

[Fluhrer, Charles]

DEATH AT ALBION OF DR. CHARLES FLUHRER
End Result of Long Continued Apoplexy and Paralysis
Brilliant Personality

Dead Pastor Was a Recognized Leader in the Universalist Church
and Leaves a Record of Activities and Good Works

The death of Charles Fluhrer, D.D., which occurred Friday night at Albion, removed a brilliant and cultured preacher, a man greatly loved and esteemed in the community and the first pastor of the Pullman Memorial Church.

Charles Fluhrer was born in Providence, R. I., August 29, 1840. He was the youngest of five children born of John Christopher Fluhrer and Julia Ann Greimor. His father was a German, having emigrated from Hull, Wurtemberg, and his mother was of German extraction, but was born in Watertown, Mass.

He received his early education in the Providence schools and was for many years connected with the Sunday-school of the Second Universalist Church. In the year 1859 he became deeply interested in religion and united with that church, under the influence of its then pastor, Rev. L. Bloch. The same year he entered the theological department of St. Lawrence University at Canton, from which institution he was graduated. Soon after he supplied a pulpit in Albany for six months, but his first settlement was a pastorate in Newark, from 1865 to 1867.

He then located in Victor, and in June the same year he married Julia Almira Bishop, of East Providence, R.I. In the fall of 1870 he accepted an invitation to the missionary field in the upper part of New York city, becoming the first pastor of the Harlem Universalist Church the same year. In October, 1875, he went to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he remained for nineteen years. It was at this place that the chief work of his ministry was accomplished and where he left many firm friends. Among other things besides building up the society was the erection of a splendid church edifice, the most beautiful and one of the most expensive in the city at that time.

He went to Albion in the winter of 1894 to take up the pastorate of the Pullman Memorial Church, at the strong desire of the late George M. Pullman, through whose munificence the church was erected.

Dr. Fluhrer was stricken with apoplexy with accompanying paralysis on May 25, 1900, and resigned his pastorate December 30th of the same year. Among his associates at Canton was the Rev. James M. Pullman and between these two men there grew up a warm and lasting companionship. In 1887 he received the degree of D.D. from Lombard College; he was then a thirty-second degree Mason.

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He is survived by his wife. Julia A., and two sons, Howard W. Fluhrer, of Auburn, and Gerald Fluhrer, of Albion. The funeral service will be held this afternoon in the Pullman Memorial church at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. L. M. Powers of Buffalo, officiating. Interment will take place at his old home in Providence, R.I.

Dr. Fluhrer was a recognized leader of the Universalist denomination. He possessed a scholarly and intellectual mind, was an attractive speaker and always drew large congregations. The family has the sincere sympathy of the entire community.

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Transcribed on 10 Jun 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY