

## [Tomlinson, DeWitt Clinton]

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DECEASED CLERGYMEN

XIII. REV. DE WITT CLINTON TOMLINSON was born in Gaines, Orleans County, N.Y., Aug. 24, 1824, and died at Wedron, Ill., July 27, 1881. He prepared for the ministry at Clinton under the supervision of Doctor Thomas J. Sawyer, and began to preach in 1846. Before his ordination he preached also in 1847 at Minden, and in 1848 at Richfield Springs. He was ordained and became pastor of the parish at Cooperstown in 1849. He was located at Newark from 1850 to 1852; at Perrinton [now spelled Perinton] in 1853; at Albion from 1854 to 1856; at Independence, Iowa, in 1857 and 1858; at Perry, N.Y., from 1859 to 1861; at Portageville in 1862 and 1863; at Ridgeway in 1864 and 1865; at Watertown from 1866 to 1869; at Fairport in 1870 and 1871; and at Akron, Ohio, from 1872 to 1879, preaching meantime at Springfield in 1875, and for the First Society of Cleveland in 1876. He was at Chicago, Ill., in 1880; and he maintained his residence there until his death.

As a preacher, Mr. Tomlinson was vigorous, strong and sound. With a physique that seemed to defy fatigue and disease, he was able to do a vast amount of pastoral and other work. He did our cause substantial service while pastor in Watertown and at various other points. He had a peculiar aptness for the financial work of the church. Men were won by his earnestness and zeal, and seldom refused to contribute for the object he espoused. He was employed in soliciting aid successively for the Canton Theological School, for the Murray Fund, and for Buchtel College, in Ohio; and his labors for each were crowned with success. His latest employment was as State Superintendent for Illinois, in which he was engaged nearly up to the time of his death. He had established himself in the favor of the people as a devoted, faithful missionary, had put the work in better condition than ever before, and was preparing a home for his family near Middleport, N.Y., when, on account of the ill health of his wife, he found it necessary to resign. In the midst of his strength and usefulness, he was stricken with disease at a grove meeting on Sunday, July 24, where although slightly indisposed he preached what proved his last sermon. After this he grew worse rapidly, and breathed his last on Wednesday. He leaves a widow [Emma] and several children.

*The Universalist Register*, Boston MA, 1882, pp. 96-7