DEDICATION AT GENOA

On Thursday, 29th ult., the new and elegant Meeting House in Genoa, Cayuga co., N. Y., recently erected and completed by the Universalist Society in that place, was solemnly dedicated to the service and worship of the only One living and true God. The religious services on that occasion were performed in the following order:

1. Voluntary—a set piece—by the choir. 2. Introductory prayer, by Br. N[elson] Doolittle, of Cortland. 3. Hymn. 4. Reading selections from Scripture, by Br. N. Doolittle. 5. Hymn—"All Hail," &tc. 6. Dedicatory prayer, by Br. D[olphus] Skinner, of Utica. 7. Dedicatory Hymn. 8. Sermon, by Br. Skinner; text, Haggai ii, 7 and 9. "I will shake all nations, and the Desire of all nations shall come; and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of Hosts." — "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than the former, saith theLord of Hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of Hosts." 9. Select hymn. 10. Concluding prayer, by Br. Jacob Chase, Jr. 11. Anthem. 12. Benediction, by Br. D. Skinner.

The day was remarkably pleasant and beautiful. The house was filled in every part at an early hour, and so immense was the concourse of people that but about one half of the congregation was able to find seats inside of the house, it being literally filled with females alone. The male part of the congregation standing on the outside of the house covered an area, on three sides, of about one rod in width. The most perfect order and regularity prevailed through the whole assembly, and the most devout and listening attention was given to the services.

The house is built of wood, 52 feet in length by 38 in breadth, with a handsome steeple, and a gallery for the singers. It has a beautiful and fine toned organ, constructed and played by an artist living in the place, which in connexion with a well regulated choir makes most delightful music. The house is pleasantly located in the village of Genoa, in the midst of a beautiful country and a rich, prolific soil.

Notwithstanding there are many Universalists in this and the adjoining counties, we believe this is the first and only Meeting House built by Universalists alone and dedicated to the Saviour of all, in the county of Cayuga, or within 30 or 40 miles of this place. We trust, however, from present appearances, that ere long, there will be many houses erected for the promulgation of "good tidings of great joy to all people." It was not until September last that the Universalist Society determined on building; but immediately on this decision they set themselves at work with a zeal and determined perseverance worthy of the noble cause in which they are engaged, and have succeeded in completing an elegant and commodius house of worship.

Br. Jacob Chase, Jr., is now, and has been for some months past, laboring with this Society a considerable portion of the time. His labors appear to have been blest to the lengthening of Zion's cords and the strengthening of her stakes. May the Lord long continue to bless this people, may his glory fill the house, and his peace which "passeth all understanding" rest with them forever.

Evangelical Magazine & Gospel Advocate, Utica NY, Sat. 7 Aug 1830

Transcribed on 6 Nov 2003 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY