

[Hanford, Jesse S.]

DEATHS.

In Fairport, on the 11th ult. [Sept. 11], Mr. JESSE S. HANFORD, in the 26th year of his age.

A fairer exhibition of God's impartial grace and goodness, I never saw; and a brighter constellation in the Redeemer's kingdom, I never beheld. His faith taught him to reverence, worship and adore one God,...and one Saviour who will not fail nor be discouraged until he has sought out every wandering son and daughter of Adam, and borne them, in the arms of unbounded love, to the fold of God. This was his faith—which weaned his affections from the world—reconciled him to his Father and his God—consoled, supported and sustained him during a long and distressing illness—enabled him to bear all his afflictions with Christian resignation,...yea, it even lit up a smile upon his countenance in view of the glories of immortality, in the last agonies of expiring nature. I verily believe that no person with an unprejudiced mind, could have listened to his communications of peace, without acknowledging that his faith was a living and heavenly principle.

As I have sat by his bed side, and beheld that serenity, composure and resignation which it was his happy lot to enjoy, even when the monster, death, was staring him in the face, my heart's desire and prayer has been, that I too might "die the death of the righteous," and that "my last end might be like his."

His funeral was attended by the writer, on Sunday, the 13th, at the Universalist church in Fairport, where a large congregation was assembled to listen to the word of life and salvation, and to pay the last sad respect to the memory of departed worth.

May God in his infinite mercy grant to sanctify this bereavement to the good of those who have been called to mourn, and may they so adorn the doctrine they have received, that when they are called to pass through "the dark valley of the shadow of death," they can look upon their past lives as well spent in the service of their Master, and go home rejoicing in prospect of a world's salvation.

W. [William] Andrews

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[a Universalist newspaper]