

[Hamilton, Matilda]

DEATHS.

In Mexico, March 17th, Mrs. MATILDA HAMILTON, in the 30th year of her age. By this appointment of Providence, Br. Hamilton is called to mourn his loss in the departure of the second sharer of his cup of life. He sorrows not, however, as those who have no hope; for he looks forward by an eye of steadfast faith, to that period in the designs of our God when all tears shall be wiped from all faces—...

Sister Hamilton, though a steadfast and zealous believer in the great salvation, and since the commencement of the year, a worthy member of our society, was retained in regular fellowship in the Methodist church in this village. Her request of a dismissal from that church, though it was acknowledged as just and reasonable, was denied, upon the ground that a visit from the pastor would probably supercede [sic] the necessity of writing one, till she felt it her duty to present herself for membership in our society, where she was cordially welcomed to a home.

It was her request that none of the houses of worship should be solicited for the purpose of attending her funeral services; but the one owned by the Presbyterians being asked, was denied, saying, "they could not consent that Universalism should be preached in a house dedicated to the worship of God." Hence we repaired, as usual, to the school house, which, notwithstanding the almost impassable state of the roads, was *filled* with attentive hearers, who listened to the writer's consolatory message, on the 19th.

It is proper to notice in this public manner, a slanderous story that has been put in circulation by a brother of the deceased, declaring that she renounced her faith in a world's salvation before death. This story seems to be based on a foundation even less substantial than sand. During her severe paroxysms of pain, she frequently ejaculated, as expressive of her intense pain, "*mercy, mercy*—" which is now made to denote that she was troubled about her future welfare. But even this barely supposable idea is greatly robbed of its speciousness by the fact, that these expressions, upon which so much reliance is now placed, were as frequently used while she steadfastly avowed her belief in the restitution; and also, during the evening in which she is said to have renounced, she was so far dispossessed of the proper use of her mental faculties, that she was unable to recognize her own brother and his wife! Let the candid decide whether even credulity itself could credit such a story, under such circumstances, except by the powerful aid of prejudice.

H. VanCampen

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[a Universalist newspaper]