

**Bennington, Wyoming Co. NY  
(Cowlesville)**

We the subscribers being inhabitants of the town of Bennington do hereby certify that on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 1843 and on the next succeeding Sunday notice was given publicly in meeting at the School house in the village of Cowlesville in said town by Samuel A. Skeelee a minister of the Gospel of the Universalist order that on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September then next a public meeting would be held at the said School-house at one o'clock in the afternoon for the purpos [sic] of organizing a society of the Universalist order and we further certify that on the said fourth day of September 1843 a meeting of the inhabitants of the said village of Cowlesville and its vicinity was held agreeable to said notice and the said meeting was organized by appointing Silvester R. Crane Moderator and Enoch Winslow Clerk of said meeting and upon motion being made and recorded it was unanimously resolved that we form into a society to be known and distinguished by the name of the first Universalist Society of the village of Cowlesville in the town of Bennington and County of Wyoming and State of New York. Whereupon a Constitution for said Society being read and unanimously adopted it was resolved that six Trustees should be chosen to take charge of the temporalities of said Society and there being no vestrymen or wardens in said Society Silvester R. Crane and Ichabod P. Miller was [sic] duly chosen to preside at the election of said Trustees and we further certify that the following Gentlemen were duly elected Trustees of said Society[:] Ambrose B. Stewbird and Joab Leister for the first class[,] Silvester R. Crane and Hiram Warriner for the second class and Ichabod P. Miller and Elisha Daggett for the third class to constitute a board of Trustees as a body corporate to take charge of the property and manage the temporalities of the said First Universalist Society of the village of Cowlesville in the town of Bennington in the county of Wyoming and State of New York. In Witness Whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this fourth day of September in the year 1843.

*Silvester R. Crane  
Ichabod P. Miller*

Wyoming County

On the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year 1843 came Ichabod P. Miller before me and acknowledged that he executed the within instrument and I further certify that proof was made to me which is satisfactory evidence that he is the individual described in and who executed the same.

*Augustus Frank*  
Judge of Wyoming County Courts

Wyoming County

On the 29<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year 1843 personally appeared before me the subscriber Sylvester R. Crane known to me to be the individual described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein specified.

*Paul Richards*  
Judge of Wyoming County Courts

A true copy of the original, recorded September 29<sup>th</sup> 1843 at 2 o'clock P.M. & examined

*Nelson Wolcott* Clerk