

## Dedication of an Abandoned Church at Southold

[Special Correspondence of the Eagle.]

SOUTHOLD, July 23.

### THE EVENT OF YESTERDAY

was the rededication of the Universalist Church, and the people, irrespective of religious belief, made a holiday of the occasion. There were the sympathies of association to cause this. For upwards of fifteen years that portion of the community resting their hopes of heaven upon the Universalist doctrine, had been worshiping among their Protestant brethren of other denominations, and it is a matter of wonder that they had not all become proselytes. The revival of the Universalist form of worship, therefore, about a year ago, created some astonishment, and few could believe that it could be fanned into vigorous life. They not only have increased in numbers within a year sufficiently to warrant them in remodeling the abandoned church, but to call a regular minister, as they propose doing. The church was erected in 1835, and occupied up to about 1862, when it was abandoned, and has since been used as a concert and minstrel hall, and for any purpose for which a person desired it, who could pay the rent. The remodeling of it has cost \$1,500, and when it was dedicated yesterday, but \$50 of debt rested upon it. That was soon subscribed by the large number of persons present.

### THE DEDICATORY SERVICES

were performed by the Rev. Dr. Nye of Brooklyn, Rev. Mr. Hooper of Huntington, and Rev. Messrs. Fay and Hopson, of New Jersey. Mr. Hooper read a selection of scripture and offered prayer, and Mr. Nye preached the sermon. Rev. Mr. Hopson prayed at the conclusion of the sermon, and the Rev. Mr. Fay delivered the charge to the Association. The musical part of the exercises was finely rendered. Mr. Hunting presided at the organ, and the vocalists were Mr. Overton, Mr. Terry, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Lowrey and Mr. and Mrs. Addison Conklin. In the evening the Rev. Mr. Fay preached an able sermon. The services are to be continued on Wednesday and Thursday, each of the ministers, excepting Mr. Nye, to preach. Next Sunday the Rev. Mr. Fay will fill the pulpit, and on the succeeding two Sundays the Rev. Dr. Nye will officiate. Mr. Nye is spending the Summer here. He is ensconced in the beautiful home of Mr. Peck. The church is a wooden structure, with a belfry. It has been neatly painted both outside and in, and a new pulpit erected. The choir are located in the north end of the church, at the entrance, on a platform the same height as that of the pulpit. The seating capacity is about two hundred and fifty. The seats are of pine wood, painted and grained, with black walnut trimmings. The windows are long, and a half oval in shape, affording an abundance of light. It is the smallest church in the place. There are three others, Methodist, Presbyterian and Catholic, the latter the largest and with the largest congregation.

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[slightly abridged]