

Susan Kelley Howard 1808-1887

In compliance with the request of the bereaved son I forward for publication in the Star a notice of the death of Mrs. Susan Howard who departed this life Nov. 16, 1887, in the 80th year of her age, at her home in Howardsville, Ill.

The subject of this notice has been a member of the old school Baptist church since the 18th year of her age, having experienced religion at that time and was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist church in the state of N. J. She was the daughter of Ephraim Kelley, and the widow of Murry Howard, whose obituary was published in the Star a few years ago. Her funeral was quite largely attended by relatives and friends, on the 18th of Nov., at the Howardsville church. The writer, ably assisted by Rev. Schmucker, of Lena, being requested to conduct the funeral services tried to speak words of comfort to the mourners using as a text the 12th verse of the 14th chapter of Matthew. She died of lung pneumonia after an illness of nine days, having suffered much, and was resigned to the will of God whether it be in her life or death. She left one son, three sisters and many other relatives and friends, and a church she dearly loved, to mourn her loss. But we mourn not as those who have no hope, believing our loss is her gain. Her remains were interred in the cemetery in the rear of the church beside of her husband. Thus they sleep side by side until the resurrection morn.

Peaceful be her silent slumber,
But her loss we deeply mourn.
She will join again our number,
In the resurrection morn.
Jesus Christ, our resurrection,
Says of death, it is but sleep,
When He calls His saints awaketh,
Why, dear mourners, should we weep?
Members of His body are we,
Of His flesh and of His bone,
He doth know our sorrow,
He doth know our every groan.
From His love death cannot part them,
And their dust He'll kindly guard,
And by His spirit's power He'll bring them,
From the sea and the church yard.

E. H. Gillett