

[Smith, Willard]

DEATHS.

In Mottville, on the 15th of April, WILLARD SMITH, only son of widow Eliza Smith, aged 18 years. The circumstances of his death were painful and deeply afflicting. On Saturday previous, he accidentally fell from a loaded wagon, the fore wheel of which is supposed to have passed over his shoulder, causing a laceration of the right lung, as was afterwards discovered, and thus producing death. He seemed conscious from the first that his wounds would prove fatal. He bore his short but severe sufferings with remarkable fortitude. He appeared perfectly resigned, and talked of his departure with true christian calmness. In view of his speedy dissolution, he calmly told his bereaved mother, sister and weeping friends, "I am going home."—A few hours before his death, he bade an affectionate farewell to his mother and sister, requesting the latter to "plant flowers on his grave." He desired the writer to pray with him. At the conclusion of the prayer he audibly responded "Amen" three times, which were the last words he uttered... Thus was a widowed mother and dear sister suddenly bereft of their only earthly support, and a large circle of friends called to mourn the departure of him they dearly loved. But they mourn not as those having no hope... The consolations of the Gospel were tendered to the mourners and a very large concourse of sympathizing friends, by the writer.

N. S.

*Christian Ambassador*, Auburn NY, Sat. 10 May 1851

[a Universalist newspaper]

Transcribed on 17 Oct 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY