

[Fitz, Henry]

DEATHS.

In this city, on the 31st ult., after a brief illness, HENRY FITZ, aged fifty-five years. Mr. Fitz was the only son of the late Henry Fitz, formerly of this city, and long well known to the Universalists of New York, and indeed of the whole country, as editor of the *Gospel Herald* and author of two volumes of sermons, under the title of "Layman's Legacy." The son inherited much of the father's force of character, self-reliance and energy. With many eccentricities he united a noble heart, great simplicity and a kindliness of nature that rendered him the object of universal admiration and love among those who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance. In early life Mr. Fitz learned the printer's trade, but it proved deficient in its demands for mechanical skill, and he soon abandoned it, and directed his attention to lock manufacturing. In this branch he presently acquired great facility and perfection and he was for several years assiduously engaged in the business as journeyman. In this capacity he worked in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati and New Orleans, and as he practised Franklin's economy, always had the best of work, and could do nearly double labor, he saved money. We do not know what circumstances finally led him to attempt the manufacture of a telescope, but he made a small one for his own amusement. It succeeded, and he made a larger one. This ultimately determined the business of his subsequent life, and for many years he has been a distinguished manufacturer of telescopes. Some of the best in the country came from his shop. He had processes of his own, and he worked with a readiness and accuracy that could not easily be excelled. He married many years ago a daughter of Giles Wells, Esq., of Southold, L.I., whom, with a family of six children, he leaves behind to mourn his loss. He was a kind husband, an affectionate father, and a steady friend. He had acquired by his unwearied industry and his spirit of independent research, a vast amount of scientific knowledge, and whatever he knew he knew accurately. His death occasions a great loss—not only to his family and circle of his personal friends, but to the cause of science generally. He was one of the most remarkable men of the city.

*Christian Ambassador*, New York NY, Sat. 14 Nov 1863