

## [Utley, Orin]

### Obituary.

We are again called to record the death of an aged pioneer, Orrin [sic] Utley, which occurred on Tuesday, December 10, 1878. A good man in the fullness of days has passed away. The completeness and richness of a well-rounded life constituted the crowning glory of the patriarch, who at the advanced age of eighty years and six days, has gone to receive his reward.

Orin Utley was born in Hampton, Windham county, Conn., December 4, 1795. In 1805, when but seven years old, he moved with his parents to Homer, locating on East River, where he continuously lived for a period of seventy-three years. His father purchased fifty acres of land and engaged himself in farming and distilling, having erected a small distillery a few rods east of the road, near the mouth of a small ravine, where he obtained the necessary water facilities. In 1823, Orin purchased of his father nine acres of land, embracing, also, the distillery, and commenced distilling liquor on his own account. He continued the business for only a few years. The original site and portions of the foundation are still visible to the observer. The worm was stolen and carried away only a few years since. The old boiler, a relic of the past, still remains on the ground. His father died in August 1825. The next year he purchased of the heirs the balance of the farm. His next purchase embraced fifty acres known as the Bowen lot. Soon after, he purchased another fifty acres of the Dills, best known as the "Familiar lot." In 1843, he purchased the Grinnall farm, containing one hundred and twenty-three acres. In 1858, he purchased fifty acres of John Marvin. In 1864, he purchased the Thomas Earl farm, containing one hundred and fourteen acres, upon which his son, A. B. Utley, has since resided. In 1876, he purchased thirty three acres known as the Edgcomb lot. His last purchase was in 1877, when he secured sixty acres from the Sherman farm. His real estate, assessed valuation, reaches \$40,000.

Mr. Utley was universally regarded as a man of candor, sincerity and sterling integrity. His extensive landed possessions and his bonds and mortgages never lifted him above the position he had chosen to occupy. He never distressed an honest poor man, and, it is said, never prosecuted a man for debt. He was charitable to those whom he regarded as deserving, and always condemned fashionable folly.

In religion he was a Universalist, and his views were intelligently and tenaciously held. He acted and talked his religion.

In politics he was a Democrat. His last vote was given to General Geo. B. McClellan, for President, in 1864, since which time he has not acted with any party.

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He was a man of positive convictions, clear mind, great energy, of marked economy, and of unusual industry.

He leaves only one heir, A. B. Utley, to whom his large estate descends.

His health had been declining for a number of years; had frequently been near the other shore, but he would as frequently rally and partially recover, until Friday previous to the Tuesday on which he died, when nature showed the most positive signs of yielding to the Dark angel, and thus he continued to fail until the final moment, when he quietly passed over the beautiful river and was at rest.

He was buried on the ground where some of the family relatives repose, nearly east of the residence of H. L. Carpenter.

Mrs. [Roxy Wood] Utley, wife of the late Orin Utley, survived her husband but a few days, passing away on Saturday morning last, December 21st, at the advanced age of eighty-three years.

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Transcribed on 8 Apr 2008 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY