

[Richmond, Selina J. Ketcham]

HER LIFE WAS LIKE AN OPEN BOOK

Mrs. H. A. Richmond was a Woman of Many Admirable Traits
and of Great Christian Character—Funeral Held Friday Afternoon

When the pictures of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Richmond appeared in *The News* at Christmas time in commemoration of their 57th wedding anniversary, it did not seem that one was to be taken so soon. Selina J. Ketcham, wife of Henry A. Richmond, after failing in health since fall, sustained a shock [stroke] the day after Christmas. From that time on, in spite of the efforts of best medical skill, a trained nurse and many loving hands, she rapidly grew worse until she sank in the slumber of death, just at the break of day last Wednesday morning, Jan. 14, 1914.

Mrs. Richmond had been an unusually active woman, in fact, a woman whose health had been such as to enable her to do more than what is usually accomplished by a woman of her years. She was born April 19, 1835 and had passed practically all her life in the immediate vicinity. [On] Dec. 25, 1856 she was united in marriage to H. A. Richmond, who survives her. This union was blessed with six exemplary children, William H. of Wellsville, Anson M. of Whitesville, Clarissa A., wife of Fred Shattuck of Linesville, Pa., James H., Lina Pearl, wife of G. F. Chapman, and Lloyd L., all of Genesee, Pa. Nineteen grandchildren and six great grandchildren, together with two brothers, Elias Ketcham of Whitesville and Willis Wood of Wellsville, and four sisters, Mrs. Ella Richmond, Mrs. Elizabeth Dexter, Mrs. Harriet Harris of Whitesville and Mrs. O. D. Richmond of Wellsville.

The life of Mrs. Richmond is like an open book and all in the vicinity know that it has been one of kind words and helpful deeds of service to render any kindness and help. In her home she was immaculate in neatness and order. Her keen interest in the welfare of all throughout the town, made her a congenial and welcome visitor upon every occasion. Fortunate, indeed, are all who follow in the course of her ancestral train.

At the funeral, her pastor, Rev. J. [James] D. Herrick, paid an eloquent tribute to her. He very beautifully portrayed the value of a good woman to the community and used for his text, "A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband; her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband he praiseth her." The farewell service Friday afternoon was held at the Universalist church of which she had been a member for many years. The building was crowded to its utmost capacity. The floral tributes were many. The choir sang—"Face to face with Christ my Savior," and Mr. and Mrs. Forsythe sang "Thy Will Be Done," in their usual impressive manner.

The remains were laid to rest in the local cemetery, beside the mortal remains of many loved ones.

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Among the characteristics of Mrs. Richmond's life, none was more pronounced than her love and devotion to her faith. In covenant meeting she had remarkable ability to describe how she came to believe in the large hope. To know of this experience from her, quickened the listener with a desire to know more of the great motives that worked together in her life for holiness and happiness. That we shall miss her in many good works, is only mentioning a sad realization to come. But she was prepared for advancement in the place of many mansions.—God has called her; for awhile there will be a gap, but sometime the glad song of complete redemption will cause right to triumph over all wrong and Christ shall be in all and through all. Thanks be to God, that her husband now past the four-score has a faith in the All-wise goodness of God, that he is able to trust in all of life's doings and believe with perfect faith, that all things work together for good.

Among those from out of town in attendance at the funeral were: Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Hull, Mr. and Mrs. John Graves and daughter Myrtle, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Richmond of Wellsville, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Foster of Shongo; Mr. and Mrs. Will Greene of Independence; Mrs. Jennie Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. M. Potter and Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Richmond of Genesee, and Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Robbins of Geneva, N.Y.

EDITOR'S NOTE—We regret very much that a half-tone cut of Mrs. Richmond which we loaned a few weeks ago to the Wellsville Report, was not returned in time to publish in this issue.

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Transcribed on 8 Oct 2014 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY