

[Burnside, Louisa]

DEATHS

In Tompkins, Delaware co., N.Y., March 17, Mrs. LOUISA BURNSIDE, wife of James S. Burnside, aged 45 years. Deceased was born Dec. 16, 1810, in the town of Genoa, Cayuga county; was married at the age of eighteen, in the town of Milford, Otsego county; moved with her husband in 1850 to Tompkins, where she continued to reside till death called her home. She has left a bereaved husband and seven children, five sons and two daughters, to mourn the loss of one who was all that wife or mother could be and whose amiable disposition and consideration rendered her doubly dear to them... She was warmly attached to her friends, and breathed good wishes for all mankind. She elicited the love and affection of her children and companion, by the devoted interest she manifested for their happiness and welfare, thus showing, as in many other respects, that she was qualified to lead the offspring of her care along the ways of truth and virtue. In all her relations, as a child, a sister, a companion, a mother, and a friend, she was a model of excellence, and all the memories cherished by those who knew her, are sunny... As far as her religious views were known and have been expressed, there can be no doubt but that she fully coincided with her bereaved husband, in the full belief of the final happiness and holiness of all mankind. She studied the Bible as the source of all correct knowledge on religious subjects. She examined the various readings, the commentaries of different authors, and the creeds of different sects of christians. She ventured even within the perplexed mazes of theology, and endeavored to elicit information and sound doctrine from the obscurities of theological metaphysics. Her mind, however, was too strong to become confused by sophisms, and her heart too sincere in the love and pursuit of truth, to be lost in this extensive investigation. She returned from these excursions laden with good fruit, and after much inquiry among the living and the dead, she rested with childlike confidence her hope of immortal happiness on the simple declarations of the Bible... The disease of which she died was asthma, terminating in dropsy of the heart... She continued in comfortable health, and was able to oversee her household affairs until about five days before her death... The funeral was attended by a numerous congregation of sympathizing neighbors and acquaintances, all of whom seemed to feel that the bereaved husband and family, and a large circle of relatives, have suffered an irreparable and uncommon bereavement, and society has lost one of its brightest ornaments.

J. C. B.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 19 Apr 1856
[a Universalist newspaper]