Dedication in Le Roy

For some two years Rev. C. Cravens has labored to establish the Gospel of impartial grace in Le Roy, Genesee Co., N. Y. His well know abilities as a preacher, and his genial influence as a citizen and Christian, gave the friends of our cause in that region the hope that he would be able to implant our faith on a strong foundation in that village, one of the most beautiful in Western New York. This expectation, we are happy to state, has been entirely fulfilled. Br. Cravens has succeeded not only in gathering a good sized congregation, composed of as respectable and intelligent a class of citizens as can be found in the place, but a Society has been organized, and better still, a church has been erected. The church edifice is a substantial brick building, located in an eligible spot in the heart of the village. It is a plain and neat structure, with nothing showy or extravagant connected with it, and yet as pleasant and commodius a house of worship as we ever entered. Beneath are light, airy, and convenient basement rooms, raised entirely above the ground, for the occupancy of the Sabbath School, the holding of Conference meetings, the use of the Ladies' Aid Sewing Circle, etc. The edifice is an ornament to the village, and a monument of the liberality of its builders. In its erection the Le Roy brethren have not only exhibited good taste, but what is more important, have manifested a self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of truth and a zeal in its advocacy and support, which justly entitle them to all commendation.

On Wednesday morning of last week, the 25th ult., the new church was dedicated to the worship of the one living and true God. Notwithstanding a very severe snow storm was raging all during the morning, rendering the traveling and walking about as disagreeable as they could be, yet a large audience assembled, filling the church in every part, and rendering it necessary to furnish extra seats in the aisles and around the pulpit. The following was the order of exercises on that occasion:-

- 1. Voluntary by the choir.
- 2. Reading of the Scriptures, by Rev. A.[Asa] Saxe [of Rochester].
- 3. Hymn.
- 4. Dedicatory Prayer by Rev. J. [John] M. Austin [of Auburn].
- 5. Hymn.
- 6. Sermon by Rev. C.[Charles] Cravens, pastor of the Society.
- 7. Reading of Dedicatory Sentence, from the Liturgy, by the pastor.
- 8. Voluntary.
- 9. Benediction.

The audience listened to these services with devout attention, and we trust many salutary and lasting impressions were made on their hearts.

On Wednesday afternoon, a sermon was delivered by Rev. A. Saxe of Rochester, and in the evening a discourse was preached by Rev. R. [Richmond] Fiske, jr., of Newark, N. Y., which was followed by a brief Conference meeting. On Thursday the meeting was continued and sermons were delivered in the morning and afternoon by Rev's. G. [George] W. Montgomery [of Rochester] and J. M. Austin.

Br. Cravens has heretofore divided his time between Le Roy and Pavilion— residing for the last year at the former place. We learn that efforts are being made to secure his labors hereafter all the time at Le Roy. Should this arrangement be affected, Pavilion will be destitute of preaching and the brethren there will seek at once for another pastor. We trust one will speedily be found, who will be able to prosecute the good work which Br. Cravens has been accomplishing in that place for the last four or five years.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn, NY, Sat. 5 May 1860