

[Price, Philo P.]

Biographical Record

Philo Price, Esq., died June 17 [1868], aged 70. He was a native of Norwalk, Connecticut, and by trade a printer, though a portion of his life was given to mercantile pursuits. At the age of 32 he removed to New York and established the New York "*Christian Messenger*." Universalism had at the time hardly a name to live in that city. Abner Kneeland had renounced the faith and become an infidel. Father Mitchell was old, and had little sympathy with the denomination. He was a Trinitarian. T.J. [Rev. Thomas Jefferson] Sawyer had but just begun his labors with the Second Society.

Mr. Price consecrated all he had to the enterprise. The paper became a fixed fact, and did a noble work for the truth. Other papers were consolidated with it, under the name of the "*Universalist Union*." But though the list of subscribers was large, the revulsion [financial panic] of 1837 swamped Mr. Price financially, and the "*Union*" passed from his hands, first by assignment, and then by sale. Though Mr. Price's public connection with the cause of Universalism then ceased, he continued steadfast to its interest, and at various times he was Trustee of the Church in Williamsburg, New York.

For two or three years before his death he was a great sufferer, as well as a great care to his family. He sank gradually under a paralysis, till, at an unusual age, he came to that second childhood, which, in the case of those who have done so good a work in life, seems so peculiarly sad. Thanks for the hope that, emancipated from the burdens of the flesh, the spirit has resumed its activity in the better land.

*The Universalist Companion*, Boston MA, 1869, pp. 83-4