

[Austin, Benjamin]

DEATHS.

In Sacket's Harbor, N. Y. on the morning of the 4th inst., Mr. BENJAMIN AUSTIN, father of Rev. J. M. [John Mather] Austin, aged 84 years.- The deceased was born in Pittsfield, Mass., on the 15th day of June, 1770. In early life he followed the sea; but some sixty years since, he emigrated into Northwestern New-York, and became one of its pioneer settlers. He passed a quiet and humble, but useful and upright life, exemplifying the truthfulness of the maxim—"an honest man is the noblest work of God." He was formerly a member of the Baptist church. But about thirty years ago his faith became enlarged to the full scope of the gospel, and embraced the entire world as the final subjects of salvation... When Rev. Pitt Morse first commenced the proclamation of the gospel of impartial grace in Watertown, N.Y., the deceased was among those who rallied around him, and encouraged and aided him in his labors. And when Mr. Morse, in 1822, organized a church in connection with the Universalist Society in Watertown (one of the first churches formed in our denomination in this State), Br. Austin was its first deacon, which capacity he filled while he continued a resident of that place. His religion was to him a great reality, and few probably have ever loved it more ardently... His funeral took place on the 5th inst. An able and appropriate discourse was delivered by Rev. Pitt Morse, from Ps. Ivii.1. He was assisted in the services by Rev. S[eth] Jones.

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, 13 May 1854  
[a Universalist newspaper]

Transcribed on 9 Jan 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY