

grand instrument by which he saves them or frees them from their sins? I can conceive of nothing that will subdue, even annihilate ever fleshly passion and appetite that leads to sin like the all-conquering power of death." Again—Ballou in his Lecture, styled "Divine goodness in the destruction of the Sodomites and other sinners," asks, p. 283, "Why should our Heavenly Father manifest any disapprobation of sin? Does he suffer any inconvenience from it?" Of course their destruction was an act of goodness in removing them from the region of suffering. Ballou on the Atonement, p. 34, says, "These conflicting laws of flesh and spirit have always existed in man from his first formation, and so long as they both continue to exert their powers in opposition to each other, so long will sin remain, and continue to produce condemnation." This exhibits two important features in the Universalists' creed, viz.—1st. That sin and punishment must continue through life, and 2nd, That they have no existence after death. From all we have quoted, it is perfectly plain that death is the grand instrument, and the *only* instrument of salvation from sin and suffering. But the text requires you (Universalists) to work out your own salvation.—And this, if it means any thing must mean to make use of means to deliver yourself from sin and suffering. Now as this world is the prisonhouse of hell, and there is no escape from it but by death, it seems the only way in which you can comply with the requirement of the text, is, to break the prison gate. Yes, force it open and be free. "What!" says one—"Do you mean to say it is my duty to commit suicide? That halters, knives, and pistols, are the instruments to be used? "Yes;—and we mean to *prove* it too, if Universalism be true. It is evident from the text that you are to work out your own salvation from sin and its consequences in *some* way; and as this cannot be done fully in this life; and as you profess to believe that death will terminate sin and suffering, the best and quickest way is to employ him and die at once. A pistol is a better key to open the portals of glory with, than that of the Pope of Rome. I know you have many objections to offer, but let us show you first, your duty and privileges as Universalists, and then meet all your objections in order. First, then, it is your duty to commit suicide in order to be holy. As you cannot become holy in this life, and, as you believe that all sin will be abolished by death;—that death will accomplish the mighty work;—in a word, that no impurity can exist beyond the moment of dissolution,—as enlightened believers, as spiritual Christians, holiness to the Lord, ought to be your motto. And how easily you may attain to angelic purity by literally mortifying your lusts. Then do so. Yes, die at once and become holy. Resolve to sin no more. And as you fire the pistol, drink the cup of salvation, say in the language of St. Paul; "Shall we continue in