

Dedication at Brownville, N.Y

The new Universalist church recently completed in Brownville, Jefferson co., N.Y. was dedicated to the worship of God on Wednesday, the 16th ult. The following was the

ORDER OF SERVICES.

Reading of the Scriptures by Rev.E.A. Holbrook, of Watertown, N.Y.
Invocation by Rev. [John] H. Stewart, of Watertown.
Sermon by Rev. [Luther] Rice, of Watertown, Mass.
Dedicatory prayer by Rev. Pitt Morse, of Henderson, N.Y.

Services were also held during the day and evening. The attendance was large-to the extent of the capacity of the church. The Sermon of Br. Rice gave great satisfaction to his numerous friends. It was faithful, manly, and well written. It abounded in historical sketches and illustrations. We were instructed as well as edified.- The audience could but appreciate the importance of erecting temples of worship where [people] could learn of the true Father, and seek to "worship him in spirit and in truth."

Br. Morse preached in the afternoon. We were greatly refreshed and lifted up. He stood and cried "Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." I thought of Sampson feeling for the pillars of the house whereon were encamped the hosts of the Philistines. "And he called upon the Lord, and said, 'O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me only this once.'* * * And he bowed himself with all his might." The arguments of Br. Morse appeared to me absolutely unanswerable. The goodness of God stood out before us as the overshadowing glory of the Eternal. It would burst all barriers and penetrate all space, till it redeemed the last mortal from ignorance and sin, and the angels shouted "Glory to God in the Highest."

Much to the gratification of his former parishioners, Br. Rice was prevailed upon to preach a second sermon in the evening. (Br. Holbrook was too indisposed to be able to preach.) Blessed are the people who shall appreciate the spirit of such discourses. They contain a power which draws us near to Christ.

The Brownville church cost about \$3000.—Their indebtedness on the morning of dedication was \$260. On that day a collection, in money and subscriptions, was taken up to the amount of \$130. This leaves but a small sum which may be raised by a single festival this winter. Our friends will then own the handsomest church in Brownville. Br. [Aaron A.] Thayer, of Watertown, has been preaching a third service to the Brownville Society for a few weeks back, and may continue to do so until they settle someone to live in their midst.

The Brownville friends deserve great credit for their liberality and zeal. Let many of our weak Societies but follow their example, and they will soon be strong.

A.A.T. [Rev. Aaron A. Thayer]

Christian Ambassador, Auburn, NY, Sat. 2 Feb 1856