

[Baker, Henry Hackett]

Rev. Henry Hackett Baker

Rev. Henry Hackett Baker was born in Minot, Me., Nov. 24, 1811, and died of paralysis in Rochester, N.Y., Sept. 28, 1881. He was aided by friends in obtaining an education with the expectation that he would become a Methodist preacher, but, being converted to Universalism in his school days, he was unable to comply with their wishes, and desired to enter the ministry of his newly-adopted faith. Being restrained from this by the fear of alienating his friends, he determined to study medicine; but, after devoting a year to this, he yielded to his stronger impulse, and, by advice of Rev. D. T. Stevens, then of Lewiston Falls, Me., abandoned medicine and began the study of divinity. He was licensed to preach in 1840, and ordained in 1841.

Mr. Baker's first pastorate was over the societies of Windham and Gray, Me., to which he preached on alternate Sundays for two years. He was then settled over the parishes in Elliot and Kittery for a like period. In 1845 he moved to Essex, Mass., where he was pastor four years. From Essex he went to Georgetown, and remained there three years. In 1852 he removed to Ludlow, Vt., where he was settled as pastor for three years. From there he went to Hammond, N.Y., where he preached six years, doing considerable missionary work in the vicinity also. His next pastorate was at Fort Plain, where he was settled three years, and lived four years afterwards, preaching meantime in St. Johnsville, Fordsbush, Argusville, and other neighboring towns nearly all the time. In 1868 he returned to Massachusetts, and began a pastorate of one year in Orange. At the expiration of this engagement, he was settled in Middleport, N.Y., where he remained six years. After this he took up his residence at Rochester, and preached in Conesus. After this his health declined, and he preached only occasionally as his strength would permit.

He was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature from Georgetown, while he lived there in the winter of 1850-51. [On] Nov. 28, 1841, he married Miss Lucy D. Hackett, of Minot, Me., who, with their three sons, survives.

*The Universalist Register*, Boston MA, 1882