

[Skinner, Avery]

SKINNER, the late Hon. Avery, was born in New Hampshire in 1796, and died at Union Square, Oswego county, November 24, 1876. He was the father of Hon. Timothy W. Skinner, of Mexico, N.Y.; Hon. Charles R. Skinner of Watertown, N.Y.; Rev. J. A. Skinner and Mrs. Mary G. Wright, wife of Judge Maurice L. Wright of Oswego, N.Y., all of whom survive him; and of Mr. Albert F. Skinner and Mrs. E.H. Richardson, now deceased. Judge Skinner was one of the pioneers of Northern New York and was prominently identified with the history of Oswego county. He settled in Union Square in 1822, and was soon after appointed postmaster by President Adams and retained the position until his decease. He was for fifteen years associated judge of the County Court, was county treasurer sixteen years, and elected to the Assembly in 1831 and re-elected in 1832. From 1838 to 1842 he represented his district in the State Senate. In politics Judge Skinner was a Democrat, and was intimately associated with Silas Wright, Gen. John A. Dix, Martin Van Buren, and other leaders of the party. For many years he was a member of the Board of Trustees of Mexico Academy and at the semi-centennial of that institution was the only surviving member of the original board. Judge Skinner was also a director of the Syracuse Northern Railroad. His son, Timothy W., was born in Mexico in 1827, admitted to the bar in Watertown in 1857, and has since practiced at Mexico. For fifteen years he was the junior member of the banking house of Whitney & Skinner. In 1863 he was elected surrogate for four years, in 1871 for six years, and in 1877 for six years. He was also president of the village, and justice of the peace for eight years. In 1856 he married Elizabeth Calkins, who died in 1861, leaving one child, Lizzie V., now Mrs. J. B. Stone of Auburn. Mr. Skinner afterwards married Sarah Rose, and their children are Grace A. and Avery W.

John C. Churchill, L.L.D, ed. assisted by H. Perry Smith & W. Stanley Child,
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Transcriber's note: Avery Skinner was one of the first trustees of the Universalist Society of Mexico, later called Christ Universalist Church of Mexico.

Transcribed on 14 Aug 2014 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY