

Sketch of the Life of Rev. J[ustus] Todd

Ellington Centre, Dec. 22, 1860

Br. Austin:—Rev. J. Todd of Ellington Centre, N. Y. was born in the year 1785 and married in 1807. He has had nine deaths in his family. His oldest child died in 1818, his second in 1819, his third in 1820. His wife died in 1824, and he married again and his first child of second wife died in 1827, the second child died in 1832, the third in 1850, the fourth in 1851. His second wife died in 1858. His first wife was sick eight years. His second wife was helpless for more than six years before her death. Two years before her death he was prostrated with the hip disease. He is now a little better and is cheerful and happy, fully confident in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and a glorious immortality for all the race of man [sic].

A day or two before the late Presidential election, citizens of all political parties in Ellington requested Father Todd to give a sentiment on the Union. In response, he wrote one in poetry, which was read, and considered the true doctrine of the Constitution. Some of all classes called for a copy of the same, and he consented to give it to the public.

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, 9 Mar 1861

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