

REPORT

excerpt from the Report "of the Agent [Rev. Thomas J. Sawyer]
of the New York Association [of Universalists]
made to that body at its session in New York, May 12, 1859"

Of these Societies [in fellowship with the New York Association of Universalists] that of Hudson is much the oldest, having been organized May 17, 1817. Its church edifice was erected the summer following. For more than forty years this Society has nobly maintained its ground in a neighborhood originally filled with prejudices against the great truth it has been its duty and its honor to uphold. These prejudices it has, in a great measure, diluted. It has enjoyed the labors of several valued ministers, whose names are familiar to all Universalists. It is now under the pastoral care of Rev. Thomas Borden, and was never in a better condition in every respect than it is at this hour. The pews in its church are all rented, and more are required. It has a church organization of long standing, and respectable for numbers and character. It has the honor of having established the first Sunday School in our denomination, I believe, within the State. The Society embraces its full share of wealth, intelligence, social position and the moral influence of Hudson, and enjoys all the means and appliances of a well-constituted religious body. But it needs a new church edifice, of much larger size, more attractive in design and finish, and enjoying a more commanding location; and I trust the Society will soon do itself and the cause of truth in that city, the justice and the honor to be conferred by so noble and generous a work.

The Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 4 Jun 1859

Transcribed on 27 Dec 2006 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY