

[Swift, Harriet]

DEATHS.

At the Lunatic Asylum, in this city, on the 28th ult., HARRIET SWIFT, daughter of Col Elisha Swift, late of Sullivan and now of Throopsville, N.Y., aged 32 years. The subject of this notice had, for a number of years, been in comparatively feeble health, from a complication of diseases, principally that of erysipelas, which in the course of last summer determined on the brain, producing mental insanity, and compelling the fond parents to part with her and commit her to the care of Dr. Brigham at the state Lunatic Asylum, where she remained till her death. For some time previous to her death, her bodily health, and with it the state of her mind, had been gradually and considerably improved, and strong hopes were entertained of her complete restoration. But suddenly the extreme excitement of the mind subsided, and with it, entire physical prostration ensued, which terminated suddenly in death, quite unexpected both to her physician and her friends [i.e. family]. She seemed to be aware of her approaching dissolution, in the lucid intervals she enjoyed a day or two before her decease, was perfectly resigned, and expressed a strong and joyful hope of immortal beatitude for herself and all mankind. This faith she had been taught and most cordially embraced in early life, had always cherished it, as the most precious boon of Heaven, through sickness and health, and joyfully clung to it in the hour of death. Her parents, brothers, sister, and relatives, though they mourn the vacancy occasioned in the domestic circle, yet they mourn not as those without hope, but humbly submit and acquiesce in this bereaving dispensation of Providence, believing all things shall work together for good, that she is now with an amiable sister, who had gone a few years before her, where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are forever at rest. The funeral was attended at the Universalist meeting-house in Sullivan, on Sunday the 31st, and a large assembly of sympathizing neighbors and friends attested their respect for the memory of the dead and the feelings of the mourners; and a sermon was preached by the writer from 1 Cor. xiii:12.

D. S. [Dolphus Skinner]

Evangelical Magazine & Gospel Advocate, Utica NY, Fri. 5 Apr 1844
[a Universalist newspaper]