

[Hudson, Columbia Co. NY]

Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the First Universalist Church
The Supper and Speeches from Former Pastors—A Happy Gathering

The commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the First Universalist church was brought to a very pleasant close last evening. At 6:30 o'clock about 200 members of the parish, and their friends, sat down to a bountiful repast prepared by the ladies of the church. The vestry never looked more beautiful, being transformed into a veritable bower with vines and flowers. When ample justice had been done to the supper the pastor of the church, Rev. V. [Vincent] E. Tomlinson, called the happy company to order, and after expressing the measure of anticipation with which the anniversary had been looked forward to and gratification at the hearty response on the part of the parish, proceeded to call upon different ones to speak for interests which they represented. Mr. Charles C. Terry, President of the parish, responded for the parish, giving among other things a short historical sketch of the church's 75 years. Mrs. L. D. Smith spoke for the Sunday School. Mr. H. W. Alden for the Young People. The Willing Workers, the ladies' organization, let the supper and decorations speak for them.

Rev. A. G. Rogers spoke in a tender manner of his pastorate, which covered the years from 1880 to 1886, and of the loved and honored members of the parish who had passed beyond. Rev. J. D. Corby bore the congratulations of the Troy Universalist church and invited all present to participate in their approaching 75th anniversary. Mr. Roscoe Sanford extended fraternal greetings from the First Universalist church of Albany.

The closing speaker was Rev. Dr. Carter, of All Saints Episcopal church of this city, who won the sympathy of all by his Catholic [e.g. universal] utterances in response to the sentiment "The Church Universal."

Mr. Richard A. Aitkin, chorister of the church, and his accomplished wife, responded at intervals with musical selections that were highly enjoyable.

Letters of regret were read from former pastors unable to be present. The following is a list of ex-pastors who are living: Rev. L. C. [Lewis Cresaba] Browne, 1853-1856, residence Honeoye Falls, N.Y.; Rev. Thomas Borden, 1856-186[?], Windsor, Vt.; Rev. C. W. [Charles Welden] Tomlinson, D. D., 1868-1879, Taunton, Mass.; Rev. A. G. Rogers, 1880-1886, Salem, Mass.; Rev. E. A. Terry, 1887-1889, Fort Plain, N.Y.

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