

[Grant, Eliab T.]

DIED.

ELIAB T. GRANT.—This worthy brother, long an honored and influential member of the Universalist Society in Newark, died after a brief illness, November 2d, in the 62d year of his age. As a man of marked abilities, and a firm friend of our cause, his death calls for more than a passing notice.

He removed to Newark from Rhode Island about thirty years ago, and engaged in a profitable mercantile business, which he followed till within a few years previous to his death. At the time a Universalist Society was organized in this place, he became one of the foremost to engage in the work, and for many years held the office of Trustee. He belonged to that class of laymen, so strongly identified with the early history of our faith—men of marked characteristics, of bold and independent thought, of great tenacity of purpose—which those times of warm discussion brought to the surface and developed. He lived to see most of his early associates pass from our midst, either by death or removal; he has left a few to follow him.

Universally respected as a citizen and business man of strict morality, he stood among us, an honor to our cause. Did any one say that Universalism made men bad?—his upright life refuted the charge.

Blessed with a mind of more than ordinary strength, he stored it with useful information, nor suffered it to become weakened by idleness or dissipation. He was one of the few men I have met in my experience, whom wealth did not make ostentatious or success seduce from the path of virtue.

Our glorious faith was very near his heart. His house was a home for our ministers, of his means he gave liberally for its support, his voice spake in its defense, and every Sabbath, unless something very unusual prevented, he was in his pew.

But although a sectarian, he was not a narrow one. His heart reached beyond the limits of his denomination, and in him the poor, the sick and the needy always found a friend and helper. Well may we mourn his loss, for his place cannot easily be filled.

His funeral was held at the Universalist church, Sunday, November 5, where, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, his friends and masonic brethren gathered in large numbers. May God bless his afflicted family.

C. F.

Christian Ambassador, New York, NY, Sat. 9 Dec 1865
[a Universalist newspaper]