[Jerome, John]

Departure of John Jerome

Br. John Jerome died at his residence in East Marion, Long Island, the 26th ult. His name has been long identified with the history and progress of the neighborhood where he lived, and with many local improvements he was himself intimately associated. He was, at the time of his death, 78 years old. What great improvements marked the years of his long and well-spent life.

He was born on Fisher's Island. He spent his youthful days in New London, Conn., and afterward came to East Marion, then and until recently called Rocky Point, where he has resided for the past 48 years—well known and universally respected.

His name is associated with the commencement of what is now the beautiful and flourishing town of Greenport, located on what was then known as Greenhill. In company with three others he formed the dock that served as the nucleus of the improvements that have since marked the place. He has also been much interested in other important local improvements. And he desired to live to witness their consummation.

He was well known and greatly revered in the community where he had so long and faithfully lived. He was a person of strong elements of character.—He had strong and vigorous common sense, and a spirit of great activity and enterprise. He was possessed with the very soul of industry—never allowing, even in his advanced years, his hands to droop in indolence. He was an honest man, exact in his dealings, punctual in all his engagements, prompt in the discharge of every duty. These characteristics adhered to him down to the close of his pilgrimage. He wished to attend to the most minute particulars previous to his exit from time; gave directions as to his affairs, including the funeral services, and manifested here the same cool judgment and good common sense that he had done all through his life.

He had great simplicity of character and manners; not regarding the tinsel of life, but caring more for the solid gold. He was plain, straightforward, unostentatious, and repudiated the manners and follies of a later day.

As a neighbor he was kind and helpful. His charity was not of the open-mouthed kind, but quiet, unobtrusive, bestowed with discrimination, and where it was most needed—not as is too often the case, where it will bring back the greatest return. Many can testify to his helpful and hearty sympathy in their poverty and affliction. A few hours after his death, several persons were heard to lament that they had lost so true and valued a friend.

[Jerome, John]

Mr. Jerome had been for many years a firm and devoted believer in the doctrines of Universalism—one of the olden kind. He had earnest, positive, religious convictions, based on the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner-stone. He was not ashamed of his religion. He belonged to the Universalist Society in Southold, and it was always a matter of great grief to the old man that the church there was not opened for the proclamation of truth. He adorned his religion by the uprightness of his life, and by his consistent christian character. He had strong trust in God. Death had for him, no sting. He reposed like a child, in the arms of his Saviour...

Mr. Jerome was twice married. He leaves a widow of has lived with him in the relations of matrimony for 45 years, and two children, a son and daughter, who have reached the years of maturity.

The funeral of our deceased brother was attended at his late residence. The Baptist church was kindly offered for the occasion; but it was his desire that the service should be done at the house, and that Br. C. W. Biddle, his former pastor, should conduct the services. He did so, in the presence of a large congregation of friends and relatives, assisted by Rev. Mr. Sherman, the Baptist clergyman of the place.

C. W. B.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 17 May 1862 (a Universalist newspaper)

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2013 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY