



## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNION STREET



Unable to buy the meetinghouse from the town, the First Congregational Church Society decided to leave the town meetinghouse and build their own church on Union Street. The new church was dedicated in 1834. Rev Moore who had been the pastor for the town for thirty-four years, preached in the new house only 17 months before he retired.

The Church and society had from the beginning espoused the temperance cause, and supported the anti-slavery movement. Several of its pastors including Rev. Moore, Rev. Warner, and Rev. Hidden (who married Wilson), were vocal and actively working against the institution of slavery. In 1844 the Church published a series of resolutions denouncing slavery and invited all the churches in Hillsborough County to meet at a convention in Milford to discuss the anti-slavery question and to take some action against the subject.

*“ All Congregational churches were not as advanced as the brethren at Milford, and not been willing to indorse the position of the denomination at large upon the slavery question, and because the church was not ready to cut loose from all pro-slavery churches, a score or more of respected and prominent members of the church here, withdrew, and were called “come-outers”*