

[Houghton, M. H.]

NOTED PULPIT ORATOR

Rev. M. H. Houghton was born at Lock Mills, Oxford County, Maine, in 1846. His father was Moses Houghton, a contractor and builder, and his grandfather, also Moses by name, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The family is of English extraction and is descended from two brothers, one of who settled in Main and the other in Massachusetts. Mr. Houghton attended the academy at Norway, Maine, and was graduated from the Harvard Divinity School in 1873. He entered the ministry at Bath, Maine, as pastor of the First Universalist Church, where he remained three years, a period of great prosperity, a fine parsonage being erected at the cost of \$3,000. He then organized the Universalist Church at Grand Haven, Michigan, and served two years. Then he was pastor of the Universalist Church at Hyannis, Mass., for three years, and New Haven, Conn., six years. Going West for his health, he was pastor at Storm Lake, Iowa, three years, and at Dubuque, Iowa, two years. Then at Titusville, Pa., he served three years. For eight years he was pastor of the Universalist Church of Bradford, Pa., where a beautiful new church edifice of brick, finished in oak, equipped with a fine pipe organ, was erected at the cost of \$25,000. During the past year he has been temporarily located at Springville, N.Y., as pastor of the Universalist Church.

He found this charge with a congregation of 13 women and one man, and now has a male congregation larger than any other church in the place. Mr. Houghton is a pastor of remarkable versatile attainments and while at Bradford served two terms as United States revenue collector. He has also been an extensive reader of philosophy, including the works of Spencer, Darwin, Tyndal and others and has been a popular lecturer, one of his ablest efforts being entitled "The Art of Using the Mind."

He has been twice married, his present wife formerly being Miss Ida Martin, a most estimable lady of New Haven, Conn. He has one son, Clifford Houghton, who has organized an oil and gas company in Boston. Mr. Houghton is a great lover of nature and is fond of fine horses, being the fortunate possessor of both a pacer with the trial of 2:15, and also of an automobile. He has traveled considerably in the West and Canada. As a preacher the Rev. Mr. Houghton is a clear thinker and a brilliant speaker. Those who listen to his sermons regard him as an inspired man in the pulpit and he has the rare power of reaching the hearts of men. He is liberal and broadminded in his teachings and has always been a man among men. Possessing a sunny disposition, a sympathetic heart and a strong intellect, he has made a marked impression wherever he has labored, and is one of the most popular pulpit orators of the country.

Star-Gazette, Elmira NY, Mon. 2 Aug 1909

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The Rev. M. H. Houghton, pastor of the Universalist Church, Springville, N.Y., died the past week and the remains were interred in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bradford, Pa. The deceased was well known, highly esteemed, and endeared himself in the hearts of many by his broad-mindedness. Like the late Father Hendricks, bishop of Manila, the rev. M. H. Houghton was an ardent horseman and attended many Grand Circuit, Lake Erie Circuit and autumn fair races. His son, Clifford Houghton, of Bradford, Pa., is a trainer and driver who does credit to the honorable profession. A gentleman man be a horseman, a horseman a gentleman.

Buffalo Courier, Buffalo NY, Sun 29 May 1910

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