

The Liturgy in Mexico, N.Y.

BR. AUSTIN:—I am glad to learn, by the last *Ambassador*, that our "Prayer Book," or "Gospel Liturgy," is meeting with so extensive a sale. The Society in Mexico, Oswego co., N.Y., have used it every Sabbath since the middle of last June. We began the use of the "Gospel Sermons" at the date of the first sermon, and have read one every Sabbath morning since. Had Br. Thomas done nothing more in all his life but to originate and carry into successful operation as he has done, that plan of "Religious Helps," he would have merited the gratitude of every sincere Christian Universalist.

Our present Society is now in the fifth year of its existence. Organized without the aid of a minister, we have kept up regular public worship every Sabbath since, with the exception of the year last past. The year previous to the last, we enjoyed the labors of Rev. Pitt Morse as pastor, one half of the time; the remaining half we suffered to pass unoccupied. That was the rock on which we split. Contrary to the advice of Br. Morse, we *did* neglect the "assembling of ourselves together," and severely have we been chastened for it. The introduction of the Liturgy and those sermons, is infusing new life into our Society. Old and young join in its solemn responses. Voices that were never before heard in the exercises of religious worship, are now heard uttering the language of devotion. At first it was a little awkward, but use is making it familiar and attractive. It keeps the congregation interested and *awake*, notwithstanding one brother, (an admirer of the service, by the way,) who will persist in calling it a "Lethargy." And then how rich the instruction of those Sermons. How precisely what a Society needs. Why, it is the next best thing to having the living, breathing pastor in our midst.

There are few *professed* Universalists, in and around Mexico, that seem to stand aloof from this late movement, who but a few years ago were amongst the most zealous, yet the majority have given it the sanction of their presence on each returning Sabbath, and we trust that the cause of Zion may yet prosper in our midst. Brethren, thou our numbers are few, let us

"Rise like lions from our slumber,
Shake the chains to earth like dew,
Which in sleep have fallen on us,
And go forth to die—or do."

Mexico, Aug. 6th, 1857

W. S. G. [William S. Goodell]

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, 22 Aug 1857