

[Marsh, Asa]

Obituary—Asa Marsh

DIED.—In Jamestown, September 25, 1878, of dropsy of the chest, Asa Marsh, aged 80 years, 8 months, and 19 days.

Asa Marsh was the son of Jasper and Submit Marsh, and was born in Burlington, Otsego county, N.Y., January 6, 1798. In June, 1811, then in his 14th year, with his parents and a large family of brothers and sisters, he came to Chautauqua county and settled on the banks of the Stillwater Creek, in what is now Kiantone. The journey was made through the forests with an ox team and wagon and one horse, many of the cares and responsibilities of the trip devolving upon Asa, he being the oldest child. The route led through the then village of Buffalo, along the shore of Lake Erie to Barcelona, and thence down Chautauqua Lake to Prendergast Mill, now Jamestown. This was but three years after the first settlers came to this part of the county, and at that time there were but two houses in what is now the corporation of Jamestown—both log houses. Having given some attention to what was at that time called “book learning,” he for several winters taught the school of the neighborhood in which they lived, several of the present business men of this section “learning their letters” under his teachings. In 1819 he joined the Free Masons, and in the same year married Delila Davis, by whom he had three sons and four daughters, and who died in middle age. After her death he married Sally Winthrop, a widow lady, who died a few years since. They had one child, Dan, with whom he lived at the time of his death. In 1836 he removed from the old home on the Stillwater Creek to Jamestown, where he has since resided, and established himself in the chair business with Benham & Bell. A practical mechanic, following in the footsteps of his father before him, he has always been noted as one of our industrious, hard working citizens. Identified with the growth of the country from the very first clearing of the forest, and schooled in hard work, he was a bright representative of a class of active and energetic men who are quite all passed away. In later years he held several offices of trust, performing his duties to the entire satisfaction of all.

In early life he united with the Baptist church, Rev. Mr. Foote pastor, remaining a member of that denomination about twenty years. He then changed his religious views, and in faith became a Universalist. Honest, industrious, and conscientious in all his relations in life, endeavoring to do good and be useful to his fellow men, he endeared himself to all who made his acquaintance. He leaves five children, fourteen grandchildren and ten great-grand-children, and his life record is written in the hearts of surviving relatives and hosts of friends.

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