

[Conger, Jerusha]

DEATHS.

In North Brookfield, Madison county, on the 2d inst., after a lingering sickness of many weeks, Mrs. JERUSHA T., consort of Abel Conger, Esq., in the 64th year of her age. She bore her last distressing sickness with exemplary fortitude and christian patience and resignation, and died in the triumphs of the christian faith and hope in which, for the last twenty-five years of her life, she had so confidently trusted. She was for some years a professor [i.e. someone who professed] and member of the Methodist Church; but was never satisfied with that limited faith; for her heart yearned for the salvation of the whole world. Some twenty-five years ago, she read in the 'Evangelical Magazine' the Narrative of the conversion of Mrs. [Sally] Huling, at Saratoga Springs, entitled "Prejudice is strong, but the Love of God is stronger." It gave a new turn to her reflections, a new spring to her desires and hopes; she commenced re-examining the grounds of her faith, and by a careful perusal of the Scriptures, was convinced beyond a doubt of the final holiness and happiness of all mankind, and continued to cherish and rejoice in that faith as long as she lived, finding it not only good to live by, but better still and superior to all doctrines to die by. For the last year of her life, she had been very earnestly engaged in the cause of religious truth, and exceedingly zealous for the erection of a Universalist church in the neighborhood where she lived. Nor could she be satisfied till her own name, along with her husband's, was attached to a subscription for that purpose, with a liberal sum attached thereto, and others had added a sufficient sum to ensure the completion of this noble work the coming season. Having seen this object secured, and obtained the promise of the writer of this notice, that he would attend her funeral and preach on the occasion of her death, if possible, she then felt that she could die in peace, abundantly satisfied, and rejoicing with joy unspeakable, and full of glory. Just before her last breath, she requested her family to join in singing that beautiful hymn, (471 of Streeter's collection) on the "Loving Kindness" of the Redeemer. And when the time of her departure came, she left, with a song of triumph in her mouth.

She leaves a fond but bereaved husband and seven children to mourn her early exit, though they are enabled to rejoice that their loss is her unspeakable gain. Her wishes in regard to her funeral were carried out on the 4th inst., when the writer preached in the Methodist Church at So. Sangerfield to a crowded concourse of sympathizing relatives and neighbors, a discourse from Heb. vi:19, "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth in to that within the vail." Brs.

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[Job] Potter and [Albert W.] Bruce, of Hamilton, were also present, and assisted in the services of the occasion.

The family requested that the sermon might be published in the 'Ambassador.' But as it was wholly extemporaneous, and I find not the time to write it out; and moreover, as the Editor of the Ambassador informs me he now has a large number of sermons on hand, some of which have been waiting for room for four months, and mine would have to wait for its turn, and it would thereby lose much of its interest with the friends, they will excuse me, and try to remember what was worth remembering in the sermon, without its being in print.

D. S. [Dolphus Skinner]

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, Sat. 16 Apr 1853

Transcribed on 17 Nov 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY