

[Malone, Franklin Co. NY]

A Universalist society was formed not long after the [Revolutionary] war, but had for many years been lost, when Dec. 27, 1845, it was formed, which now numbers 78 members. It was formed through the efforts of Rev. E. A. Holbrook, who remained six years. A church was built at a cost of \$2,300 in 1846. The present pastor is the Rev. G. [Grosvenor] Swan.

Franklin B. Hough, *History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties* (Albany: 1853) p. 513

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We regret to learn that the Rev. G. SWAN (Universalist) is about to become a non resident of this place. His character as a man, and his fine social qualities, have won for him the almost universal esteem of our citizens, and attached to him as his warmest friends some of those who in their religious sentiments are strongly opposed to the doctrines which he preaches. Although opposed to his doctrines, yet they respect the man, and admire his talents. It is doubtless well known that we have but little regard for the religious opinions that he advocates, and we have not listened to many of his discourses, but in those we have heard, have been displayed a well cultivated mind, and fine talents as a public speaker, which if employed in a better cause (in our opinion) could not fail to yield him a rich reward. If the Universalist Society, in this place, consider their cause worth the few dollars which it may cost to support it, and do not intend to let their beautiful church edifice stand closed, we venture to offer it as our opinion that, if they have been as "harmless as doves" they have not been as "wise as serpents" in parting with the services of Mr. Swan.

*Frontier Palladium*, Malone NY, Thu. 21 Apr 1853

Transcribed on 22 Aug 2006 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY