

[Boyden, John

John Boyden

There are few men whose lives are so unpretending, and who move about so quietly and unassuming, that only those who know them intimately can appreciate their worth. Of this class, was the subject of this sketch.

John Boyden was born in Guildford, Vt. At the age of 20 he came to Jefferson county, and after spending three years at Mathers Mills, moved to Lorraine, where he lived [for] fifty years. Four years ago, he left Lorraine to reside with his son-in-law, Albert Webb, of Pierrepont Manor, where he died June 15th, in his 76th year.

Such a custom it has become to eulogize the dead, whether good or bad, that it seems almost sacrilegious to draw his name among those whose glory has thus been sought, and judging by his general character, we are almost sure it would have been his wish to have been laid quietly at rest without even an obituary. He did not delight in show. "To be, not to appear," was the principle of his life. Upright in character, sound in judgment, he was often chosen arbiter of bitter disputes, and the confidence which his neighbors reposed in him has avoided many a severe litigation.

In religious belief, he was a Universalist. Believing that a man would be "judged according to the deeds done in the body," his acts were in accordance with his faith. Few of his neighbors agreed with him in religion, yet we do not believe that those most opposed to Universalism would say he was not a Christian; most all agree in saying "surely a good man has died." His life was a success, for the world was better for his having lived. He has left a name which his friends will cherish, as we hope they will also the memory of that dying prayer. Of him it may be said that "no man was ever heard to speak evil of him."

W.

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