

[Cuba, Allegany Co. NY]

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.— Rev. S. Goff, if not the first, was one of the first to preach the Universalist doctrines in Cuba in 1844-5, in the village schoolhouse. From 1845 to 1847 Rev. J. B. Saxe held regular services in Independence Hall. In 1847 Rev. I. B. Sharp came and preached one year. From 1848 to 1853 only occasional services were held, and then Rev. G.[Gideon] S. Gowdy preached one year. Rev. F.[Francis] M. Alvord from the Friendship church then preached about a year at North Cuba, part of the hearers being those formerly assembled at Cuba village. Rev. Elhanan W. Reynolds organized a society of 84 members, Feb. 3, 1867, and preached in Palmer Hall for about three months, when failing health obliged him to discontinue. The trustees were, L. A. Reynolds, John Brooks and Freeman L. Sibley. Rev. E. W. Fuller was made pastor in 1868 and preached two years; during his pastorate a church edifice was erected at a cost of \$7,000 free from debt. The size of the structure which is of brick, is 40x70 feet. It was dedicated on the 27th of June, 1870, Rev. E. W. Fuller preaching the sermon. Rev. I. D. [A. G.] Laurie succeeded Mr. Fuller for a short time, then Rev. L. P. Blackford was pastor for 3½ years. During his pastorate a church consisting of 43 members was organized, and during that of his successor Rev. Henry Shepard, who came March 1, 1876, 11 were added. The succeeding pastors have been Revs. J. W. Broffæel, W. H. McLaughlin, Charles Palmater, and J. J. Brayton, who lived and preached in Friendship and supplied this church. Since June, 1893, this church has been without a pastor, and services are held only occasionally. Of those who have been prominently connected with this church and foremost in building it are A. M. Scott, F. L. Sibley, Lonson Baldwin, L. A. Reynolds, M. B. Champlain, Oramel Griffin, S. H. Conant, H. Kinney, Lewis Graves, Rev. E. W. Reynolds and Russell Smith. The present trustees are Wm. Currier, F. O. Prouty, G. W. Baldwin; clerk, Gideon Sisson.

Mrs. Georgia Drew Andrews, Editor, "History of Cuba, New York, A Centennial Memorial," in *History of Allegany County, New York*, John S. Minard, Esq. Historian (W. A. Fergusson & Co., Alfred, N.Y. 1896), Chapter LXIV, p. 823