

UNIVERSALIST CELEBRATION
Meeting at the First Church, Williamsburg—
Address of Rev. Geo. O. Hepworth and Others.

A mass-meeting was held last evening in the First Universalist Church, corner of South Third and Fourth streets, E.D. The congregation meeting there meditate the erection of a more commodious building than the existing one, which is of very circumscribed dimensions, and the meeting was called to open a fund for the purpose and to make other arrangements for fitly commemorating the centenary year of Universalism. The chair was occupied by Mr. BERNARD PETERS, a former pastor of the congregation, who read a letter from Rev. G. L. DEMAREST, regretting his inability to be present.

The Chairman remarked that though now engaged in a less sacred vocation, his sympathies were still with them, and that many of the tenderest recollections of his life were connected with their history. When he came to Williamsburg, fourteen years ago, the population numbered but 50,000, and now in the Eastern District there were not less than 100,000. To these altered circumstances they must accommodate themselves by building a place of worship such as the necessity of the times demanded.

New York Times, New York NY, 23 Apr 1870

Transcribed on 3 Apr 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY