

[Byron, Genesee Co. NY]

From "Decline of Universalism"

Another worthy ministering brother, of the West, says,-

I have been traveling, of late through Genesee county, visiting societies destitute of the preached Word, endeavoring to "wake up" the sleeping, and arouse the lukewarm to action. Among others, I visited those of Alexander and Byron. They are nearly dead—hardly a breath of life in them. It is too bad, Brother, to behold the great and glorious cause of God's impartial grace so neglected, and, to all appearances, so wholly uncared for and forgotten. In both of the above mentioned places, there are sanctuaries dedicated to the worship of a God of impartial and universal love, and the dedicated property not devoted to him! The members of these two societies are wealthy, and somewhat numerous, and are very active in business of a worldly nature, while the religion of Christ, seemingly, occupies scarce a single thought. There are exceptions, however, and honorable ones—"redeeming spirits," as they might be called—who will stand by their Universalism to the "latest and last of their breath." And I rejoice that this is the case.

*Evangelical Magazine and Gospel Advocate, Utica, Fri. 26 Jan 1838*

Transcribed on 15 Jul 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY