

**CONSECRATION OF THE
PEIRCE MEMORIAL
CHURCH, DOVER, N.
H., JANUARY 11, 1883**

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N. H. DOVER

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PEIRCE MEMORIAL
CHURCH, DOVER, N.
H., JANUARY 11, 1883**

WITHDRAWN

CONSECRATION

OF THE

PEIRCE MEMORIAL CHURCH,

DOVER, N. H.,

JANUARY 11, 1883.

First Universalist Society
Dover, N. H.

PRIVATELY PRINTED.

1883.

WITH HEAVENWARD ASPIRATIONS,
AND IN BEHALF OF
FILIAL GRATITUDE AND CHRISTIAN LIBERALITY,
WHICH HAVE ERECTED THIS BEAUTIFUL TEMPLE,
WE DO SOLEMNLY
DEDICATE IT
TO THE MINISTRY OF
FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY,
CONSECRATING IT TO THE WORSHIP OF GOD, OUR FATHER,
IN THE NAME OF CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER,
AND OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT OF TRUTH.



DEDICATION SERVICES.



HE Universalist "Peirce Memorial Church" at Dover, New Hampshire, was solemnly consecrated to the service of God on Thursday evening, the 11th of January, 1883. It was a day that will long be memorable in the annals of the Parish. The ceremonies were so largely attended by the members of this congregation and by friends from abroad, and the services were so deeply interesting to those who participated in them, not only on account of the attractiveness which always surrounds such occasions, but more especially from the peculiarly tender associations which cluster about this House of God,—a monument of filial love and devotion—that in response to many requests it has been determined to preserve the record of the services in permanent form, so that, in the words of the sweet Singer of Israel, "the

generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children; that they might set their hope in God."

The exercises opened with a Voluntary on the organ, by Miss Lottie Haynes, of Dover, followed by the anthem, which was rendered in a most excellent and impressive manner, by the choir of the Unitarian Church, who had kindly offered their services for the evening.





ANTHEM.

“PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD.”



THE voice of one crying in the wilderness,

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the
desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made
low.

The crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain :
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall
see it together : for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

The voice said, Cry ! What shall I cry ?

All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower
that is in the field :

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth : but the Word of our
God shall stand forever. AMEN.



INVOCATION.

BY REV. W. R. G. MELLEEN.



THOU infinite Spirit, whom the heaven, and the heaven of heavens cannot contain, but who condescendest to dwell in temples reared by human hands, and delightest to make Thy dwelling-place in every humble and loving human soul, come now and fill this new temple with Thine awful yet gracious presence, and fill our hearts with a profound consciousness of Thine indwelling Spirit and tender love. All things are Thine, whether the products of the wood and the field, or the achievements of human industry and skill; and to Thee would we consecrate all. But in a very special manner and degree would we consecrate the houses we rear, and the shrines we set up for Thy worship. And how, O God, can we appropriately

do this without Thine assistance and blessing. Assembled here to consecrate this fair structure to Thy service, which is equally the service of man, we do invoke Thy presence and quickening influence, that it may be the offering of our hearts far more than of our hands; and that while we give this house—the monument of filial love—to Thy service, ourselves may be consecrated anew, and far more completely to high thinking, and noble living, and thus to the promotion of Thy kingdom in the earth. AMEN.

