

We know of no better way to give the personal history of this good man than by quoting from a religious newspaper, written a short time after his decease :

“He was a deacon in the church in Providence during the most of twenty-two years. His early advantages for mental and moral improvement were very limited, but what might be called an innate taste for mental culture and general elevation of character prevailed against obstacles. He became a Christian at the age of eighteen, but did not make a public profession of his faith until he was twenty-three. Few men during a Christian walk of forty years have made a happier exhibition of the fruits of divine grace. No one thing in the exhibition of his character was especially striking. In all the relations of life the supreme bent of his soul was manifest. In every scene he aimed to walk as one who had become a partaker of the divine nature and in whose soul the Spirit dwelt.

“Almost equally he discharged the duties that devolved upon him as a husband, a father, a member of Christ’s body, a citizen, a servant for Jesus’ sake. If more conspicuous in either relation, it was in his family; next, in the church. His sabbath day observance was marked and special. He perpetually urged on all the members of the family the practical shining forth of Christian principle to regulate mutual, every day intercourse. As a member of the church, he was esteemed especially for his holy example, instructive council, and enlarged benevolence. With whatever church he became connected, he was calculated to excite reverence and esteem, and gradually, though unsought, yet by weight of character to become a pillar. He was deeply interested in the critical study of the scriptures, and in introducing the young to such acquaintance. His soul was constantly going forth out of self. In reformation of morals, in healthfulness of public sentiment, in all departments of general benevolence, he had a deep interest. His views on all subjects to which he gave his attention were clear and comprehensive. He had uncommon balance of mind. His social feelings were strong, tender, and widely branching out. His love for his children and his solicitude for their Christian welfare were most marked; and it was his constant prayer that he might deeply feel his solemn obligations to train his children up for God.

CHILDREN OF ABNER AND LYDIA (PADDOCK) KINGMAN :

1. CELIA,⁷ b. Nov. 19, 1795; m. Ebenezer Parker of Boston, Mass., Sept. 3, 1822. She d. Jan. 5, 1845. 233
2. ELIAB,⁷ b. May 24, 1797; m. Cordelia Ball Ellwell of Washington, D. C., Dec. 9, 1828. He d. at Washington, Feb. 1, 1883. 234
3. KEZIAH PADDOCK,⁷ b. Dec. 3, 1800; d. in Boston, Sept. 18, 1882.
4. LYDIA,⁷ b. July 16, 1803; m. Rev. Handel G. Nott of Saybrook, Conn., July 11, 1827. 235
5. LUCIA,⁷ b. Sept. 1, 1805; m. Nathaniel Wilgus of Buffalo, N. Y., April 22, 1839. She d. Nov. 10, 1849.
6. ABNER,⁷ b. Feb. 5, 1814; m. (1) Sarah Jane Anderson of Boston, June 29, 1854; (2) Caro Allen Graves, Nov. 4, 1868. 236
7. Infant,⁷ b. Feb. 5, 1814; d. April 2, 1814.