

## IN A NEW HOME

The Third Universalist Society's Handsome Church  
Dedicatory Exercises in the Edifice Last Evening and Installation of  
Rev. Frank L. Masseck As Pastor—Addresses by Visiting Clergymen

The Church of the Reconciliation (Third Universalist), on North Henry street, near Nassau avenue, was dedicated last evening with the usual impressive ceremonies, followed by the installation of the pastor, the Rev. Frank L. Masseck. The exercises began precisely at 8 o'clock and were witnessed by a large audience that occupied every seat in the church. Tall palms and potted plants graced the front of the pulpit, while the figures "1855-1890" occupied a conspicuous place on the wall in the rear of the pulpit, designating the time of the organization of the society. On the platform were seated the Rev. J. Coleman Adams, D.D., pastor of All Souls' Church [First Universalist], on South Ninth street; Rev. C.[Cyrus] H. Fay, D.D., this city; Rev. E. C. Bolles, D.D., Third Universalist Church,; West Eleventh street, New York; Rev. Frank L. Masseck, pastor of the new church; Rev. Dr. William Taylor, pastor of the Prospect Heights [Fifth] Universalist Church; and the Rev. C.[Charles] H. Eaton, D.D., pastor of Christ Divine Fraternity [should be Paternity] church, Forty-fifth street and Fifth avenue, New York.

The exercises opened with an organ voluntary by the organist, Mrs. William E. Burroughs. This was followed by the reading of the scriptures and an invocation by the Rev. William Taylor. The anthem, 'Rejoice in the Lord' was sung by the choir. Mr. C. A. Miller, chairman of the building committee, then delivered the keys of the church over to the pastor, after which the sentences of consecration were alternately pronounced by pastor and people.

A prayer of dedication was made by the Rev. E.[Edwin] C. Bolles, D.D. The chant, "Oh Lord, How Manifold Are Thy Works," by the choir, followed.

Addresses of congratulations on the erection of the building were made by the Rev. J. Coleman Adams, D.D., and the Rev. C. H. Fay, D.D. At the close of their remarks the audience sang the dedicatory hymn,

O, Thou whose own vast temple stands  
Built over earth and sea,  
Accept the walls that human hands  
Have raised to worship Thee.

The reception of money contributions followed and a nice round sum was raised. The Rev. C. H. Eaton, D.D., then delivered the installation address, which was a most eloquent one. After a hymn, in which the audience joined, the benediction was pronounced by the newly installed pastor and the ceremonies were brought to a close.

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The new structure is of Gothic design, surmounted by a spire nearly one hundred feet high, with cathedral glass windows. The ceiling is of narrow yellow strip pine, the circle being drawn in a radius of 33 feet, with a sounding board over the pulpit in the same radius. The seats are of the opera chair pattern, handsomely upholstered in crimson plush and fitted with book and coat racks, while a new organ occupies a large space in the building. The cost of the structure was \$7,862, of which there is a mortgage of \$1,846, which the society expects to soon pay off. Of this amount \$300 was realized from the fair held during the present week at Smithsonian Hall.

The society was organized on July 1, 1855, by a few families in the Seventeenth ward. The place of holding services was in a tenement house on Franklin street. A year later Monitor hall, then on Franklin street, was secured. The membership of the society rapidly increased, and it was but a short time before they erected a neat edifice on Noble street, which is at present owned by the Hebrews of the ward. The loss of the church was due to the depressed financial condition of the society, which was brought about by the death of some of its members. Grand Army hall, on Calyer street, was then engaged, and later Association hall, on Manhattan avenue, where the society remained until the erection of the present church. Among the preachers who occupied the pulpit in times past was Rev. Bernard Peters, now editor of the Brooklyn Times.

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Transcribed on 25 Aug 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY