

[Hudson, Columbia Co. NY]

## Dedication of the New Universalist Church

In accordance with previous notice, the dedicatory services were held in the new Universalist Church this forenoon. At the hour for commencing the exercises the commodious church was filled in every part, extra seats having to be placed along the side aisles to accommodate the people.

The organ was handled by Mr. Edgar G. Hubbel, of New York, son of Geo. C. Hubbel, Esq., of this city, who, as the Pastor, Rev. Chas. W. Tomlinson, and Rev. Mr. Pullman, of New York, passed up the centre aisle to the pulpit, gave expression to the instrument by playing a beautiful voluntary.

The first thing in order was the reading of the scriptures by Rev. Mr. Pullman, followed with prayer. Thereafter singing by the choir, reading of the scriptures, prayer and singing was proceeded with, after which Rev. Mr. Tomlinson delivered the dedicatory sermon, taking his text from the second Chapter of the Ephesians, 20th verse:—"And upon the foundations of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone." The sermon was an excellent one, and was listened to by the large audience with marked attention.

At the conclusion of the delivery of the sermon, the choir sung [sic] a hymn, when the congregation arose and Rev. Mr. Tomlinson delivered the dedicatory formula, after which prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Pullman, when the doxology was sung and the services ended by the pronouncing of the benediction by Rev. Mr. Tomlinson.

A great many persons remained in their seats to listen to the music of the organ, Mr. Hubbel playing an overture from Mozart at first, and then changing to "will voicing," delighting all who listened. Mr. H. certainly has improved wonderfully since we heard him in the old Universalist Church some years ago, giving evidence that he had been a persevering student since taking up his residence in New York. He is, we are informed, organist in one of the churches in the Metropolis. We expect yet to hear of Mr. Hubbel's being assigned a place alongside the great performers on the noble instrument in the United States.

We have given a description of the interior of the Universalist Church heretofore, and have only to speak now in general terms of the edifice, which, in our eye, is one of the neatest, coziest and prettiest places of worship we have ever seen. Everything seems to blend together to make the picture complete, and there is an appearance of richness about the wood trimmings and window-glass most pleasant to look upon. There is nothing to affect the eye in the shape of a dazzling light, if we except the two small lights near the top of the wall on each side of the pulpit, which cast a glare upon the eye when looked at.

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The singing of the choir, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Graff, was fine, each part being well and ably represented.

The pulpit is decorated with three handsome straight-backed chairs, upholstered in rep [red], and of gothic style, and in front of the pulpit are two more chairs, of the same style, and a marble-top table. The desk is a beautiful one, and is adorned with a richly-bound Bible, suspended from the edge of which were seen elegant silk page-marks.

The carpeting of the church is of shell pattern, red being, as usual, the predominating color, and was furnished by Messrs. Guernsey & Terry. The upholstering of the seats, and the putting down of the carpets, was done by Mr. John Nack, who has done his work in his usual good style.

It is an interesting fact for us to relate that among the congregation this morning, could be seen the venerable forms of John Slocum, Jacob Traver and Robert McKinstry, who heard the first sermon that was preached in the old Universalist Church, and have been spared to hear the first discourse in the new edifice.

Services will be held at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, and at 7:30 this evening, at the latter service Rev. Mr. Pullman preaching a sermon.—*Daily Star, 4th inst.*

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