

[Edwards, St. Lawrence Co. NY]

## RELIGIOUS

The only dedicated house of worship in the town of Edwards is the Union church in Edwards village, which was erected in 1850, at a cost of \$1000, by Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Universalists, by whom it is owned at the present time. It is open to all denominations of Christians.

## THE UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY

Universalism was preached only a few times in the school-house, by Rev. O[liver] Wilcox, Rev. G[rosvenor] Swan, and Rev. Mr. Hickock, before the erection of the Union church in 1850. This church was owned by four societies,—Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, and Universalist,—as above named. Rev. G. Swan preached the sermon in behalf of the Universalists at its dedication. Among the Universalists who aided in building the church, and in maintaining meetings in it, were James Wilson (2d), Alfred Freeman, John C. Haile, Joel White, Guy Earle, William Robinson, Joseph Brodie, Harvey Woolever, Horace Barnes, Roswell Lillie, Asa P. Brayton, Albert White, Geo. W. Freeman, John Rushton, Henry Rushton, J. B. Picket, and Otis Earle. The ministers who have preached here since the church was erected are Rev. G. Swan, Rev. G. S. Abbott (12 years), Rev. J[ohn] T. Goodrich, and Rev. Prof. J. S. Lee, D. D. (13 years), who is still supplying. The theological students of Canton have also occasionally supplied. The society numbers some 20 families.

A Union Sunday-school has been kept up for many years. Universalists, instead of maintaining a school of their own, have joined with this, and supplied it with scholars and teachers.

Samuel W. Durant, *History of St. Lawrence County, New York*  
(Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1878) pp. 444-45

Transcribed on 16 Apr 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY