

[Johnson, Alcesta Andrus]

from DEATH BUSY IN COPENHAGEN

Mrs. Alcesta Johnson departed this life about 11:30 o'clock Monday morning at her home in Mechanic street. She was born in Rutland February 4, 1824, and was one of the six children of Ezekiel and Tryphena Gilbert Andrus. [On] February 10, 1847 she was united in marriage to Jason Johnson and moved on a farm at South Champion where she lived until the death of her husband in 1891. After which she moved to this village where she has since resided. Shortly after her marriage she joined the Universalist church at Watertown and her life was the best testimony she could leave. In 1908 Mrs. Johnson wrote a booklet, The Reminiscences of her life, of which the following is an extract: "I have written this within six weeks. I feel, now being past 84 years old, that my life's work is finished and if I live longer I shall not be a benefit but a care to others. And now after a short review of 84 years of my life, with all its changes, its hopes and disappointments, its trials and its pleasures I feel that of this life. I feel, too, that I have appreciated and enjoyed the very many blessings I have received as well as the average of people. Feeling, too, that the time of my departure is not far distant, I can go without fear or dread of the future, knowing that I shall be in the hands of the same just and wise God who has always aided and sustained me through life. I go, too, with no ill will toward anyone, hoping and trusting that all will know and feel that right will bring a far greater degree of enjoyment than popularity or money. I have full faith that I shall meet all my friends in that better life where we shall know each other better and where the trials and differences of this life cannot come." She was one of the charter members of the South Rutland Valley Grange which was organized in 1872 and of which now only two of the 30 charter members are living. She is survived by Mrs. Charles Murphy of Copenhagen, an adopted daughter, who came into the family in 1877 and one brother, Stillman Andrus, of Rutland. Funeral services were held Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock at the house, Rev. Moses H. Harris, pastor of her church, officiating. The remains were taken to Brookside cemetery for burial.

*Lowville Herald*, Lowville NY, Fri. 24 Mar 1911

Transcribed on 19 Apr 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY