[Riga (Churchville), Monroe Co. NY]

CHRISTMAS IN CHURCHVILLE

To the Editor of the *Ambassador*.

Christmas Eve was celebrated in the Universalist church in Churchville with an interest which certainly told well for the Society in this place. We venture to say that we think a more profitable and beautiful Christmas Tree was not raised in Western New York than was exhibited on that occasion.

The occasion was observed for the special entertainment of the Sunday School, but all, old and young, presented and received gifts, Santa Claus remembering each scholar, teacher, and Superintendent with a valuable gift. Not least of all were the pastor and wife remembered. They received presents amounting in value to over seventy dollars, among which was a beautiful china tea sett, marine clock, and a purse of twenty-five dollars in greenbacks. A little bag of silver coin by them received from a loving friend, as a token of regard from a departed father, will be treasured up in their regards for life. We had a truly happy season, long to be remembered by all present.

We flatter ourselves, through the grace of our Heavenly Father, we are doing well in Society matters. Fifteen members have been added to the Church the past year, six uniting at our last Communion. We are united as pastor and people, and laboring with a will for the upbuilding of the cause we love so much, and which we prize above all earthly things. We send greetings to our sister Churches, with a Merry Christmas to all.

The Ambassador, New York NY, Sat. 11 Jan 1868

Transcribed on 1 Jan 1996 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY