

[Todd, Caleb]

## DEATHS.

In Chautauque [old spelling for Chautauqua], county of Chautauque, N.Y., on the 8th of July last, Rev. CALEB TODD, in the 79th year of his age.

The deceased was a man of superior intellectual powers, of elevated moral sentiments, and of industrious, enterprising and persevering habits, which rendered him a valuable citizen, a devoted friend, and an affectionate and faithful companion [husband]. He was a native of North Haven, county of New Haven, Ct., He early manifested a solemn regard for religion, was educated in the school of Presbyterianism under the ministry of Rev. Dr. Trumbull, of whose church his parents were members; but becoming dissatisfied with the undisguised manner in which the Rev. Dr. held forth the doctrine of particular election and reprobation, and especially *infant damnation*, he withdrew from that congregation, and at about the age of 26, united with the Baptists, and soon became a preacher. At the age of 31 he removed to Fairfield, Herkimer county, N.Y., where he officiated as pastor of a Baptist church, some fifteen years. But here God was pleased to lead his soul into the full enjoyment of the liberty of the Gospel. A Universalist preacher (Rev. P. [Paul] Dean) came that way—Mr. Todd, though astonished at the idea, and totally opposed to this scheme of the devil's invention, as he supposed, felt, notwithstanding, an inclination to hear what could be said in favor of so strange a delusion. He attended—and his attention was so far arrested as to incline him to give the subject a prayerful and scriptural investigation; and he was not long in arriving at a full and permanent faith in the glorious Gospel of God's universal grace,—and immediately, without delay, became a preacher of what he had once attempted to destroy; and continued in the faith, and in the ministry, as God afforded him strength and opportunity, until the day of his death; and he closed his long and well spent life, rejoicing in the full assurance of a glorious immortality for himself and for the whole Adamic family.

About the year 1819, he removed from Herkimer county to Chautauque, his last place of residence, where by his industry and economy he acquired a handsome property, and left a competency for the surviving members of his family. He has left an aged companion with six children to deplore their loss, beside numerous other relatives. But, thanks be to God, they can derive consolation of that faith which characterises every thought, word and action of his life, after he received it; which sustained him in every trial and failed him not in death—and which, through Christ, gives them the divine assurance of a glorious re-union beyond the regions of sickness and the reign of death.

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His funeral obsequies were attended on the 10th. The Baptists, with Christian liberality, offered the use of their meeting house, but it would not hold the congregation, and they adjourned to the orchard of the deceased, where an immense concourse of neighbors and friends gave ample testimony of their high regard for the deceased, and an able and appropriate discourse was delivered by Rev. S. Adams.

N. [Nathaniel] Stacy

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Transcribed on 15 Sep 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY