners. Sermon by the writer, assisted in services by Br. C. K. Tomlinson.

J. M. P. [Rev. James M. Peebles]

Evangelical Magazine & Gospel Advocate, New York NY, Fri. 22 Nov 1850

Mead Merrill was one of the early settlers in what is now the corporation of Cortland. He lived near Port Watson and made many permanent improvements in that section. He built a saw-mill there which was in operation in 1816 and about the year 1820, or earlier, erected the substantial house recently owned and occupied by Frederick Conable. Mr. Merrill is credited by Mr. Ballard, in his published *Reminiscences*, as being the leader of the Federal political party until its dissolution. He was appointed surrogate in the spring of 1810 and county clerk in 1813. Mr. Merrill was a strong Universalist in religious belief, and it was largely by his efforts that the cobble-stone church was erected here.

H. P. Smith, *History of Cortland County*
(Syracuse, NY, D. Mason & Co., 1885)