

[Corby, James Dimond]

Rev. Mr. Corby Resigns

The Rev. J. D. Corby, formerly pastor of the Church of the Reconciliation here and who went to Buffalo to become pastor of the Church of the Messiah, has resigned from the pulpit of the last named church. One point of disagreement with his congregation was with reference to dancing on church property, to which he objected.

Utica Herald-Dispatch, Utica NY, Tue. 4 Sep 1908

ONE TIME PASTOR OF UTICA CHURCH The Rev. James Dimond Corby Was Well Known— Former Pastor of Church of the Reconciliation

Friends in this city have received news of the death in Spokane, Wash., of the Rev. James D. Corby, D.D., at one time pastor of the Church of the Reconciliation. When Dr. Corby was a resident of this city, the Church of the Reconciliation was located on Seneca street, near Bremer's store. The news of his death will be received with regret in this city, where he had formed many warm friendships.

James Dimond Corby was born in 1863 in Brooklyn. After receiving n education in the public schools of New York City, he worked for six years in the wholesale department of A. T. Stewart & Co. and for three years on the Stock Exchange. He secured further education at Clinton Liberal Institute [a Universalist school] in Fort Plain and St. Lawrence University, where he graduated in the class of 1886. He settled in Herkimer after his ordination and while there opened a Universalist Church in Mohawk. He first became known in this city while he was in Herkimer, as he came here frequently. Mr. Corby was called to the pastorate of the Fifth Avenue Universalist Church in Troy in 1889. While there he served as secretary of the New York convention of Universalists. While in that city he acted as district missionary, raising the funds to build the churches of South Hartwick and West Fort Ann. After being in Troy six years, he received an unsolicited call to Hudson, where he remained four years, doing excellent work and making an honorable name for himself in his denomination.

Mr. Corby came to Utica as the pastor of the Church of the Reconciliation in 1899. At that time the church was not in as flourishing [a] condition as

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when he left it half a dozen years later. He entered zealously upon the task which confronted him and the parish grew materially under his ministrations. During his service here the church membership increased about 150. It was during that same time that a fire did considerable damage, ruining the organ and a part of the interior woodwork. This loss was repaired and more than made good. While their own church was unfit for occupancy the Universalist congregation worshiped in the Dutch Reformed Church at the corner of Genesee and Cornelia streets. The Church of the Reconciliation was rebuilt and much improved. During his residence in Utica, Dr. Corby served as vice president of the Ministers' Association, as a member of the Executive Board of the Utica Federation of Churches and trustee of the summer playgrounds enterprise. He was exceedingly active, not only in the work of his own church, but interested himself in worthy public affairs throughout the city, where he was much esteemed and respected.

In the summer of 1905 he received a call to the Church of the Messiah, Buffalo, and resigned his pastorate here, to take effect September 1. His removal from Utica was very much regretted, not only by his own parishioners but by the public generally. Since 1891 Mr. Corby had been one of the trustees of St. Lawrence University at Canton. He was several times a delegate to the national convention of his church. Few men were more prominent or generally popular in his denomination. Mr. Corby married Miss Lena A. Sails of Canton, October 4, 1886.

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