

[Henderson, Jefferson Co. NY]

Revival of Universalism in Henderson, Jefferson county, N.Y

[by Rev. Pitt Morse]

In 1819 a society was formed in this town under the title of "The Henderson Universal Charitable Society." This was the first organized society of Universalists in this county. In the early part of my public ministry, in the latter part of the year 1820, by the advice and kindness of Br. S[eth] Jones, I was induced to visit this place; and with the consent of all concerned, I settled with this people as their first pastor, spending half my time here, and the remainder in Watertown and Brownville (where no societies existed in 1820) during the years 1821-22... In 1822 a church was organized here consisting of 25 members. In 1823 the society altered its name to that of "The First Universalist Society in Henderson." In 1824, through that deplorable remissness which often paralyzes human exertion, the society became legally extinct; and though they had able and faithful preaching one fourth of the time four or five years, by Brs. [Cornelius G.] Person and Jones, yet they have not been organized as a society since 1824, till May 1838.... A society was formed which now consists of eighty-five members... A subscription of \$3000 for building a church was obtained during the summer; and a building 60 feet by 40 feet has been contracted for, to be built during the present year.

Evangelical Magazine and Gospel Advocate, Utica NY, Fri. 1 Mar 1839

Transcribed on 2 Feb 1997 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY