

Dedication and Ordination.

A Conference of the Cayuga Association of Universalists was held in Fabius, Onondaga co., N.Y. on Wednesday and Thursday, the 17th and 18th inst. On the morning of Wednesday, the new Universalist church recently erected in Fabius was dedicated to the worship of God with appropriate forms. The exercises on the occasion were as follows:—

1. Voluntary by the choir
2. Reading of the Scriptures by Rev. B[enjamin] B. Hallock
3. Hymn
4. Introductory prayer by Rev. J. W. McMaster
5. Hymn
6. Sermon by Rev. D[olphus] Skinner—text John iv.22
7. Voluntary by the choir
8. Dedicatory prayer by Rev. J[ohn] M. Austin
9. Benediction

On Thursday morning Rev. A[sa] Countryman of Fabius was solemnly ordained to the responsible work of the Gospel ministry.

...

In addition to these exercises, there were services held through the day, on Wednesday and Thursday, and sermons were delivered in the following order by Rev's B. B. Hallock, J. D. Cargill, W. H. Fish, and S[amuel] J. May. The weather was highly favorable, and a large audience were in attendance during both days, crowding the church to overflowing. Much good, we trust, was done for the cause of Christ.

The brethren in Fabius are deserving of the highest praise for their zeal and liberality. Although few in number, yet with a spirit of devotion and self sacrifice which cannot be too widely imitated, they have erected a church, which has now been consecrated to God. But they have not stopped here. Wisely conceiving that a meeting-house is of little benefit unless occupied for Divine worship, they have taken measures to have preaching one half the time. To this end they have engaged the services of Rev. A. Countryman, who has already moved to Fabius and commenced the discharge of his duties under the most encouraging prospects. We commend the example of our Fabius friends to Universalists in many other places, where they have more strength, and more means to erect a church and support the preached word, yet allow themselves to remain inactive, and even to contribute to the support of what they believe to be religious error. May the choicest of Heaven's blessings rest upon the efforts now being made to permanently establish the Gospel of impartial grace in Fabius. Br. Countryman is one of our most devoted and promising young clergymen, and we are confident he will leave nothing in his power undone to promote the advance of Christ's kingdom in his fields of labor.

Rev. John M. Austin, Editor]

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, 27 Oct 1855