

[Hawkins, Lucinda Sherman]

Obituary.

Lucinda Sherman Hawkins died at the Memorial Hospital in Canandaigua, October 7, 1905, from an affliction that had been gradually undermining her health for more than twenty years, and from which during the last few months she had been suffering intensely, which was met heroically and patiently with no fear of the future. The only bitterness of death was in parting company with the dear ones left behind, that she felt she might be helpful to.

She was of a quiet, unassuming kind and a congenial nature. "Duty" with no great flare of trumpets and false show was her talisman, her guiding star. She regarded everyone as one of God's creatures differing only in consequence of the surrounding influence and environments, and that like Tennyson she believed

That nothing walks with aimless feet;
That not one life shall be destroyed,
Or cast as rubbish to the void,
Where God hath made the pile complete.
Behold, we know not anything;
I can not but trust that good shall fall,
At last far off at last to all,
And every winter change to spring.

She was the daughter of an early pioneer, who chopped away the timber to build the little home nest and sacrificed his life a few years later striving to improve and make more comfortable the same, leaving a widowed mother with six fatherless children whom she reared through sorrow and suffering to maturity to good and useful citizens. Later when that mother became old and feeble, she with her brothers faithfully watched and tenderly cared for her and two invalid sisters for years till God called the mother away.

Duty and filial affection was demonstrated in her character. A little later when one [Benson Hawkins] asked her heart and hand as a help meet on life's journey, she answered "Yes, now that my mother is gone I feel I have done my full duty, but were she still here I would not leave her for a King." They had traveled life's road together for more than twenty years and shared together life's joys and sorrows she doing her full duty. Inured, in her early life, to deprivation, hardships and habits of industry and economy she could sympathize for the needy, unfortunate and suffering for which a great share of her life had been spent. She leaves a husband for whom so many times, she place the "Light in the window" at even tide to guide his weary footsteps to that humble home made pleasant by her presence.

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Although her light shines no more in the home window we trust that the light of the goodness that she has left will be his guiding star for a few remaining years that he may stay here.

Two brothers, H. C. and George and two sisters, Julia and Gertrude, also three step children and their children, who will sadly miss good grandma's genial smile and glad "Hello," still remain. We feel confident that she has been met with the salutations "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the everlasting joys of thy Lord."

Funeral services were held at Bristol Springs church, by the pastor Rev. L. D. Boynton [Universalist] of Bristol. Burial in Coye Cemetery.

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Transcribed on 18 Aug 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY