

[Beebe, Susan Blanding]

SUSAN BLANDING BEEBE

Susan Blanding, beloved wife of Judson Beebe, died at her home in South Byron, Genesee county, N.Y., on the 6th inst. She had been in feeble health for the past three years, but her final illness was short, and she was confined to her bed but three days prior to her death.

Deceased was the daughter of Royal and Nancy Holbrook Blanding who, over sixty years ago, left their old home in New Hampshire to build a new home for themselves in New York State. They went first to Russia, Herkimer county, and here, in the 13th of February, 1826, their daughter, Susan, was born. A few years after this they left Herkimer county and came to the town of Brookfield, where they lived until the worthy couple passed on to the rest that remains to the people of God. Of their large family of children there are but four surviving: Oscar F. and Adolphus Blanding, of Hubbardsville; Mrs. E. Russell, of Brookfield, and E. Franklin Blanding, of North Brookfield. Another daughter, Mrs. Lucina Nash, of Hubbardsville, passed away some years since. But within the past five or six years death has been busy in this happy family and four sons have died: William Blanding, of LaFayette, Onondaga county; Joseph Blanding, of North Brookfield; Jefferson Blanding, of Morris, Ill., and Freeman Blanding, of Syracuse, N.Y. The death of Mrs. Beebe makes more apparent than ever the widening gaps in this family circle.

Susan Blanding was united in marriage to Judson Beebe, in the old Clarke house (now in ruins), between Hubbardsville and North Brookfield, May 11, 1845. They continued to live in the towns of Brookfield and Sangerfield until about twenty-one years ago, when they moved to South Bryon, which place has since been their home. Three children were born to them. Their eldest child, Lucina, died at North Brookfield many years ago, at the age of 17 years. Two other children, Hiram Beebe, of Earlville, and Mrs. Alice Barber, of Batavia, survive to mourn the loss of one of the kindest and most affectionate of mothers. The surviving husband, with them, will receive the most sincere sympathy of a wide circle of friends, in their old home, at this inscrutable dispensation which has removed from the family one always alive to their wants and wishes, as well as one at all times affectionate and faithful. Now we "see through a glass darkly;" in God's own time only can we see "face to face."

It were vain, in this brief space, to pay a fitting tribute to the memory of the departed. Rather let her good words and works, graven as they are on the hearts of all with whom she has ever associated, speak for her. Though she has ceased to love and to labor, she leaves too many memories of a life well spent to need enumeration.

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She was a devoted and steadfast adherent of the Universalist faith, a creed in which she found comfort to her soul and abundant hope for the hereafter. In that faith she lived, in that faith she died, in that faith she triumphed over pain; in that faith may she rest in peace until the day when the earth and sea shall yield their dead to the loving, merciful and all-wise Father of us all, "who hateth nothing he has made," and who, in His many mansions, shall reunite this family and bind again the silver cord that has been loosed on earth.

"Rest comes at last, though life be long and dreary,
The day must dawn and darksome night be past;
All journeys end in welcome to the weary,
And Heaven, the heart's true home, will come at last."

A. W. R.

Middletown, N.Y., April 18, 1891.

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