

[Billings, Lucy J.]

DEATHS.

In Brewerton, Onondaga Co., N.Y., of quick consumption, on the 26th of September, 1863, LUCY J. BILLINGS, aged 20 years, 8 months and 24 days. Thus the young, the beautiful, and the amiable pass away; for such was Lucy. She was known only to be loved and esteemed for her many agreeable traits and excellent qualities. The writer of this was truly pained, on revisiting his former parish, to learn that she was no more. She who, when he last saw her, bid so fair to live long and to be useful and happy. She was peculiarly constituted to enjoy life, and to enable those around her to enjoy it, so serene was her temper and so elastic and buoyant her spirits. She possessed also an active mind and keen and delicate sensibilities. The writer was acquainted with her in her home, where he frequently had the pleasure of meeting her with her parents. She was a member of his society and sang in the choir—the first Universalist society he ever organized. She did not hesitate to identify herself with that little band of believers in God's impartial goodness, although there was strong prejudice against it and most of her young associates were of an opposite faith. She *believed* in Universalism, and was true to her convictions. Her mother was of that faith and belonged to the society, but her father, I believe, belonged to no religious order. When she became conscious that death was approaching, she said she did not fear to die: she called her friends around her and bade them farewell. In taking leave of her parents, she said that if spirits were permitted to return, she would come back and watch over them. She wished them to tell all her friends to prepare to meet her in heaven. And thus she departed, full of trust and hope, with a cheerful and resigned spirit. Her funeral services were conducted by Rev. A. Tibbetts, who preached an able and comforting sermon on the occasion. I write this obituary notice at the request of her parents. May the Lord bless and sustain them through the brief interval, till they are permitted to meet the bright spirit of their dear Lucy in the heavenly home.

W. W. C.

ROME, N.Y., Oct. 20th, 1863

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, Sat. 7 Nov 1863