

[Rudd, Prosper]

DEATHS.

At Western, Oneida county, on the 27th ult., PROSPER RUDD, Esq., in the 8th year of his age. He was born at Norwich, New-London [County], Conn., November 22, 1753, and married Elizabeth Lord, of the same town, in 1774. Being early taught that the Saybrook Platform was a safe foundation on which to build a castle to resist the powers of darkness, he joined the Congregational Church.—He was soon, however, led to discover that “the framework reared around the Bible” by the art and policy of man, was a yoke that he was not able to bear. About this time, the posthumous works of Rev. Dr. Huntington were published, which, with other works on the final restoration of all things, “showed unto him a more excellent way.”

In 1801-2, he removed with his family to the great bend of [the] Mohawk river, in Western. With the resources at his control at this time, had he been governed by the suggestions of avarice, he might have amassed a princely estate. But the ruling principles of his life were benevolence and charity—not only individuals, but in some cases whole families were raised by him from indigence to competency, and fitted for usefulness. He was generous, even to a fault, often lending his name for the relief of his neighbors—and in a few cases he suffered severe losses. He was employed in public business almost from childhood, having held various offices in his native State; and in this, the office of Justice of the Peace, more than twenty years, Judge of the County Court, Commissioner, &c., which he held at the time of his death.—It was his maxim “never to employ another to do that which he could properly do himself.” A few days before his death, though unwell, he rode out a few miles on business—the day was stormy and cold, and the disease settled in his breast and head. He was aware of approaching death, but feared not. For a short time after the attack he was able to read and converse, but the progress of the disease was such as to suspend his recollection most of the time... He has had seven children, twenty-one grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren... His funeral was attended on the 29th, by a very large concourse of his former friends and neighbors, to whom a discourse was delivered from 1 Cor. xv:21, by S. R. [Stephen Rensselaer] Smith, and for whom, during twenty years, he had constantly cherished the kindest feelings of friendship.

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[a Universalist newspaper]