

[North Salem, Westchester Co.]

REPORT

excerpt from the Report "of the Agent [Rev. Thomas J. Sawyer]
of the New York Association [of Universalists]
made to that body at its session in New York, May 12, 1859"

The Society of North Salem was organized and its church erected in 1832. In 1833 the Rev. S.[Shaler] J. Hillyer became its pastor. At first he preached there but one quarter of the time, subsequently one half, and now for several years past three quarters of the time. It owns a comfortable parsonage, and has a fund of about \$3,000, the gift of the late Jeremiah Smith, the income of which is donated to the support of a pastor. There is a small church organization, but owing to the scattered condition of the parish, they have not been able to maintain a Sunday School. The Society constitutes one of eight congregations in a community of about 1500 people, and is consequently small, but it holds a highly respectable place among its neighbors, both as to numbers and wealth, religious character and moral influence. What deserves particular mention, is that its pastor has now lived and preached among them for 26 years—a rare instance of a protracted pastorate in a denomination remarkable for the instability of ministerial relations. The Society was never more prosperous.

The Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Saturday June 4, 1859

Transcribed on 28 Dec 2006 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY