

**SERMON, ADDRESSES AND ESSAYS  
DELIVERED AT THE CELEBRATION  
OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH  
ANNIVERSARY FIRST UNITARIAN  
CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA**

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Sermon, Addresses and Essays Delivered at the Celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary  
First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia by First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia

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**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA**

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OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH  
ANNIVERSARY FIRST UNITARIAN  
CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA**



# Sermon, Addresses and Essays

DELIVERED AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE

## One Hundredth Anniversary

OF THE FOUNDATION OF

The First Unitarian Church,  
of Philadelphia

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Tuesday, May Twelfth

AND

Wednesday, May Thirteenth

1896

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PHILADELPHIA

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY

1896

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1571  
(Philadelphia)

Philadelphia - Churches, Unitarian - First

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#### PREFATORY NOTE

The valuable essays and addresses contained in this volume were delivered at the meetings held in the First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia, May twelfth and thirteenth, 1896, in celebration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the organization of our Society.

It is deeply to be regretted that the list is not quite complete; for there is wanting one of the most remarkable and instructive of the essays, that of Rev. Merle St. Croix Wright on "The Development of Philosophy During the Century." This was given without notes, and the stenographic report proving imperfect, owing to the difficult nature of the subject, it was impossible for the author to reproduce what he had spoken without greater labor than it seemed just to ask him to undertake.

And not even the art preservative of all arts is sufficient to embalm for us, in these pages, the spirit and cheer of the highly interesting occasion. Held, necessarily, a calendar month in advance of the actual date, the heats of summer were avoided, and delightful weather favored our proceedings. At the four sessions our Church was filled,—on the two evenings crowded,—with attentive, serious and happy congregations. The only social feature of the celebration was the pleasant informal luncheon at a neighboring hotel, at which assembled nearly two hundred friends from abroad, with members of our own and the other Unitarian Societies of this city.

The bust of Dr. Priestley, which on the *second* evening became the property of the Church, through the generosity of a few friends, several of them his descendants, was unveiled by one of the latter and made complete the beautiful monument erected in his honor by the Unitarians of America seven years ago. While preserving the lineaments of the great and good man to whom the foundation of our Society was so largely due, it remains also, the one material memento of our Centennial Festival.

May another century find our beloved Church still young, strong, faithful and useful! In that period how much should the cause of Truth, in all its departments, have advanced!

P.

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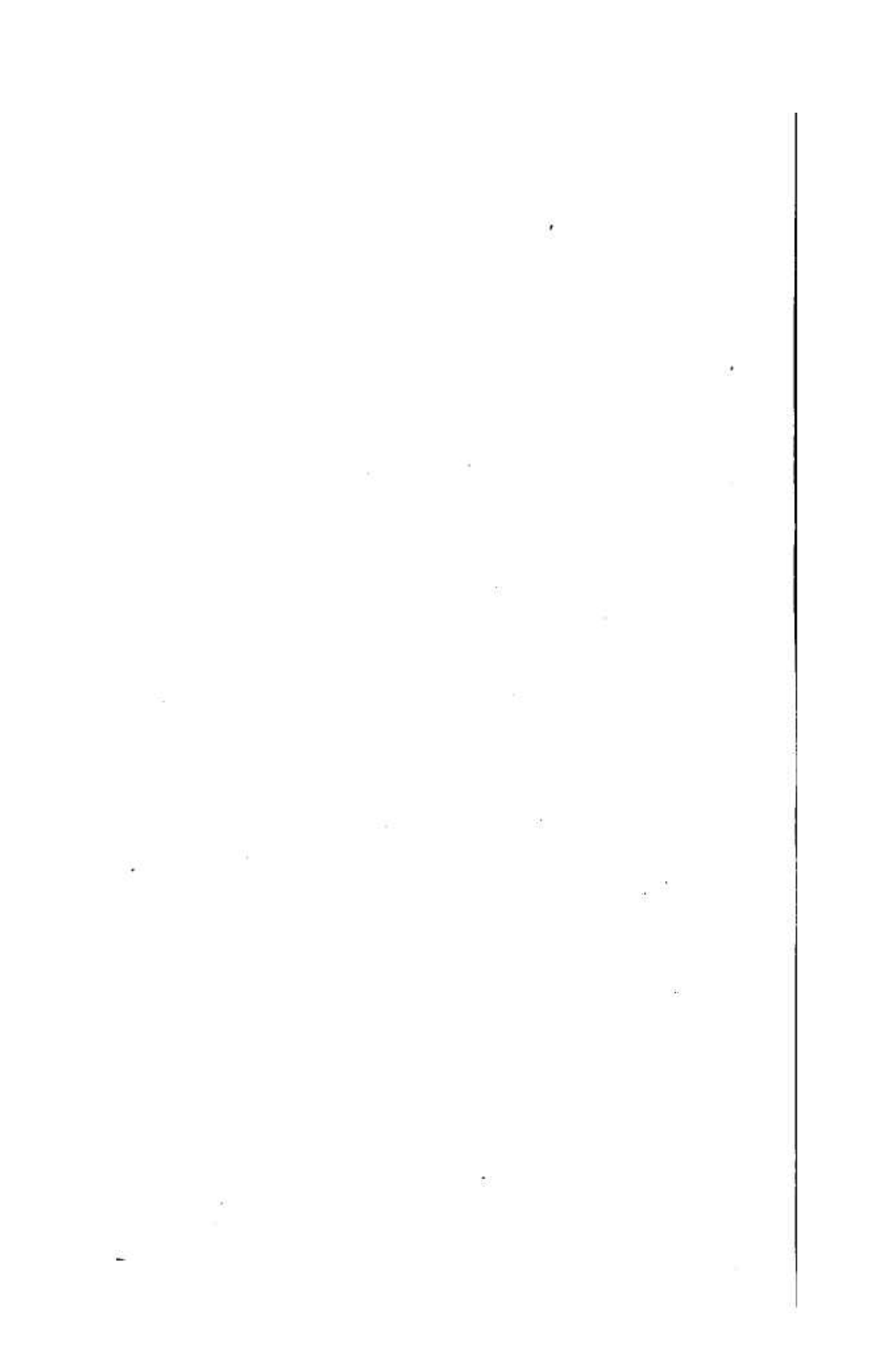
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1796

1896

Except the Lord build the house  
They labor in vain that build it.  
Except the Lord keep the city  
The watchman waketh but in vain.

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Celebration of the  
One Hundredth Anniversary  
of the Foundation of  
The First Unitarian Church  
of Philadelphia

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Tuesday, May 12th, at 8 P. M.

and

Wednesday, May 13th, at 9.30 A. M., 3 and 8 P. M.

1896

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