

[Wheeler, Betsey]

Died, in East Bloomfield, on the evening of Thursday, May 9th, of apoplexy, Mrs. Betsey, wife of Simon R. Wheeler, aged 58 years. In the death of Mrs. Wheeler, a loss has been sustained such as we are not often called upon to chronicle. In her home she was not only the dispenser of lavish hospitality, but she was the prudent housewife, the generous friend, and of her it might truly be said that "The heart of her husband *did* safely trust in her." In the social circles in which she moved, she was always welcome, and she always carried sunshine with her. Mrs. Wheeler was a regular attendant at the Universalist church of Bristol, and was an earnest believer in the faith held by, as well as a devoted worker in the interests of, the society with which she worshiped. She had been for two years president of the ladies' social organization, and so great was her executive ability, that the question has been asked many times since her sudden death, to whom shall we look for one to fill her place? She was deeply engaged in forwarding the cause of temperance, and more than once during the last winter did she, with her husband, drive from their home, several miles away, through the mud, the darkness and the storm, to attend the meetings of the Bristol Christian Temperance Association. And of her it may also *literally* be said that she was a mother to the motherless, and the orphan's friend, and most assuredly did "she stretch out her hand to the poor; yea, she reached forth her hands to the needy." The funeral was attended at that home to which she had so long been a blessing, on Saturday afternoon, and an address full of consolation for the mourning ones, was delivered by her pastor, Rev. J. F. Gates. The large attendance of people on that occasion, attested more strongly than words can do the esteem in which she was held, and the deep sympathy that is felt for her greatly bereaved husband.

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