

[Burr, William G.]

DEATHS.

In Cazenovia, N.Y., April 5th, 1860, Mr. WM. G. BURR, in the 70th year of his age. Mr. Burr was emphatically a self-made man, generous and active in all the relations of life. He was born in Ludlow, Mass., Oct. 18th, 1790. When yet a child his father, Timothy Burr, removed from that State and settled in the town of Paris, Oneida co., N.Y. At that period very few persons had extended their settlements into the forests that skirted the Mohawk River. The destitution and hardships of those who did—hardships in which the family of Mr. Burr largely participated, are matters of history. William G., the oldest son, nurtured in the bosom of toil and hardships, became early trained to a life of industry and enterprise. Soon after reaching his majority he married and set up for himself, having previously learned the trade of a cooper. He afterwards lived in Hamilton, Auburn and Sing Sing. In the war of 1814 [1812] he was drafted among the recruits who were deemed essential for the protection of the frontier, and made one campaign to the St. Lawrence, as far as Ogdensburg, but peace being concluded, he soon afterwards returned home. At Auburn he was connected with the state prison in the capacity of keeper in the cooperage department. From thence he was sent by the State authorities to Sing Sing, on the establishment of a prison in that place.—Here he remained for several years, the better portion of the time as agent for one of the contractors. From that place he removed to Cazenovia, where he spent the last seventeen years of his life.—In early life he became convinced of the truth of impartial grace and universal salvation, and ever afterwards maintained a firm attachment to the doctrine, doing all in his power to promote its growth, both in himself and among those around him. He had given essential aid to the cause in the places where he had lived. Among the last of his efforts was the part he took in the formation of a Society and the erection of a church in Cazenovia.

His last sickness was peculiar and distressing... For more than a year he exhibited unmistakable evidence of mental aberration, and all the efforts of skill and affection for his recovery proved unavailing. Even a residence of some months at the Asylum for the insane at Utica produced no good results. He was accordingly taken home only to wear out life amidst the kindness of friends, and close his eyes in the bosom of his own household.—While he remained at the asylum, his father, at the advanced aged of 92 years, went down to his rest. A few days after [on 26 Oct 1859] his daughter, Mrs. [Mary, wife of W. H.] Brewster of Cazenovia, departed this life at the age of 44 years. His only other child, Mrs. Williams, together with his wife,...alone remained to close his eyes... Mr. Burr was a man much beloved and respected by all who knew him. He was buried with Masonic honors, on Sunday the 8th of April, Rev. S. P. Landers [Universalist, of Utica] being called to deliver the discourse, and tender the consolations of the gospel to the bereaved friends and relatives.

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, Sat. 5 May 1860