

[Utman, Lydia A. Farley]

Lydia A. Utman

Just at sunset on Friday, Sept. 25, Lydia A. Utman passed away. It would seem fitting that a life so beautifully rounded and full of sunshine as hers had been should close at that time on a perfect autumn day.

She was born in LeRoy, Genesee county, Sept. 9, 1828, having just passed her 75th birthday. She was the daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Farley, being next the youngest of a family of 13 children, only one of whom survives her, an aged sister, Mrs. Maria Tunicliff of Centralia, Ill. She came to Lockport in childhood and on Jan. 3, 1854, was married to Zenas T. Utman, who died April 16, 1882.

Two sons were born to them, one of whom died in infancy, the other Henry J. Utman, who died Jan. 21, 1893.

A niece, Mrs. Marvin R. Doty, came to live with Mrs. Utman when a child and has since filled a daughter's place to her.

She was a lifelong member of the Universalist church, working loyally in its cause until failing health prevented.

Full of sympathy she was always ready and willing to alleviate human suffering, as many an old friend and neighbor could testify. Yet she had never known sickness herself until heart disease began its slow, but fatal inroads upon health and strength. Mrs. Utman had lived at 251 North Transit street over 50 years, and the closing of the old home will bring sadness to many hearts, for her cheerful smile and friendly ways had won for her more than the usual number of dear and devoted friends. She was "Aunt Lydia," not only to her many nieces and nephews, but to all the young people of her acquaintances who will greatly mourn her loss.

The funeral was observed Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock from her late residence, the Rev. O. [Otis] F. Alvord [Universalist] officiating. Mrs. Graham and Mrs. Wendel sang "Lead Kindly Light" and "Nearer My God to Thee." The bearers were Lyman Field, A. Emert, Jpohn Doherty, John McCue, Philip Smith and E. J. Williams. Interment was in Cold Springs cemetery.

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