

George Tomlinson and  
Marion S., his wife,

WARRANTY DEED.

Dated July 6, 1888.

Ack. July 6, 1888.

Recorded July 16, 1888,

in Liber 109 of Deeds

page 391.

Cons \$1.00.

No. 1.

-to-

William M. Hart, George  
B. Tallman, Elmer Abbott,  
Hattie Macomber, Hattie A.  
Tomlinson as the Trustees  
of 1st Universalist Society  
of Perry.

Conveys to the parties of the second part, their successors  
in office land situate in the town of Perry, County of Wyoming and  
State of New York, being part of Lot No. 42 in the Ogden Tract,  
so called, bounded as follows: Beginning in the west bounds of  
Centre Street in the village of Perry at the northeast corner of  
H. M. Scranton's village lot; thence west in the north bounds of  
said Scranton's lot 134 feet; thence north 87 feet; thence east  
134 feet to the west bounds of Centre Street; thence south in the  
west bounds of said Centre Street 87 feet to the place of  
beginning, be the same more or less.

Recites: Excepting and reserving that the well on said  
premises may be jointly used by both parties their assigns & heirs  
and successors in office & jointly maintained by the parties  
aforesaid.

^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^

Certificate of Incorporation,

Filed and recorded May 28,

1894, in Liber 1 of

Certificates of Incorporation

page 177.

-2-

-of-

The First Universalist Society

in the Town of Perry.

Among other things, Resolved: That the Society be called  
the First Universalist Society in the Town of Perry.

^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^ ^^





Wyoming County Clerk's Office

Search and Abstract

OF THE TITLE OF

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TO

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.....  
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in the ..... of .....

Dated ....., 19.....

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*ELLIOTT E. SMITH, Clerk*

THIS INDENTURE, made the 20th day of August, One thousand nine hundred and thirty-five, between The First Universalist Society of the Town of Perry, Wyoming County, New York, a religious corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, and located in the Village of Perry, Wyoming County, New York, party of the first part, and the New York State Convention of Universalists, a religious corporation organized and existing under Chapter 188 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1862 as amended, party of the second part.

WHEREAS, the party of the first part is a church of the Universalist denomination of the State of New York in fellowship with the party of the second part, and

WHEREAS, at a regular parish meeting of the party of the first part held at the usual place, namely, in the church edifice in the Village of Perry, Wyoming County, New York, after public written notice of such meeting signed by the parish clerk and specifying the place and time of such meeting had been duly given by posting three copies of said notice in conspicuous places in said Village of Perry, New York, for ten days prior to the time of said meeting, this conveyance is duly authorized by a majority vote of the parish of said Church.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that the party of the first part, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), lawful money of the United States, and other good and valuable considerations paid by the party of the second part, and pursuant to the provisions of Sections 7 and 9 of Chapter 188 of the laws of 1862 as amended, does hereby grant and release unto the party of the second part, its successors and assigns forever,

"ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, situate in the Town of Perry, County of Wyoming and State of New York, being Lots 1 and 2 in the Village of Perry as numbered and described on a map or survey of the south part of said Village made for one Randall Watrous by A. L. Rose, Surveyor, and being part of Lot No. 41 of William Shepard's subdivision of the Ogden Tract in the said Town of Perry, said lots one and two each containing 25/100 of an acre of land as by reference to said map which is now on file in the Clerk's office of the County of Wyoming will more fully appear, being in the two lots 50/100 acres of land, and being the same premises conveyed to the party of the first part by John Fisher and Catherine W., his wife by quit-claim deed dated December 22, 1860, and recorded in the Wyoming County Clerk's Office on April 2, 1862, in Liber 44 of Deeds at page 375.

EXCEPTING AND RESERVING therefrom premises conveyed by The First Universalist Society of Perry, N. Y., to Susan Dresher by deed dated May 25, 1904, and recorded in the Wyoming County Clerk's Office on June 2, 1904, in Liber 130 of Deeds at page 507, to which deed reference is hereby made for a more particular description thereof.

ALSO HEREBY CONVEYING ALL THAT OTHER TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, situate in the town of Perry, County of Wyoming and State of New York, being part of Lot No. 42 in the Ogden Tract, so-called, bounded as follows: Beginning in the west bounds of Centre Street in the Village of Perry at the northeast corner of H. M. Scranton's village lot; thence west in the north bounds of said Scranton's lot 134 feet; thence north 87 feet; thence east 134 feet to the west bounds of Centre Street; thence south in the west bounds of said Centre Street 87 feet to the place of beginning, be the same more or less, and being the same premises conveyed to the party of the first part by George Tomlinson and Marion S., his wife, by Warranty Deed, dated July 6, 1888, and recorded in the Wyoming County Clerk's office July 16, 1888, in Liber 109 of Deeds at page 391.

Recites: Excepting and reserving that the well on said premises may be jointly used by both parties their assigns and heirs and successors in office and jointly maintained by the parties aforesaid."

IT IS EXPRESSLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED between the parties hereto as a part of the consideration for this conveyance, that the party of the first part shall remain in possession of the premises hereby conveyed and shall have the use and benefit thereof as long as the party of the first part shall be and remain duly organized and existing as a Universalist Society under the rules and regulations provided by the party of the second part for the fellowship of societies under its jurisdiction.

TOGETHER with the appurtenances and all the estate and rights of the party of the first part in and to said premises.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the premises herein granted unto the party of the second part, its successors and assigns forever.

AND party of the first part covenants as follows:

FIRST: That the party of the second part shall quietly enjoy the said premises.

SECOND: That the party of the first part will forever warrant the title to said premises.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the party of the first part has caused these

presents to be signed by its trustees and their respective seals to be hereunto affixed the day and year first above written.

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY  
OF THE TOWN OF PERRY, WYOMING  
COUNTY, NEW YORK.

By Charles F. Mequinn L.S.  
Trustee

Clifford E. Rice L.S.  
Trustee

Bessie L. Hatous L.S.  
Trustee

Maudie H. Brigham L.S.  
Trustee

David H. Tuttle L.S.  
Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee L.S.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee L.S.

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
COUNTY OF WYOMING ) SS:

On this 20th day of August, One thousand nine hundred and Thirty-five, before me personally came, Charles F. Mignin, Clifford E. Rice, Bessie L. Watrous, Maude H. Brigham and David H. Tuttle,

to me personally known, who being by me duly severally sworn, did depose and say, each for himself, that he is one of the Trustees of The First Universalist Society of the Town of Perry, Wyoming County, New York, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument, that the said corporation has no seal, and that he signed his name to said instrument by order of the Board of Trustees of said corporation; and that each signed his name thereto by like order.

*Carmine Fazio*  
Notary Public



16 Ind. ... File # 91. B  
Mail Fazio & Piskus Attys ✓  
1204 Hoilla Building  
Syracuse, N.Y.  
WARRANTY DEED

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY  
OF THE TOWN OF PERRY, NEW YORK

TO

THE NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION OF  
UNIVERSALISTS

DATED, August 20, 1935.

State of New York

County of Wyoming SS,

Recorded on the 29th

day of August A.D., 19 35  
at 9:00 o'clock A.M.  
in Liber 216 of Deeds  
at Page 380 and examined

*Elliott E. Smith*

Clerk

8/29/1935 - 9 -

PS  
155

Sept. 26, 1962

Miss Agnes M. Tomlinson  
28 South Center St.,  
Perry, N.Y.

Dear Miss Tomlinson:

In reply to your letter of Sept. 17, regarding a bequest of your father to the Perry Church, I had no record in the books of what was included in the Common Trust fund for the Perry Church.

However, in looking through my files, I found an envelope with some papers on the Perry Church and included with these papers was the following resolution:

"Action of the Trustees of the First Universalist Church of Perry, New York at a meeting held January 6, 1929.

Resolved: That the Fund of \$2500.00 known as the Perry Universalist Society Fund and now in the hands of the New York State Convention of Universalists for investment, consists of (a) \$1000.00, a bequest from the estate of the late J. Frank Tomlinson of Perry, New York, which by the terms of the will is a permanent trust fund; and (b) \$1500.00 which is hereby also made a permanent trust fund, the income only of the entire \$2500.00 to be hereafter paid at regular intervals to the First Universalist Church of Perry, New York, so long as regular services of worship within the meaning of the religious laws of the State of New York, are maintained."

This resolution is signed by C.F. Mignin, Pres., Maude H. Brigham, Clifford E. Rice, W. J. Littledyke, and H. C. Smith.

So it would seem from this that your father's bequest is included with the Perry Common Trust Fund the income of which is going to the Perry Church.

Sincerely yours,

Cleon G. Wait, Treas.

PURCHASE OFFER

The undersigned offers to purchase property situate in the Town and Village of Perry, Wyoming County, New York, and being Lot #1 and part of Lot #2 as described on a map of lands of the south part of the Village of Perry made by A. L. Rose, Surveyor, and being part of Lot #41, and fronting 132 feet on St. Helena Street by 109 feet on Main Street.

Purchase price Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$3,750.00) payable in cash or by certified check upon transfer of title.

The undersigned's obligation to purchase is contingent on the following:

(a) Securing a building permit allowing the renovation of the existing building and the construction of an addition thereto for use as a nine (9) unit apartment building.

(b) Securing a commitment for a conventional mortgage in such amount and upon such terms as purchaser deems necessary.

This offer shall include all buildings and other improvements and personal property including the church bell and stained glass chandelier in the sanctuary and all rights of the seller in and to any and all streets, roads, highways, alleys, driveways, easements and rights-of-way appurtenant thereto. The seller may retain ownership of the pews located in the church building, but if seller so elects said pews shall be removed before transfer of title.

The risk of loss or damage to said premises by fire or other casualty, or by taking by eminent domain, until delivery of the deed as herein provided, shall be assumed by seller, and upon the happening of such event, purchaser shall have the election of terminating this agreement without further liability hereunder, in which event any deposit shall be returned, or of completing this purchase and receiving the insurance monies, collectible for

such loss or damage, or the award for such taking by eminent domain.

Seller shall furnish warranty deed, guaranteed title search and tax search showing a good marketable title free of liens and encumbrances, subject however to pole and wire easements, provided the same will not prevent construction of a 4 <sup>ROW</sup> apartment addition to the existing building.

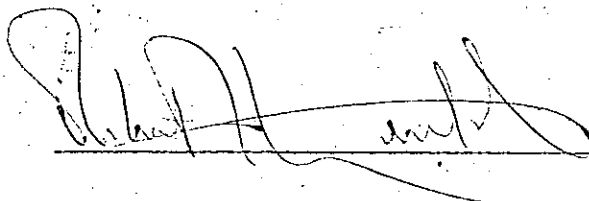
Taxes shall be adjusted to the date of transfer.

The above contingencies as to mortgage and building permit shall be deleted from this contract on or before the 30th day of November, 1969, or seller at its option may declare this contract null and void.

This offer good until the 13 day of Oct, 1969.

Transfer of title shall be completed at the office of Harris, Beach & Wilcox on or before the 30th day of November, 1969.

Dated: 10/13/69

  
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ACCEPTANCE

We hereby accept the above offer and agree to sell on the terms and conditions set forth and to pay Russell Clark prevailing minimum brokerage commission.

Dated: Oct. 13, 1969

New York State Convention of Universities

By: Clive G. Wait Vice President

NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION OF UNIVERSALISTS

Office of the Secretary

FOR YOUR  
INFORMATION

December 19, 1968

The Member Societies of the Convention  
and  
The Member Societies of the St. Lawrence District

Dear Friends:

The First Universalist Church of Perry, New York has closed after a long and honorable service to liberal religion. The New York State Convention of Universalists is now the owner of the property, including the contents of the church building. The Executive Board of the Convention has authorized me to have an inventory of the contents made and circulated among the societies of the Convention and District. It is the Board's thinking that some of the items may be of use to the societies and it would be appropriate to have these items in the custody of Unitarian Universalist societies. The items may be given or sold at the discretion of the Secretary who will seek advice from persons closer to the Perry Church.

The inventory of personal property in the Perry Church is as follows:

1. About fifteen rows of pews in quite good condition, separated by two side aisles.
2. A handcarved pulpit in good condition.
3. Three high-backed church chairs, which might need some refurbishing.
4. Two nice side chairs and a captain's chair.
5. A very nice plated communion set made up of a pitcher, a wafer dish on a stand, and two chalices - all contained in a rather nice Victorian piece of furniture.
6. Two nice small Victorian tables and one larger Victorian piece and a communion table.
7. A brass cross and candlesticks.
8. A pendulum clock.
9. A large chandelier.
10. About thirty-six metal folding chairs in good condition.
11. About sixteen Sunday School chairs, with two or three tables.
12. An organ which is still in working order and which is said to be the first one made by its particular maker. It may have been made by the Andover Organ Company in Massachusetts. I understand it would be ideal for a relatively small building.
13. Two pianos and two piano stools.
14. Various odds and ends such as community supper tables, hymnals (Beacon) and a small antiquated library, and a bell in the steeple.
15. Two kitchen cupboards, a gas stove, and china.
16. Stained glass windows - said to be good quality antique glass.

For additional information write or phone:

Rev. Robert W. Sterling, Secretary  
New York State Convention of Universalists  
Box 448  
Southold, L.I., NY 11971

Telephone: 516/765-3494

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Best  
Copies Available**

**BIEL'S**

# Among the Churches

G. D. WALKER, State Superintendent of Churches

*date needed*

## PERRY

The Perry Universalist Church since vacation has been very much alive. The attendance at the Sunday morning services has been at the high water mark. The sermons by the minister and the music by our fine quartette choir have won the fullest approval. On the evening of September 21st an installation service was held and Rev. William J. Metz was fully inducted to the pastorate of this church. The visiting clergymen taking part were Rev. Dewitt Lamphear of Bridgewater, Rev. W. W. Rose of Rochester and the Rev. M. A. Chapple of the local Presbyterian Church.

Every Day brought out fine audiences in Church and Sunday School. A Men's Bible Class has been started by the pastor and each Sunday sees added interest.

Laymen's Sunday was observed by having two very fine addresses by Dr. Frank Crocker and Mr. C. G. Clarke. The service was in charge of Mr. George S. Coburn and the music was rendered by a male quartette consisting of Messrs. J. C. Herzberger, Dr. F. M. Washburn, Harry C. Smith and Dr. F. M. Crocker. Miss Isabelle Cole presided at the organ in the usually acceptable manner.

Rev. and Mrs. William J. Metz and Miss Emma Hollister, superintendent of the Sunday School, attended the Utica Convention.

The outlook for a winter of real service as a church is very bright.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

### Of The First Universalist Church of Perry, New York

Last Sunday, Rev. Metz asked me to take part in this service. In the controversy which followed, Rev. Metz won out, and I went home wondering what I could say that would be of any particular interest to you people.

During the week I received several suggestions and among them was one from a supposedly good friend of mine who tried to get me in Dutch by hinting that I could make myself immensely popular if I would only stand up here this morning and advocate doing away with the collection.

It occurred to me that perhaps a few facts from our church history would not be totally uninteresting and I am going to tell you of just a few of the principal events which have taken place in the life of this society during the last century.

Properly speaking, the history of Universalism in Perry dates back to 1803, when Josiah Williams and family dragged their belongings in a rude ox-cart thru an almost unbroken wilderness and located on what is now commonly known as the Edgar Matthews farm.

They had come from Vermont where the Universalist idea had been gaining strength for years and it is only natural that they should

came to worship according to that faith upon their arrival here.

Mr. Williams was not only our pioneer Universalist but came very close to being our first settler; he having arrived here only six months after Josiah Woodard, who holds that honor.

Mr. Williams' son was Perry's only representative in the war of 1812 and his daughter's death was the first which occurred among the settlers.

Other Universalists began to come in and we find the name of Amos Olin, destined to be the first clerk of our first primitive organization. Dan Dickerson and James Bolton, two of the original trustees; Noah Bacon, who gave more than 20 years service as an officer of this church; James Edgerly, the Atwoods, Samuel and Truman Benedict and others. All staunch Universalists and intent upon forming a society as soon as a sufficient number could be gathered together.

This object was attained on October 8, 1831, and a meeting called on that date affected an organization.

A constitution was adopted and signed by 42 persons. Of these 42 signers I know of but four who have descendants attending church here at the present time.

For some time meetings were held at each other's houses but in 1833 they purchased the old Methodist meeting house which stood just about where Dr. Brownell's office stands on Shortt street today. This building was used for 19 years or until the time when the present church was erected.

The old meeting house was afterwards used as a rooming house and finally destroyed by fire.

During the period between 1831-43, Perry had no settled pastor but we have the names of 13 ministers who preached here during that time. Some of these ministers preached to both the Perry and Covington societies but only one, Seth Brown, is credited to Perry in the Universalist registers.

This arrangement was anything

but satisfactory and the members realized that a permanent organization must be formed if anything like progress was to be made.

On June 18, 1843, the First Universalist Church of Perry was finally organized and the Rev. Daniel Ackley installed as the first resident pastor.

Nine months later the Rev. Ackley died at the age of 38. He and Rev. J. F. Gates are the only two of our pastors to be buried in Perry.

Rev. Ackley was the first of 22 ministers to hold pastorates in this place during the 70 year period which has followed the organization.

Rev. Clara E. Morgan holding the record for the longest pastorate, her pastorate lacking but 2 months of being 17 years.

The amount of the salaries which we have paid our ministers during this period serves as a most accurate barometer in registering the financial conditions during that time.

In 1844 the church paid Rev. J. S. Brown \$350 a year and he found his own parsonage, but gradually the amount increased until 1871, the boom period following the Civil war, at which time Rev. Crane received \$1,200.

From this point there is a steady decline until 1898 when Rev. Chas. Palmeter was asked to support a large family on \$500.

Since that time there has been a steady rise right up to the present year.

In 1849, a movement was started to build a new church and three years later the present building was erected at a cost of about \$4,000.

The lot was purchased of Capt. Wm. Dolbeer and the furniture which cost about \$300 was paid for by the Ladies' Aid Society.

Incidentally, I would add that I have found many reports which show only too plainly that this church would have gone on the rocks financially many times had it not been for the timely aid rendered by that society.

The pipe organ which was installed by the C. E. Morey Co., of Utica in 1854 at a cost of \$800, was not



only the first organ to be turned out by that company, but was also the first one to be installed in Perry, antedating any other Perry organ by 21 years.

Mrs. Samuel D. Phillips and our present organist, are the only two organists we have had in the last 46 years. A truly very remarkable record.

In 1886 many changes were made in this church building.

The gallery which ran around three sides of the auditorium was taken down, the floor which had been level, placed on an incline, the organ taken down and installed in its present location and many other improvements made. About \$3,100 was expended.

During this same year the present parsonage was built on a lot donated by Mr. George Tomlinson, Rev. J. E. June being the first pastor to occupy it.

For many years after the church was organized it seems to have had a very difficult struggle for an existence.

The village was in its infancy, the parishoners scattered and the roads, during the major portion of the year, must have been well nigh impassable.

It took courage under those conditions to keep the machinery moving and only by dint of conscientious loyal effort on the part of members was the little church enabled to live.

It was at a period when Universalism was comparatively new in this section and denominational lines most rigidly drawn. The Baptists were fighting the Methodists, the Methodists were fighting the Presbyterians and they were all fighting the Universalists.

I remember reading of the 4th of July celebration held here sometime during the 40's. A parade was to be one of the features of the day and the ministers were to take part.

When the signal to start was given, the three Orthodox pastors locked arms and started off down the line, leaving our J. S. Brown standing on the side lines alone.

Old Judge Gilman, noticing his embarrassing position, stepped up, offered his arm and the two took their places in line.

I have often thought how much Rev. Brown would have enjoyed being here at the Union Thanksgiving service held in 1881, during J. Clarence Lee's pastorate. The first to which the Universalists were invited.

He would also have enjoyed taking part in the first Union Communion service held in 1918.

These two events were long steps forward in the uplifting of Protestant effort and were a public acknowledgment of the fact that in the final analysis our goal is the same and in most ways our interests are identical.

This church leaves an interesting history behind, a history which tells of sacrifice, loyalty and perseverance under, many times, most discouraging conditions.

It has rendered a splendid service in the past and I believe will continue to render that service in the future.

The degree of success which we are destined to enjoy will be largely in ratio to the degree of individual initiative employed.

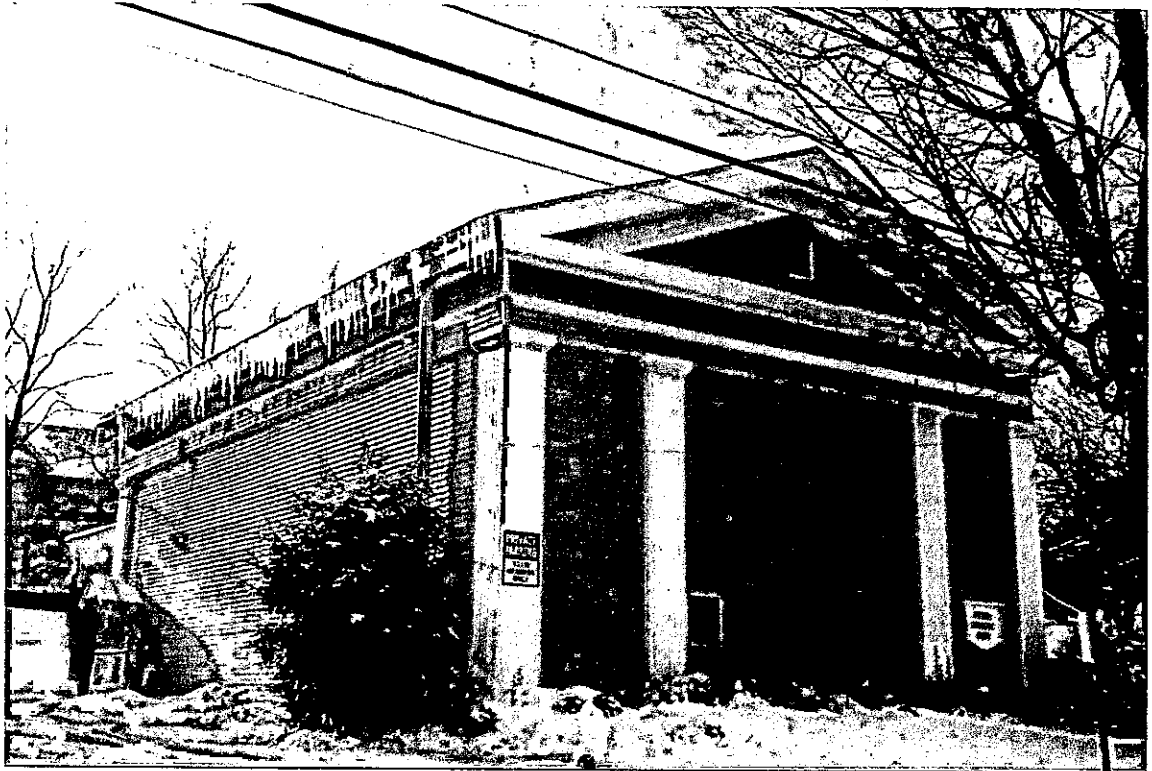
I believe that our church is today in the healthiest condition it has known in years and if each one will get behind and do his or her part in promoting the welfare of the organization, we can continue to enjoy the present prosperity and incidentally justify the trust placed in us by the old pioneers who kept the faith and made Universalism in Perry possible.

—F. M. CROCKER.

It must be awful when a girl discovers that the man after her own heart, isn't after it at all.

Of course, the women wear some awfully funny looking things, but a celluloid collar is not one of them.

The discouraged professor in college with a lot of ideas to work needs to watch thoughtfully three smiths pounding a piece of hot iron, each strikes in his turn.



**FORMER UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
PERRY, WYOMING COUNTY, NY  
PHOTO 2000**