

[Skeele, Samuel A.]

Death of Rev. S. A. Skeele

Father Skeele departed this life on the evening of the 13th inst. Had he lived until the 17th inst., he would have been 84½ years old. He died of dysentery, after an illness of some ten days. He has been afflicted with a good deal with the rheumatism, but for a year or two past had been quite comfortable. He had his senses to the last, and never wavered in the glorious faith he had so long preached.

Father Skeele was one of the pioneers of Universalism in many parts of Western New York.—He came here from the East, almost twenty-six years ago, and as long as he was able, devoted himself entirely to the work of an evangelist. Hundreds will remember his words with gratitude, and regret that we shall see his face no more. He had some peculiarities of manner which never failed to make a lasting impression upon the minds of those who heard him. He was formerly a Baptist preacher; but some forty years ago, more or less, by reading the Bible he became convinced of the final holiness and happiness of all mankind. The Bible is yet preserved by his children which he studied while making the investigation which resulted in his conviction.

But he is gone to his rest—God bless him. He accomplished his work in his Master's vineyard, and when full of days and honors, departed. He was taken from Cowlesville, N. Y., where he lived and where he died, to Arcade, and interred in the new cemetery in that place. There was no funeral sermon, as they were not able to obtain a preacher of the faith; but the friends intend soon to have a funeral service.

J. B. Sax

Springville, N. Y., October 22, 1856

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, Sat. 8 Nov 1856

[a Universalist newspaper]