

## A HOPEFUL SIGN

The reception to the Rev. C. Elwood Nash, the new pastor of the Universalist Church of Our Father, reported recently in our news columns, augurs well for the success of his ministry. It is no easy task which the incoming pastor has taken. His immediate predecessor, the Rev. Dr. Canfield, was a minister of some ability and agreeable personality. His congregation also remembers vividly the ability, the fidelity and the sunny personality of the Rev. Dr. Nye. All the indications point to Mr. Nash as a worthy successor to the upright, capable and devout men who preceded him in his present charge. The words of welcome uttered by his clerical brethren at the installation ceremonies were admirably chosen. They show that the recipient of the compliment they convey enjoys the highest esteem of his denominational colleagues and that his ministry opens under the most encouraging circumstances. Without entering into doctrinal discussion the lay observer cannot fail to conclude that these are days of encouragement for Universalism. Present disturbances in the realm of orthodoxy are calculated to temper the criticisms which, from the orthodox standpoint, are showered upon that church. The time when a man was metaphorically in danger of being roasted at the stake because he did not believe in the existence of a hell has passed away. The tendency to regard Christianity as the gospel of love rather than a system of cruelty is so marked that the Universalists, including the esteemed members of the Church of Our Father, ought to take heart and be of good cheer. All Brooklyn will unite in wishing the Rev. Mr. Nash success in the pastorate which he has so promisingly assumed.

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