

[Hooper, Washington, Wells]

DIED SUDDENLY YESTERDAY

WAS STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF UNIVERSALIST CHURCHES AND
WELL KNOWN IN A LARGE CIRCLE—AN ATTACK OF INFLAMMATORY
RHEUMATISM WENT TO THE HEART—PASSING AWAY A GREAT SHOCK

Rev. Washington Wells Hooper, state superintendent of Universalist churches, died suddenly at his home on Waverly place about 9 o'clock yesterday morning. Mr. Hooper returned from Oneonta about a week ago, suffering from inflammatory rheumatism. He had been in comparatively good health until then and had been engaged in Oneonta in the work of the church. The disease with which he was attacked, however, went to the heart and abruptly ended his active and useful life. His death was a shock to his wife, who was prostrated by it, and to the other members of the family.

Mr. Hooper was born in Brooklyn 52 years ago. At the age of 14 such were the circumstances [that] he was obliged to do something to aid in maintaining the family. He therefore engaged in mercantile pursuits, but when the situation became such that he could, he entered St. Lawrence University at Canton, N.Y., and eventually graduated from the divinity school. After a few years of successful pastorate work in this state, his especial gifts and liking for mission work led him into that field and he became superintendent of the Universalist churches in the state of Maine. This office he filled acceptably for ten years. When, a little more than a year ago, the executive board of the New York State Convention of Universalist Churches was looking for the best man to put into the work in this state, it was fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. Hooper, who thereupon removed to Utica. He did effective and vigorous work here.

As a preacher Mr. Hooper was keen, vigorous, convincing and persistently optimistic. He was large in body and proportionately large in mind and spirit. He was the author of several books on the boy problem and was the editor of "The Convention at Work," the state paper of the church.

The mother [Louisa K. Hooper], the wife [Mary D. Hooper] to whom he was married in Maine, a son Ray and a daughter Mary, and a sister survive. The funeral will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the house, Rev. J. D. Corby officiating and being assisted by Rev. O. [Otis] F. Alvord of Dolgeville. Interment will be made in the family lot in Norway, Maine.

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