REV. L. F. MCKINNEY ACCEPTS
Bridgeton Minister Will Become Pastor of Universalist
Church of the Divine Love, Flatbush

A dispatch from Portland, Me., announces that the Rev. Luther F. McKinney of Bridgton, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Universalist Church of the Divine Love, Flatbush. This is the church which was recently organized, and which worshipped in the chapel of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Foster avenue and East Twenty-third street. Preaching services were begun by the Rev. L. Ward Brigham, pastor of All Souls' Church, under the auspices of the officers of that society. This was done in order to give members of All Souls Church who resided in Flatbush, an opportunity to hear their pastor. So much interest was manifested and the growth so rapid that it was determined to organize a church, which was done with appropriate service. It was later resolved to raise a fund with which to build a church edifice, and to call a pastor. The field is considered a most excellent one and the success of the undertaking seems to be assured beyond doubt.

The Rev. Luther Franklin McKinney was born near Newark, O., April 25, 1841. He was reared upon a farm and at a comparatively early age engaged in teaching. He enlisted in August, 1861, in the First Ohio Cavalry Regiment, and served until February, 1863, leaving the Army with a good civil war record. Mr. McKinney was graduated from St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y., in 1870, and in [1898?] was the opponent of Thomas R. Reed in the First Maine District. Great pressure was brought to bear to defeat Mr. Reed on account of his attitude on the pension question, and the soldier vote was rallied to the support of McKinney, a delegation going from Brooklyn to influence upon the stump votes against Reed, but he was elected by quite as good a majority as he ever received.

Mr. McKinney will probably begin his pastorate here early in the fall.

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Transcribed on 14 Sep 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY