

[Briggs, Melissa Saxton]

AN OLD LADY DEAD

Mrs. Melissa Briggs of Independence Passes Away.

Early last Saturday morning Mrs. Melissa Saxton Briggs of Independence passed to the higher life. Mrs. Briggs was born in Scipio, Cayuga county, July 30, 1830. She was one of a family of twelve. When she was eight years old she came into the vicinity of Greenwood with her parents. On July 12, 1851, she was married to Jesse Briggs. When she was married she went to the home where she died. Mr. Briggs died in 1900.

Mrs. Briggs had been a great sufferer from rheumatism for twenty-five years. She was a woman who had many warm friends and her home was made the gathering place of a great many people, who shared in her hospitality.

Thus it is, that another loving mother and devoted Christian has passed to her reward. Certainly the fortitude and patience with which she bore her severe and long-suffering affliction was exceptional, and through tears of sorrow and grief none can say but what she hath earned a release from the dreadful disease which wore so heavily upon her. During all of her years of affliction her immediate family did all in their power to make her declining years as happy and pleasant as possible. She is survived by two sons and a daughter-in-law—Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Briggs and Wallace Briggs. She also leaves three sisters and two brothers—Mrs. Parcilla McGraw of Canisteo, Mrs. Rachael Bishop of Troupsburg, Mrs. George Heckman of Jasper, Albertus Saxton of West Union and Oren Saxton of Hallsport.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from her late home, in the presence of a host of relatives and friends. Rev. James Herrick, pastor of the Whitesville Universalist church, spoke the words of comfort, after which he body was laid to rest beside her husband in the family plot at Independence.

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