

DEDICATION AND INSTALLATION AT SCHENECTADY

On Wednesday the 5th inst., the new meeting-house recently erected by the Universalist society in Schenectady was solemnly dedicated to the worship of the one living and true God and the promulgation of the Gospel of Christ. The order of service was as follows:

1. Voluntary by the choir. 2. Introductory prayer by Br. R.O. Williams. 3. Reading selections of Scripture by T[homas] J. Sawyer. 4. Hymn. 5. Dedicatory prayer by Br. D[olphus] Skinner. 6. Dedication hymn. 7. Sermon by I[saac] D. Williamson.

In the afternoon a sermon was delivered by Br. Sawyer from Ps[alm] xc: 14, at the close of which the Eucharist was celebrated, (for the first time by Universalists in that city,) and the elements of the Supper administered to a number of brethren and sisters in the faith, by Br. Skinner, assisted by Brs. Sawyer and Whitcomb.—A solemn, yet joyful and interesting season was experienced.

In the evening Br. T[homas] J. Whitcomb was installed pastor of the First Universalist society in that city. The services were as follows:

1. Reading of Scripture, by Br. Skinner. 2. Hymn. 3. Introductory prayer by Br. Sawyer. 4. Anthem by the choir. 5. Sermon and address to the society by Br. Skinner; text Eph. iii: 8,9. 6. Consecrating prayer by Br. Williamson. 7. Charge to the pastor by Br. Williamson. 8. Right hand of fellowship by Br. Sawyer. 9. Hymn. 10. Benediction by the pastor elect.

The day was remarkably pleasant and the services throughout were well attended, and in the evening much crowded, by orderly and apparently devout and sincere worshippers of that "God who is the saviour of all." The society here is yet in its infancy, having been in existence but a few months; but it has certainly exhibited a laudable zeal in the good cause by thus early erecting a temple for worship. The house is not large, being, if we rightly remember, twenty-six feet by forty, built of wood, in a plain but neat manner, with a gallery for the singers, and is, on the whole, a very convenient and pleasant house, centrally located, and will answer a valuable purpose in the present state of the cause in that city. It has been wholly built during the present Spring. We have no doubt but the society will flourish and our cause prosper under the prudent management and well directed labors of our excellent brother, the Pastor elect. That the richest blessings of Heaven may rest on both pastor and people, and crown with abundant success their laudable efforts to promote the interests of truth, religion and humanity, may God in his rich mercy grant through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

S. [Rev. Dolphus Skinner]

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