

[Sargent, Angelina Morse Foster]

DEATH OF MRS. JAMES SARGENT
Indirectly Caused by a Fall on the Day Before Christmas

Angelina Morse Sargent, wife of James Sargent, died yesterday morning at the family home, No. 98 East avenue. Mrs. Sargent fell the day before Christmas, fracturing her hip, this being the indirect cause of her death.

Mrs. Sargent was born in Winchester, N.H., of New England stock, and had lived in Rochester for the last 40 years. Next April, Mr. and Mrs. Sargent would have celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage. Both have been members of the First Universalist Church for many years, and on the day before Mrs. Sargent's fall they presented the church with a parsonage at Chestnut and Lawn streets.

The decedent has been active in charitable work and with her husband has been connected with many public beneficiaries. She leaves her husband, one daughter, Mrs. John [Josephine] Force, and one grandson, Sargent Force. The funeral, to be held to-morrow, will be private.

At a meeting of the First Universalist Society last night, resolutions were adopted formally accepting the gift of the parsonage offered by Mr. and Mrs. Sargent. The resolutions cite that the gift in view of the death of Mrs. Sargent might well be regarded as a monument to her memory, and a daily reminder of the generosity of the givers.

The following tribute to the memory of Mrs. Sargent, prepared by Rev. Dr. Asa Saxe, who for many years was her pastor, was adopted by a rising vote:

"In the death of Mrs. Sargent, our church has sustained inexpressible and irreparable loss. She has been with us for forty years and her presence has always been a benediction. Her sweet spirit has diffused itself everywhere. Loyal to the truth and to the cause, we could always depend upon her helpfulness and strength. She has left memories most precious and we fully believe that she has gone to the beautiful country.

"We give her up with reluctance, but feel that our loss is her gain. Our sympathies are extended most heartily to our bereaved brother, her husband, who has done so much for us, and to all their friends.

"Among the golden links that bind us to the past she will always have a prominent place."

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester NY, Tue. 8 Jan 1907

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Angelina M. Sargent

It was a great shock to all our Rochester, N.Y. people to hear on Monday, Jan.7, that Mrs. Sargent had passed to the higher life. Two weeks before, on Christmas Sunday, she and Mr. Sargent had been present at church to give to our church their Christmas present of a fine new parsonage. The next day, while going to one of the large stores to make a few final Christmas purchases, she had fallen and fractured her hip. But severe as the injury was, she seemed for several days to be rapidly recovering and retained undiminished her cheerfulness and composure.

A form of pneumonia, not uncommon under such circumstances, suddenly developed, and from that time forth it was seen that there were grave doubts of her recovery. The report given Sunday morning however was favorable, hence the shock was all the greater when we awakened Monday to learn that she had passed away at three o'clock that morning.

To all of us, her death means a distinct personal bereavement. Through more than forty years she has served our church with constant and loyal devotion. With an instinctive love for the truest and the best, and with a mind capable of grasping its full meaning, she accepted our great faith without reserve. To her it seemed almost blasphemy to think of God as other than a Universal Heavenly Father, whose unchanging love should [would] sooner or later bring all his children to their proper destiny of holiness and happiness. Wide reading, extensive travels, and years of meditation strengthened and confirmed her convictions, and her own life, full of kindness, generosity and thoughtful love for others, was a true evidence of her abiding faith. She always gave the best she had and she always looked for and found the best in those about her. The following tribute to her memory, prepared by Rev. Dr. Saxe, her pastor for many years, and adopted by a unanimous rising vote at the quarterly meeting of the Rochester society, fittingly gives expression to the sentiments of our hearts.

"In the death of Mrs. Sargent, our church has sustained an inexpressible and irreparable loss. She has been with us for forty years and her presence has always been a benediction. Her sweet spirit has diffused itself everywhere. Loyal to the truth and to the cause, we could always depend upon her for helpfulness and strength. She has left memories most precious, and we truly believe that she has gone to the beautiful country. We give her up with reluctance, but feel that our loss is her gain. Our sympathies are extended most heartily to our bereaved brother, her husband, who has done so much for us, and to all their family and friends. Among the golden links that bind us to the past, she will always have a prominent place."

The funeral, which was private, was held at her late home on Wednesday morning. The body was taken to Buffalo for cremation, according to an understanding entered into many years ago, between herself and Mr. Sargent. We mourn her going away from our visible sight. But it is in the full assurance that as she has borne the image of the earthly, she now bears the image of the heavenly. Her faith shall be ours also.

A. W. G.

Universalist Leader, Boston, MA, 26 January 1907