

[Dansville (Rogersville), Steuben Co. NY]

Dedication at South Dansville

A Conference of the Allegany Association of Universalists was held in South Dansville, N.Y., the 28th and 29th ult. On Wednesday the new Universalist Church, recently completed in that place, was dedicated to the worship of God, with appropriate services. The exercises on the occasion were as follows:—

1. Voluntary by the Choir
2. Reading of the Scriptures by Rev. Wm. Tompkins.
3. Hymn
4. Introductory Prayer by Rev. A[lbert] G. Clark
5. Hymn
6. Sermon by Rev. J[ohn] M. Austin [of Auburn]
7. Dedicatory Prayer by Rev. J. A. Bartlett
8. Voluntary by the Choir
9. Benediction

The church is a very neat edifice, and is an ornament to the village (Rogersville) in which it is erected. The brethren in South Dansville are deserving of high commendation for the liberality and devotion to their religious convictions displayed in the building of this edifice for public worship. Long may they be spared to enjoy its privileges, and listen within its walls to the glad proclamation of the world's redemption.

Rev. A[lvah] Upson has handed us the following minute, in regard to the Universalist Society in South Dansville:—

The Society was formed thirty-two years ago, and soon numbered about thirty members. Of that number, only seven now remain. The others have passed away by death or otherwise. During its existence the Society has passed through severe trials, sometimes by relentless persecution from opposers, and at other times by discouragement, and want of energy and action. Its present prospects have become fair. It has evidently surmounted all difficulties. In the erection of their new edifice, the Society has shown a liberality worthy of praise. Nor would we forget the generous assistance of those not immediately connected with the Society. We thank them for what they have done in this instance, and pray that they may feel abundantly rewarded for their liberality.

Br. T. H. Tabor, pastor of the Society in South Dansville, has done a good work during his residence in that place. We pray that success may attend his labors hereafter.

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, January 7, 1854

Dansville (Rogersville), Steuben Co.

The Universalist church. This Society was organized at Rogersville through the efforts of Rev. Asa Upson soon after the opening of the seminary, in 1848, and in 1852 a church was built in the village at a cost of \$2800. Joseph Phelps, Elisha Robinson, and John M. Bryant were trustees. This church was dedicated by Rev. T. H. Tabor. Among the early members were John Robinson, Joshua Healey, Uriah Upson, Jerome B. Phelps, [and] Humphrey Stevens; pastors O. B. Clark, Asa Upson, T. H. Tabor, Rev. Mr. Austin, E. M. Whitney, Rev. Mr. Payne. The society has ceased to exist since 1866.

W. W. Clayton, *History of Steuben Co., N.Y.* (Philadelphia: 1879), p. 284

Transcribed on 2 Feb 2004 by Karen Dau of Rochester, NY