

[Underwood, William]

Deaths. At his residence in Litchfield, Herkimer county, on the 26th ult., Rev. WILLIAM UNDERWOOD, aged about 73 years.

Br. Underwood was an early settler in this county, and was extensively and favorably known as a Baptist preacher, and determined opponent of the then very small but growing denomination of Universalists. He personally withstood Br. [Nathaniel] Stacy in his attempt to spread the doctrine, but after a long struggle, many fervent prayers, and deep and patient inquiry, he was compelled to avow himself a convert to the doctrine of illimitable grace, and felt it his duty to preach the faith he once destroyed. From that period down to a few years since, he continued earnestly, ably, and faithfully to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to lead mankind into the ways of truth and peace. Increasing infirmities, only, called him from the field of public labor; but in the social circle he still continued to dwell with pleasure on the great theme of a world's salvation, with tongue and pen, to the confounding of opposers and the delight of believers.

His disease was dropsy. Its pains he bore with great fortitude and resignation—dwelling on the goodness of God, and the hopes of a universal and blissful immortality, as a sweet and soothing cordial for all his sufferings... He rejoiced to see faith and piety flourish around him, and lived to behold his numerous descendants grow up around him in the same faith that made his own decline so glorious and cheering. His aged widow, numerous children and grandchildren, and his other relatives, friends and neighbors of every denomination feel that a kind husband, father and friend has departed, and that a good man, a devoted follower of the Lord Jesus, has gone from earthly toils and sufferings to heavenly rest and glory.

The funeral was attended on the 28th by Br. [Job] Potter, a fellow believer with the deceased in the Baptist church and since a faithful co-worker with him in the ministry of universal reconciliation.

A. B. G. [Rev. Aaron B. Grosh]

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[a Universalist newspaper]