

[Rathborn, G. Irving]

REFUSED HIS PULPIT TO A UNIVERSALIST CLERGYMAN
Methodist Minister at Navarino Closes Church to the Rev. Dr. Betts

Syracuse, Feb. 18.—The village of Navarino and the entire countryside for miles around are wrought up by the refusal of the Rev. Augustine W. Broadway to permit the Rev. Dr. F. [Frederick] W. Betts, Universalist, of this city to conduct [a] funeral service for G. Irving Rathborn, one of the best known men in the village, in the Methodist Episcopal church at Navarino.

The funeral was finally held at the residence of Stephen Hunt and Dr. Betts officiated.

Mr. Broadway's refusal to permit Dr. Betts to preach in his church was said to be based on Mr. Broadway's belief that it would be detrimental for his Methodist parishioners to hear a minister of the Universalist faith, which does not believe in a hell.

The three trustees of the church had given their consent to have the funeral therein, but the Rev. Mr. Broadway sat down on the request.

Oswego Times, Oswego NY, Thu. 18 Feb 1915

Transcribed on 10 Aug 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY