

Fulton, Oswego Co. NY

THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH. Under the auspices of the late Alfred Sabin, who was a firm believer in the doctrines of that church, The Rev. S[tephen] R. Smith, a Universalist preacher of Clinton, Oneida county, came to the village in the year 1828, and preached in the school-house then standing on the "flats." This was the first Universalist service held in Fulton. In 1831 Rev. Matthew [should be Walter] Bullard, a minister of this denomination, came to the village and preached about three months in the school-house that occupied the site of the present Free Methodist Church. In 1832 the church was organized, and Rev. O[badiyah] Whiston employed as pastor, and preached in the then Upper Landing school-house, on alternate Sabbaths for one year. He was succeeded by Rev. John French, who officiated in the "red school-house," on the corner of Cayuga and Second streets. Rev. Charles Brown next became pastor of the church, who remained one year, and was succeeded by Rev. T. C. Eaton, whose pastorate embraced a period of two years. It was during his labors that the society's first church edifice was erected, on the west side of Second street.

Mr. Eaton closed his engagement with the church in 18[??] and was followed by the Rev. Walter Peck, who served the society one year.

In the fall of 1841, Rev. Mr. Taylor, of Baldwinsville [Onondaga Co.], became pastor of the church, and on the 11th day of October, 1841, the church was legally organized under the corporate name of the "First Universalist Society of Fulton," at a meeting over which Messrs. Hubbard Church and John D. Stephens presided, and John D. Stephens acted as secretary. The Trustees elected were John Warlock, Andrew B. Simons, [and] Peter H. Keller. Mr. Taylor died in about three months after he assumed control of the charge, and was succeeded by Rev. R[ufus] O. Williams, who officiated a few months, and was followed by Rev. William Sias, who preached one year. The next pastor settled over the church was Rev. L. M. Hawes, who served two years, and was succeeded by Nelson Brown, a supply, who remained until the latter part of the year 1848. In 1849 Rev. J. H. Tuttle was employed as pastor, and continued for a period of five years, and was succeeded by Rev. G[eorge] W. Skinner, who remained about six months. After Dr. Skinner the Rev. J. M. Bailey was the pastor of the church for about five years. In 1859 Rev. R[oyal] H. Pul[l]man was chosen pastor, and the relation continued about eight years. During his pastorate the present substantial and commodious brick edifice was erected, the corner-stone of which was laid July 13, 1864, the address being delivered by Rev. Dr. [Elbridge G.] Brooks, of New York.

In May, 1867, Rev. Mr. Pul[l]man tendered his resignation, and he was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. C. B. Lombard, who remained one year. The church was without a pastor until September, 1868, when Rev. E. K. Sanborn became a supply, and served the church about six months. After Mr. Sanborn left the village, the pulpit was again vacant until August 1, 1869, when Rev. L. M. Rice was employed as pastor and labored two years. From July, 1871 until October, 1873, the pulpit was generally vacant. In the early part of the latter year Rev. O. K. Crosby was employed as pastor of the church. The next pastor was Rev. E. Jacobs, who was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. Allen P. Folsom.

Crisfield Johnson, *History of Oswego County, New York*
(Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1877), p. 240