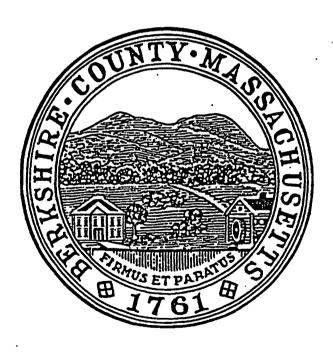
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Berkshire Genealogist



Volume 26 Number 4

Fall 2005

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

The organization is a non-profit educational association dedicated to advancing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of family history and genealogy.

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in family history and genealogy. Annual dues are \$12.00 for individuals, \$14.00 for families, and \$5.00 for students.

MEETINGS are held monthly September through May, featuring both amateur and professional genealogists discussing a wide variety of topics.

SPECIAL EVENTS include research trips to New England institutions and intensive one-day workshops on topics of genealogical importance and interest.

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berkshire genealogist

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THE WAVING OF THE WILLOW By the Heavy Weights of Pittsfield in 1877

From The Berkshire Hills, Volume 1, Number 1, October 1, 1904

[With the discovery in 2000 of a document establishing the existence of the game of baseball in Pittsfield in 1791, our city now lays claim to being the game's "Garden of Eden," predating the previous documented record by 32 years. See *Berkshire Genealogist*, 25:3:75. Anyone who would like to read the complete story as published in the *Berkshire Eagle* may send B.F.H.A. a self addressed #10 stamped envelope. With this, we invite readers to enjoy the following unique baseball tale. Ed.]

Previous to 1850 the game of base ball was a pastime of the school boys and was indulged in by them in a very crude manner as compared with its conduct afterwards and at the present time. After that in the larger towns and villages there was occasionally a base ball organization, often helped on by popular subscription, in whose first games sides were chosen by young men leaders on arrival in the chance lots in which the contests were to take place, and after a while there were organizations of nines in different localities which sometimes held together for a year or two, and until the spasmodic fever faded out. None of these early clubs were uniformed and the implements and equipment used in the sport were of the rudest patterns.

In the middle autumn of 1877, after the town of Pittsfield had for quite a number of years been without any amusement of this character, hunger for a renewal of this athletic game began to come to the front. A little knot of then well-known citizens one morning began to discuss the matter in the rooms of the Pittsfield Bank in which some very earnest as well as laughable arguments were indulged in both in favor and against this sport. It was finally proposed that two teams be organized for an amateur game, which were to be composed of prominent citizens who weighed over 200 pounds each, and that all lighter weights be barred out. The idea proved to be a catching one and a few evenings afterwards there was a gathering together in a large upper room in the Berkshire Life Insurance Building the majority of the physically heavy male citizenship of the locality, who were assembled by a mysterious personal written invitation to meet together to consider a matter of grave and weighty impor-

A chairman was chosen who immediately after calling this unusual gathering to order requested each individual to stand three feet apart from his fellows that the effect of their

united weight might be so distributed as to prevent any injurious strain upon the granite foundations of the structure. This warning having been acted upon the object of the gathering was explained and volunteers for the organization for two base ball teams of the required individual weight were called for. More than a sufficient number to complete the organization of these at once responded. A set of platform scales were loaned from an adjacent store and these teams were enrolled as meeting the full requirements necessary for membership. The captains of the two teams of twelve were chosen by ballot and these chiefs proceeded at once to select from the available volunteers their respective forces and to assign them to their several field positions. The combined weight of the two organizations thus enrolled was 5.498 pounds. Their names, positions and individual weight, together with the runs made by each in the famous game which followed, which was never repeated and never could be, are reproduced as follows from the score card of the accomplished umpire, C. E. Evans, who on this occasion signally proved that his mental heft thoroughly evened up with his physical proportions.

Captain Alonzo E. Goodrich Team

-	Weight	Runs
A. E. Goodrich, l.c.f	248	2
Charles T. Plunkett, p.	235	3
E. S. Francis, 1st b.	211	2
Arthur Smith, 1st c.	214	4
Charles F. Brandow, 2d b.	248	2
James J. Johnson, 3d b.	208	2
William Olds, s.s.	207	3
John C. West, 2d c.	225	2
Patrick Hanrahan, 1.f.	225	2
George B. Hayes, r.f.	250	2
D. C. Munyan, r.s.	209	1
I. C. Weller, 1.s.	<u>246</u>	1
Total	2.722	27

	Weight	Runs	
George S. Willis, 2d c.	212	2	
William R. Plunkett, 1st c.	203	3	
Grove E. Hulburt, l.f.	218	0	
George N. Dutton, p.	208	1	
Thomas E. Hall, s.s.	208	3	
John Crosby, 2d b.	202	2	
T. B. Tobey, 1st b.	207	2	
Jason N. Shepardson, r.f.	215	2	
William H. Teeling, 3d b.	210	2	
James H. Collin, r.f.s.s.	215	0	
J. C. Currier, c.f.	220	1	
Graham A. Root, l.f.s.s.	225	1	
Dr. A. M. Smith, c.f.s.s.	<u>223</u>	<u>0</u>	
Total	2,766	19	

The nine innings were played in three hours and five minutes, the game being won by the Captain Goodrich team in a score of 27 to 19. Of called balls Charles T. Plunkett had 14, Brandow 7, William R. Plunkett, Hall, Shepardson and Hulburt 2 each. Of wild pitches W. R. Plunkett had 1, Shepardson 3 and Charles T. Plunkett 2. Of three base hits Smith, Francis, Olds and West made one each, and of two base hits Charles T. Plunkett, Willis, Hall and Shepardson had one each.

This now historic base ball game of citizens then prominent in the old town's business, official, professional and social life, as well as in physical proportions, was from its inception to finish one of the most interesting, eccentric and amusing ever taking place in Berkshire county. It was held on Saturday afternoon, October 5, 1877, on what was then known as the "ball park" on the old common on First street, now fronting the elegant and commodious high school building. Here a great course of people were assembled consisting of men, women and children being attracted not only by the sport itself, the corporosity and individuality of the actors, but by the humorous novelty of the occurrence. Most of the public offices and stores were closed, while the game was on, for in fact the greater portion of the population of the town were out and many curious visitors from abroad.

The contestants were dressed in all fashions of light garments of other days, which they had unearthed from old trunks and attics and had long ago discarded, making the scene as they took their positions for the first inning, worthy of the pencil of a Hogarth. The unexpected strain of the vigor of much will power,

brawn, flesh and muscle upon these garments. weakened by non usage and long confinement. began to tell at once in fractures, splits and rents, which in several cases compelled the wearers to temporarily leave the field to prevent arrest for immodesty. From the very first the unexpected exhibition of strength, fleetness, dexterity, courage and endurance challenged the almost breathless attention of all onlookers. Then swiftly came to the front a ludicrous chain of happenings and accidents as these large individual bodies were rapidly moving in unaccustomed orbits, bringing about a perfect storm of humorous results which let loose great cloud-bursts of laughter and nervous shrieks. the echoes wherefrom reached high up into the roundabout hills.

On the face of every contestant glowed a fierce air of determination to get in fierce blows with the willow and to cover the bases with whirlwind strides, in fact to win a run at any cost to limb or lungs, and such was the ambition to hold hot balls that athletic leaps into the air were only equaled in fierceness by bulky flights and mad tumblings to the earth. The physicians of the town were soon all there with their instrument cases, palliatives and splints, while anxious wives and daughters speedily armed themselves with stocks of spirits of camphor, amonia, arnica and smelling salts. As soon as a side was caught or knocked out there was a great rush for the fresh water pails to quench thirst and to sponge off perspiration, and so the great fat man's battle for supremacy waxed hot and fierce from outset to finish, while Pittsfield never saw such a memorable sight before and never will again.

Pen and ink, type and paper can never thoroughly describe this never-to-be-forgotten scene and the deluge of laughter which followed the episode when Cashier Francis' coat was rent in twain by a muscular earthquake as he pitched the first ball, with the then aged Captain Willis on the plate, opening a cloth chasm from neck to waist and causing him to leave the field by a circuitous route for immediate repairs. Nor can such depict the fierce stroke of Captain Willis with the willow at the deceptive yarn and leather sphere, by which missing he was thrown over face-downward upon the ground, to be picked up like a log and carried to the rear to be revived from his dazed condition with a cold douche, to bravely return on recovery to head his gallant forces.

Whoever witnesses the triumphant crack at the ball by John C. West and his la-

Waving 113

bored but strenuous attainment of the first base sandbag on short shrift can never forget the immediate succession of Jason Shepardson at the bat, and the three base blow which sent the nimble sphere down Lenox way. Or at least what spectator ever in life got over the remembrance of Shepardson's running over the veteran chairman of the selectmen while the two were both struggling for the second base in wild and cumberous and excited flight, and the heavy thud of their two locked forms upon the earth. Or the wordy wrangle of the two as they appeared before the perplexed umpire, while in the short respite which occurred the latter rubbed his forehead with his cap and like a second Solomon decided that both were at fault, but that Shepardson being the youngest should hereafter make the runs for West when the latter accidentally might pound the leather.

Then what a huge burlesque was that on athletic sport when Grove Hulburt as assigned to duty in left field and who consequently fought as determinedly to capture hot and high balls as he ever did to secure gold nuggets in California as a forty-niner, or to win a contest in Berkshire county courts. How wild was the enthusiasm and glee of the great cloud of witnesses to have Grove fall prone upon the sod several times in fierce struggles to gather into close embrace several red hots originally started for Dalton and Mt. Washington, and the disgust printed upon his perspiring countenance over inglorious defeats, and finally at his single accidental victory over a flying sphere, which instead of passing to the baseman he squeezed in an iron grasp and walking in to the pitcher presented to him with his compliments.

No three-ringed show of Forepaugh or Barnum ever was so full of astonishing feats and humorous episodes and situations was this memorable game. Again comes to the front in memory from out the distant past the famous strike of Capt. Goodrich, his Mazeppa flight to third base, and his elephantine fall upon the sand bag with such force as to burst it into fragments. The leisurely walk of Deacon Dutton from third base towards home while the sphere was hiding in the potato vines of an adjacent garden while he loudly sang "Home, Sweet Home," and on the unexpected appearance of the missing globe, his frantic leap to touch the home plate with his fingers as he coverlided a good-sized area of earth with his prostrate form.

That was genuine astonishment on the part of Uncle James Collin, who having by

superhuman exertions tapped the ball and succeeded in making first base, and awaiting his opportunity for a second spurt of fleetness, having become absorbed in a prolonged and rapturous gaze at the Mt. Washington range of hills, and having forgotten his sandbag safety, at a touch down with the ball and the declaration of "out." What a rare treat were the locomotive miracles as executed by Weller and Olds and which held the audience in breathless suspense while in performance, and the high catch of Sheriff Root and his return of the prisoner ball by special messenger to the home plate in handcuffs.

For a full week afterwards these heavy weight players, several of whom were arrayed in bandages perfumed with arnica and wormwood, and who scorned the idea of being invalided at home as the result of having been actors for a few short hours in a simple and harmless game of base ball, made attempt with sore and aching muscles to navigate the streets with their usual sprightliness and vigor. But the task was a hard one and was only made possible by their invincible pride. All kinds of strategy was brought in play by their fellow citizens to have the game repeated, but without avail, for these old worthies, all of whom but three have gone to their final rest, knew when they had enough, and were stone deaf to all entreaties and flatteries aiming at a ball and bat recall.

Diamond Field Notes

The following individual mention of the participants in the above described game was the work of the official reporter whose account was secured at the imminent risk of life and limb:

Col. Willis in a roundabout and close fitting white pants looked 18 instead of 80 with the exception of his white head. He exhibited the tallest kind of pluck and energy and nothing but his tardy legs prevented him from crowning himself anew with the laurels won by him as an athlete in youthful days. His impetuosity was only curbed by foul balls and ground falls.

Col. Goodrich proved himself an airbeater of formidable strength and his club thrashings of the atmosphere was thought to have brought on an electric storm later in the day. His star-chamber act was the approach of bases a la pontoon.

Dea. Dutton was a marked success in the important position of first baseman in

which he proved as nimble as a carpet tack. His stroke with the willow was powerful, but

in running, though possessed of the will of a Patchin, his lungs failed to second his motion.

Lawyer Plunkett as a pitcher kept the club men in a frantic state of agitation and uncertainty as to whether he meant to dig worms or bring down chimney swallows. His efforts at the bat were strong and far reaching and his theft of bases were so adroit and mysterious as often to bring out applause from his opponents.

Cashier Francis astonished his pound marks by sending the regulation ball on several excursions beyond the limits of the old common. He besides displayed a fund of skill by putting a cheque on fresh arrivals at the first base.

Mayor West was a sure and good batter with the club and his ambition finally overcame his age and flesh and gave him a home run win which he bore the victorious weapon close clasped upon his breast.

Military stratagem was a feature of the pitching of Major Plunkett and when he swung his arm aloft no one knew whether the attack was to be made on wing or center. After cutoffs from the home plate he alighted on the same, having a-la-49th acquired the same by stolen marches.

Capt. Hanrahan as an undertaker of hair breadth escapades was a revelation, rivaling in speed and endurance the wild steeds of the western plains.

Farmer Hulburt displayed unlooked for nerve, ambition and determination and it was evident that the quality of his blood was thoroughly game. Though non-successful with his mighty wielding of the club, he showed himself a thoroughbred athlete in the field.

Currier in stationary play displayed great skill though inclined to weep over a missed ball, but in fielding rarely exhibited less than 99 per cent of bulk to one per cent of motion. His active twin, Arthur Smith, the druggist, however, from beginning to finish was brimful of plethoric power and fleetness.

Capt. Weller was the Beau Brommel of the occasion and never seized an opportunity at the bat without it was a certainty, however nervous both pitcher and catcher might become at his frequent posings as a statue. Though courteous and delicate his hits were consequently variably effective. His single complaint was uttered with a peculiar smile and that was that he considered the field accommodations as imperfect, as no soft places had been located between the bases where one could lay down and rest occasionally. At the close of the game he expressed his gratitude that he was yet alive and uttered his model prayer, "Oh Lordy."

Charley Brandow was the hero of two home runs and his swift pedestrianship was only equaled by Jimmy Johnson who wore smaller boots. Billy Olds was girthed with a Housatonic firemen's belt and carefully guarded his nozzle from being dented by hot balls and carelessly handled clubs. Constable Shepardson dodged all attempts at approach by wily basemen and fielders and his flight from base to base rivaled a west Indian cyclone.

Sheriff Root showed himself an enthusiast at the sport and never for a moment lost the trail of the regulation ball either high in the air or seeking hiding in grass pockets. Baker Teeling wasted not an ounce of physical fuel and evenly disseminated hot air play in every phase of the game. His exploits with the club were all hot cracker hits, while restauranter Tobey rose like yeast to meet every emergency.

The accurate measurement eye of Clinton Munyan was too much for the angles and curves of the pitcher though several wild balls developed some unusual phrenological elevations upon his head. The eternal vigilance of Thomas Hall brought its own reward to him personally and to his team, and in his praise the latter sang, brave Thomas Hall, he played it tall without a fall.

The thoroughness of his medical education and practice was emulated by Dr. Smith in his skillful play. As the occasion seemed to call for heroic treatment he threw himself into the fray with the vigor of a Dalton ancestry and came in for well-merited honors. There was universal sympathy expressed on all sides that a man who could force the quotient from a perplexing column of ledger figures in the twinkling of an eye, and send a base ball humming high above the heads of an audience, should be handicapped by a refusal of his legs to obey the commands of his brain and shoulders and score nothing but ciphers in his racing record. But such was the sad experience of Uncle James Collin who took his fate with the genial smile of the old philosopher, that he was.

* * * * * * * * * *

ELMER SHEPARD'S CORRESPONDENCE FILES

From the Elmer I. Shepard Collection, Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Mass.

Mr. Shepard had continuing correspondence with Robert R. Phillips, of Nassau, NY dating from January 20 to March 10, 1947. This contains a lot of genealogical information of possible use to readers.

Nassau, N. Y., Jan. 20 1947

Dear Mr. Shepard

Some time ago we had some correspondence relating to Berkshire families, which you may or may not remember; also at that time I purchased the booklets that you had published. More recently I have become interested in attempting to trace the ancestry and homes of those of my ancestors who came from England.

One of these ancestors was Edward Elmer who came to N.E. in the "Lyon" (or "Lion") in 1632. My line is Edward¹; Samuel²; Jonathan³; Abigail⁴ mar. Silas Keeler. Their daughter, Rhoda married Abraham Ambler, my gr-gr-grandfather, who moved from Ridgefield. Conn. to Rensselaer Co., where they are buried.

Some time ago I read that you were interested in the Elmer family - if so, have you anything pertaining to their English ancestry or the names of the wives of the first three American generations?

I will be glad to hear from you.

Sincerely, Robert R. Phillips

Williamstown, Mass. February 20, 1947

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I was glad to receive your letter of some days ago.

I am a direct descendant of Edward Elmer. My mother, Mary Elmer was a daughter of Hiram⁶ (Joseph^{5,4,3}, John², Edward¹).

Some 35 years ago I started collecting information of the descendants of Edward Elmer. I have probably six or seven hundred pages of manuscript about half typewritten. I find in it the marriage of Rhoda Keeler, daughter of Silas and Abigail Elmer, b 30 Dec 1766, m Abraham Ambler, Salem, Westch. Co., later Canaan, NY and Nassau, NY.

I have quite a little on the court records of cases in which Edward Elmer took part in Northampton and Hartford. I have never found much on his English origin, but have not tried very much.

This MSS has been stacked away for a long time, added to only as some item about a descendant came to my notice by chance. When we get our car out in the Spring I shall be getting over to Albany several times and also to Old Chatham to see some friends - Mrs. Louise Winthrop Ellis - who bought a Summer place there about a year ago. I should be glad to bring my Elmer MSS along some time and let you see what there is in it.

I have always been surprised at how few Elmers there seem to be, e.g. in Virkus, in indices of marriages in genealogies of other families, etc. I wish some one would bring out a

good Elmer genealogy.

For the last several years I have been working almost entirely on Berkshire County records, making a base of the genealogical information in the Probate Records, but combining that with everything I could get from Town records, published or unpublished, and what Gravestone records I can get. I have about 25,000 cards now, arranged by towns. Have completed the digest of probate records down to about 1828. That is a long slow job.

Do you ever get over this way? or to the Atheneum library in Pittsfield?

I discovered a short time ago in the Williams College Library, the old Dutch Bible of

William Hollenbeck (Jan, Caspar) of Livingston Manor. It has full birth records of three generations of Hollenbecks, the first beginning with Rachel b 10 Oct 1697 and written in Dutch; and two generations of VanDeusens to whom the Bible came down. I have the records photostatted and shall take or send them soon to Albany, NY Gen. and N.E. Gen, libraries.

Let me hear from you as I am sure we have information which would be mutually interesting. I retired from teaching two years ago and am spending most of my time on this

work now. Cordially.

Nassau, N.Y. Feb 27, 1947

Dear Mr. Shepard

Your ans. to my letter at hand - glad to hear that you are still interested in genealogy.

It must be wonderful not to have to do anything else.

I would be very glad to have you stop at my home any time you are passing thru Nassau, but I suppose it would be quite difficult to find me at home. I work in the Post Office in Albany - have been there 17 years - leaving Nassau 7 am and returning about 5 PM. Some Saturdays I work a few hours, others I have off. When I work until, say, 2 or 3 o'clock I usually spend the remainder of the day at the State Library. However I occasionally get a day off during the week. On these days I often go to a court-house, Troy, Albany, Hudson, Poughkeepsie or Pittsfield. I enjoy the Library at Pittsfield - Miss Clarke and Miss Curtis (Mr. Shepard annotated d 12? Feb 1947 after Miss Curtis' name. Ed.) both do their best to make searching easy there.

I may as well state here that I am one of those individuals who seem to find it impossible to confine himself to one problem for long. I work for a few weeks on one problem, then jump to something else, and so on. I envy those "Family" genealogists who can spend their lives on one family, such as Harlow Curtis, W. H. Gildersleeve, D. Jay Waterbury, the deceased Mr. Eldridge of Idaho, and several others with whom I have had correspondence. During the War we entertained several British Merchant Marine Officers at various times and I became interested in English history; this led me to wonder where, in England, I might find the home of some of my ancestors. All the genealogists of the 1800's seemed to vie with other to "hook" their emigrant ancestor onto any prominent English family of the same name, and so it seems to have been with the Elmer family. Several articles that I have seen state that Edward was descended from JOHN AYLMER 1521-1594, Bishop of London (no less), thru his son Samuel, Sheriff of County Suffolk. I think our Edward would have had a much more prominent place in New England if he had been a grand-son of a Bishop of London. In addition to finding the place of his birth I would like to know the names of his wife, Samuel2's wife and Dea. Jonathan's wife. My Elmer page is pretty bare. However inasmuch as you are interested in Berk. Co. Mass. rather than Berks, Eng., I will type a few notes on the accompanying page. If you wish more information re: any of them let me know and I will see what I can find. Also if I can copy or check any particular records that you may bring to mind, at the Library, please let me know.

Yours sincerely, Robert R. Phillips

Some years ago my brother and I abstracted the Wills of Rens. county to 1850; I went thru them last night after receiving your letter to see if they contained any Ber. Co material. You may be interested in the following Will:-

SMITH, DANIEL of Stephentown. mentions land in Hancock, Mass.; wife Eunice; son Augustus of Hancock; son Gardner of Hancock; grand-sons Hiram & Henry J. Bentley, son of Cyrus J. & Hannah, of Veteran, NY; sisters Laura; Levina; Miranda; Frances; Agnes; Helen Jane (Irene?); daughters Rebecca, Weighty, Sally Maria, Elizabeth C.;

Weighty, wife of Lansing Sheldon Sally, wife of Caleb Eldridge

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Amanda, wife of Lauren Townsend Elizabeth, wife of Melancthon Bentley Rebecca, wife of Henry Cranston

son, William

Exec) sons Augustus, Gardner & William.

Wit) Erastus Brown; Elijah Arnold; Ephraim Babcock.

Dated Dec 5 1835; probated Feb. 4 1839 Vol. 26; page 104

Will of Sarah Valentine of Troy, NY dated Apr 8 1842 mentions "one of 5 children of Elizabeth Byers:- Robert, believed to be a resident of North Adams, Mass."

JONES, MOSES....Some time ago while looking over some old Hart. Times I noticed the ancestry of a Moses Jones giving his line back to John Alden and Priscilla if I mistake not. Well, Moses is buried in town of New Lebanon and very close to Mass line. I am not sure if he is mentioned in Berks. Co. records but JUSTIN JONES is and he, also, is buried in New Lebanon. I would like to connect Justin and Moses.

West Stock. V.R.

Marr. - Justin Jones and Anna Young, Jan 3 1813 Births - Anne, dau Nathaniel and Anne () Young Oct 19 1791 "Jones, Mary Ann, d. Justin & Anna, Apr 2 1813.

Most of my Berks. Co searching has been done around Monterey, Tyringham and Otis, as my wife's grandmother was b. in Monterey - Roxanna Loom, dau. of Francis Loom, b. England, and h.w. Mary Bishop. This Mary was b. 1813, daughter of Bohan Bishop and Deborah (Taylor) and son of Jared Bishop (1753-1839) and 1st wife ANNIS____. His 2nd wife was Vashti Baldwin (see your Register of Dr Tyler, page 17). I have a box full of Bishop and related data (a complete Taylor line) and have copied several of the old cemeteries around Monterey as well as some of the Town records. After working a year or two trying to find the maiden-name of Annis, I very carefully laid away the whole mess. Another family in Berks Co - SAXTON. A Mary Saxton probably of W. Springfield married a Leonard and moved to Hancock, Del. Co NY. She named her first son ASHER, presumably after Asher Saxton. I never found her parents. And so it goes. If any of this is of interest to you, I will, as I said before, copy for you.

hastily, Robert R. Phillips

Ross Lawrence and I are both related to the Morehouse family; I presume you knew him. Have lost all trace of him since he sold the old farm.

another Rens. Co. Will:-

MASON, Hezekiah of Stephentown...mentions 2nd wife, formerly Abigail Sheldon; son John Wilbur "bound to me by certain indentures"; daughter Hannah Nichols, wife of Jonathan, Jr.; daughters Sally Martin, wife of Samuel; Freelove Aldrich, wife of David; Roby Haight, wife of William; Chloe Popple, wife of William; sons Anson, Asa, Hiram, Thurston, Avery, & Hezekiah, Jr.

"my body to be placed in the family-burying-ground in the Town of Cheshire, Berks. Co., State of Mass., by the side of my first wife"

mentions "land in Essex Co., N.Y., granted by patent to John Small."

wit) Ebenezer F. Boyce; Rensselaer Humphrey; Orramus Holcomb.

Exec) sons Avery and Anson.

Dated Feb 10 1824; probated Mar 29 1825 vol 7; p.296.

Here is a will that seems to have been probated or at least, recorded in two States. According to my copy of Rens Co Wills it is recorded in Troy, Rens Co Clerk's Office in Vol.

7, page 296, and according to "Sampson Mason Family" genealogy it was recorded in Berks. Co. Mass., in Vol 29, page 316.

As I recollect, my brother copied this will and there may have been a statement among the administration papers that stated that the Will was probated in Mass., and recorded here possibly due to the fact that Hez. may have owned property in Stephentown and died in ?Cheshire, or vice versa.

I have been interested in the Masons of Berk Co several of whom seemed to have settled in Rens Co. viz.:

Keziah Mason b. c. 1793, mar. David Brown, who died Nassau June 26 1862 ae 75, bur. Nassau NY. I have 11 chil. among them Cyrus M., John M., James M., Charles M., Caldwell M.? (see Southworth gen.)

CHLOE ??, b. c.1772, mar. Peter Ambler (1770-1848). Among their children were

Pamelia 1798-1845 m. Daniel Mason Rounds

Chloe Ann

Charles

Laura mar. 1815, JONATHAN MASON b. 1795. 11 chil.

(It is very possible that Peter mar. a Chloe Mason)

CHARLES MASON, b. Sept 19 1769; d. Nov 11 1829

Rebecca Nichols, h.w., b. May 10 1777; d. Jul 30, 1813 (Bur. Nassau NY Cemetery) As this Charles Mason is buried in an adjoining lot to the David Brown lot, I feel quite sure that Keziah was probably a dau of Charles.

NANCY MASON, dau of ? , b. 1794, mar Rev. Wm E. Waterbury. They lived for many years in Saratoga Co., N.Y. I am related to both the Waterbury and Ambler families but have no Mason line.

Mar 5, 1947 Cordially yours, Robert R. Phillips

Some years ago I made some notes from the early Land Records of Albany Co relative to the early settlers of the town of Stephentown. It would seem as if a considerable number of Berks. Co men leased farms from the Van Rensselaers, probably for speculation, as few of them seem to have settled there. Some of these leases are mentioned in the "Inventory of Rens'wyck Mss" printed by the N.Y. Pub. Library in 1924. Herewith a few of my notes: they may not be of any help to you. However if you find anything that you can use I will be glad to follow up. Mar 10, 1947 R. R. Phillips

County Clerk's Office, Albany, N. Y. Vol. 8 Deeds.

"Whereas Stephen Van Rensselaer by Indenture dated Oct 24 1765, granted sold, & confirmed unto me, Nathan Ball of Stockbridge ... a tract of land in the East Manor in the Township of 12000 acres called Stephentown...Lot #39...100 acres, dated Jan 13 1771. Wit) Stephen DeLancey; Sam'l Brown

Lot 38 containing 100a. also a fiftieth part of undivided land in said township to be divided into 50 parts...I, Amos Beard of Hartwood, Berk. Co., Mass for £20 paid by John Patterson of Stephentown, yeoman...Jan 6 1771 and in the 11th year of Reign of George III. Wit) Elijah Crane; and Samuel (X) Patterson.

Lot 24, S.V.R. to David Pixley, Jr. of Stockbridge.... 1/18/1771 wit) Samuel Brown, Jr.; Asa Douglas.

S.V.R. to Joseph Willard of Stockbridge...Lot 50... Jan 22 1771.

S.V.R. to Wheeler Douglas of Jericho. Wit) Asa Douglas; Asa Douglas, Jr.

S.V.R. to David Pixley of Stockbridge Lots 11 & 13 200 acres.

Shepard 119

wit) Asa Douglas; Ebenezer Noble; Jacob Cooper.

S.V.R. to James Gray, Jr. of Stockbridge...Lot 40. Wit) Asa Douglas; James Gray

S.V.R. to Stephen Noble of Suffield...Lot 15...100a. Wit) Asa Douglas; Jenash Felows.

Oct 5 1770, between David Bagg of Pittsfield and William Pease of Blanford...Lot 7. Wit) Abel Mudge; Woodbridge Little.

(next deed) James Grey, Jr of Stockbridge to John Garnsey "of a place called New Lebanon in County of Albany" 10 pounds.... "always excepted to S.V.R. his heirs, etc., ...grant & release all mines & minerals that are now...found on premises also all creeks, Kills, streams which S.V.R. thinks requisite for erection of mills, dams etc., working of mines, also such timber, wood, firewood, etc as he may think proper to use in repairing said mills or in working said mines...he ... reserves liberty to dig, trench & use ground for either purpose and to pass & repass thru the premises with Horses, cattle, Carriages & Servants, etc...." rent: 20 bushels of wheat. Wit) John Dean; Samuel Pixley.

Indenture made at Blandford Dec 11 1770 between Samuel Wilson of Blandford & Wm Ker of Stephentown...Lot 33.

Indenture made at Becket Dec 12 1770 between Jonathan Walker of Becket and Levi Odel of Stephentown...Lot 34.

SVR to Amos Beard of Becket Lot 31. wit) Asa Douglas: Isaiah Kingsley. SVR to William Wright of Pittsfield lot 10. wit) Daniel Hubbard, Jr.; Elijah Kirkum.

* * *

CORRESPONDENCE WITH H. C. CAMPION, JR. OF SWARTHMORE, PA

Pittsfield, Mass., Probate Record #3995

Extract from Will of Daniel Shepard, late of Chatham, deceased: "I give and bequeath all the rest of my estate both real and personal to my four sons, Daniel Shepard, Jr., Bill Shepard, Andrew Shepard, and Jonathan Shepard, to be equally divided amongst them so as to best accommodate them where they now dwell, on condition they contribute for the support of my aforementioned daughter Sarah in case she shall come to want as she labours under bodily infirmities."

3 Sep 1822

A true extract

Jno. Fish, Clerk Prob.

Petition of Sylvester Shepard to be appointed with William Williams as administrators: ...that said Bill Shepard died 1 Feb 1822 without having made any will, leaving one daughter and three sons, viz. Lucy, Reuben, Sylvester and William Nelson Shepard (a minor under 18), also two grandsons viz. Edwin Williams, son of Erastus Williams of Brighton, NY, a minor under 8, and Francis Henry Savage of Stockbridge, Mass., a minor under 9, son of a deceased daughter of Bill; also that Reuben died 26 Feb 1822 leaving 2 brothers and a sister, viz. Sylvester, William Nelson and Lucy.

Bond of Williams and Sylvester Shepard of Stockbridge as administrators of Bill's estate dated 2 April 1822; Jesse Shepard, gent. of Sheffield, Mass. and Richard Parker of Lenox, tanner, sureties.

Inventory 6 May 1822

Home farm in Stockbridge \$3779.37, Tyringham farm 900.00, land on Rattlesnake Mt. about 64 acres 782.18, total real estate 5461.55, Personal 1563.66 Total 7025.21

Petition for division of estate: Sylvester, for himself and as guardian for William Nelson Shepard of Stockbridge; other heirs Lucy Shepard of Stockbridge, heirs of Reuben Shepard late of Stockbridge, deceased, Edwin Williams son and only heir of Florinda late wife of Erastus Williams, entitled to equal shares.

Lucy Shepard, certificate of receipt of notice 3 Apr 1823

Certificate of Erastus Williams, dated Brighton Mar 11 1823 that amount of property received by Florinda Williams of her father, Bill, deceased, was \$220 as nigh as can be estimated.

Order for distribution of Personal estate 4 Apr 1823

Amount of personal estate 1949.67, to administrator for debts etc. 866.89 Balance \$1082.78 "and whereas it appears to the said Judge that the said Bill Shepard in his lifetime did advance to Florinda his daughter late wife of Erastus Williams, the sum of \$220 in part of her portion of his estate, it is thereupon ordered and decreed by the said Judge that the foregoing balance be divided and paid to the heirs of the said Bill Shepard or his legal representatives as follows: to wit, to Sylvester, Lucy, and William Nelson and the heirs of Reuben Shepard deceased collectively, each \$260.556 and to Edwin Williams the son and only child and heir of the said Florinda who is now deceased, the sum of \$40.556. The said dividends are to be paid in articles borne on the inventory of said estate at inventory price, so far as they remain and will extend.

William Walker, judge

Order for distribution of real estate 4 Apr 1823. Archibald Hopkins, Samuel Olmsted, George Whitney to make division.

2 Apr 1823

Account of Administrator includes payments of debts to Daniel Shepard \$10.00, to Jonathan Shepard \$27.55. Among assets, a note on Silas Shepard for \$23.50 dated 21 Oct 1805 marked "not collectable". (Probably Silas⁷, Daniel^{6,5})

3 May 1826 Final Settlement ordered. Personal 458.07 less administrators' account 180.64, balance 277.43. Ordered \$55.486 to each: Sylvester, Lucy, William, Edward (sic) Williams, and heirs of Reuben. Settlement of real estate mentions Home lot on West side of County road, Lenox to Stockbridge, 56 acres; home lot on East side of County road 24 acres; Tyringham farm; land on Rattlesnake Mt.

Pittsfield Probate #3996

Reuben Shepard estate. 2 Apr 1822 William Williams and Sylvester Shepard, administrators. Only heirs are Sylvester, Lucy, William Nelson and Edwin Williams.

Inventory: Assets one-fifth undivided share of Bill Shepard's estate \$1106.01

Pittsfield Probate #3998

Sylvester Shepard appointed 2 Apr 1822 guardian to William Nelson Shepard, son of Bill Shepard, a minor above 14.

* * * * * * * * * *

VAN DEUSENVILLE REMEMBRANCES

From *The Berkshire Hills*, January 1, 1903, p.58. Like Housatonic, Van Deusenville is a section of the town of Great Barrington. Captain Isaac L. Van Deusen built a factory there in the 1820's, and thus the name of the village (Source: *Great Barrington*. *Great Town*, *Great History*, by Bernard Drew.)

UNCLE THOMAS LYONS

A Berkshire boy now resident in the state of New York and very well along in years, gives us a few reminiscences of his boyhood in Van Deusenville, viz: "I remember Thomas Lyons, the earnest Methodist exhorter, having seen much of him in his home life, and when a boy attending the meetings held in a hall over the Peabody store, which was used for lectures and religious purposes. His prayers at these gatherings of his band of followers were a terror to the young people and could be heard for a great distance outside the building. He was very kind and gentle in his manners and to the children who played upon the "furnace bank," which he had charge of, and which was so-called because the charcoal and iron ore was stored in sheds on the hill.

A BIG CHARCOAL FIRE

I call to memory the great fire in Van Deusenville when 200,000 bushels of charcoal were ignited by a load of the same which had just been dumped in one of these coal sheds. This charcoal had been drawn from a pit on Bear Mountain which had been recently burned and some brands in which still held fire. The water had just been drawn out of the dam so that the change from "cold blast" to "hot blast" could be made, there was no fire apparatus in the village, and but few ladders, and the latter were of no use except upon the boarding house, some 75 feet away from the sheds. This house was saved by hard work, the side next the first shed and the roof being drenched with water carried thither in pails by a line of men, and the heat was so intense as to melt the window glass. Thomas Lyons was nearly wild, thinking that he might be blamed for not looking after this particular dangerous load of charcoal. Capt. Coffing, who chanced to be at home at the time, had much difficulty in persuading Thomas that he was in no wise responsible

for the conflagration. John H. Coffing dispatched a man on horseback to West Stockbridge to open the gates at Spencer's machine shop dam, and a sufficiency of water was finally thus obtained, but it was then impossible to quench the burning coal in the sheds. This was accomplished however by A. E. Andrews, who with several helpers, covered the burning coal heaps in each shed with iron ore, which smothered the flames, although live coals were found in these piles fully a year afterwards.

DADDY PARKS, THE DRUMMER

Many years ago and when seventy years of age, old Daddy Parks, who was a drummer in the war of 1812, was a famous performer in that instrument in Southern Berkshire. His exploits on his tenor drum were so skillful and masterful that his fame spread far and wide. He was always delighted to make the acquaintance of boys who wished to learn how to handle the drumsticks, and he was remarkably successful in teaching these lads, Tom Seeley was the champion fiddler of the old village, and his free two hour performances at the old store were grand occasions.

CAPT. BENJAMIN PEABODY

From the standpoint of a boy I remember Capt. Peabody as a brusque, large-hearted man of business, who when not absorbed with cares was very genial. A young lad who enjoyed his acquaintance knew that Capt. Peabody understood him, and that when is school vacations he used to give him pennies for doing errands, always saved up for general training days and the fourth of July, that he was trying to implant in him a desire to do service to others and create in him an enthusiasm for work. It is remembered that one day the Captain came down to the Van Deusenville store and as usual his calf-skin shoes were quite red from

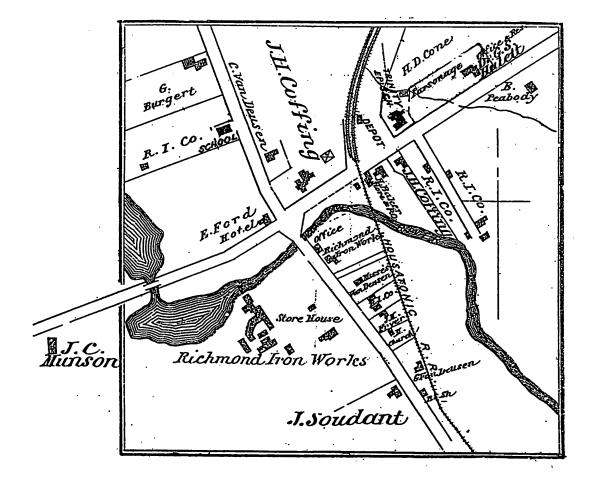
NUMBER 4

long wear and lack of greasing. John H. Coffing, who was quite a wag and very incisive in his remarks, cried out to him "Captain, why don't you grease your shoes and take better care of yourself generally?" The Captain was silent for a few moments, while the store-loungers were laughing over the gibe, and replied, "Why John, I put on a new pair of shoes one time, keeping one of the greased and blacked for a year or so, and I believe the one I greased wore just two days longer that the one I didn't, and since then I have concluded that my time is more valuable than your notion of fooling over your shoes." Capt. Peabody was a typical New England character, strong in his convictions, of strict probity, decided individuality, a kind and generous neighbor and possessed of a large fund of quiet humor.

WALTER HAWLEY

The foreman of the casting room in

Coffing's iron furnace at Van Deusenville was Walt Hawley. Old Capt. Coffing of Canaan, Ct., was on a visit to the furnace one day, when just as the pig-bed was ready for the flow of molten metal into the same, a large hound owned by Hawley ran across the bed and destroyed a number of the moulds. The Captain yelled at the dog, put him to flight and asking whose dog that was, received the reply that it was Walt's. Then he vented his temper in these words: "Too many dogs. A poor man will have one dog; a very poor man will have two dogs; and a fearfully poor man will have three dogs, This must be stopped." and consequently it was death to a dog thereafter who found his way into that furnace. After the furnace was discontinued Walt Hawley took charge of the fine-blooded cattle of John H. Coffing, which were often exhibited at the fairs in Pittsfield and Gt. Barrington, and were always greatly admired.



GREAT BARRINGTON

GENEALOGICAL GLEANINGS

From the North Adams Transcript.

1866 September 27.

Brace of pistols once owned by Major Pitcairn, shown at the Fair by their owner John Putnam of North White Creek, N.Y. once owned by General Israel Putnam.

Died Sept 16 at Savoy, Elbridge L. Miller ae 46

Sept 24 Mrs. Wealthy Bliss of Cheshire ae 92/11/11

Sept 10 at Bennington Nathan L. Robinson

Jacob Sherman of Savoy had 85th birthday.

Mill for Millard & Jackson on Union St., 100 X 38 being built. 3 stories high.

1867 Apr 25

Heavy freshet last week, doing damage to mill dams and Fair grounds.

Died Apr 20 Mary N., wife of Enos Briggs ae 51

Apr 1 Polly, widow of John Crosier ae 88

Apr 11 Nellie dau of Chas & Martha Ney ae 8 mos

Apr 17 Susan, widow of Joseph Brown of Cheshire (formerly) ae 79

Apr 16 At No. Hoosick, Mrs. Thasa Spalding ae 86 mother of Mrs. C. L. Urann and Mrs. J. W. Spear

Apr 4 At Massilliom, Ohio, Dr. Job Clark Williams College 1811 formerly of Westfield, ae 80

1870 Jany 27

Died Jan 20 Mrs. Phebe Dibble ae 78--1--1 Died in 1869 John Frasier of Adams ae 96

December 8 1870 Martins Hall in the new block dedicated

Great surprise party for Dr. Gladden

Report of Progress on tunnel (Hoosac) shafts and portals.

Died Nov 30 Mrs. Catherine Desmond ae 45

Dec 2 Elisha Morton ae 72

QUERY SECTION

Roger N. Anderson, Editor

05008

GOODRICH-OLMSTEAD-KING-ROBINSON

David GOODRICH s/o Benjamin & Hannah OLMSTEAD b 22 Jul 1747 Ridgefield, CT, d 19 Feb 1802, m Ann ROBINSON, d 1816. He and bros. joined the Shakers in 1780 and gave their land to form the Hancock Shaker Settlement. Children David (m Phebe KING), Francis, Edward, Benjamin and Hannah. Reference to a David in Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War indicates a David served in Capt. Selah Heart's Co. in Erastus Woolcot's Regt. Is this the same David? Names on same page as this pub are same as his bros. Daniel, Samuel, Elizur, Ezekiel and Benjamin all served in Rev. War. Benjamin was lieutenant under bro. Daniel at Siege of Quebec. Where did David die? Did this David serve in Rev. War? Where did Ann die? Since family joined Shakers information is obscured. Any additional information is appreciated.

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VITAL RECORDS OF STOCKBRIDGE, 1913-1914

From the Berkshire Athenaeum Local History Vault Pamphlet File, Stockbridge, Vol. I No. 3, March 1, 1914, p.20, and Vol. II, No. 2, February 1, 1915, p.20. This document fills a gap, as the Athenaeum does not have the Stockbridge Town Report for these two years. Exact dates can be obtained from the Stockbridge Town Clerk.

VITAL STATISTICS, 1913 - MARRIAGES

Horace N. Blackford and Mary E. Webster William H. Jones, Jr. and Minnie Kettle Frank Anderson and Mary Mackin William Marshall Bullit and Nora Iasigi George A. Thayer and Mary O. Ford Chauncey Hakes and Grace Smith

Stuart Sidney Tuller and Mary Ethel Wookey George A. Kethem and Laura A. Adams Preston B. Chapman and Edna M. Searing Henry C. Kessler and Edna M. Webster Henry M. Baldwin and Mary E. Schnever Robert Grindrod and Florence E. Weston

BIRTHS

Hugh Lester Barnes, Jr. Joseph George Welch Leslie Edward Stannard Georgette Jeannie Vsiland Percey Harvey Gordon Joseph Kinsella Flora May Love Annie Virginia Wooden William Joseph Donahue - Garnham Eugene Francis Donaldson Paul Henry Campbell

Mary Ann Courand Dorothy Mildred Rightmyre Edward Augustus Thomas, Jr. Joseph O'Neill Weldon Ernest Drumm Marie Duflend **Eunice Collins** Thomas Bracknell George Odell Anderson Margaret Pheunah Wilcox Mary Elizabeth Killfoile Helen Kline Thomas Joseph Kane

Howard Winthrop Congdon Nora Lee Monroe Raymond Chester Cordes Irving Francis Markham Edith Lea Cooper Ethel Elizabeth Cooper Francis Jude Tracy Marion Loretta Decker Annie Elizabeth Kickery Christena Myrtle Pratt Minnie Watson Stafford

DEATHS

Sarah Maria Aiken Eva Margaret Kabe Mary V. Clark Laura E. Boughton Isabella M. Kernan Cyrus Williams James A. Gilson Archibald L. Johnson

Jerome B. Eldred Patrick Ouigley Jane Turner Eliza Kinsella John W. Cooney Maria S. Rathbun Alfred L. Rathbun Betsey Clark

Marcedes de Escoriaza Martha Rogers Katherine Foley Ethel Cooper **Edith Cooper** Mary Jane Hull Andrew J. Buck Jemima C. Brouker

VITAL STATISTICS, 1914 - BIRTHS

Howard Francis Daley s/o Patrick Daley and Mary McCabe Wilfrid David Blackford s/o Horace V. Blackford and Mary E. Webster ---- Mercer child of Harry F. Mercer and Annie Ouinn Norma Louise Lewis d/o Garfield F. Lewis and Florence A. Pratt Lawrence Nelson White s/o Willis L. White and Florence M. Webster Florence Augusta Stannard d/o Ralph Stannard and Marjorie Leslie Lawrence Dudley Killfoile s/o Edward L. Killfoile and Mary Mills Mary Charlotte McDonnell d/o John A. McDonnell and Charlotte M. Powell

Bertha Estelle Simmons d/o John D. Simmons and Delsie Estelle Jones Eugene Norman Macken s/o William A. Macken and Emogene Lane Emogene Margaret Young d/o Fred Young and Marietta Collard Ernestine Elizabeth Pixley d/o Harry H. Pixley and Cynthia A. Gentry Benjamin Clapp Riggs s/o Austen Fox Riggs and Alice McBurney Emma Scutt d/o Ford Harmon Scutt and Olive May Williams Charles Brian Montague McBurney s/o Henry McBurney and Dorothy Rundall Robert Earl Andrews s/o Joseph Andrews and Lillian Vivian Cook Barbara Young Hakes d/o Chauncey W. Hakes and Grace A. Smith Mary Katharine Morrissey d/o William M. Morrissey and Genevieve Lavery John Edward McGregor s/o James McGregor and Margaret Foley Gerrit Cornelius Bol s/o Cornelius Bol and Gerritye Johanna Von Lienden Daniel Thomas Killfoile s/o Thomas E. Killfoile and Anna E. O'Reilly Mabel Eleanor Wright d/o Charles B. Wright and Laura A. Brown Ernest Arsene Louison s/o Hyppolite Louison and Mary Morel Thomas Bullitt s/o William M. Bullitt and Nora Iasigi Broneslof Gralla s/o John Gralla and Sophia Stanish Paul James Allen s/o Edward B. Allen and Alice J. Ormes Frank Kornosik s/o Ignatz Kornosik and Selina Stanish Bernard Milo Kinsella s/o Thomas Kinsella and Elizabeth Van Loan Jeanie Limond Cowen d/o John Cowen and Jeanie Limond

DEATHS

Mary Bocock, 79 Emily Jones, 57 Franklin C. Page, 8 months John W. Campion, 42 Edward P. Lane, 2 Theron Spencer, 76 Mary M. Jones, 81 Eliza Murphy, 80 Julia Lawless, 91 Johanna Wolfe, 81	Mary Foley, 73	Eliza V. Clarke, 80
Johanna Wolfe, 81 Alfred C. Nettleton, 56	Jane MacConnachie, 65 Florence E. Jones, 57	Mary F. Matthews, 83

THE RICHMOND FAMILY

From The Berkshire Hills, March, 1901, p.7.

The genealogy of the Richmond family, for many years one of the most prominent in Adams, dates back to Brittany, France in 1483. There have been six successive generations of John Richmonds in this family. The fifth John settled in Taunton [Mass.] in 1749 and removed from there to Cheshire in 1787 where he deceased in 1797. His residence in Cheshire is still called the "Richmond lot" and was on the famous old-time "Pork Lane." His son Asa was the father of Ira, Daniel, David and Calvin Richmond of Adams, of whom only Calvin, who is advanced in age, is living.

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STAFFORD'S HILL

From The Berkshire Hills, November, 1900, p.7; December, 1900, p.9; March, 1901, p.5.

DISCOVERY OF AN ANCIENT DEED

Since the sketch of Stafford's Hill as a "deserted village" was published in this monthly, we have learned that the statement that "fifty acres of land were given by the purchasers of New Providence as a ministerial lot for the support of religion," was in some respects erroneous. Mr. E. B. Cady of North Adams informs us that the said fifty acres were presented for the purpose mentioned, but were given instead by Nicholas Cook of Providence, Rhode Island, and Joseph Bennett, a pioneer settler of New Providence, on Stafford's Hill, then designated as situated in the "Province of Massachusetts Bay." So reads this ancient original deed of conveyance, which is in the possession of Mr. Cady. Mr. Cady writes that the said Joseph Bennett was a grand relation of his of several removes less than Adam, and therefore that he feels a certain interest in this most worthy conveyance - a sort of pride that he is a lineal descendant of one who gave so liberally for the benefit and upholding of this last Atlantis of this locality. He further factiously writes: "It is so comforting when I visit Stafford's Hill to sit down and reflect that probably the many liberal acts and generous deeds that I have scattered so munificently along my pathway of more than half a century's length results from the generosity inherited from this sturdy old pioneer, and also that said inheritance is of about the same value to me as is my inheritance in the said fifty acres of land that by legal lapse passed to the possession of the heirs and assigns of the said Cook and Bennett. It is a great thing to be well descended, and to have such positive proof of it as this ancient deed which I have in my possession."

A VERY OLD HIGHWAY

Leading north from Stafford's Hill is an old road which is unfrequently used for any purpose, and which leads close along the slope of the Hoosac mountain to an old

gambrel-roofed house, once a stage-tavern, which is over 100 years old. It is now the residence of William McGraff. Located right on the brow of the mountain, it commands one of the grandest views in Northern Berkshire. A short distance therefrom is a little graveyard on whose dark, moss-grown headstones it is deciphered that the most of those resting there deceased in 1800, a full century ago. This spot is about three miles from Adams and can be reached by going up through what is known as "Bedbug Hollow" and turning to the right hand and right up the mountain side. All they way from the McGraff house, and directly at the brow of the Hoosac Mountain range, there is a distinct trace of the old highway which in 1800 led from Stafford's hill to North Adams. It is said that were it not for the absence of planks for crossing gullies and rivulets that a horse and wagon could be driven, even at this date. over the entire route. Of course, in 1800 this must have been the main road from Stafford's Hill to the farther north, as the entire valley between Cheshire Harbor and North Adams must have been filled with woodlands and thickets and full of swamp lands. As the membership of Franklin Lodge of Free Masons were scattered all over the northern part of the county, of course with the wilderness difficulties in attending the same, its monthly convocations were always held on the first Monday after the full of the moon.

DESCENDED FROM THE SHELDONS

Rev. Dr. Annable, for many years the pastor of the Baptist churches at North Adams, Adams and Springfield, was a lineal descendant from an old Stafford's Hill family. His grandfather's name was Sheldon, who was one of the emigrants from Rhode Island. While living in Berkshire Dr. Annable frequently visited this historic spot. It is said that "Violet," the well remembered Adams colored woman, who with her husband Jake, used to live in a cabin near the L. L. Brown & Co. paper mill, which was

removed by the extension of Commercial street, was brought up in the Sheldon family.

CONSTANT AT PRAYER MEETINGS

Aunt Rainey Jenks, the mother of Capt. Daniel and William Jenks, the two uncles with whom L. L. Brown started the famous L. L. Brown & Co. paper mill at Adams, used to take a lantern and walk to and from the old church on Stafford's Hill every week-day prayer meeting night, whatever be the weather.

IN USE AS A TENEMENT

The old church, which was removed from the summit of Stafford's Hill to a site lower down, is now occupied by a family as a tenement, the rent going to the present Baptist church in Cheshire.

A PILGRIMAGE TO STAFFORD'S HILL

An important event of October in Berkshire County was the visit of Mrs. Julia A. Sherman Hunt of Watertown, Jefferson County, N. Y. to Mrs. Henry Bowen of Cheshire, a blood relative, both dating their ancestry from the pioneer settlers of Stafford's Hill. Mrs. Hunt has made two other pilgrimages during her life to Stafford's Hill, and having attained the age of 94 years, and being at this rare longevity both physically and mentally well-preserved, she has carefully gone over the site of this "deserted" old time settlement, of which on this beautiful hill top not a single vestige remains, as well as the old New Providence graveyard and the uncared for mounds therein, over many of which the headstones lay recumbent, broken and neglected.

THE OLDEST SURVIVOR OF ITS CITIZENSHIP

Mrs. Hunt is the oldest person now living who resided in this old settlement, so replete with historical and traditional interest as the first home of the Rhode Island pioneers in Northern Berkshire. She went thither when three years of age to live with Capt.

Timothy Mason, who had married her aunt for his second wife. She remembers that he was an officer in the Revolutionary war, that he wore military clothes, silver shoe buckles and buttons, and was finely garmented in the old colonial style. She lived here until she was eighteen years of age, and is able to readily recall the names of all the original settlers on the summit of the hill and on its two sloping sides, as well as the sites of all the original buildings and dwellings, such is her remarkable and yet sprightly memory. Without reference to any other authority than this most intelligent lady, we give this narrative of the appearance of Stafford's Hill ninety years ago and in a later succeeding period.

NINETY YEARS AGO

There was a hotel or stage house on the top of the hill, whose landlord was David Smith, who was an uncle of Mrs. Hunt, whose maiden name was Julia Larned, and who was the grandfather of Mrs. David Bowen of Cheshire. The old stage line from Boston to Albany ran at the east brow of the hill, and the stages used to turn off and run up it from near the William Jacques farm to this hotel for stoppage over night. Then came the meeting house, which had a high steeple, and which was moved farther down the hill, drawn thither by eighty yoke of oxen. The select school was kept by Elder Bloss. The two village blacksmiths had their homes and shops on the top of the hill, their names being Ezra Chaffee and James Brown. Timothy Mason, Anthony Burton, Daniel Remington, Col. Remington, Dexter Mason and his son Timothy and Capt. Converse also had houses on the summit. Farther down the hill lived Barnard Mason, Freelove Brown, Dr. Jenks and Dr. David Cushing. Dr. David Cushing lived in the old parsonage house, which was moved down from the hill summit. After Dr. Erastus Cushing, his son, had removed to Lanesboro, this residence was known as the "Aunt Cushing house" and was occupied by Elder Bloss. Jacob Baker, a cabinet maker, also lived here, and Mrs. Bowen of Cheshire has in her possession a toy bedstead made and given by him to one of her relatives when the former was but five years of age. Capt. Daniel Smith also lived in this vicinity and was the owner of a slave. She was a woman and lived in his family until her death, being the first and only slave ever owned in the settlement. John Bucklin, afterwards of Adams, had the second deed of land ever given on the hill top.

FROZEN TO DEATH

Daniel Remington, son of Col. Remington of Revolutionary fame, was the settlement shoemaker, and his sad death is vividly remembered by Mrs. Hunt. One Saturday morning he started for Adams for a stock of leather, and returning late in the day. was overtaken by a terrible snow storm, lost his way, and was found frozen to death by a searching party the next morning, standing erect with his hands tightly clasped to the rails of a rude fence, and but a short distance from home. He was of a very happy and jovial disposition and was the village poet. It is thought that this Remington family were related to Capt. Remington, who formerly lived near the corner of Eagle and Center streets in North Adams, who with his wife were buried in the old Colegrove cemetery at the same time.

ALL TRACES HAVE DISAPPEARED

The street on the summit of Stafford's Hill was formerly lined with Lombardy poplar trees, the fashionable shade tree of the early Berkshire settlers, and which fronted many of the county old-time pretentious farm houses as late as thirty years ago. These have almost all of them given place to the maple and elm, though in a few isolated cases skeleton rows of these trees are to be seen. though somewhat decrepid and neglected. The location of the hill-top settlement is one of the most beautiful in the county, overlooking as it does the entire landscape of hill, mountain and valley of Northern Berkshire. The passing of a century has left thereon neither a stone or a stick, a depression in the earth, or a standing shade tree to give the slightest token of this settlement of the early pioneers. As previously mentioned in this Monthly, some few traces of this hill can be found in the construction of the earlier residences in Adams. Forty years ago Mrs. David Bowen unearthed on the hill the stone doorstep of her grandmother's house, but this is now serving a similar purpose in Adams, having been secured as a relic, though a new cottage has since been built on the site of the old hill home.

THE RUINS SOLD OFF

The disappearance of all the signs of settlement of Stafford's Hill, with the exception of the old burying ground, has not been due entirely to the action of time, although desertion and neglect have had much to do with it. About forty years ago a son of Daniel Smith, the brother of David Smith, bought up all the remains of the buildings on the summit, and sold the undecayed timber and foundation stones, which were moved away.

THE OLD GRAVEYARD

During her late visit to the county Mrs. Hunt has taken frequent trips to the Stafford's Hill burying ground, which is in a sad state of neglect. Here she was able to find quite a number of the graves of her ancestors and of the old inhabitants of the hill whom she remembered, this location having also served both Cheshire and Adams for burial in earlier years. Among the graves found was that of Dr. David Cushing, father of the distinguished Dr. Erastus Cushing, the latter removing to Lanesboro, where he practiced many years, and afterwards to Cleveland, Ohio, and whose son follows his father's profession in that city, having wedded a daughter of Mrs. Ensign H. Kellogg of Pittsfield. Here is also to be found the grave of Miss Julia Cushing, the beautiful sister of Dr. Erastus Cushing, who deceased at the age of 31 years, a medallion portrait of whom and her elegant high-back comb is in possession of her namesake, Miss Julia Bowen of Cheshire, Miss Cushing having been the sister of the late Mrs. Charles Bowen of Adams, the grandmother of the owner of these most valuable heirlooms. A well-preserved Old Thomas Almanac, dated 1806, and the property of Dr. David Cushing is also treasured by this young lady as an ancestral relic. The monuments are prostrate which mark the graves of Joseph and Hopewell Brown, his wife, and also at the grave of the mother of Gov. George N. Briggs, who was of Rhode Island ancestry. Her husband, once the village blacksmith at South Adams, is buried at Manchester, Vt., where he went to reside with a son.

A HAUNTED HOUSE

It would hardly seem complete to have this sketch of Stafford's Hill without a memory of a haunted house. Such a ghostly institution it was possessed of in good earnest, which Mrs. Hunt remembers to have furnished a fund of fright and terror for its younger people, to an extent that they avoided its vicinity at night, an example which was followed by many of the superstitious older grown. The aforesaid house was quite large and rambling, having been built previous to the American Revolution, and was directly opposite the old "Church of Christ," as the same was then denominated. In the earlier days it had been evidently used for a hotel, and had been a great resort for army officers and soldiers, as well as travelers, and before it was deserted had been a favorite haunt of gamblers and hard drinkers. After, and long before it was closed, there were stories that it had been a resort for foul deeds and that a murder had been committed there.

A SECRET PANEL AND STAIRWAY

Leaving the hill when eighteen years old, Mrs. Hunt revisited it after forty years absence, and was the guest of her girlhood friend, Laura Luther, then Mrs. Jaques. Together they visited the ruins of the settlement and found the site of this haunted house covered with decaying timbers and grown up to grass and weeds. Mrs. Jaques informed her that when the old house was torn down, that in one of its chambers at a neatly matched movable panel was found in the wainscoat or wall, which opened with a spring by pushing in a particular place, and

entered upon a secret flight of narrow, winding stairs which were next to the huge chimney and inside the walls of the lower rooms. These stairs were found to lead into a room on the first floor of the house about twelve feet square and completely and adroitly walled in and isolated from any communication with the lower portion of the house. It was evident that in the history of this structure this room had been used for a gambling den.

EVIDENCES OF A MURDER

Still farther research brought to light a stairway leading from this secret room to the cellar, down beside a mock or blind wall to the base of the chimney. At the foot of this second stairway and standing up against the chimney was found a long wooden box or casket of sufficient size to contain a human body. This box was taken out and opened and found to contain a heap of decaying bones and dust. These were laid out upon a large flat rock and one after another were taken away by physicians for examination, until none remained. It was given as the opinion of the old time doctors that these bones were fragments of the skeleton of a man, this verifying the supposition in certain sense that a murder had been committed, and that the victim had been permitted to haunt the scene where this foul play had been perpetrated.

KNOWN AS TOWNSHIP 6

History has established the fact that the first settlers of Northern Berkshire were descendants and followers of the famous Roger Williams of Rhode Island, and it was such as these who came with their families in 1767 to Stafford's Hill and Township 6 of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, which afterwards was divided up and made part of the towns of Savoy, Adams, Cheshire and Lanesboro. The township of six miles square was originally granted by the General Court of the Province to the heirs of Capt. Samuel Gallop for their services and sufferings in an expedition to Canada in what was known as King William's war. It was afterwards

bought in 1762 by Abel Lawrence, reverted back to the Province and was resold to other purchasers in two parcels. The New Providence portion was sold to Nicholas Cook of Providence and Joseph Bennett of Coventry, Rhode Island, who were the prime movers in the emigration from Rhode Island of the pioneer settlers of this eminence. Colonel Joab Stafford, then a captain, came up from Coventry and laid out New Providence and purchased 396 acres of Cook and Bennett. who then divided the property between themselves. Following them came the other pioneer emigrants. From this time Col. Stafford became the leading citizen of the settlement.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

It was in 1769 that the first Baptist church in Northern Berkshire was organized here and becoming the pastor in 1770, Rev. Peter Werden remained so until his death forty years afterwards in 1808. Its original members were Eunice Bennett, Joab Stafford, John Lee, Betsey Read, Samuel Low, John Bucklin, Deliverance Nichols, Joseph Bennett, Mercy Werden, Martha Lee, John Day and Alma Low. The first church building, as has been previously noted, was moved down the hill by 80 yoke of oxen instead of 40, and is now used for residence as a two-story red farm house. In 1770 Cook & Bennett gave fifty acres of land on the northern slope of the hill as a ministerial lot for the support of a local preacher of the Anabaptist denomination, and upon this place Elder Peter Werden lived. Elder Braman succeeded him as pastor and then came Elder Bloss, under whose administration the old church building was removed and a new one built. Elder Noah Bushnell and Elder John Leland supplied this pulpit sometime before the new church building decayed and fell and Elder Elnathan Sweet often preached in the settlement afterwards.

VISITED BY ELDER LELAND

Mrs. Rebecca Bradford of Newport, N.Y., who was born on Stafford's Hill in 1822 and who left there in 1835, writes us of Elder Leland's visits thither. "When he came

to the Hill to preach he always stopped at the house of Charles and Rebecca Converse, my grandparents, where his horse would be cared for and he would lay down for a nap. On arising, grandmother would have a lunch and cup of tea in readiness for him before going to church. I remember of hearing him say to grandmother, "Becky, a good cup of tea cures everything but broken bones." Then he would enter the old church and go singing up the aisle, his white hair flowing backward, and carrying his Bible in a bag suspended on his arm. He was then very old and feeble.

CHURCH-GOING HARDSHIPS

Says Mrs. Bradford, whose husband was a nephew of Levi Bradford, the father of Mrs. Henry Wheeler Shaw, people used to come to the old Stafford's Hill church both summer and winter from many miles around in all weathers and from all directions. Often in winter a channel six feet deep would have to be shoveled out to the road from the church steps through the snow and ice. There was no fire in the church, but the people were dressed warmly in flannel of their own spinning and weaving and the women with their foot-stoves made themselves comfortable. This aged lady also vividly remembers the Fourth of July gatherings on the hill, which were great events with flags flying over the tables set on the green in front of the church and bountifully laden with food, as well as the general trainings in the wide street when her grandfather Converse was in command. The only stove in the settlement in her day was in the Elder Bloss school house.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CHURCH THAT WENT TO DECAY

This church was two stories in height with two rows of windows on each side and a window in the rear of the pulpit. There was a vestibule at its entrance with stairs at both sides leading up into the galleries, which encircled the church with the exception of at the pulpit end. Two rows of high-backed box-pews extended down the center of the church, which were neither painted or varnished. On the wall sides of this audience

room were rows of square box-pews with doors, built close into the wall, with seats on three sides thereof, these also being of plain, unornamented wood. The top of the pulpit was fully ten feet from the floor and the pulpit itself was mounted on pillars in front. A pair of stairs leading up to the pulpit were painted in a delicate blue color. Underneath these stairs was a small closet, entered by a door, where it was understood by mischievous children they would be confined if not on their good behavior. There was a nice open belfry underneath the main steeple, which was enclosed with a railing, to which many people ascended to enjoy the magnificent view of the surrounding scenery, the view taking in a great area of country. On clear days one could see sloops on the Hudson river from this point. A very handsome weather-vane adorned the steeple of the church. This vane was made by James Brown, who was a blacksmith on Stafford's Hill when the edifice was erected. He was the father of Capt. John Brown, now living in Adams at advanced old age, and whose birthplace was in this pioneer settlement.

DELIVERING THE PITTSFIELD SUN

For many years the Pittsfield Sun, founded by Phinehas Allen in 1800, was delivered to subscribers in all the Northern Berkshire towns by Jimmy Green, then known as a post rider. He commenced this delivery at first on foot, and then purchasing a horse, with the Sun in a pair of tight leather saddlebags, as he approached the house of a subscriber he would blow a tin horn to summon some one to the highway to receive the welcome weekly visitor. He was punctual to the dot in his weekly rounds and hardly ever disappointed his patrons. He also collected subscriptions for the Sun, and thoroughly appreciating the dangers of traveling the lonely and forest-lined highways of that day, was so fearful of being slain by robbers that he is said to have carried his own shroud carefully folded up in his hat. His route took in Lanesboro, New Ashford, Williamstown, Adams and Cheshire, and he regularly visited Stafford's Hill. While his horse was given a rest on this eminence, where he had a sister living, he would obtain a bowl of milk, and break his own white bread, which he always carried with him, into it. In those days the white paper on which the Sun was printed was always dipped in water before passing through the hand-press, and it was an especial pride of eccentric Jimmy Green to have the Sun quite damp - "fresh from the press" - when delivered to its patrons.

THE THREE SURVIVORS

Mrs. Julia A. Sherman Hunt returned to her home in Watertown, N. Y. Oct. 17th. She first married John A. Sherman of that place when twenty-five years of age, who deceased just before their fiftieth wedding anniversary. At the age of ninety she married Benjamin Hunt of Rutland, N. Y., who deceased five months afterwards. Her last has been her third visit, (and probably final) to Stafford's Hill and Berkshire since her girlhood. For forty years she traveled all over the United States with an invalid daughter. She affirms that in all her journeyings she has never looked upon a locality of the grandeur and beauty of Berkshire. The starting of the Berkshire Hills Monthly to make known and preserve the unwritten and traditional history of the county, its events and its peoples, she pronounces a grand inspiration rather than a personal enterprise, to whose sustainment and continuation every intelligent son and daughter of Berkshire heritage should lend a helpful and contributive hand, both in means and matter.

Thus far the reminiscent sketch of Stafford's Hill has brought to light three living persons once resident there - Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Bradford and Capt. John Brown of Adams.

A most respected old friend sends us the following inscription on a tombstone in the old burying ground in Cheshire Village: "Matter is indestructible, nothing can never become something and something can never become nothing. Here lies the body of Abraham Brown, Jr., whose departure from animal life was on the 21st of Jan'y, 1803 in the 23 year of his age."

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STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855 HINSDALE

[Continued from Volume 26, Number 3, Page 107]

Abstract by Meta L. Stark

Question marks in the age column are those of the Enumerator.

8	8	Oliver P. Colt	70	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary B. Colt	65	F		Mass.
		Sylvia L. Colt	20	F		Mass.
		Bridget Sheridan	44	F		Ireland
9	9	Almira Worthington	55			Mass.
		Elmira Ballard	12			N.Y.
		Eliza? Roberts	37		Pauper	Mass.
10	10	Moses Leland?	46		Carpenter	Mass.
		Sarah M. Leland?	46			Mass.
		Herbert S. Leland?	17			Mass.
		Waldo C.Leland? 17 or	10		Student	Mass.
		Willis A. Bardwell	14		204400	Mass.
11	11	Rev. Perkins K. Clark			Cong. Clergyman	Mass.
		Hannah A. Clark	39		cong. crergyman	Mass.
		Edward P. Clark		M		Mass.
		Mary A. Clark		F		Mass.
		Emma K. Clark		F		Mass.
		Henry C. Haskell	19		Student	Mass. Maine
12	12	Benjamin E. Warner	45		Cabinet Maker	Conn.
		Rebecca Warner	39		capinet maker	Mass.
		Wallace P. Warner	15		Student	
		Almond A. Warner	11		beddene	Mass.
		Charles A. Warner	10			Mass.
		Lucy R. Warner		F		Mass.
13	13	Noadiah Emmons	53	_	Farmer	Mass.
		Susan W. Emmons	51		I CLMCI	Mass.
		Isabelle Emmons	9			Mass.
		Mindwell Emmons	76	_		Mass.
		Emily Frissell	18			Mass.
14	14	John J. Mack	74		Farmer	Mass.
		Tirzah Mack	72		1 almel	Mass.
		June M. Mack	24			Mass.
15	15	Lyman Mack	32	_	Farmer	Mass.
		Maria Mack		F	rarmer	Mass.
		John P. Mack		M		Mass.
16	16	Lyman White	54		Boot Maker	Mass.
		Annah White		F	boot maker	Mass.
17	17	Samuel Loveland	52	_	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah M. Loveland	39			Mass.
		Sophia B. Loveland	15			Mass.
		Francis E. Loveland	13			Mass.
		Mary D. Loveland	11			Mass.
		Sarah Jane Loveland	2			Mass.
18	18	Polly Butts	63			Mass.
		Sarah Bottum?	14			Mass.
		Mary Sears	30			Mass.
		=				Mass.

		Terraria G. G.	_			
		Frank S. Sears		M		Mass.
		Frederick Sears		M		Mass.
		Henry Sears		M		Mass.
18	19	Theodore Burrows		M	Tailor	Mass.
		Clarissa L. Burrows	50			Mass.
		Mary Burrows	24			Mass.
		Celestia Burrows	20	F		Mass.
		Myron Burrows		M	Clerk	Mass.
19	20	Benjamin F. Kittredge	58	M	Physician	Mass.
		Harriet M. Kittredge	47			Mass.
		Cornelia H. Kittredge		F		Mass.
		Elizabeth P.Kittredge	22	F		Mass.
		Julia R. Kittredge	20	F		Mass.
		Fannie J. Kittredge	17	\mathbf{F}		Mass.
		Eunace C. Kittredge	15	F		Mass.
		Sarah M. Kittredge	13	F		Mass.
		Mary W. Kittredge	12	F		Mass.
		Catherine W. Kittredge	9	F		Mass.
		Lydia Culver	65			Mass.
		George Crane	22	M	Farmer	?
		Mary Curtin		F		Ireland
20	21	James M. Whipple	46	M	Bap. Clergyman	Mass.
		Sophrenia Whipple	42	F		Mass.
		James L. Whipple	16	M		Mass.
21	22	Henry L. Messenger	25	M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Persis L. Messenger	24		<u> </u>	Mass.
		Ida May Messenger	8m			Mass.
22	23	Abel Kittredge	33		Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah H. Kittredge	34			N.Y.
		Benjamin Kittredge, 2d				Mass.
		Sophrenia Kittredge	40			Mass.
		James K. Lombard	23		Teacher	N.Y.
23	24	Daniel Cody	60			Mass.
		Betsey Cody	54			Mass.
		John Sherman	24		Merchant	Mass.
24	25	Daniel Driscol	24		Farmer	Ireland
		Ann Driscol	30	F		Ireland
		Mary Driscol		F		Ireland
		John Driscol	8m			Mass.
		William Driscol	45		Laborer	Ireland
		Bartholomew Driscol	34			Ireland
		Daniel Driscol, 2d	13			Ireland
		Caty Driscol		F		Ireland
		Bartholomew Burke	60			Ireland
25	26	James Driscol	40		Farmer	Ireland
		Mary Driscol	32		1 41 11101	?
		Mary Ann Driscol	10			Mass.
		Catherine Driscol	8			Mass.
		James Driscol, Jr.	4			Mass.
		Ellen Driscol	i			Mass.
		John Madden	33		Laborer	Ireland
		Mary Madden	33			Ireland
		Thomas Madden	11			Mass.
		James Madden	10			Mass.
			_			

		John Madden	9	M		Mass.
		Mary E. Madden	7	F		Mass.
		Andrew Madden	5	M		Mass.
		Margaret Madden	4	F		Mass.
		William Madden	3	M		Mass.
		Patrick Madden	2	M		Mass.
		Joseph Madden	2m	M		Mass.
26	27	Anson Curtiss	61		Farmer	Mass.
		Sally Curtiss	61			Conn.
		Sarah E. Curtiss	25			Mass.
		Harriet G. Curtiss	23			Mass.
27	28	Henery? W. Curtiss	35		Farmer	Mass.
		Hannah E. Curtiss	33	F		N.Y.
	29	Milo Loveland	31	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary A. Loveland	26	F		Mass.
		Winnie G. Loveland	8m	F		Mass.
28	30	Henry Putnam	34			Mass.
		Elvira G. Putnam	31			Mass.
		Martha A. Putnam	25	F		Mass.
		Saraph E. Putnam	19	F		Mass.
		William H. Putnam	14			Mass.
		John Putnam	12			Mass.
29	31	James Caten?	37		Laborer	Ireland
		Ellen Caten?	33			Ireland
		Michael Caten?		M		Mass.
		John Caten?		M		Mass.
30	32	Robert Millikan	63		Farmer	Mass.
		Sally Millikan	58			Mass.
		Sylvia Millikan	25			Mass.
31	33	Michael Kenny	40		Laborer	Ireland
		Zeruah Kenny	29	F		Mass.
		Mary Kenny	4	_		Mass.
22	2.4	Ellen Kenny		F		Mass.
32	34	Solomon Lemley	59		Farmer	Mass.
		Lilly Lemley	58			Mass.
		Charles D. Lemley	33			Mass.
		Emeline B. Lemley	25			N.Y.
33	26	James W. Lemley		M		Mass.
33	36	Thomas D. Robins	34		Farmer	Mass.
		Mary Robins	28			Mass.
		Charles W. Robins	11			Mass.
		George K. Robins	_	M		Mass.
		Allen K. Robins		M		Mass.
24	37	Watson? C. Livermore	27		Taylor?	Mass.
34	3 /	William R. Ford	44		Farmer	Mass.
		Cornelia Jane Ford Cornelia Jane Ford	30	_		Mass.
		Charles L. Ford	8	_		Mass.
			5	M		Mass.
		Mary A. Ford Lorie G. Ford	3	F		Mass.
		Myra M. Worthington	2m 14	_		Mass.
35	38	Russell I.? Clapp	14 29		Wool Control	Mass.
		Nancy S.? Clapp	29 29		Wool Sorter	Mass.
		Frederic O. Clapp		M		N.H.
		o. crapp	3	H		Mass.

	39	Henry Bermingham	29	M		Wool Sorter	77
	3,5	Laura D. Bermingham	25			woor sorter	England
		Mary Emma Bermingham		F			Mass.
36	40	Jacob Booth	57	_		Farmer	Mass.
		Sophia Booth	56			Idimei	Mass.
		George Hodge	14	_			Mass. Vermont
37	41	William W. Adams	52			Farmer	Mass.
		Clarissa K. Adams	47			2 42 02	Mass.
		R. Knight Adams	24			Teacher	Mass.
		Amanda T. Adams	21				Mass.
		Mary E. Gilbert	8	F			N.J.
		John A. Merriam	21	M		Student	Mass.
38	42	Dallis D. Persip	33	M	В	Farmer	Mass.
		Amy F. Persip	21	F	M		Mass.
		Edward F. Persip	10m	M	M		Mass.
39	43	William H. Carson	30	M		Farmer	Md.
		Ruth S. Carson	29	M			Mass.
		Henry Clay Carson		M			Mass.
		William Francis Carso					Mass.
		Oliver H. Lee Carson	6m				Mass.
		Rufus Watkins	76			Farmer	Mass.
		Catherine McGuire	40	_			Ireland
		Thomas McGuire	14				Mass.
		John McGuire	30			Laborer	Ireland
20		Francis Costello	21			Laborer	Ireland
39	44	Francis Watkins	55			Farmer	Mass.
4.0	4 =	Allace Watkins	50	-		T = 1,	Mass.
40	45	Isaac M. Allen	43			Laborer	Mass.
		Phebe Allen	42			Tabasas	Mass.
		Sylvester W. Allen Martha A. Allen	18			Laborer	Mass.
		Ellen June Allen	15				N.Y.
		Rodolphus N. Allen	12 10				N.Y. Mass.
		Angenora Allen	6				Mass.
		Oliver L.? Allen		M			Mass.
41	46	Zeri Wing	62			Physician	Mass.
		Almira A. Wing	47			in, orozan	Conn.
		Ann B. Wing	26				Mass.
		Marcus Wing	14				Mich.
		Mary E. Wing	12				Mich.
		Malvina Wing	10				Mich.
		Elisha Wing	65	M		Farmer	Mass.
42	47	Henry D. Lyman	47	M		Blacksmith	Mass.
		Ruth M. Lyman	43	F			Mass.
		George H. Lyman	23	M		Merchant	Mass.
		Ruth A. Lyman	20	F			Mass.
		Charles E. Lyman	18	M		Farmer	Mass.
		Julia A. Lyman	16	F			Mass.
		Florence M. Lyman		F			Mass.
43	48	Isaac Williams	54		M	Laborer	Conn.
		Dianah Williams	60		В		N.Y.
		Lucy Roberts		F	В		Mass.
		James P. Rice	49			Laborer	N.H.
		Lydia Rice	41	F			Mass.

		Lyman L. Rice		M			Mass.
44	49	Oren K. Dennis	29		M	Laborer	Conn.
		Cornelia Dennis	35	F	В		N.Y.
		Oren F. A. Dennis	_	M	M		Mass.
		Alma C. Dennis	_	F	M		Mass.
		Evelene D. Dennis		F	M		Mass.
45	50	Alex'r VanValkenburg	28			Laborer	N.Y.
		Catherine "	25	F			N.Y.
		Mary VanValkenburg	7	F			Mass.
		Madison VanValkenburg	2	M			Mass.
46	51	Willard Beals	54	M		Farmer	Mass.
		Laura Beals	49				Mass.
		Dervane W. Beals	24			Farmer	Mass.
		Laura S. Beals	22				Mass.
		Almoran N. Beals	20			Farmer	Mass.
		William P. Beals	18			Farmer	Mass.
		Martha R. Beals	14	_			Mass.
47	52	John P. Abbott	22			Laborer	Mass.
		Catherine C. Abbott	21				N.Y.
		George P. Abbott		M			N.Y.
		Mary M. Abbott	4m				Mass.
48	53	Merrick Barnerd	56	M		Laborer	Mass.
		Elizabeth Barnerd	55	F			Penn.
49	54	David R. Adams	39			Farmer	Mass.
		Hannah Adams	25	F			N.H.
		John Q. Adams		M			Mass.
		George W. Adams	4m				Mass.
	55	Lloyd Bartlett	40			Carpenter	Mass.
		Independence Bartlett	41	M			Mass
		Anne Bardin	70	F			Mass.
	56	Bruno Monyon	23	M		Blacksmith	Canada
		Julia Ann Monyon	22				Ireland
		Helena Monyon	3	F			Mass.
		Mary A. Monyon	15	F			Canada
		Martin Baxter?	32	M		Laborer	Germany
		Caroline Baxter?	26	F			Switz'd
		Caroline Baxter?	6				Switz'd
	57	Isaac Gleason	76			Farmer	Conn.
		Monroe Gleason	41			Butcher	Mass.
		Emeline Gleason	31				N.Y.
		James H. Gleason		M			Mass.
		Ellen L. Gleason	2	\mathbf{F}			Mass.
	58	Darwin Gleason	39	M		Butcher	Mass.
		Roxana Gleason	36	F			Mass.
		Wallace Gleason	15				Mass.
		Jane Gleason	11				Mass.
		Martha Gleason		F			Mass.
		Isabelle Gleason		F			Mass.
		Maria Gleason		F			Mass.
		All Gleason		F			Mass.
		Augustine Bartlett	25			Carpenter	Mass.
	59	William Gorman	31	M		Farmer	Ireland

MISS LUCY CRANE OF WASHINGTON AND BECKET

From the Pittsfield Sun, July 1, 1897, p.1.

AUNT LUCY CRANE - A LONG LIFE FINISHED.

Miss Lucy Crane, who died suddenly on Tuesday evening, June 22, at the Berkshire County Home for Aged Women, was a native of Washington in this county, and was born September 30, 1810. Her grandfather, Elijah Crane, was one of the first 10 settlers in Washington in 1760, and her father, Amos, one of the first children born there. She was the last of a family of eight children, all living to a good old age with the exception of two.

Miss Crane lived in her native town over 70 years of her life. She removed to Becket with her brother, John M., who died there a few years since, in whose family she had always lived. She remained in Becket till the infirmities incident to advancing age compelled her to make a change, and in the spring of 1895 she became an inmate of the "Berkshire Home."

To outlive a large family of brothers and sisters, and to be among the last of a generation, has its sad and pathetic side, yet she met the changes that the years brought her with cheerfulness and with a sweetness and serenity which rendered her a most charming and companionable old lady, whom it was a pleasure to meet. Her quaint and original expressions, and a strong and retentive memory, active, social qualities, made her much sought after in these later years, particularly pertaining to many matters of unwritten history concerning the town and inhabitants of the early part of the century. She saw the little township grow up, reach its height in population and prosperity, and witnessed its decline to its present quietude.

She took a pardonable pride in the earlier inhabitants and its industries. Near the center was once an essence distillery whose owner, coming in one blustering March morning, found a light snow had sifted in the various vats. Tasting from one to another to see if they had suffered injury, he unconsciously took too much of the oils and was found dead in the building. There was then in Washington a small tannery,

potash works, woolen and carding mill, carried on by the late Capt. Horace Herrick of this city, numerous saw mills and grist mill, when the now small stream was known as the big brook. A tow-headed, barefooted boy was a playmate. He removed early in life and in later years he was known as the "War Governor" of New York, Edwin D. Morgan. A cousin of his, by the same name, became a wealthy merchant in Ohio. An Episcopal church, long since forgotten, had four members, one of whom was her brother Samuel. No members being added it disbanded.

The then Western Railroad was laid through her father's fine meadow. In preparing the Washington cut or ledge she saw the solitary Irishman work several weeks with pick, shovel and wheelbarrow before he was re-enforced; then it was many months of work on both sides of the summit before it was done. She saw the first train "Over the mountain." Her father boarded the Birnie Brothers, Russells and others identified with its early days. Their home was a stage relay, when the stage coach route from Albany to Springfield run past their door. On a cold, blustering, winter day she saw the huge form of Daniel Webster emerge from the coach, enter the house and "warm up" while fresh horses were taken.

Her father's house was the "Methodist tavern" in the days of the "circuit rider," and many a preacher of renown made his first start as a "boy preacher" on that circuit. She was a woman of uprightness and was highly regarded wherever she was known, and was familiarly known to all as "Aunt Lucy Crane." A member of the Methodist church from early life, her years fully rounded out, her work well done, all ready, but still busy, death came as she would have desired, with the incoming of the summer days she loved so well. In seemingly better health than usual, after a cheerful day, she went like the wish in the beautiful verse of Mrs. Barbauld, in which she found much pleasure.

Life: we've been long together, Through pleasant and through cloudy weather, Tis hard to part when friends are dear, Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh, a tear, Then steal away, give little warning, Choose thine own time, Say not good-night but in some brighter clime, Bid me good morning.

The funeral was held Thursday, her nieces, Harriet P. Sibley, Delia M. and Myra C. Crane, and nephew Lester M. Crane of

this city, Mrs. A. Belden and sister-in-law, Mrs. George Crane of Huntington, and nephews John W. and Merritt B. Crane and her niece Mrs. Charles E. Brown of Springfield attending. She had a number of relatives living at a distance who were unable to be present. The burial was at Washington, among her kindred.

* * * * * * * * * *

1855 Census - from page 136

		Rosanna Gorman	28			Ireland
		Catherine Gorman	10			Mass.
		Hugh Gorman		M		Mass.
		Wan? John Gorman	2	M		Mass.
		Bridget Gorman	22	F		Ireland
53	60	Havan? Jackson	37	M	Livery	Mass.
		Martha A. Jackson	16	F		Mass.
54	61	Alfred Richards	58	M	Blacksmith	Mass.
		Harmony Richards	48	F		Mass.
		Bomenia? Coty	23	M	Blacksmith	Canada
55	62	Charles D. Smith	44	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah Smith	73	F		Mass.
		Abigal Smith	47	F		Mass.
		William Jones	62	M	Farmer	Mass.
56	63	Erastus Peirce	50	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sophia Peirce	46	F		Mass.
		Charles M. Peirce	20		Student	Mass.
		Sarah Peirce	71	F		Conn.
57	64	Alva Cady	57	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Fanny Cady	55	F		Mass.
		Jervis Cady	20		Farmer	Mass.
		Mary Cady	18	F		Mass.
		Laura Cady	15	F		Mass.
58	65	Thomas Morey	70		Farmer	Mass.
		Abigal Morey	60	F		Mass.
		Lucinda Redaway	73	F		Mass.
59	66	James Bradley	50	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Marinda Bradley	51	F		Mass.
		Betsy M. Bradley	14	F		Mass.
60	67	Betsy Griswold	53	F		Mass.
		Lyman S. Griswold	27	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Albert Griswold	20	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Alonzo Griswold		M	Farmer	Mass.
		Melissa Griswold	4	F		Mass.
61	68	Elizar Cady		M		Mass.
		Lucretia Cady	41	F		Vermont

[To be continued]

PITTSFIELD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE

[Continued from Volume 26, Number 2, Page 65]

Unless otherwise indicated, home towns are in Massachusetts. Eventual graduates are indicated by an asterisk.

Mary Lee Brown, Pittsfield Minnie A. Bulkley, Pittsfield Maria D. Burhaus, Roxbury, NY Mary E. Burbank, Pittsfield Harrietta R. Cadwell, Erie, PA Mary Alice Camp, Sackett's Harbor, NY Emma E. Camp, Sackett's Harbor, NY Grace Campbell, Pittsfield Mary E. Carley, Schenectady, NY Mary E. Carpenter, Valentia, NY Josephine L. Chase, Albany, NY Cornelia B. Chase, Albany, NY Eliza Churchill, Utica, NY Sarah A. Churchill, New Britain, CT Abbie Stanley Clark*, Canandaigua, NY Helen Clarke, Pittsfield Nancie B. Coffin, Edgartown S. C. Cole, Williamstown Ellen E. Cooke, Hadley Kate L. Cook, Geneva, NY Kate Crouse, Mindenville, NY Louise P. Cunningham, New York City Elizabeth D. Davis, Pittsfield Mary G. Davis, Pittsfield Clara W. Dana, Troy, NY Sophie H. Day, Catskill, NY Elizabeth Downing, West Whiteland, PA Olive L. Drake, Pittsfield Gertrude E. Dunham, Pittsfield Lucy E. Essex, Bennington, VT Matilda Feder, Pittsfield Eliza C. Fisher, Edgartown Susan M. Fiske, Watertown, NY Emily Anna Fitch, Lockport, NY May S. Flower, Palmyra, NY Catherine L. Foote, Williamstown Anna S. W. Gardner*, Lockport, NY Helen M. Gardner, Galesburg, IL Caroline Gardner, Fayetteville, NY Louisa A. Glenn, Cincinnati, OH Charlotte A. Goodman, Pittsfield Emily S. Green, Pittsfield Elizabeth T. Griffing*, New Haven, CT Frances Hall, Auburn, NY Mary A. Hall, Augusta, GA Arrial T. Hanna, Cleveland, OH Kate H. Hart, Philadelphia, PA

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Amelia Hogan*, Pittsfield
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Alice Osborne, Pittsfield
Ada Pettie, Pittsfield
Mary Agnes Pomeroy, Pittsfield
Helen G. Porter, Pittsfield
Helen Tracy, Pittsfield

1861

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[To be continued]

PITTSFIELD - DIVIDING THE TOWN THE PLAN OF 1759

From History of Pittsfield, Mass., 1734-1800, pp.125-128 by J. E. A. Smith, 1869.

KEYS TO THE MAP ON THE INSIDE BACK COVER.

- 1. Charles Goodrich, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- Col. Elisha Jones, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- A. Col. Jones, 35 acres.
 - B. Col. Partridge, 19 acres.
 - C. Col. Eph. Williams' heirs, 21 acres.
 - D. Goodrich, 31 acres.
 - E. Col. William Williams, 25 acres, 2 rods.
 - F. Goodrich, 17 acres.
 - G. Wendell and Sol. Stoddard, 100 acres.
- Charles Goodrich, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch, 1st rate. (Sold Dickinson)
- Sol. Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch.
- Ministry, 115 acres, no rods, 24 perch. Minister, 115 acres, no rods, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 8. Col. Partridge, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- Col. Jacob Wendell, 222 acres, 1 rod, 20 perch. 1st rate. Col. Eph. Williams' heirs, 86 acres. 1st rate.
- 10. A. Israel Stoddard, 170 acres. 1st rate.
 - B. Sol. Stoddard, 60 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 11. Sol. Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 12. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 13. Prudence Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod. 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 14. Sol. Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 15. Col. Jacob Wendell, 199 acres, excluding pond. 3d rate.
- 16. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 17. Col. Elisha Jones, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 18. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate. Sold Easton.
- 19. Israel Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 20. Lieut. Moses Graves, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 21. A. Prudence Stoddard, 85 acres, no rods, 35 perch.
 - B. Sol. Stoddard, 85 acres, no rods, 35 perch.
 - C. Lieut. Moses Graves, 66 acres.
- 22. Sol. Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 23. Col. Stoddard, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 3d rate.
- 24. Prudence Stoddard, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 3d rate.
- 25. Prudence Stoddard, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch
- 26. Col. Jacob Wendell, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate. (O. W. cleared 60 acres.)
- 27. Prudence Stoddard, 242 acres. 1 rod, 24 perch.
- 28. A. Lieut. Moses Graves, 310 acres, 2 rods, 21 perch. 1st rate.
 - B. Col. Elisha Jones, 103 acres, 2 rods, 21 perch. 1st rate.
- 29. Col. Jacob Wendell, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 30. Lieut. Moses Graves, 282 acres, 3 rods, no perch. 2d rate. 31. Col. Jacob Wendell, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 32. Col. Jacob Wendell, 242 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate. (J. W. J. W. Jr.'s heirs.)
- 33. Col. Wendell, 223 acres, 2 rods, 25 perch. 3d rate.
- 34. A. Col. Partridge, 23 acres. 3d rate.
 - B. Lieut. Graves, 6-3/4 acres. 3d rate.

C. Col. Eph. Williams' heirs, 119 acres, 2 rods, no perch. 3d rate.

35. Lieut. Moses Graves, 254 acres. 3d rate.

- 36. Prudence Stoddard, 254 acres. 2d rate. (Janes & Brown)
- 37. Col. Jacob Wendell, 296 acres, 3 rods, no perch. 2d rate.

38. Mrs. P. Stoddard, 251 acres. 2d rate.

- 39. Col. William Williams, 103 acres, 2 rods, 21 perch. 1st rate
- 40. William Williams, 248 acres. 1st rate.
- 41. A. Sol. Stoddard, 207 acres. 2d rate.
 - B. Col. Wendell, 163 acres. 2d rate.
- 42. A. Partridge, 207 acres. 2d rate.
 - B. Col. Jones, 26 acres. 2d rate.
- 43. School-land, 262 acres, 3 rods, no perch. 3d rate.
- 44. A. Ministry, 112 acres, no rods, 8 perch. 3d rate.
 - B. Minister's Lot, 151 acres, 2 rods, 8 perch. 3d rate.
- 45. Charles Goodrich, 150 acres. 1st rate.
- 46. Israel Stoddard, 240 acres. 1st rate. 47. Sol. Stoddard, 240 acres. 1st rate.
- 48. Lieut. Moses Graves, 240 acres. 1st rate.
- 49. Charles Goodrich, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 50. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 51. Lieut. Moses Graves, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 52. Heirs of Col. Ephraim Williams, 239 acres, 2 rods, no perch. 1st rate.
- 53. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate 54. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 3d rate.
- 55. Col. Elisha Jones, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 56. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate.
- 57. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 1st rate. (Across lots 56 and 57 is the following: "Col. Wendell's meadow included in these two lots, chiefly valuable.")
- 58. Sol. Stoddard, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 59. Col. Jacob Wendell, 230 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 60. Col. Jacob Wendell, 298 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. 2d rate.
- 61. Sol. Stoddard, 298 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. 3d rate.
- 62. Col. Jacob Wendell, 198 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. Some meadow in this lot. 1st rate.
- 63. Israel Stoddard, 298 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. It is meadow included. 1st rate.
- 64. A. Charles Goodrich, 248 acres, 2 rods, 32 perch. 1st rate.
 - B. Lieut. Graves, 49 acres, 1 rod, 11 perch. 1st rate.
- 65. Israel Stoddard, 298 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. 2d rate.
- 66. Prudence Stoddard, 298 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. 3d rate.
- 67. Lieut. Moses Graves, 311 acres, 2 rods, no perch. 2d rate. 68. Col. Jacob Wendell, 298 acres, 3 rods, 8 perch. 1st rate.
- 69. Col. Jacob Wendell, 272 acres, 1 rod, 24 perch. 2d rate.
- 70. Sol. Stoddard, 287 acres, 3 rods, 24 perch. 1st rate.

Among the more noticeable allotments, Col. Wendell [one of the early names of Pittsfield was Wendellstown. Ed.] received the squares which contained the valuable Canoe Meadows, and the fine knoll upon which his grandson, Oliver Wendell Holmes, built his villa. Col. Williams got 132 acres on the south, and 248 upon the west shores of Pontoosuck Lake (Framingham Pond) of which he boasted a few years later, as the finest pieces of pine-land in all this region, and "certain always to supply New Framingham (Lanesborough), as that place was entirely destitute of this tree." The beautiful rural cemetery occupies the larger portion of two semi-squares, of about 115 acres each, which fell to the minister and the "ministry;" the former getting the oblong upon Wahconah Street, the latter that upon Onota.

34	35	36	37	38	Bisco	FRAMI 40	NGHAM 41	POND 42	43	44
33	32	31	30	29	A 28	27	26	25	24	23
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48	47	46	45 33							
49	50	51	52	53	54	₀ 55	56	57	58	59
70	69	68	67	66	65	64	63	62	61	60

SOUTH POND/

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