

George, Isaac

Hon. I. George

We copy from the *Illion Independent* the following sketch of Br. I. [Isaac] George, who recently retired from our ministry, and who is now a Member of the Assembly of this State, from Chautauque [Chautauqua] Co. It is from the pen of G. W. Bungay, Esq., editor of that spicy and thorough-going Temperance journal—one of the very best in the State—who is furnishing his readers with sketches of the prominent Members of the Legislature.

Isaac George is a member of the Assembly, representing the 2d District of Chautauque [Chautauqua], and resides in the village of Fredonia. He was born in the town of Gainesville, Wyoming (late Genesee) County, on the first day of May, 1818.

In early life the desolating scourge of Intemperance sundered for him the paradise of a parental home, and left him from the age of six years with little protection or aid except the charities of the world, to enable him to meet and overcome its multiplied temptations and trials. The acknowledgment of an honored mother's many and tearful sacrifices in his behalf, and also a present regard for a reformed and venerable father, he would deem it a breach of gratitude and filial duty to withhold.

He was reared principally in the vicinity of Springville, Erie County, residing, portions of the time, with different families in that section, until the age of twenty, during which period he succeeded in obtaining an education which has enabled him thus far to fill, with fair literary credit, the various positions which he has since been called upon to occupy in life. Springfield Academy was his *Alma Mater*. During this period he was accustomed to employ himself a portion of each successive year in teaching common schools.

Possessed of strong religious sympathies, he embraced at the age of eighteen, the peculiar doctrines of the Universalist denomination, and received its fellowship as a clergyman in 1840.

In 1841 he married Miss Mary Bremen, of Cuba, Allegany County, with whom, and three lovely daughters, his home is now blest with life's best attractions. The following year he located in Independence, in the above named county, as pastor of a society of his faith.

In 1844 he took the pastoral charge of a society in Perrysburg, Ohio, where he remained two years. He then (in 1846) returned to Springville, the home of his boyhood days, in which place he succeeded in organizing a Universalist Society and building a church. After remaining here about five years he removed (in 1851) to Chautauque [Chautauqua] County, where he has since resided, with the exception of two years ('54 and '55) spent in Middleport, Niagara County, as pastor of a Society in that village.

Failing health and a disgust for the apparent necessity of ministerial changes, which have become so common of late, together with a desire to relieve himself of that dependence which subjects the freedom of the pulpit to the caprice of a captious and intolerant minority in too many religious societies, induced him, not long since, to turn his attention to the study and practice of law.

He has, within the past year, been admitted as an attorney, which position will not, in his opinion, necessarily preclude him from the privilege of speaking on behalf of Christ and religion, should occasion require.

He has always been a working friend of temperance and favors prohibition. Formerly a Whig, he united with the Republican party at its inauguration, and during the late campaign was among the leading public speakers of this section of the State. His nomination for his present position was endorsed on the 4th of November last by about two thousand majority.

George, Isaac

Mr. George is a tall, well-formed man, with brown hair, blue eyes and an earnest face. He speaks distinctly and deliberately and is a man of considerable power; he commands the respect of the House.

It is our opinion there is a bright future before this gentleman, for he is an untiring student, a close thinker, a man of unexceptionable habits; and has the peculiar tact to win golden opinions from his associates.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn, NY, February 21, 1857

Rev. I. George

Rev. I. George, of Fredonia, has received and accepted an invitation to become pastor of the Universalist Society in Sinclearville, Chautauque [Sinclairville, Chautauqua] Co., N.Y. We doubt not the cause of Gospel truth will receive new strength and vigor in that place, under the able and judicious labors of Br. George. Having entered upon his duties in his new location, his correspondents should address him as above.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn, NY, 21 Nov 1857

Transcribed on 9 Jan 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY