

Dedication at Frankfort [Excerpt]

The new Universalist meetinghouse, erected the present season in the village of Frankfort, Herkimer County, N. Y. was, on Wednesday the 18th inst., solemnly dedicated to the worship of the one God ... who is the Saviour of all. The following is the order observed at the dedicatory service:

1. Voluntary by the choir.
2. Introductory Prayer, by Br. T[homas] L. Harris.
3. Hymn.
4. Reading selections from Scripture, by Br. S[amuel] Jenkins.
- Dedicatory Prayer, by Br. E. M. Woolley.
6. Dedicatory hymn.
7. Sermon, by Br. D[olphus] Skinner. Text: Gen. xxviii: 16, 17.
8. Hymn.
9. Benediction.

The services throughout were listened to by a crowded and solemnly attentive congregation. The singing, conducted by Mr. Hall, assisted by an excellent choir, was animated and inspiring. In the course of the day, several anthems and set pieces were admirably performed. Sermons were preached in the afternoon and evening by Brs. Woolley and Morey, and an interesting and happy season enjoyed by the assembled multitude...

The house is built of wood, 50 by 35 feet, with a well proportioned tower or belfry (of the same style as the Universalist church at Newport, in the same county), a gallery across one end for the singers, a very neat and [tasteful] pulpit, veneered with mahogany and furnished with a sofa, the plastering completed with hard finish and a modest molding overhead, slips [pews] well arranged and easy for the occupants, rolling blinds painted green, and the whole building, outside and in, beautifully painted white. Taking the whole ensemble, it is a commodious, symmetrical, and beautiful house, and reflects much on honor on the taste and judgment of the society or its building committee, and on the fidelity of the worthy mechanic, Mr. Dodge, who executed the workmanship. And one thing is peculiarly gratifying in reference to the house and its builder - it will be *paid for* at once, and the society left free and unencumbered with a meetinghouse debt...

It is about two years since the society in Frankfort and German Flatts was organized, extending along the Mohawk valley from the village of Frankfort to the village of Herkimer, and having preaching three fourths of the time, divided equally between Frankfort, Remington's [Corners] and Herkimer, the extreme points being about six miles apart. We commenced stately preaching, once a month in each of these three places in the spring preceding the organization; and about the same time that the new meetinghouse at Remington's [Corners] in German Flatts, built and owned mostly by Universalists [also by Methodists] was dedicated. Our meetings at these places, at whichever point held, have generally been well attended and a good deal of interest manifested in the cause of truth by the community... Hitherto the place of meeting in Frankfort has been quite too contracted for the accommodation of all who wished to attend. Hereafter we trust that none will excuse themselves from the stated ministrations of the word on the ground that there is *no room* for them.

....God speed the day when his truth shall universally prevail over error and darkness.

D. S. [Rev. Dolphus Skinner]

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