

Letter from Rev. F. [Francis] M. Alvord
[excerpt]

A CHURCH ORGANIZED IN WHITESVILLE

A week ago last Sabbath I was with Br. E. [Elhanan] W. Fuller and his excellent people at Whitesville. Br. Fuller's labors have been very successful in this place, and he is justly regarded as an able and a devoted herald of the Cross. Whitesville, if not the oldest, is one of the oldest society in the Allegany Association [of Universalists.] Br. [Lyman] Paine preached to them more than thirty years ago, and they have always had good preachers, because I suppose they love their religion, and are willing to labor and sacrifice for it. Br. S. [Seth] E. Darrow preached with them six or seven years, and under his faithful and judicious ministry they prospered, built their beautiful house of worship, and increased in numbers, in zeal, and in a knowledge of the truth. Br. Fuller settled among them three years ago, and his congregations have constantly increased, not only in numbers, which is certainly very desirable, but in the Christian graces, and in the noble walks of Christian culture and life. Br. F. agitated the subject of church organization, and as the result of his labors in this direction, a church of forty members of good men and women has been organized, and with bright prospects of many additions in future. Eight persons were baptized on the Sabbath alluded to, and more are expected to be "buried in baptism" at their next meeting. Our Independence brethren have every thing to encourage them—a pleasant Sabbath home, a zealous pastor, a good Sabbath school, an efficient church organization, and a disposition to work for their religion. Let them have meetings every Sabbath, instead of half the Sundays, and settle Br. Fuller for life, and their peace will be abundant, their prosperity will know no decline.

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