

[Kibbe, Eldad]

DEATHS.

In Salisbury Center, Herk. Co., N.Y., March 19th, Mr. ELDAD KIBBE, aged 84 years and 24 days, of congestion of the lungs, after an illness of 8 days, leaving behind a wife, 7 sons and 4 daughters. Mr. Kibbe came from Connecticut when a youth, and lived, until about a year past, in the town of Oppenheim, Fulton Co., N.Y. He was a member of the "close-communion" Baptists for a number of years, but...28 years ago, became a firm believer in the soul-elevating doctrine of Universal salvation...after a careful study of the Bible—a book that he knew well, delighted to peruse, and valued as a priceless treasure... His funeral was attended in the Union church, Salisbury Center, on Sunday, the 22d ult., and by request of his widow (Baptist), Elder Lamb, Baptist minister, Salisbury Corners, preached to a numerous audience of friends, acquaintances and citizens, from the Prophecy of Ezekiel, xviii, 23: "For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God." Before commencing his sermon, the "Elder" read a paper by request of several of Mr. Kibbe's family, setting forth the fact that the deceased, Mr. Kibbe, lived and died a Universalist; with unwavering confidence in that doctrine... "Elder Lamb" was somewhat "lionish" in his sermon, and in the course of a lengthy harangue, was pleased to dignify the doctrine of the "final restitution" [Universalism] as "infidelity," the "house built upon the sand," and declared that he was aware that he was entering upon forbidden ground, in the estimation of many of those present... Though "Elder Lamb" must have known that the writer was present, and that it was my day to occupy the pulpit, and that several members of Mr. Kibbe's family were Universalists, he allowed the opportunity to slip without requesting me to take any part in the services of the occasion—a course which those who know me best, will believe did not disturb me greatly, though it certainly did not exalt the "Elder" for christian courtesy and magnanimity, which sometimes will rise above prejudice and passion.

W. G. ANDERSON

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 18 Apr 1857
[a Universalist newspaper]