

[Chase, Odelia H.]

DEATHS.

[abridged]

In West Winfield, N.Y., Sept. 21, Mrs. Odelia H. Chase. The writer, on the following Sunday, (23d,) attended her funeral in the Baptist Church, which was thronged with listeners. Mrs. Chase is another of the innumerable multitude of saints who have departed in the triumphs of our faith. She died as she had lived, and it was the power of this faith which sustained her in her protracted sickness (consumption)... She knew that but a short time would elapse before her husband, only child, and other relatives and friends would all join her in that bright world, where parting will ever be known—where all will be as Jesus is—holy and forever blessed.

She was, at times, much troubled for breath, and when she was thus laboring one of her uncles asked her if it was hard work, when she sweetly replied, "Jesus can make a dying bed as soft as downy pillows are."

During her whole sickness, she was a true example of patience and Christian resignation; and her religious opposers, for some cause or another, reported that she had experienced a change of heart, that she had renounced her faith, &c. This came to her and her family's knowledge previous to her death, and her brother asked her if she still cherished the faith of Universalism, and she emphatically answered, "I do, and shall die in that faith."... And knowing the certainty of her dissolution, she would frequently remark, "O, that Br. [Edward M.] Woolley could be obtained to attend my funeral," but as he could not be present, it was her dying request that a minister of like precious faith should be obtained. This request the writer fulfilled—dispensing to a large and attentive audience those truths that were the joy of her life, and her consolation in death. God bless all her relatives and friends.

We will note one thing more. At the conclusion of the sermon, I invited the Baptist preacher to read the closing hymn, but before he did it, he availed himself, unasked, of the opportunity to say that he had three times been called to visit Mrs. Chase at her especial request—that he had talked with her, "and that she had found Jesus precious to her soul," &c. That she had found Jesus thus precious, her life is ample testimony, but that this resulted from Elder Lawton's parochial visits, as he designed to be understood, is not true. But what is the most singular of the whole affair is this: Mrs. Chase's mother informed me that Elder Lawton was never invited to pay her daughter a visit, by her or any of the family; and why Elder L. should affirm to the contrary is not easy to state, unless he thought falsehood would better subserve his purpose than the truth. We are sorry that he should take such a course to abuse the dead, and to oppose the truths she had long loved and cherished, and in the belief of which she most

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joyfully died. As he uttered this untruth in public, we think it no more than just that he should be thus publicly exposed.

We would say to him, and all others who are addicted to such opposition, that they cannot overthrow Universalism by such evil means. God will overrule such conduct to their overthrow and disgrace, and to the upbuilding of our beloved Zion.

J. S. Palmer

Edmeston, Sept. 24, 1849

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Transcribed on 2 Nov 2012 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY