

[Colton, Joseph]

DEATHS.

In Buffalo, on the 18th ult., JOSEPH COLTON, a worthy member of the Restorationist church of that place. Br. C. had been an unwavering believer in the ultimate holiness and happiness of all men [sic] for many years, and ever adorned the doctrine of God our Saviour with a well ordered life and a chaste conversation. His last sickness was painful, almost without parallel, yet not a murmur was known to proceed from him. He lived near a week after it was thought by his physician and friends, that he could not live a day. He expressed a strong anxiety to see me before his departure to the better world, and accordingly I was written to, that I might hasten my arrival. But in consequence of personal illness I did not reach the room of the expiring saint till the evening previous to his death. His agony was very great, and I did not speak to him. The next morning I called again, about four hours before he expired—approached his bed, spoke to him, and, to the surprise of all present, he recognized me, and attempted to speak, but failed to make himself understood. It is thought by those who attended him that he retained his mental faculties to the very moment of death—of this there can be no doubt. While yet he could converse, he made special mention of the accustomed saying, that Universalists always renounce on a death bed—and observed that there was no ground to assert that of him—that his faith in the Lord Jesus, as the Saviour of the world, continued firm, and his prospects bright and cheering—that he had no fear of death, its sting was taken away. He has left a worthy family, the most of whom, if not all, are professors of the religion of the Saviour, but of different denominations.

W. [William] I. Reese

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