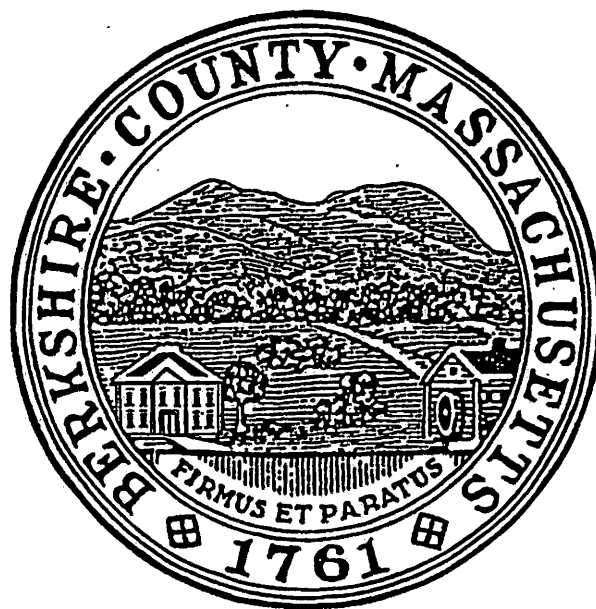


L.A. How

# Berkshire Genealogist



Volume 27 Number 3

Summer 2006

# 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.

BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST is published quarterly and received by all members. Publication is scheduled for the first day of February, May, August and November. Contributions of material are welcome. Send to the address at bottom of page. Deadline for general material is 90 days before publication; for queries, 30 days.

QUERIES are printed for members as space is available. See the inside back cover of the Winter Issue for specific instructions.

LOGO on the front cover is the seal of Berkshire County, used with the permission of the Berkshire County Commissioners.

FUNDING of the association is entirely from membership and other private sources. No financial support is received from any governmental agency.

## BACK ISSUES OF Berkshire Genealogist:

Volume 1, Numbers 1 through 4 - \$1.00 per issue (4 issues)

Volume 2, Numbers 1 through 3 - \$1.00 per issue (3 issues only)

Volumes 3 through 26 (4 issues each)

1 to 3 issues, \$3.00 per issue; 4 or more issues; \$2.00 each

Cumulative INDEX OF PERSONS for Volumes 1-10 - \$5.00

Annual INDEXES - Volumes 11 through 26 - less than three indexes, \$1.50 each; three or more, \$1.00 each

Cumulative INDEX OF PERSONS for Volumes 1-26 on CD-ROM  
(IBM Compatible) \$5.00

(All prices include postage.)

\* \* \* \* \*

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 1437, Pittsfield, MA 01202-1437

EMAIL: [bfha@berkshire.net](mailto:bfha@berkshire.net)

WEBSITE: <http://www.berkshire.net/~bfha/index.htm>

# *berkshire genealogist*

-----  
Volume 27 Number 3  
-----

Summer 2006  
-----

## CONTENTS

THE THREE DOCTORS CHILDS	75
THE FOUR PONTOOSUCK SETTLEMENT FORTS	82
THE BULL FAMILY PAPERS	83
GUARDIANSHIP OF JOHN ALDRICH	84
MAP OF WEST STOCKBRIDGE [Northeast Quarter] - 1876	85
O BE JOYFUL TYLER, HERMIT OF LANESBORO	86
THE OLD "KING'S DISTRICT"	89
REV. ELIPHALET STEELE	91
ANCESTOR TABLES	
CCCLXXXV. Flora Leonard	92
THE BACKUS BOYS OF PITTSFIELD	93
ORIGIN OF CHESHIRE NICKNAMES	94
GRAVESTONE RECORDS - BACON CEMETERY - WILLIAMSTOWN	95
SOULE/CHANTER RESEARCH PROJECT - UPDATE	95
THE BABBITTS OF BERKSHIRE	96
THEODOSIA HERRICK	98
PITTSFIELD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE	99
STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855	
HINSDALE	105
Meta L. Stark	

[Material not otherwise attributed was prepared by the editor.]

Copyright 2006 by Berkshire Family History Association, Inc.  
ISSN-0887-0713

# BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Established 1975  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Donald L. Lutes, Jr.

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Mary Hoyt DeGiorgis

### TREASURER

Thelma Wells

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Betty Quadrozzi

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Margaret Cranton

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Ronald A. Stratton, 1975-1977  
Mary Hoyt DeGiorgis, 1977-1978

Denis J. Lesieur, 1978-1982  
Joseph G. Guertin, 1982-1985

## DIRECTORS

Anne Feeley  
Betty Ann Hamm  
Rose Huban  
Barbara A. Kelley  
Gladys M. King

Judith Rupinski  
Brenda Struthers  
Arthur F. Young, Jr.  
Norma Zullo

Ex-Officio: Joseph G. Guertin

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Computer Operations - Roger N. Anderson  
Editorial - Emilie S. Piper  
Programs - Gail A. Pinna  
Publicity - Betty Quadrozzi  
Social - Thelma Wells

\* \* \* \* \*

## BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

Donald L. Lutes, Jr.  
Managing Editor

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Emilie S. Piper, Chairperson

Roger N. Anderson  
Margaret Cranton

Ann Hunt  
Gladys M. King

## THE THREE DOCTORS CHILDS

From *Pittsfield Sun*, October 27, 1887

### A CENTENNIAL FAMILY IN BERKSHIRE MEDICINE AND POLITICS - BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

By J. E. A. Smith

For almost an entire century the name of Childs, always with the prefix of "Doctor," had a power in Berkshire politics and medicine which pertained to that of few families, while those who bore it through three generations were men of great weight in other local affairs; nor was either their influence or their fame confined to our own locality.

The limit of time to within a decade less than a century is very definitely fixed. It began in 1771 when Dr. Timothy Childs came to Pittsfield to enter upon a long and successful professional career, and at the same time with all the ardor of youth to take a leading part in the agitation which in less than five years freed the town from the powerful Tory domination which controlled it, and made it among the foremost in the defence of American liberties. The later limit is in the Spring of 1861, when Dr. Henry H. Childs, the son of the Revolutionary patriot, at the age of 78, gave his voice with vehement eloquence to urge the united support of the people of all parties to the government in its efforts to preserve the Union, and said that, with his four score years upon him, he would personally take the field rather than by any consent or neglect of his, the nation should perish. Never in the nation's history were utterances like those of Dr. Childs, so consonant with those of Stephen A. Douglass, more needed, and, as circumstances gave to Mr. Douglass a national power of untold usefulness, so to those of Dr. Childs they gave a local influence of corresponding value. It may even be doubted whether the voice of Dr. Henry H. Childs from the platform hastily erected in the Pittsfield Park in the fearful emergency of April 1861 was not of greater value to the country than that of his father, Dr. Timothy, in the little old meeting house, where the town meetings were held in Revolutionary times and which stood within a couple of rods of the same spot. No one has better reason than

the writer to remember that the public services of Dr. H. H. Childs continued from some years after 1861, and that they were of no little value to the town, so that the record of the Childs family's good influence upon the community may strictly be held to cover a round century; but we have preferred to limit it for convenience sake to the more conspicuous bounds.

The Childs family is no longer represented in the active life of Pittsfield. It has become with us purely historic. But, for that very reason, it becomes us to sacredly preserve their history, and especially in the newspaper which they loved so well that they may almost be said to have been identified with it from its establishment. The observance of the centennial anniversary of the profession to which they belonged, and in which they stood conspicuous, seems to afford a fitting opportunity for the performance of this duty, and for this reason the following sketches are given at this time.

### DR. TIMOTHY CHILDS

Dr. Timothy Childs, the first of the name in Pittsfield, was born at Deerfield in 1748. He entered Harvard college in 1764, but left without graduating, and studied medicine in his native town with Dr. Thomas Williams, a brother of Col. Ephraim Williams, the founder of Williams college. Dr. Williams was a physician and surgeon of the highest repute, both professionally and as a citizen. His pupil, Timothy Childs, evidently profited by his instructions every way, but quite as evidently did not imbibe his tutor's political sentiments, which were rather of the Tory order. On the contrary he became one of the most ardent Whigs; and his Whig - Revolutionary Whig - ardor grew more and more intense to the close of his life.

When in June 1774 the Boston patriots sent out a circular letter asking the towns of this province to take action for the defence of the common liberties, he was one of the signers to the petition asking the selectmen to call a town meeting to act upon it. When this meeting was held, he and John Strong, a graduate of Yale college, who then kept a

hotel in what is now the Pomeroy homestead, were the committee which drafted the famous resolutions which were adopted by the town, and acted upon by the people, forever suppressed the King's courts and ended British power in Berkshire six months before the battle of Lexington and more than two years before the declaration of independence at Philadelphia.

On the 5th of December 1774, Dr. Childs was appointed by the town meeting a member of the first of the Revolutionary committees which ruled supreme in Berkshire from that time until the adoption of the state constitution in 1780. During all this period he was member of these formidable committees as they were from time to time constituted.

But Dr. Childs did not confine his patriotic labors to talk. When the alarm came at the time of the battle of Lexington, he was a lieutenant in Capt. David Noble's famous company of minute men and went with it to Cambridge in that capacity, but was soon detailed as surgeon. His father of the same name at the same time led the Deerfield minute-men to Cambridge as their captain.

The People of Pittsfield, with all their patriotism did not, however, forget that they needed a physician and passed a vote in town meeting requesting Dr. Childs "to return to us as it is very sickly here." It is plain that in the excitements of revolutionary agitation he had not neglected the duties of his profession, and that Pittsfield, malarious then, as all new countries are, had great need of him. Upon this call, he returned, the more willingly because the siege of Boston sadly lagged. Still he was constantly on the alert to be wherever the cause of his country called him; always willing to serve, it mattered not to him, whether as a soldier or a surgeon.

And this brings us back to him in his professional career, and in that career the record shows him an enlightened, far-seeing and progressive member of the medical profession; of this we can here cite but a single illustration, but that is sufficient to sustain our characterization of the man.

In the days of Dr. Timothy Childs, the one disease which scourged the world, and most of all the American world, was the small pox. It decimated the populations of cities and was more dreaded by an army than hostile artillery. The treatment of the sufferer from it, the reverse of that which more enlightened medical science now prescribes,

aggravated, instead of allaying the horrors of the disease. The simple, safe and effective preventive of vaccination was not discovered until years afterwards; but a few years before, Lady Mary Wortley Montague had brought back from her sojourn in Turkey the preventive process known as inoculation. This consists of infecting the subject with the virus of the genuine small pox, after he has been subjected to a regimen of diet and medicine which prepares his system to take it in the mildest possible form. It was the custom of intelligent physicians to establish isolated hospitals for the treatment of those who wished to subject themselves to it. Of course, there was some slight danger that contagion would spread from these institutions to the neighboring population. We now know that, with reasonable precautions, this danger is so slight as to be scarcely appreciable. With the imperfect sanitary knowledge of Revolutionary times, however, this danger seemed very terrible; and, with the imperfect knowledge of the proper precautions, which then prevailed, it was really much greater than at present. A certain percentage of the persons who were inoculated also died. This depended, of course, largely upon the skill of the physicians who superintended the inoculating hospitals, and, taking all the circumstances into consideration, the number of deaths was surprisingly small. This was perhaps due to the fact that no one was allowed to "set up" an inoculating hospital without the formal consent of the town in which it was proposed to place it.

This requisition of the law, however, often operated injuriously because town meetings were governed by popular fear and ignorance. It did so in the Pittsfield of 1774. In the spring of 1774, Dr. Childs, foreseeing the war, and knowing the danger from small pox to which its soldiers would inevitably be exposed, asked permission to set up an inoculation in Pittsfield. It was refused, and refused again by the town meeting of April 1775 although he begged for it with increased earnestness; and only those who visited other places to secure the protection obtained it, as Dr. Childs' friend, Rev. Thomas Allen, did at Sheffield.

One year afterwards, when Berkshire's soldiers lay dying by the score of small pox at Crown Point - that most self sacrificing Patriot, Captain David Noble among them - they had cause bitterly to regret the ignorant

cowardice of the town meeting which balked the efforts of Dr. Childs' professional benevolence. But, even then, he was accorded the requisite license only after dastardly hesitation, and with embarrassing restrictions. It is much to the credit of Dr. Childs that after such an experience he retained his unlimited faith in popular government.

In October 1777, Dr. Childs went as surgeon to the battle of Saratoga with the Berkshire militia who performed service there which has never yet been fully told or adequately recognized.

The war closed in 1783; but no war ends without leaving a long train of consequences. The so-called "United States" being without any sufficient frame of government, these consequences were inevitably of a very disturbing character. Among them was the Shays Rebellion which in 1787 had its culmination and defeat in Berkshire County. A hundred years ago Dr. Childs had very warm sympathy with the reforms which were asked for by the Shays party, most of which, and all that had any real ground, have since been achieved by the peaceful power of the ballot. There were, however, among them several fallacies which occasionally still "pop out" among ignorant reformers; of which a national paper currency which should redeem itself by a specified scale of annual depreciation was one. That was a marvelous "Greenback" idea. As we have said, Dr. Childs sympathized with the desire of the Shays rebels for the reform of real grievances but not in all their extreme notions or their appeal to arms in order to carry them out. On the contrary, he joined with other gentlemen of the county, whose political views were in general the reverse of his own, in their earnest endeavors to quiet the disorders of the day.

In the same year came the great question upon the acceptance or rejection of the Federal constitution, and, although we have no specific evidence of it, we are afraid that there is little reason to doubt that he, like most Democrats of his time, opposed its acceptance. The Democratic delegates from the town in the state convention certainly voted against it.

At this time political feeling ran very high and entered very fully into all the relations of life and society, even to those which naturally seem entirely alien to it. But it was at this most unpropitious epoch that the attempt was

made to establish a County Medical Society in Berkshire.

The Massachusetts Medical Society, incorporated in 1781, appointed in 1785 a committee of two physicians in each county to encourage the reporting of extraordinary and important cases which might occur in them. Drs. Erastus Sergeant and Oliver Partridge, both of Stockbridge, represented Berkshire. The secretary of the state society, informing them of their appointment, expressed the hope that a county association would be formed that would redound to the honor of the county. No attempt to effect this was, however, made until June 1787 when fourteen physicians signed articles of association, Dr. Timothy Childs being one. Among these articles was one appointing three censors, without whose certificate of approval, after due examination, signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary, no member could introduce a student to practice. These censors were Dr. Childs, Dr. Erastus Sergeant and Dr. Eldad Lewis, the latter of Lenox. The first examination under this rule was held at Pittsfield in January 1788, when three young men received the first diplomas in medicine ever granted in Berkshire by any authority higher than that of an individual preceptor.

The era, however, was most unfortunate for any organization of a fraternal character in Berkshire. The Shays Rebellion was just suppressed; the Federal constitution was just adopted; the county courts which had previously been held alternately at Great Barrington and Pittsfield, had just been concentrated at Lenox. The controversies concerning all these events had been extremely bitter and they had left behind them bitter feuds which continued long to disturb the harmony of the county. Dr. Childs had taken a conspicuous part in all of them, and often was at variance with the great majority of his professional brethren, who were Federalists and residents of the south part of the county. The association ceased to exist, as its records explain on account of the tumults raised by the Shays Rebellion; but there can be no doubt the dissensions raised by the other conflicts mentioned had their part in bringing about its dissolution. All this, it is well to remember, was precisely one hundred years ago.

A second Berkshire Medical Association was formed in 1784, but it had only a feeble and troubled existence of two years. In

February, 1818, the Legislature granted a charter for the Berkshire District Medical Society, to consist of the resident members of the State society. After no little controversy, the charter was accepted in 1820 and Dr. Timothy Childs was chosen its first president; but he died February 25, 1831, at the age of 73, having been in active practice up to within one week of the time of his death.

Some points of local interest in the life of this eminent patriot and physician remain to be mentioned. In the year 1774, in connection with his friend and compatriot, John Brown, afterwards the famous Revolutionary colonel, he bought of this town, what was known as the "ministry" settling lot; that is a lot reserved in the original grant of the township for the perpetual support of the gospel ministry in it. This lot had a frontage of 80 rods on West street, which extended from North street to very near the West street bridge; and was 200 feet long, taking it to a little above Clough street. The divided it equally by a line drawn north and south; Col. Brown taking the part which lies along North street and building his house with a deep court yard in front, nearly on the site of the present O'Brian's hotel on Depot street. Dr. Childs took the part which we now call Jubilee Hill (covering much more than the hill) and, years afterwards, built upon it the handsome house which still stands, opposite the Boston & Albany depot, and is occupied by its station agent.

Dr. Childs married a daughter of Col. James Easton, who was the second in command in Ethan Allen's capture of Fort Ticonderoga and performed still more distinguished service as commander of the Berkshire regiment in the invasion of Canada in 1776; a Revolutionary officer who has never yet received any credit at all commensurate with his merit.

From this marriage sprang several sons who became men of note; but the one with whom we have especially to do here is Henry Halsey Childs, who was born June 7th 1783 and graduated at Williams college in 1802.

#### DR. HENRY HALSEY CHILDS

This second Dr. Childs was a man of most marked character. No Berkshire man of his day was more so. Few had equal influence upon their times. Born into the Democratic faith, he grew up imbued with it

throughout his whole being. However little the present writer, inheriting and still cherishing opinions of an entirely opposite character in their general direction, could sympathize with him in some respects, he cannot help admiring the unselfish adhesion which Dr. Childs gave to his political gospel, and the vigor and ability with which he defended it. More than this, no one at this day, whatever his abstract opinions may be as to political belief, will dare deny that the constitutional reforms of which he was among the foremost champions, were such as the commonwealth could no longer wait for; reforms which no man today would dare ask to have reversed. The *SUN* at least was always with him.

So far as we have the record, these characteristics were first publicly manifested at the time of his graduation from Williams college at the age of 19. At that date all the faculty of the college and all the trustees, except, Rev. Mr. Judson of Sheffield, were Federalists. Young Childs - he was young in 1802 - was assigned an oration for his part on commencement day. In accordance with college custom he submitted what he had written to the faculty for their approval. They were distracted with horror to find his essay filled all through with the rankest Jeffersonian democracy; as bad as flagrant blasphemy, in their view of it.

Of course this odious heresy was strictly interdicted; but on commencement day when Childs mounted the academical platform, instead of the platitudes which had been substituted in accordance with the criticisms of the faculty, out came the condemned heresies, trebled in force by the attempt to suppress them.

"Childs! Childs!" exclaimed astonished President Fitch, but those who know the young orator will well believe that no presiding officer could have silenced him when he was bent upon "having his say." He said it all; and got his diploma nevertheless. Although his sympathizers were few on the platform they were many on the floor, and the applause drowned the hisses. We have elsewhere characterized Dr. Childs as "a bold, self-reliant, impulsive man, who, like all such men must have sometimes erred; energetic, enthusiastic and generally practical; thoroughly devoted to whatever he undertook, and for the most part successful." After a reconsideration of ten years we can only vary this estimate by the belief that the



errors of Dr. Childs were more inconsiderable than we then thought them, and his achievements greater.

As this political incident has been naturally introduced here, we will, for the sake of consecutiveness, complete his earlier political history before proceeding to that of his life as a medical man. Ardent enthusiasm, sincere feeling and a generous spirit were the most striking points in Dr. Childs nature; and they were manifested in his support of more than one great object which commended itself to his heart and conscience - his deep seated love and his religiously considered approbation. These objects may be arranged under the heads of his profession, his political party and his church, all of which he conceived to be better than any other similar institutions to serve the commonwealth and the community; but he was a man of a nature too broad, kindly and noble to be "a blinded bigot" in regard to either. Like his personal friend and political opponent, Governor Briggs, he found unlimited devotion to his own opinions perfectly consistent, not, with a charitable only, but a respectful regard for those who did not agree with him, and whom he opposed with all his excitable and nervous energy.

Educated in days of intense and intolerant politics for which recent experience affords no parallel; under the immediate influence of such teachers as Thomas and Phineas Allen, Ezekial Bacon, Elder Leland and his own father, and beyond them by Thomas Jefferson and the fiery Democratic press and orators of the country, he became a Democrat of the Democrats; and so continued to the end of his days, always sustaining the candidates and the platform of his party, and always reciprocally supported by them, and being under their candidacy elected a member of the House of Representatives in 1816 and 1827, of the Constitutional convention in 1820, and the Senate in 1837, and Lieutenant Governor in 1843.

The best claim of Dr. Childs to honorable memory as a politician arises not from these facts so much as from his able and ardent support of amendments to the state constitution, which have long since been adopted and whose wisdom is now rarely questioned.

The first of these concerned taxation for the support of public worship. The article in the Bill of Rights regarding this was very smoothly worded, but it really required all

the tax payers of the state to contribute to the support of that form of worship and that clergyman, which the majority of the people of their respective towns in town meeting assembled might select, unless they could obtain exemption on some always vexatious and often impossible conditions. The majority was in almost all cases in the interior towns, of the Congregational "order," and in effect a state church was established. The Baptist, Methodist and other denominations which rapidly multiplied in the early part of the century felt the discrimination against themselves keenly, sometimes suffered from it cruelly; and the longer established but less numerous Episcopalians suffered and sympathized with them. Several attempts were made to rectify the wrong by statute, but with only partial success. It could only be removed by what is known in surgical parlance as "a capital" operation. This operation Dr. Childs undertook to perform in the constitutional convention by introducing an amendment to the Bill of Rights which, had it been adopted would have left the relations between church and state in Massachusetts essentially as they now are. It was nearly identical with that which was adopted by a great majority of the popular vote in 1837, 27 years after Dr. Childs championed it with great ability and skill in the convention of 1839, when he was met by such representative of eastern conservatism as Daniel Webster, Samuel Hoar and Josiah Quincy, and it is no wonder that he was defeated. But it is something to be remembered that this conservatism resided to a great extent in the large towns, like Boston, Salem and Newburyport which had for years had the freedom by statute which they refused to the neighbors of less wealth and population. It was not accorded to Dr. Childs to win the final triumph in his own person; but he earnestly contended for it and must be accounted among the foremost - in action the very foremost - of those to whom the several religious denominations in Massachusetts owe their equality before the law. And it must be remembered in all this that he was at that time, and always continued, one of the most faithful members of the Congregational denomination which was so greatly favored by the injustice of the law that he did so much to overthrow, but which few Congregationalists would now consent to restore.

There were two other constitutional wrongs which Dr. Childs attacked vigorous-

ly, and ably, but unsuccessfully, in the convention, but which the people in good time overthrew by the later method of constitutional amendment. The first of these required a property qualification for the right of suffrage; the other based the apportionment of senators in the state legislature not upon population but property, so that, while the county of Suffolk (Boston) had one senator for every 7,500 inhabitants, Berkshire had only one for 20,000. The *SUN* cited the case of one man in Boston with a capital of \$1,300,000 who had as much influence in this way as 1300 Berkshire voters. Dr. Childs and his friends considered this "a gross and cruel inequality" and contended against it accordingly. In good time success came; and this also became no longer a partisan issue, but an accomplished historic fact.

It is upon these and similar achievements which the political memory of Dr. Childs should rest rather than upon the offices which he held, although some of them were powerful weapons in his hands.

We think it will not be denied that Dr. H. Childs had qualities as a statesman and applied them in such a manner as to deserve grateful memory. But perhaps we have given disproportionate attention to them as the greater portion of his life, both as a private citizen and a public man was given to the medical profession. If so, our excuse must be, that his career as a physician is so much the more generally known as to need less elucidation. Nevertheless we address ourselves to it with the conviction that our limits forbid us to give more than a mere skeleton of it. And, prominent as is the part which skeletons play in the medical world, that is not at all satisfactory.

Henry Halsey Childs, after his graduation at Williams college in 1802, studied medicine with his father and practiced with him until his death.

In 1819, when a meeting of Berkshire Physicians was held looking to the organization of the present district society, he was one of the committee on the all important matter of fees, but does not seem to have been successful in that role, as their report was rejected in 1820. His father, the president of the society, dying in 1821, and Dr. Hugo Burghardt of Richmond being elected to succeed him, Dr. Henry Halsey Childs was chosen vice president - a better test of his position in the profession.

A still stronger one followed. In the same year Dr. O. S. Root came home from Woodstock, Vt., with word sent to Dr. Childs that the moment was favorable to the establishment of a medical college in Pittsfield. He seized upon the hint with avidity. Public spirited, devoted to his profession, and eager for distinction in it, the move enlisted all his sympathies. Prompt, practical and energetic, he pushed it vigorously and without pause; never for a moment suffering the local public interest in it to flag.

It met obstacles without number, but he was ready to meet them. The act of incorporation was signed by Gov. Brooks, January 4th 1823, although the school had actually gone into operation some months before.

It had a life of almost half a century. and from the first almost to its very last years, Dr. Henry Halsey Childs was its inspiring and guiding spirit. It is quite impossible for a newspaper to tell it in detail. As given in the Pittsfield town history it occupied 29 closely printed octavo pages, and if it had been given as originally written it would have demanded twice that space, many interesting facts having been necessarily omitted. It may be said that Dr. Childs was one of the most valuable members of the committee of the town to procure that history.

During Dr. Childs' management of the college many occasions arose when it was necessary to combine, indomitable "pluck" with discretion; "pluck" being often the better part of discretion. And he was always equal to the occasion. One of these was the contest with the Massachusetts Medical Society which refused to admit graduates of the Berkshire school to membership on the same terms with those enjoyed by those from Cambridge. The controversy lasted from 1834 to 1837, when the state society yielded. It is noticeable that in this same year, 1837, the Pittsfield institution was freed from its dependence upon Williams college, which up to that date conferred its medical diplomas, and that Dr. Childs was formerly elected its president; his official position previous to that date, in addition to his place as professor, having been analogous to that of dean.

In April 1863, at the age of 80, although he still possessed much of the nervous energy of his early manhood, and had lost none of his love for the college, he resigned his professorship. The presidency, he retained, although it was of a semi *emeritus* character.

Most of the arduous duties which he had so faithfully performed for 41 years were transferred to younger men; but he still frequently addressed the students, by invitation, and conferred degrees at commencement until 1867, almost the last that was ever held. Soon after that commencement, he went to Boston and after passing the winter in the family of his son-in-law, Hon. Elias Merwin, died there March 22, 1868.

In addition to his duties in connection with the Berkshire Institution, he gave lectures for many years in the medical school of Maine, connected with Bowdoin college, and also in the medical institutions at Woodstock, Vermont and Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Childs professional labors outside of those connected with the college would have been exhausting to a man of less vitality. To him they seemed a source of delight - the delight which arises from the power to alleviate suffering, and which, to some extent, neutralizes the pain which comes from witnessing it. The general reader may not quite comprehend this distinction; but we are sure that most physicians will.

In religion, Dr. Childs was a Congregationalist, and a member of the First Congregational church, in which he was long a deacon; but his interpretation of its creed was the mildest possible, and his sympathy with Christians of all denominations was without bounds. Indeed his sympathy with all that is good in humanity, wherever it is found, was limitless. The heart of "Harry" Childs was wonderfully large, and we only wish that we had space to enumerate instances in which this was manifested; but we must pause.

### THE THIRD DR. CHILDS

There was a third Dr. Childs, a second Dr. Timothy, who inherited the best qualities of his father and grandfather to the full and gave the highest promise of excelling them in professional usefulness; a man of the truest heart and most lovable character. Timothy, son of Dr. H. H. Childs, was born in Pittsfield, December 1, 1822, graduated at Williams College in 1841, and at the Berkshire Medical College in 1844. In 1847 he was appointed surgeon of the only Massachusetts regiment which served in the Mexican war. After returning from that service, he was professor of Anatomy, Physiology and Medical Surgery in Pittsfield and of general

surgery in the Maine Medical School at Brunswick, and in the New York Medical College. His skill in surgery was recognized as of a very high order. For several years he was also Dean of the faculty of the Pittsfield college. No physician of his age gave better promise of the highest fame and position than Dr. Timothy Childs; but all was ended by his untimely death at Norwich, Connecticut in 1865, to which city he had shortly before removed. There have been few men whose loss Pittsfield and Berkshire ever had more cause to mourn.

\* \* \*

### MORE ON THE CHILDS FAMILY

From *Berkshire Hills*, June 1, 1902

Captain Thomas Childs, who served his country in the war of 1812 in the heavy artillery as Lieutenant of a company, was the son of Dr. Timothy Childs of Pittsfield, a surgeon in the revolutionary war and in the war of 1812. He afterwards participated in the Seminole Indian war, and at the time of his death held the rank of Brigadier General. When General W. T. Sherman left West Point Military Academy after his graduation he was sent to Florida, the Seminole war then being in progress. Here he was placed under command of Major Thomas Childs, with whom and family he formed a permanent friendship. After this war he lost track of Major Childs and family for many years. Just before the close of the late civil war and just after his famous march through Georgia, Gen. Sherman unexpectedly ran across the widow of Gen. Childs near Charlestown, South Carolina, and from her learned that her only son was in the confederate army. Gen. Childs was a brother of the famous Pittsfield physician, Dr. H. H. Childs, whose son Dr. Timothy Childs served a Massachusetts regiment as surgeon in the Mexican war. Dr. Timothy Childs, the father of these distinguished sons, built the Childs mansion overlooking the Boston and Albany depot, in 1774, in which his wife placed in its parlor the first loom carpet, nine feet square, ever brought into the old town. The first "medicine shop" or drug store in the town was built by Dr. Timothy in 1796 and which stood on the present site of the Allen Block.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE FOUR PONTOOSUCK SETTLEMENT FORTS

From *The Berkshire Hills*, March, 1904.

In 1754 Col. Israel Williams of Hatfield, the Western District Commander of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, wrote to Major William Williams, then in command of the state troops and military district in which Fort Massachusetts and Pontoosuck Township were stations, that it was advisable because of the situation to fortify the eminence on which was located the Ashley house, just southwest of Ashley Pond, and now called Lake Onota. That such a fort would not only be a protection to the settlement and for general defence, but would, with a sufficient garrison, afford great protection to Stockbridge and the towns below, and as well be of great convenience to scouting parties passing north and south. Ashley Hill which overlooks a wide area of hill and valley, and now the site of the Daniels mansion and farm, was then the property of one Ashley, who afterwards became a noted tory in the Revolutionary war.

Major, who afterwards became Col. Williams, and was a notable officer in the French and Indian wars, failed to act on this suggestion, and speedily built Fort Anson on his own land on Unkamet street in the north-eastern portion of the township, where there were no natural defense features and advantages, and which mainly served as a place of refuge for the tillers of the soil and their families when hostile Indians were making their raids into this sparsely settled wilderness. This fort was a fortified dwelling, or block house, of elaborate and skillful build, had no cannon and was garrisoned by the Province. It cost the builder £91, but he was only awarded £63 by the government for its building.

The second fort or block-house in the township was erected by permission of the Province on his farm, southeast of Wendell Square in the east part in 1756 and was called Fort Goodrich after its builder, Charles Goodrich. The third fort was erected in 1757 on the Nathaniel Fairfield farm on Honasada street by that gentleman, he having obtained the requisite permission from the Province and it was named Fort Fairfield. Both these forts, as was the first, were erected for the

personal safety of the settlers and were garrisoned by the government, as was a similar fort in the southern part of Lanesboro, where two Indians were killed in an assault, and also what was known as Ash Fort in New Ashford.

It was not until the summer of 1757 that the fort originally recommended by Col. Israel Williams in 1754 be built "for ye protection of ye town of Stockbridge and for scouting parties from that point," and by Gen. Dwight in 1756 "as a fortified post if well manned of the greatest service for general defence and protection to the central and southern portion of the section," was constructed on Ashley hill and called Fort Ashley. This was in reality the frontier fort in the Pontoosuck Settlement and it was well garrisoned by provincial troops on account of its strategic situation and importance. It was built by 25 Connecticut soldiers who were detached from a company of the same who were stationed at Stockbridge, and though mounted with no swivels or cannon, was the stronghold in the central portion of the county.

Though there is no tradition that Fort Ashley was ever besieged by hostile Indians, it is known that roving bands of such were frequently sighted in its near vicinity and that early settlers often fled to it for protection when such were hovering about in the forests of the locality. It is well known as well that this fort not only served as a great safeguard to the Pontoosuck settlement against surprise and attack by the Indians, was prized as a safe retreat by the pioneer farmers, but stood as a much feared menace to the savages as from its loopholes close watch was kept over all the region now embraced in the city of Pittsfield. Besides it was the rendezvous of all troops and scouts passing through the county in the last French and Indian war.

The site of Fort Ashley on which now stands the Daniels country residence is full of historic interest as according to tradition it was once the center of an Indian village and in its immediate vicinity many of the weapons and traces of these aboriginal natives have been found, as well as the burial places and

bones of the same. In late years, the old well of Fort Ashley, which was of great depth, has been discovered, and not being thought necessary for use, was sought to be filled up. But a short time afterwards by some syphon-like action, its waters began to boil up in small quantities at its mouth, which necessitated the construction of a trench to carry the same from the structure above it. From this outlet a small stream of water now constantly flows and of great purity and coldness, this water never changing in temperature whatever

being the season of the year. On this site, at the southwest angle of the old fort, is still standing an aged apple-tree, thought to be a survivor of the revolutionary period, if not of earlier growth, while the old military training ground is pointed out in a near-by meadow. An ancient relic of the vicinity is the sign of an old tavern once standing on this farm, and which is now mounted over the drawing room of the Wirt D. Walker country seat on the shore of Onota Lake.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE BULL FAMILY PAPERS

From the Goodrich Family Manuscript Collection at the Berkshire Athenaeum

Capt. James Hitchcock of the British Army from Hartford, Ct., (by the Indians he was carried through the woods on a litter). Arrived at the spring (Lebanon Springs) in 1756. Spring was used by the Indians as a place of resort for curing of diseases. A curbing of logs was then built around the spring, made tight by a backing of clay. The spring was then used for bathing.

1765 Land granted to Ephraim Keys by General Court of Massachusetts Feb. 19, 1765.

In the spring of 1762 John Wadhams settled the lands in the neighborhood of the Springs and in 1765 purchased the Keyes grant. He was the first settler of the neighborhood.

In 1767 John Wadhams conveyed 4½ acres about the spring to Charles Goodrich of Pittsfield, Mass.

Frederick Cheeney built the first house on the Columbia Hall lot in 1769. This house was removed in 1823.

Goodrich leased? to Hitchcock the spring and a lot on which was a dwelling and bath-room attached. Nov. 19, 1778.

Hitchcock was dispossessed by Judge Ogilvie after suit of Goodrich Nov. 4, 1806.

In 1794, forty feet of the Eastern portion of Columbia Hall was built by William Nichols, of Hartford, Ct. Nichols bought of Goodrich. Nichols died in 1809 and by order of Court the property was sold to pay debts.

The purchaser was Samuel Hand, who sold to Caleb Hull, the father of Henry Hull (now lives at the springs).

Caleb Hull added 40 feet to the west in 1808 and built 50 feet of the south L in 1808. Henry Hull and Anthony Keys raised the old part one story and put on addition of 80 feet, also built a new bath house in 1823 & 1824.

The main building on the south was erected by Anson Parsons about 1840.

All other improvements were made by J.B. and David? Gale - 21 years ago.

Captain *Thomas* Bull 1606-1684, had 7 children, viz., Thomas, David, Ruth, Susannah, Abigail, Jonathan, *Captain Joseph* had 6 children, viz., Sarah b 1672, Joseph Jr. b 1675, *Daniel* b 1677 d 1721, Caleb b 1679, Nathaniel b 1691, Mary b 1695. Daniel had 10 children, viz., Mary b 1707, Daniel, Jr. b 1710, Aaron b 1710, Keziah b 1712, Isaac b 1714, Susannah b 1716, Abigail b 1717, Caleb b 1719, *Amos* b 1720, Joseph b 1722. Amos had 8 children, viz., *John* b 1748, Amos, *Abner*, Luther, Caleb, Susan, James, Mindwell. John had 8 children, viz., John Jr. b 1777, Ruth, Amos, Samuel, Joseph, Tharina, Sally, Benjamin. Abner had *Abner*, Jr. and other children not known. Abner, Jr. had 10 children, viz., Frank, Perry, Milo, Orpha, Chloe, Horatio, Mercy, Stephen, Harvey, Electa.

\* \* \* \* \*

## GUARDIANSHIP OF JOHN ALDRICH

From Miscellaneous manuscripts in the Berkshire Athenaeum Vault, Pittsfield, Mass.

### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

#### BERKSHIRE, SS

*By the Honorable WILLIAM P. WALKER, Esq. Judge of the Probate of Wills  
&c. for and within the County of Berkshire, in the Commonwealth  
aforesaid.*

*To Nathan Beers of Lanesborough  
in the County and Commonwealth aforesaid.*

#### GREETING

#### TRUSTING IN YOUR CARE AND FIDELITY, I DO BY THESE

presents pursuant to the power and authority to me granted, in and by an Act of the General Court of the said Commonwealth, allow you to be the Guardian unto John Aldrich a son & minor above the age of fourteen years, son of David Aldrich, late of Adams in said County, deceased, with full power and authority to ask, demand, sue for, recover, and take into your custody, all and singular such part and portion of Estate as accrues to him in right of his said father, or which by any other way or means whatsoever doth of right appertain or belong to the said minor and to manage, employ and improve the same for his best profit and advantage, and to render a plain and true account of your Guardianship upon Oath, so as the Law will charge you therewith, when you shall be lawfully required, and pay and deliver such and so much of the said Estate, as shall be remaining upon your account (the same being first examined and allowed by the Judge of Probate,) unto the said minor when he shall arrive at full age, or otherwise as the said Judge, by his Decree or Sentence, pursuant to Law, shall limit and appoint. And you are also to render a true inventory of all estate of said minor into the Probate Office of said County, within 18 months from the date hereof, if any estate he have.

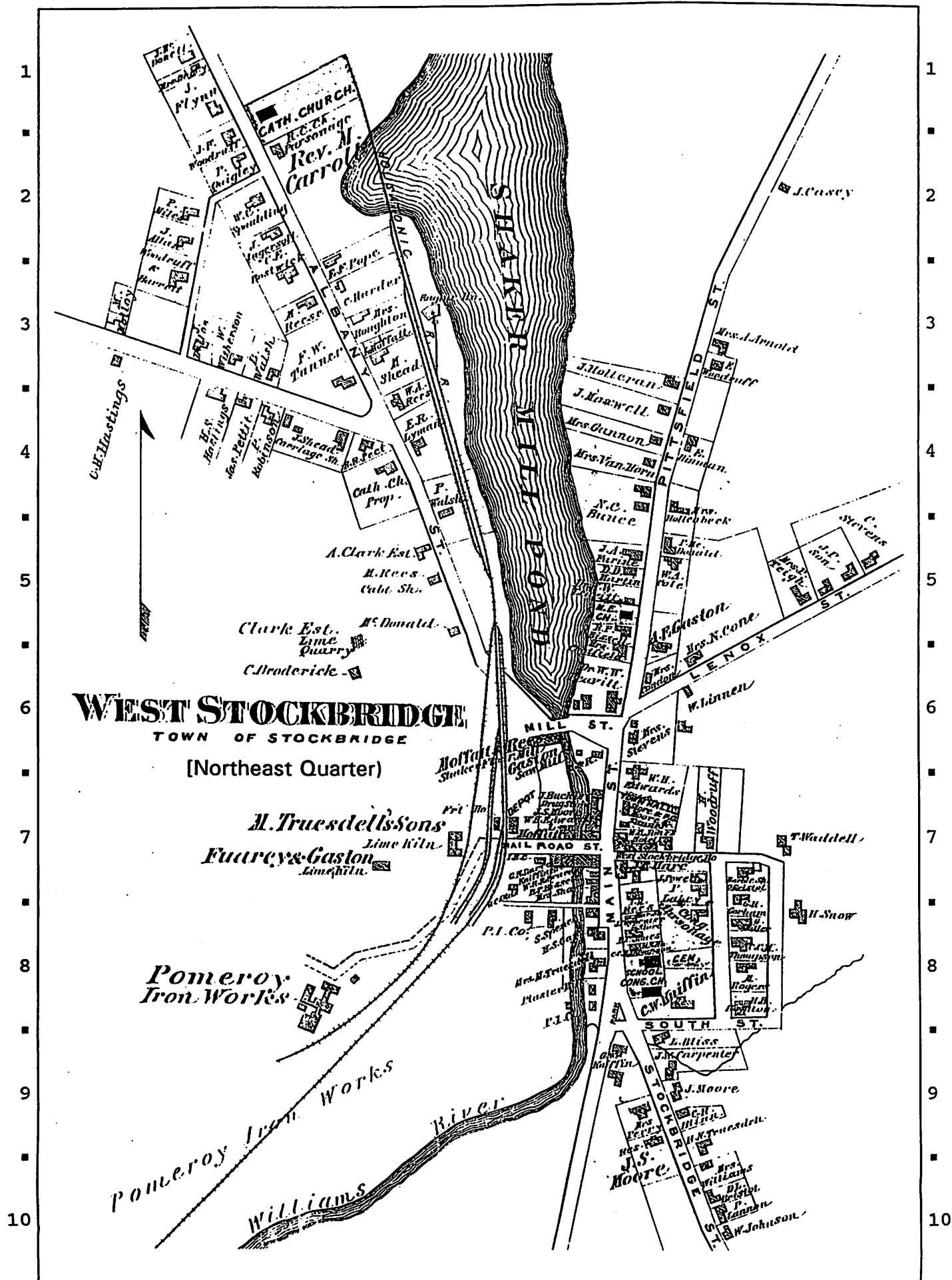
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the said Court of Probate. Dated at Adams the fourteenth day of October Anno Domini One Thousand Eight hundred and thirty five.

William P. Walker

\* \* \* \* \*

### WEST STOCKBRIDGE [Northeast Quarter) - 1876

Allan, J.	B-2	Condon, Mrs.	E-6	Kniffin, C. W.	F-8	Moore, J.	F-9	Son, J. P.	G-5
Arnold, A., Mrs.	F-3	Cone, N., Mrs.	F-5	Kniffin, J. W.	E-9	Moore & Tanner	E-7	Spaulding, W. C.	B-2
Barrett	B-3	Dillon, J.	B-3	Kniffin Bros.	D-7	Niles, P.	B-2	Spencer, S.	E-8
Barrett, G. N.	D-7	Edwards, W. H.	E-7	Lahey, P.	F-7	Olds, H. C.	D-7	Stevens, C.	G-5
Bissell, B. P.	E-5	Farine, J. J.	E-5	Lannon, P.	F-10	Peet, R. R.	C-4	Stevens, Mrs.	E-6
	E-7	Flynn, J.	B-1	Leavitt, W. W., Dr.	E-5	Perry, Mrs.	E-9	Tanner, F. W.	C-3
Blinn, C. H.	F-9	Fuarey & Gaston	C-7		E-6	Pettit, James	B-4	Teigh, P., Mrs.	F-5
Bliss, L.	F-9	Gannon, Mrs.	E-4	Linnen, W.	F-6	Pomeroy tron	B-8	Thompson, C. C.	E-8
Boughton, Mrs.	C-3	Gaston, A. E.	F-5	Lyman, E. R.	C-4	Pope, E. F.	C-3		F-8
Boynton, H. B.	F-8	Gaston Sawmill	D-6	Martin, D. D.	E-5	Powell, J.	F-7	Truesdell, H. N.	F-9
Bristol, D. L.	F-10	Gay, H. S.	E-8	Maxwell, J.	E-4	Quigley, P.	B-2	Truesdell, M., Mrs.	E-8
Bristol, O.	F-7	Gorham, G. R.	F-8	McDonald, P.	F-5	Rees, I. M.	E-8	Truesdell, M.	C-7
Broderick, C.	C-6	Harder, C.	C-3	McDonald	C-5	Rees, M.	C-5	Van Horn, Mrs.	E-4
Buckley, J.	E-7	Hare, J. C.	E-7	McDonell, J.	B-1	Rees, W. A.	C-4	Waddell, T.	G-7
Bunce, N. C.	E-4	Hastings, C. H.	A-4	Miller, G.	F-8	Reese, M.	C-3	Walsh, D.	B-3
Carpenter, J. W.	F-9	Hastings, H. S.	B-4	Moffatt, L.	C-3	Robinson, P.	B-4	Walsh, P.	D-4
Carpenter, J.	E-8	Hinman, E.	F-4		E-7	Rogers, M.	F-8	Williams, Mrs.	F-10
Carroll, M., Rev.	C-2	Holleran, J.	E-3	Moffatt & Rees	D-6	Shaw, Mrs.	E-7	Witherson, W.	B-3
Casoy, J.	G-2	Ingersoll, J.	B-2	Molloy, M.	A-3	Shead, J.	C-4	Woodruff, E.	F-3
Chatfield, Mrs.	E-6	Johnson, W.	F-10	Moore, J. S.	E-10	Shead, M.	C-3	Woodruff, H.	F-7
Clark, A.	C-5	Jones, H. C.	E-7	Moore, J. S.	E-7	Snow, H.	G-8	Woodruff, J. F.	B-2
Cole, W. A.	E-5		E-8						





## O BE JOYFUL TYLER, HERMIT OF LANESBORO

From *Springfield Republican*, March 14, 1943.

For O Be Joyful Tyler of Pittsfield and Lanesboro, one of Berkshire's most picturesque characters, and a one time student at Harvard college, meat rationing will be no inconvenience, or hardship, because he has been a vegetarian for more than 40 years. Ever since he came to Pittsfield in 1903 with his bride following a horse and buggy honeymoon trip across the continent to the Pacific coast he has been hatless. On Monday, February 15, 1943, when Pontoonuc lake thermometers registered 35 below zero and a gale was whistling across the white expanse where ice is 30 inches thick, he was walking toward Pittsfield, bareheaded, in the middle of the road from his lake shore domicile, Irwin street, Lanesboro.

Mr. Tyler's objective was the Berkshire Athenaeum where he imbibes intellectual refreshment from the best magazines and books. Twenty years ago he was reading an article in the Scientific Magazine on the advantages from a health standpoint of permitting the hair to grow, "so I decided to cut out haircuts," he said the other day. "No tonsorial artist is going to spoil my looks and wreck my health - not for 65 cents."

O Be Joyful never has known a sick day and now at 71 he is not only a picture of rugged health, but of striking personality. At 70 he was the first to register in the initial draft at Lanesboro, his legal residence. "I offered my services, hoping that I might be helpful somewhere in this war effort. Anyway I shall plant this spring a vegetable victory garden three times larger than ever before and the town may have the surplus over my personal needs."

Twice married, O Be Joyful, whose real name is Albert Franklin Tyler, lives alone following domestic trouble. He corresponds regularly with his three grown-up children, Mrs. George Perry of Batavia, N. Y.; Harry Vincent Tyler and Archibald Tyler, both of Minneapolis, Minn. After spending a few hours mornings at the Athenaeum, or public library, he will drop into a luncheonette for a vegetable "feast." In the afternoon or early evening, he may often be found at the YMCA for a game of checkers, at which he has few

equals in skill. He has encountered many visiting checker experts, who always revise their initial opinion of a hillbilly easy mark. O Be Joyful is a close student of the Bible, which he has read through from Genesis to Revelation several times and he can quote scripture.

On December 15, 1922, O Be Joyful was the leading attraction at an amateur night at the old Majestic theater, now the Palace. The announcement that he was to talk on "The relativity beauty of man and woman" attracted 2500 persons. Not only the Majestic was jammed to capacity but also the Capitol and Union Square theaters, to which his prepared 15-minute address was relayed to hilarious audiences. He was guaranteed \$15 and made such a hit the ante was raised to \$22.50. A reviewer said O Be Joyful wore a gray and black check suit, street shoes, a turn down collar and a red tie and: "He has a shock of brown hair and a luxuriant beard, this last being the result of an experience in Ohio when on a western trip he lost his razor. 'I buried my pride with it,' he asserted." If any doubts that O Be Joyful is a close student of human nature, a jester par excellence, a real wit of old Lanesboro where Josh Billings was born in 1819, read this speech, which thrilled the city and countryside a little over 20 years ago:

"I have been asked to come here before this assemblage of college graduates, learned people, bond holders and the sheriff, who is concealed somewhere in this building, to take up a knotty question. I know that the men will dislike me and I shall be hated by the women. But the truth is mighty and must prevail.

"And my maiden name is Truth. The subject is; Are women handsomer than men? I want you to take a good look at me then ask such a foolish question. Yet it is a vital question agitating many minds and must be sifted at once. Are women more beautiful than men?

"Do men stand admiring themselves and combing their hair for hours, rubbing rouge on their faces, salve on their lips, penciling their eyebrows, blackening their eyelashes,



do they? I've seen them black each other's eyes but that was done when they did not expect it.

"Do men lace themselves so tight they can't sit down? They get tight I admit, but that is not caused by lacing. It is caused by fullness that has been accumulated in several places.

"You ask: 'Is man more beautiful than woman?'

"Go to the menagerie and look around you. The lioness is a very plain looking animal. Look at the lion. A noble-looking fellow with a mane and a superior look in his face.

"Take a look at the peacock's WIFE - just a plain ordinary looking affair but he, the gentleman, the peacock. Isn't he a beauty? Isn't he a dream? Talk of loveliness.

"Then look at the bird of paradise - gorgeous plumage and lovely feathers on his head. He's a He too. His wife looks like 30 cents.

"Then look at the majestic rooster in the barnyard. What a display of beautiful manhood and elegance. What does the hen look like? She's a sight. She's going around in a wrapper, scratching here and there and talking back and biting her neighbors. She looks up to her husband as a superior being and she knows he is. She's thankful she's alive, for she's too homely to die.

"Look at the gentleman ostrich. See him strutting around eating nails, horseshoes, scrap iron. There is a vision of manly beauty. And his wife, a little sawed-off, measly looking bird with hardly enough feathers to make a bustle.

"Nothing could be more handsome than a beautiful man. Are you looking at me? I have taken the animals and birds as an illustration and a proof.

"Now we come to the next generation of animals - man. Nobody wants to descend from monkeys, but sometimes we can't help that which our ancestors do or were.

"I am not here to go back into my family tree and find out who cut up monkey shines on it. We hear the gobbling of this one and that one, saying that woman, the beautiful creature, chooses her mate. And that often she marries a homely man.

"In olden times a man stole his wife. He's rush right in, grab whoever he could

and away he went. Nowadays he wishes somebody would rush in and steal her from him, but no one will. There are places where times have not improved.

"I said primitive man stole his wife. Later on he bought her. He gave horses, sheep or furs to her parents and thus bought her. Of course he was buncoed; just as he is nowadays. She didn't care about his looks, so long as he had money, but was soft and easy; in fact what we call nowadays 'a good thing.'

"In the present century woman often buys a husband. All she gets in return is a title - a broken-down, moth-eaten, bargain-counter duke, or an earl.

"That proves that man is still the handsomest creature, or why would they go across the ocean after him and give him all that good American money - just to get his name.

"There is no doubt that woman is very beautiful, artificially, or accidentally. And women are called the fair sex, because they are always fair in dealing with the men, if the men are out of their reach.

"Their fancy colored silks, satins, false hair, manufactured cheeks and peroxide of hydrogen blonde tresses, of course give them additional charm but WE do not need these deceptions to increase our beauty. We do not sail under false colors. You see us just as we are. Our beauty speaks for itself. And WE are the real dairy butter and not oleomargarine.

"Are women handsomer than men? Ask the question of one another and look around you upon the natural beauty of the speaker and the gentlemen here assembled.

"An old English law states that any woman with false hair, false color on cheeks, defective eyesight - or in any way passing herself off as a beauty and natural-looking woman and luring a poor man into marriage - why, it was a crime and the marriage was null and void.

"A fine law, a good law, but if that were in force in Pittsfield today what a lot of old maids would be looking for work." Five minutes of applause."

The Lanesboro recluse once summed up his philosophy of life when he said:-

"I have traveled all over this country from Alaska to the far south, from San Francisco to New York. In my travels I

always learn something new. I always remembered whatever pertained to nature and have come to the conclusion that human beings do not think enough. For instance I do not think it is right to kill one of God's creatures so that we may live. I know there is something better than that. If you and I stood before a large orange tree and I said to you: 'Pick an orange to eat,' you, of course, would look for the largest and best orange on the tree. That little story shows in a way that I think I am picking the best in life when I say: 'Live close to nature.'

"I am always finding people who are doing something of no value to them, or any one else. If you went to a pawn shop to borrow on an article it would have to be of some value, or the broker would not loan on it. And yet many of us are doing things every day of no value to us. What are we getting for it?"

Tyler has no clock in his home; he never carries a watch. "My watch is the sun," he says. "When it comes up in the morning I arise and when it sets at night I retire. When I was a youngster I went to church every Sunday, but I am no saint, neither am I a pagan."

O Be Joyful was born at Haverhill May 31, 1872. His father was a Vermonter, his mother was from Cumberland, Me. At 18, O Be Joyful became a traveling salesman and "hit the trails" for 20 years. At Harvard he says he specialized in mathematics. In 1903 Tyler was married at Buffalo, N.Y. to Miss Susan Aldinger of Erie county. Her parents were well to do farmers and strict vegetarians. The ceremony took place in the German Lutheran church. For their wedding trip they drove to California, starting with a span of horses and winding up with a roan, which had worn out six team mates. Returning east and en route to New Hampshire they passed through Pittsfield and liked the looks of the city so much both exclaimed "This shall be our home." Arriving here in December they bought the William W. Bristol farm on Cascade street west of Onota lake. In 1904 Tyler bought a cider press and in the fall each year sold his product from house to house. Subsequently he purchased an ancient Ford and his contraption became a sight of the region. His average sales per season totaled 2000 gallons. Last fall Tyler

came to Pittsfield one day with his coupe piled high with 20 old tires which he had accumulated at his plantation on Irwin street, Lanesboro. The tires were turned in toward the rubber salvage.

When the three Tyler children were quite young they were brought up on a diet of raw vegetables and Tyler used to point to them as living examples of perfect health resulting from the pursuit of his vegetarian philosophy. One especially severe winter neighbors complained to authorities they feared the Tyler children were suffering from malnutrition. The late Probation Officer David L. Evans was told during a visit to the single story Cascade street house without blinds or shades that Mrs. Tyler and the children would eat cooked vegetables and the family dietitian saw they were on the daily menu thereafter. The children had plenty of milk, which has been missing from the Lanesboro hermit's personal diet for 25 years. "Savors too much of bovine," he says.

Playmates of one of Tyler's little sons years ago gave him the nickname of "O Be Joyful," which was soon transferred to the father and he likes it. Every time O Be Joyful walks down North street, always hatless, with his luxuriant growth of whiskers on face and pate he attracts as much attention as a circus clown. He likes children and they idolize him, calling out "Hello O Be. Where is your hat?" Often he has a child in either hand.

Two years ago O Be took first prize in the Independence day rag shag parade amid hot competition among some of the city's leading jesters.

So this will introduce to Western Massachusetts the somewhat queer, but patriotic, good natured recluse of Lanesboro.

[Your editor reluctantly admits to being of sufficient seniority to have some remembrance of Mr. Tyler, who died in 1961. I would commonly see him walking on North Street, not too large a man, with his long hair wrapped up in a bun, held in place with a rather large nail. His well worn trousers were supported by a length of rope in lieu of a belt, and his sneakered feet were always sockless.]

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE OLD "KING'S DISTRICT"

From the Goodrich Family Papers in the Local History Vault, Berkshire Athenaeum.

In the northeast part of Columbia County (New York) there is a District of County which was, after its settlement, called "King's District." It constituted all that part of Albany County lying along the line between the Colonies of New York and that of Massachusetts Bay, between the Van Rensselaer Manor on the north, the Claverack Manor on the south and Kinderhook on the west, being about twelve miles wide from east to west and about eighteen in length from north to south. This District, before its settlement by Europeans, was a part of the possessions of the Stockbridge tribe of Indians. None of the numerous Manor grants in the County of Albany embraced this tract, and it was at its first settlement free from contentions relative to land titles, except on the eastern line, where a question of jurisdiction existed between the Province of New York and Massachusetts. The District therefore filled up rapidly with squatters on all lands easily cleared for cultivation, the inhabitants settling upon the hills and avoiding the valleys on account of the dense growth of forest and the unhealthiness of those locations. During the old French war, David Brainard was a missionary among the Indians and was stationed in the "King's District," as we learn by his journal, in which he states that he was twelve miles from Stockbridge and twenty miles from Albany and twelve miles from Kinderhook. A runner came to the station with information that the French and Indians were advancing from the north, when Brainard and the Indians retreated to Stockbridge and the mission was broken up. The people near Brainard - direct your attention at this day to some old apple trees, which they have a tradition were planted by the Missionary while he resided there, but in this they are undoubtedly mistaken, as they were probably planted by Jeremiah Brainard, a relative of David, who afterwards located near where his relative formerly had charge of his Indian Mission. The permanent settlement of the District commenced about 1760. A family of Warners were doubtless

the first to locate there, occupying lands in that part of the District now called Canaan. The gifted authoress of "Queechy" and other works of fiction was a descendant of this family. Many families soon followed, mostly from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, and on the breaking out of the Revolution the whole District was thickly settled, especially along the eastern borders thereof. Along the Kinderhook Creek there were also settlements, mostly Dutch, and a number of families of Quakers, of whom we have no data from whence they originated. The District was at this time divided into precincts, which are laid down on Souther's old map, made by order of Gov. Tryon, as "New Lebanon," "New Canaan," "New Britain," and "New Concord."

The difficulties between the Colonies and the Mother Country previous to 1776 found the inhabitants of King's District "arrant rebels," with the exception of a few Tories, who were not however, in sufficient numbers to be troublesome. The Quakers were also religiously opposed to war, and took no part in it, a trait that has distinguished their descendants to the present, and accounts for the many "birthrights" in Columbia County during the late war. Two companies of Minute Men were raised in the District, who were out several times, and many enlisted into the regular army and served during the war. Public meetings were frequently held in the District previous to 1776 and in Kinderhook and Claverack, which were addressed by Parson Thomas Allen, of Pittsfield, Mass. on the subjects of grievances of the people. This parson was a cousin of General Ethan Allen, and like him fearless in his actions, preaching the gospel during sabbath day and spreading treason the rest of the week. The proceedings of a public meeting exists, of which was held June 24, 1776 in the King's District, and a resolution passed instructing the representative in Congress to vote for the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. This is said to be the first meeting held in the Colonies, where resolutions were passed

instructing a member upon that subject.

The part which the citizens of the King's District took in the war of the Revolution belongs more particularly to the history of the towns of which it was composed; we therefore leave that subject to the historians of the several Towns of the County, whom it has been proposed should furnish the materials during the present centennial year.

In 1787 the line between New York and Massachusetts was settled<sup>1</sup>, by which a section of country over one half a mile wide, formerly claimed by Massachusetts, was brought under the jurisdiction of New York. This gave to the King's District over nine square miles of additional territory. By act of 7th of March 1788, the District was organized into a Township, to which was given the name of Canaan. On the 17th March 1795, the western portion of the Town, with the eastern portion of Kinderhook, was organized into a Town and called Chatham. March 28th 1818 the southern part of Canaan was taken off, with a part of Hillsdale and Chatham, and organized into a Town to be called Austerlitz. Finally by act of April 21, 1818 the remaining part of Canaan was divided, and the northern portion called New Lebanon. In connection with the history of the District, after it was organized into a Town, it is proper to mention, that the Revolutionary difficulties being settled, it seemed to be a proper time to get up a war of their own. A man living in Kinderhook therefore brought forward an old Indian claim that covered the best part of what is now New Lebanon, and attempted to get possession by summary proceedings. The man's name was Van Schaack, and who attempted to hold under what was called the "Mawighuunk" grant. Van Schaack attempted about 1793 to survey the lands which he claimed but in this project his Indian title was met by Indian opposition. While he and a posse of men were running a line through West Lebanon they were suddenly surrounded by a large body of men with painted faces and dressed in Indian costume. The compass was broken and the chain destroyed, and although the party were armed to the teeth, they judged "discretion the better part of valor," and escaped to Lebanon Springs which was situated without the land

then claimed. This was the first display of Antirentism in America, so far as title to the land is concerned, attended with Indian disguises. Although there had been a similar exhibition of mock Indians in Boston previously on board of ships loaded with tea. This difficulty was afterwards arranged by the Legislature passing the "Canaan Act," under which Commissioners were appointed, taken from Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York who made a settlement of the whole quivel (quibble?) to the satisfaction of the landholders if not to Van Schaack. It may not be improper to state, inasmuch as all the parties are now dead, that Jonathan Murdock was the acting Chief of the Indians, and it was through the carelessness of Gile Londen? that the compass got broken.

We have now given what we can think of, the interesting events in the history of "King's District." It remains for the Towns that formerly constituted a part of it, to furnish the events of interest that have transpired in localities. And these several histories should begin with Canaan, where the old records remain. And we would suggest that all persons who feel an interest in the past history of Towns of Columbia County should call public meetings in the several towns and appoint some competent person to act as historian, to whom all documents or reliable information should be furnished, and put into a shape where they shall be preserved for reference hereafter. Massachusetts and Connecticut took this precaution a half century ago. It is strange New York has so long neglected it.

January 31, 1876

---

(1) Readers who wish to learn more about the New York - Massachusetts border dispute, which took over a century to settle may consult *The Western Boundary of Massachusetts*, an extremely scholarly and detailed treatise written in 1886 by Franklin Leonard Pope. Berkshire Family History Association prepared a reprint of this work in 1994 and it is available from B.F.H.A. for \$10.00, postpaid.

\* \* \* \* \*

## REV. ELIPHALET STEELE

From *The Berkshire Hills*, March, 1904.

On a high elevation of ground, called Town Hill, in Egremont, there stood some 60 years ago, an old fashioned Congregational Meeting house. This sacred edifice of very large timber was erected at the expense of the town in 1767. That same year a committee appointed at a town meeting invited Rev. James Treadway to become their pastor, but he declined the call. During the ensuing three years money was appropriated annually for the support of preaching and several candidates were heard with attention, but all were rejected. Finally in the early part of 1770 a unanimous call was given Rev. Eliphalet Steele to become their pastor. In February of that year the Congregational church of six members was organized, and in the June following, Mr. Steele was ordained and installed. The original members were Deacon Timothy Kellogg, Ephraim Fitch, Daniel Cooley, Seth Strong and his wife, Louisa.

Where the parsonage was located we know not with certainty, but it was probably in the vicinity of the meeting house. As was the custom in the early settlement of townships, a burial ground had been established in that locality before the church was erected. The earliest interment of which we have record was the body of Lieutenant William Joyner, who died December 15, 1760, aged 42 years. By a change in the highway many years ago his grave with others was obliterated. A long inscription from his tombstone was some twenty years ago in possession of the late Deacon Stephen Karner, near South Egremont. But like many other valuable historical documents it has long since been destroyed. In proof that Mr. Steele was the owner of real estate we refer to the record of deeds at Pittsfield. There we find that in June, 1772, Robert Joyner, in consideration of the esteem, love, good-will and affection which he had towards his loving friend, pastor and teacher, Rev. Eliphalet Steele; conveyed to him five acres on the north side of the meeting house. In 1776 one Isaac Baldwin of Westmoreland, who appears to have moved from town, conveyed to the minister a tract of land and other deeds are recorded from Ephraim Fitch. For almost twenty-four years Mr. Steele was pastor of the church. During this time, although the town and county had passed through the perils and

excitements of the Revolutionary war, there were sixty additions to the church. A list of these may be found in the records of the church at South Egremont.

Of several years the ministry of Mr. Steele appears to have been a success. He enjoyed the esteem of the people until near the close of his ministry. But finally serious dissensions originated in the Shays' rebellion of 1786-87. The pastor and several of his flock took sides with the commonwealth, while a number of the congregation outside of the communion of the church were in sympathy with the insurgents. The old history of Berkshire County, published in 1829 on page 219, says, "the malcontents became the enemies and opposers of Mr. Steele." Some time during the disorder several armed men entered his house in the night and after treating him in an abusive manner, carried away his watch and various articles of clothing. About this time the Methodists and Baptists appeared in the community and discussions on church government and doctrines caused further dissensions in religious affairs. Finally this faithful pastor tendered his resignation and was dismissed by a council on April 29, 1794.

Nearly ten years before the dismissal of Mr. Steele, the church affairs appear to have been in a rather low state in Egremont. In support of this assertion it is related in the life of Rev. Jeremiah Holland that on January 6, 1784, he rode with Rev. Dr. West of Stockbridge to a meeting of the Association at Egremont. At this meeting Rev. Joseph Avery expected to be licensed to preach. But no one else appeared and so they could not proceed in his examination. The next paragraph in this narrative is in our opinion of great interest as it illustrates the poverty and necessary economy of people at the close of the Revolutionary war. Mr. Holland says, "I rode home with Mr. Avery to Alford and we dined on small potatoes boiled with a small piece of salt pork; but no bread, and not a word of complaint was uttered." On February 4th, 1793, Mr. Steele was afflicted in the death of his wife, Elizabeth, at the early age of 44 years. This sorrowful event hastened the removal of the pastor from town. With his books, manuscripts and a few household goods he journeyed to Oneida County, New York. At Paris hill in that county he was installed pastor of a Congrega-

tional church and continued in that office until death closed his earthly career. The history of that county, written years ago by Judge Jones says that a monument in the village cemetery has this inscription: "This monument is erected to the memory of the Rev. Eliphalet Steele, A.M., by his affectionate church, in testimony of their respect for his talents and gratitude for his faithful labors in the pastoral office. Watchful and diligent, an impartial inquirer after truth, an able defender of the Christian faith. He was born in Hartford, Ct., June 26, 1742, graduated from Yale College in 1764, was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry at Egremont in 1770, and was dismissed from his charge in that place in 1794. Installed at Paris, July 15, 1795. Died October 17, 1817."

The church in Paris, of which he was the first pastor, was formed by Rev. Jonathan

Edwards, second, in 1791, of five members. When Mr. Steele was installed it consisted of 19. During his ministry 273 were added to the church and at the time of his death there were 193 members.

As for the old meeting house on Town Hill, it was used for religious worship until 1833, when the new church was erected near the center of South Egremont village. After this for a while the old meeting house was occupied on town meeting occasions and as a place of holding local courts. At last it was taken down and its huge timbers removed to the farm of the late Irwin D. W. Baldwin, where they were set up as a barn and may be seen in as perfect a state of preservation as when they were hewed out by the men of colonial days.

Historian Warner

New York City

\* \* \* \* \*

## ANCESTOR TABLES

[An asterisk preceding an entry indicates that the correspondent is seeking more information on that ancestor.]

CCCLXXXV. FLORA LEONARD, submitted by her granddaughter, Mary Lou Force Drew, 4824 Waterman Road, Vassar, MI 48768

### I.

1. Flora LEONARD, 1894-1868; Missouri; Stanilac, Michigan; Crawford, Michigan.

### II.

2. George LEONARD, - : Michigan.
3. Dorothy HELLEMS, - ; Canada; Michigan.

### III.

4. Russell LEONARD, 1808-1874; Massachusetts; New York; St. Clair County, Michigan.
5. Elizabeth BROWN, Married 23 March 1802, Washington, Massachusetts.
6. Henry HELLEMS, 1811-1891; Canada; Huron County, Michigan.
7. Abbie ANGER, ca1850-51- ; Canada.

### IV.

8. Elisha LEONARD, ca1780-01 ; Massachusetts; Connecticut.

### V.

16. Elisha LEONARD, ca1750-51; Preston, Connecticut; Worthington, Massachusetts.

### VI.

32. Nathan LEONARD, 1717- ; Worthington; Connecticut.
33. Abigail HERRICK, 1721- ; .

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE BACKUS BOYS OF PITTSFIELD

From *The Berkshire Hills*, March, 1904.

Lineal Descendants of Hannah Fairfield, Cousins of Charlie Backus, the Once Famous King of Negro Minstrelsy.

William G. and Frank C. Backus, comprising the well-known firm of Backus Sons, on the corner of Bank Row and South streets, one of the oldest business houses in Central Berkshire and founded by the late William G. Backus, one of the town's most enterprising and active citizens in the past century, are lineal descendants of Hannah Fairfield, the first female child born in the town of Pittsfield, after its incorporation in 1771, and who died here 48 years ago at the age of 84 years. Hannah Fairfield was the daughter of Joseph and Thankful Fairfield, who were pioneer settlers of the town in 1747, the second family in Pontoosuck township, and were most notable among its first citizens.

William G. Backus occupies the old Backus' farm in the eastern portion of the city, and one of the most fertile in the county. On this farm is to be found the old Fairfield lot, where the first plough was ever used in the old pontoosuck settlement. The great-grandfather of the Backus boys, as they have long been and are now familiarly called, married one of the daughters of Hannah Fairfield, was a Captain in the Revolutionary war and finally removed to Albany after the death of his wife, where he again married and was also the ancestor of the New York branch of the Backus family.

Sometime in the seventies William G. Backus, while temporarily stopping at a New York hotel had a card addressed to "Charlie Backus" brought up to his room by a bell boy. Evidently the card, which also bore a strange name, was not for him, and inquiry revealed that there was another Backus who was no other than the famous burnt cork minstrel, stopping at this hotel. The incident resulted in the two gentlemen being introduced and in their conversation it was brought to light that they were cousins, and thus the acquaintances and relationship of the Massachusetts and New York families was established again after the lapse of many years.

The next morning the two cousins went out for a drive, when the accomplished minstrel informed his newly discovered relative as the particulars of his genealogy and his career. He

stated that he was fitted for and entered Union College, but that he was so brimfull of life and activity that he could not settle down to study, and after a few months drifted off to the West, where he became a Cowboy and entered with great zest and zeal upon that wild life. On a certain evening the owner of the ranch with which he was connected, and a number of his companions, were with him in a frontier village, where a band of negro minstrels were booked for a performance. During the day his employer, the Colonel, boasted to the manager of this troupe that he had a man so versatile that he could beat any one of his company as a negro minstrel. Charlie Backus was promptly produced by the Colonel and at his first appearance on the stage that evening as a minstrel bore off the highest honors in his proficiency in the negro dialect, song, dance and witticism, and proved to be a master on the bones. From that time forward he followed this profession in which he became the bright and particular star of his day.

A short time after this accidental meeting in New York Wombold and Backus came to Pittsfield to give a minstrel entertainment in the Academy of Music. Close upon the hour of the performance the Backus boys gave an elaborate supper to their newly found relative, at which quite a number of their Pittsfield chums and companions had plates. The occasion was so thoroughly enjoyable that the swift passage of several hours was made no account of by the hosts and guests. Meanwhile a large audience had assembled in the Academy and for a full half hour the troupe and the audience were full of wonder at the non-appearance of the star of the evening.

Suddenly George Backus appeared in the stage in citizens clothes with his partner, Wombold with his blackened face, and for a full half hour with their inimitable and sparkling humor kept the astonished audience in a roar of laughter, while the balance of the company remained in the wings.

Finally one of the company secured the attention of the crowd for a moment, when Backus stepped in front of the foot-lights and explained that he had met some relatives in the town who had given him such a royal and most enjoyable good time that he with they had entirely forgotten



themselves and that they had any engagements or responsibilities in this world. That if anyone in this audience was dissatisfied on account of this accidental delay, that they could get their admission money at the door and that no fault would be

found, as the right to be fully mad was not disputed. The explanation was followed with tremendous applause, no one departed, and the entire program was rendered.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ORIGIN OF CHESHIRE NICKNAMES

From *The Berkshire Hills*, March 1, 1904, Vol. No. 7 p.511.

It is a queer happening to have received from a distant kinsman on the far-off Pacific slopes, Marshall M. Clothier of Prairie, Washington, who contemplates visiting his native Berkshire after 25 years' absence to come summer, and who was born in Cheshire, the original reasons which caused several localities in that town to bear the singular appellations of Pork Lane, Pumpkin Hook, Scrabbletown, Muddy Brook, Hell's Kitchen and Zip Thunder. Says this gentleman, all these pioneer nicknames were the result of forceful circumstances and peculiarities, as follows:

One Calvin Mason, a bachelor, raised and fattened a Chester white hog, which weighed when dressed 1,160 pounds, from which the street on which he lived became known as Pork Lane.

A bountiful field of pumpkins all vanished from sight in a single night, having been rolled down a hillside into a brook, from which they were fished out with great trouble and labor by their irate owner, and hence came the name of Pumpkin Hook.

A shanty settlement near the old furnace and sand-pit which became noted for carousals of an ignorant and somewhat lawless class of population resident therein, and a favorite resort for obtaining poor whiskey, originated the name of Scrabbletown.

Muddy Brook was so called after a sluggish muddy stream west of the village on which was the Cole and Mason tannery.

Hell's Kitchen took its name on account of a fierce quarrel between two women who were close neighbors in an old cluster of tenement houses on this site, over the division of hen's eggs. Their fowls having become mixed up as to their nests for a time they settled matters amicably, but finally disagreeing on the count, had a fierce war of words which came to blows, in which encounter not only the eggs but household goods were wrecked.

The first ominous muttering of a thunder storm generally came from the region of the west mountain, which for that reason was called Zip Thunder. At the base of this mountain was the home of Rev. John Leland, the noted old-time evangelist.

It was a mile and a half to the northwest of the Leland home that the house of Rev. John Vincent, the stuttering Baptist minister stood, who, after preaching 40 years, declared that he had never landed but one sheep into the fold, and that this jumped out. The convert referred to was the minister's own brother, who later became a Quaker. It was Elder Vincent who always prefaced his sermons as follows: "In the first place I will commence; in the second place I shall proceed; in the third place I will stop when I get through."

W. B. Green of Adams remembers having taken the Congregational pastor in that town on a trip to Lanesboro in an old-fashioned winter years ago. As they were passing into the "Kitchen" just at dark, through the deep drifts and over a very uneven track, a great dog followed them with wild and frantic howlings. The pastor inquired where they were and was informed that they were in Hell's Kitchen, and that the passing animal was Cerberus, who was evidently on guard against his Satanic majesty's foes. "For mercy sake, whip up and let's get out of this if we are churned to butter," cried the parson in evident fright.

\* \* \* \* \*



## GRAVESTONE RECORDS - BACON CEMETERY - WILLIAMSTOWN

From the Bacon Family History File at the Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Mass.

Orin Bacon, March 8, 1842 - December 25, 1916	Minnie Bacon, Wife of Stephen Bacon, Died March 9, 1888, AE 25 years
Carl S. Bacon, Pvt. 151 Mass. Brigade W-1 March 21, 1897 - June 10, 1949	Stephen Bacon, (Father), July 1, 1844 - February 23, 1922
Everett W. Bacon, 1893-1964	Jennie L. Haley (Mother), His wife, August 30, 1869 - October 26, 1947
Russel Bacon, 1880-1979, Wife - Laura, 1882-1967	(both of the above are on one stone)
Doris Bacon, d/o Russell, 1917-1919	C. Worthy, 1923
Charles H. Ransford, 1903-1968, Wife - Althea B., 1906- d/o Russell	Mary (Worthy), February 1, 1926 <span style="float: right;">Small Stones</span>
Ellen Pratt (Mother), January 9, 1850 - March 27, 1930	Cecil Bacon, Died January 3, 1856 AE 12 years 5 months
George W. Haley (Father), May 15, 1827 - November 12, 1904	Marshal, Son of Stephen & Lydia Bacon, Died September 25, 1819 AE 2 years 1 month 20 days
Elizabetha (Mother), wife of George W. Haley, Died January 26, 1898 AE 72 years 10 months	Lucy Ann, Daughter of Stephen & Lydia Bacon, Died October 16, 1838 in her 13 year
Carrie M. Bacon, Died May 26, 1890 AE 53 years 3 months	Herrick Bacon, Son of Stephen Bacon, Died March 12, 1828 (broken stone) Age?
Lee Hamilton Ransford, April 20, 1966 - September 16, 1972 (great grandson of Russell - killed by chainsaw)	Mehetabel Bacon, Daughter of Daniel Russell?, Wife of Stephen Bacon, Died September 12, 1833 in the 63 year of her age
Lucy, Wife of Bennajah Baker, Died March 1, 1857, aged 79	Stephen, Son of Jacob Bacon, Died July 31 in his 79th year
Lydia, Wife of Stephen Bacon, 2nd, Died June 12, 1874 AE 68 years	Howard S. Bacon, 1916-1965, (Son of Everett Bacon)
Stephen Bacon, son of Stephen Bacon 1st, Died April 21, 1887, AE 83 years	Everett, Earl, Russell, Hiram (Sons of Stephen 3rd
Mariah (Daughter?) of Stephen Bacon, Died March 18, 1902, AE 70 years	

\* \* \* \* \*

## SOULE/CHANTER RESEARCH PROJECT - UPDATE

One Soule man from Berkshire County replied to us. Unfortunately, he did not connect to the Alden Soule line. He DID connect to the George Soule Mayflower line. We are still seeking descendants, particularly from the Jerome Bonaparte Soule line from Chester. Jerome married a Mary Morehouse in 1853. We believe some of the family may have married in the Gleason family of Chester.

Again, as previously stated (see BG 27:1:36 and 27:2:69) it is finally possible to identify the connection between Alden Soule/Mary Chanter and George Soule of the Mayflower through the latest research project. We are looking for male Soules who descended from Alden and Mary. They must have the last name of Soule. The test is a very simple "cheek swab." If you are such an individual or know someone who is, please call 407-616-4573 and ask for Eleanor or call 925-862-0829 and ask for Louise. You may also Email either of us -- Elnrsvnsn@aol.com or Lwthroop@aol.com. There is NO cost involved for anyone who contacts us.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE BABBITTS OF BERKSHIRE

From *The Berkshire Hills*, October, 1904.

### Of Welch Descent and Early Settlers of Savoy

Inventors of Babbitt Metal and Britannia  
Ware - Noted Revolutionary Surgeons and  
Soldiers - Doctors Snell and Nathan S.  
Babbitt of Adams and North Adams

### Origin of the New England Family

One of the oldest families which settled in Northern Berkshire were the Babbitts, who filled no inconsiderable a place in the early history of that locality, though now but a very few of their immediate descendants survive. Edward Bobit, as the name then appeared, and the original immigrant from Wales from whom the family in Berkshire county and in the United States had its origin, settled in Taunton, or in that portion of it now called Norton, and in 1654 married Sarah Tarne of Boston. He was the father of nine children and was killed by the Indians in 1676. It is related of him that hearing that the savages were likely to burn his farm house, then seven miles distant from the center of Taunton, he moved his family to the village for safety, where they remained for some time. On a certain day, accompanied by his dog, he visited his home to get a cheese hoop and on his return became aware that he was being followed by Indians. Thereupon he climbed a tree, the branches and foliage of which so completely concealed his form from view that the skulking Indians passed by without discovering him. However his dog began to bark, which revealed his hiding place to the savages who shot him out of his perch.

His son, the second Edward, who died in 1727, had eleven children, six of whom were sons, and the oldest Nathan married Mary Snell or Snellem, who had eight children, the fourth son being Nathan. This son, who died in 1794, had two wives and seven children of whom four were males. This Nathan served his country as a lieutenant in the Revolutionary war. The third Nathan, who died in 1826, had six children, three of whom were sons who were born in Westmoreland, N.H., and he was a doctor and surgeon in the Revolutionary army. Of his sons was Snellem, who was born in 1760 and died in 1854, and who married Betty Blanchard of

Sharon, Mass. This couple were the pioneers of the Babbitt family in Berkshire county. They moved to Savoy in 1787 where at one time and another Snellem held every town office in that town and also served it in the state legislature. He was also a soldier in the Revolution and fought at the battle of Bunker Hill and at the siege of Boston.

Of the seven children of Snellem, the first settler in Berkshire, Snell the eldest married Jael Edson in 1809 and died in 1853. He was a noted physician in Adams for many years and was once elected from that town to the legislature. Two of his sisters were married in that town and of their children were Elizabeth Walton of North Adams, Mary Ingraham of Adams and Mary and Franklin Baker of the latter town. Dr. Snell Babbitt was the father of ten children. Of these Dr. Nathan S. Babbitt, the once well known physician and surgeon of North Adams, died in 1889 and was without issue. Emmons removed to the west and is survived by one son, Corydon (Corydon?) died in Adams and is survived by his daughter Salina. Horace, also a resident of Adams has a son Horace. Bidwell, long a resident of Adams, and well remembered by its older citizens, with the three other sons, have deceased, two of them in their youth. Of the daughters, M. Antoinette Taylor lives in Adams and is the mother of two sons, Edward and Emory, and a daughter, Mrs. Charles T. Plunkett, and Adaline S. Browne died in 1888 and left two sons, Charles A. and Isaac S., both of whom reside in North Adams.

The Babbitt family of Massachusetts down through the years has furnished the professional and mechanical walks of life therein with many able representatives and has been very conspicuous for its eminent physicians and surgeons. Isaac Babbitt was the inventor of the famous "babbitt metal," so important in the building and running of machinery, and besides made the first Britannia ware in this country at Taunton in 1831. A descendant of Snellem, the Berkshire pioneer, for a long time made this "babbitt metal" in Savoy and afterwards carried on extensive mechanical works at Brightwood, near Springfield.

Dr. Nathan S. Babbitt of North Adams

Dr. Nathan S. Babbitt, one of the most noted of the Northern Berkshire physicians and surgeons in his day, and who died in North Adams at the age of 77 years in 1889, was born in Hancock in 1812, from whence his parents removed to Cheshire and thence to South Adams. He received his preparatory education at the old Adams brick academy which had for its location the present site of the town hall. Then he studied medicine at Windsor and at Adams, afterwards graduating in 1833 at the Berkshire Medical College in Pittsfield at the age of 21 years. Repairing to South Adams he practiced his profession until 1846, when he removed to North Adams where he successfully followed his calling for upwards of thirty years. He married in 1835 Ann Eliza, a daughter of Thomas Robinson, a prominent lawyer of the town for many years who occupied the large stone mansion now a portion of the site of the Dowlin business block on Main street, and who also removed hither from the south village. After a time Dr. Babbitt purchased the one-story wooden wing adjoining his residence on the east and built on this site a two-story dwelling, and a small one-story wooden office, after the pattern of the old doctor's offices of that day, upon the southeast corner of the front yard, both of which he occupied during his active, strenuous and industrious career.

During his manhood and late life Dr. Babbitt attained a high rank in his profession and was not only proud of the skill and special gifts which he had inherited from his ancestry and by his own diligence and study, but of this profession itself. He was of keen mind, strong and enduring physique, his habits were those of thrift and industry, while he was not only masterful and observant in all things connected with medicine and surgery, but of mankind and its affairs in general, which accomplishments soon placed him in the front rank of medical practitioners in Northern Berkshire. Truly he seemed to have been a born doctor, such was his instinctive diagnosis of disease, quickness of decision and rapidity of action. His mind was well-balanced, he was keenly alert though not physically strong, imperative, methodical and temperate, he seemed to hold his energies in the closest subjection under the most exciting circumstances.

Faithfully responsive to every call of the suffering by day or night, whatever might be the atmospheric conditions, his very presence in the sick room was alleviative and inspired courage.

His manner was always brusque and self-contained, he gave but slight indulgence to imaginative disorders, but in severe cases exhibited wonderful coolness and deliberation. He indulged in no experimental treatment, cautiously reached for the seat of the trouble in seeking for causes much more than symptoms. His theory was to give the body a fair chance, to banish fear from the mind and stimulate hope, and then leave the mysterious processes of life, aided by simple and prompt remedies, to work out their own salvation. He was one of the last and best of the old school family of doctors, all of whom have now gone to their final reward, who in the early years contributed so much to the welfare of the people of Berkshire county.

An original Free Soiler, Dr. Babbitt was a delegate to the first national convention of that party at Buffalo which put in nomination Martin Van Buren and Charles Francis Adams for president and vice-president. In 1882 he was also elected by the democrats of his district to the legislature. Otherwise, that in these two instances, he put aside all political life and devoted himself to his chosen calling. He was always peculiarly fluent, witty and happy as an off-hand speaker and for years was the popular toastmaster at all public, social and patriotic gatherings and banquets given in North Adams, often at which many distinguished guests were present. On such occasions he always appeared in a blue dress coat with brass buttons, an immaculate buff vest of antique cut and a richly ruffled shirt, after the style and pattern of colonial times. He was always the central, felicitous, joyous and radiant figure at the notable gatherings.

His broad and genial smile and buoyant, cheery laugh combined with ever-present wit and good humor were always enjoyed and were stimulating and helpful to the sick or well, and his cheerfulness was as catching as the measles. Though outwardly not a professing Christian he was a constant attendant upon divine worship, and found in his greatly treasured English Bible thoughts and inspirations grateful to a sane and inquiring mind relative to human destiny beyond the grave and for consolation in a profession having so much to remind of that which lies hidden beyond the impenetrable veil.

Painfully afflicted the last year of his memorable life with an incurable ulceration of the tube by which food is conducted to the stomach, making it almost impossible to obtain physical nourishment, he fully realized his condi-

tion but never admitted his danger. Sustained by a wonderful will power he refused to take to his bed, mixed with his fellow citizens almost to the last in a heroic struggle to prolong his life,

knowing he could not long avert its fatal ending, and displaying a triumph of mind over body which has seldom, if ever been equaled in individual history in the county

\* \* \* \* \*

## THEODOSIA HERRICK

From *The Berkshire Hills*, January, 1905.

### The First Woman in Berkshire to Enter Masculine Employment.

Now that so many older and younger women are employed in Berkshire county in positions formerly filled by men and boys only, including as it were the great majority of professional, governmental, commercial, manufacturing and mechanical departments of business life, while many then unthought of positions have opened up for their employment, it may be interesting to call to mind Theodosia Herrick of Pittsfield, the first woman in Berkshire who accidentally made her special employment, a then entirely masculine occupation of trade, and followed it through life even down into old age. In a former number of this publication meagre mention has been made of this woman and the occasion which arose to make her name somewhat historic, but in which the full particulars now given, were wanting.

The present Plunkett mansion on East street, an object of great interest to many visitors to the county every summer and autumn, because here Longfellow wrote of the "old Clock Upon the Stairs," was built by Thomas Gold, a wealthy and eccentric old time lawyer, whose daughter married Hon. Nathan Appleton of Boston. In the early part of 1812 Mrs. Appleton, happening to be in Paris, and finding that a certain style of landscape wall paper was both handsome and fashionable, purchased a pattern of it for her mother, as also, for two relatives who then lived on the site of the home of Mrs. Ensign H. Kellogg and also on the site of the present Laflin homestead on East Housatonic street. But as she was about to embark for home, the second war with Great Britain broke out, and, rather than fall in with the British cruisers who were then sweeping the Atlantic ocean, she remained in Paris with her treasures until the close of this war.

When Mrs. Thomas Gold received her elegant wall paper present there was but one professional paper hanger in Pittsfield and he was more devoted to the blandishments of the village tavern than to the pursuit of his trade. He was withal quite pompous and somewhat self-conceited and bravely tackled the job of its hanging. But his muddled brains proved unequal to the task, and after making a beginning he became perplexed and disheartened, took refuge from his dilemma in his cups more frequently than ever, and consequently was very slow in resuming his work. Mrs. Gold was a woman not to be put off in this way, and besides at this time she had "Dosia Herrick" for help in her household. "Dosia" was a strong, vigorous and energetic woman who could turn her hand to most anything, and among other things it is related of her early exploits that she once safely drove a four in hand stage to Hudson and return with full loads of passengers, which gave her great notoriety, she having in a time of dire necessity volunteered to take the place of a helplessly inebriated Jehu.

In this dilemma "Dosia" was a rare help in time of need. Said Mrs. Gold, "Dosia, you and I can put on that paper just as well, if not better, than that stupid sot." "Yes," replied Dosia, and they did it. And there that old and beautiful wall paper still hangs in the northwest parlor of this old mansion as intact as though placed thereon the present century to assert the excellence of the work. From that time forward Dosia Herrick became a successful professional paper hanger, having taken kindly to this business from this date. In 1873, fifty-eight years after she had performed this, her first work of this character under the direction of Madame Gold, and at the age of 82, she was still hanging wall paper for the good housewives of the old town and doing her work well.

\* \* \* \* \*

## PITTSFIELD YOUNG LADIES' INSTITUTE

[Continued from Volume 27, Number 2, Page 62]

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

1869

Clara C. Alger\*, Saratoga Springs, NY  
 A. Phebe Ashley, Pittsfield  
 S. Emma Bacon, Newton  
 Grace A. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Jessie C. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Minnie B. Barkalow\*, Basking Ridge, NY  
 Mary E. Bates\*, Pittsfield  
 Triphie M. Beals, North Abington  
 Susan M. Belcher, East Randolph  
 Mary Billings, Somerville, CT  
 Mary A. Bissell\*, Pittsfield  
 Carrie Burnell, Pittsfield  
 M. Emma Butterworth, Philadelphia, PA  
 Carrie L. Cady\*, New Haven, CT  
 Cornelia E. Cady, New Haven, CT  
 Mary E. Cady, New Haven, CT  
 Lizzie P. Carter, Pittsfield  
 Stella Carter, Pittsfield  
 Minnie B. Chamberlain\*, Oxford, CT  
 Minnie I. V. Chapman, Fordham, NY  
 Nellie B. Clark, Sandy Hill, NY  
 Fannie E. Colt, Pittsfield  
 Hattie D. Cook, Pittsfield  
 Mae Cooper, Mount Vernon, OH  
 Hattie A. Crossman, West Warren  
 Maggie L. Davies, Davenport, IA  
 Anna L. Dawes, Pittsfield  
 Lizzie R. Dewey, Champlain, NY  
 Louisa M. Dinsmore, Boston  
 Julia A. Douglas, New London, CT  
 Susan P. Edney, Boston  
 Susan A. Eldridge, Hancock  
 Ruth W. Emerson\*, Pittsfield  
 Barbara Fassler, Springfield, OH  
 Kate A. Fassler, Springfield, OH  
 Ella Fowler, Pittsfield  
 Minnie J. Francis, Shoreham, VT  
 Lydia F. French\*, East Randolph  
 M. Emma Gamwell, Pittsfield  
 Maria Goodrich, Albany, NY  
 Emma Goodwin, Manchester, NH  
 Nettie Green, Buffalo, NY  
 Mary S. Hall, Middletown, CT  
 Mary E. Harrington\*, Port Huron, MI

Eliza M. Hill, Ann Arbor, MI  
 Elsie M. Holbrook, New York City  
 Jennie S. Howk\*, New Albany, IN  
 Nellie M. Hull, Brooklyn, NY  
 Mary K. Lamberson, Pittsfield  
 Henrietta D. Learned, Pittsfield  
 Eleanor M. Libbey, Perry, IL  
 M. Lizzie Makepeace, Warren  
 Effie L. Maxwell, Ballston Spa, NY  
 Isabel O. McBride, Silver City, ID  
 Minnie R. Morey, Pittsfield  
 Lydia M. Murdock, Pittsfield  
 Ida L. Murray, Pittsfield  
 Minnie M. Murray, Pittsfield  
 Melvina F. Nickerson, Pittsfield  
 Hattie E. Parsons, Springfield  
 Sallie A. Patten\*, Stafford Springs, CT  
 Libbie S. Platt, Pittsfield  
 Laura M. Powell, Pittsfield  
 Alice J. Pratt, Randolph  
 Ella Pratt, Lanesborough  
 Emma C. Rollo\*, Stephentown, NY  
 Mary L. Russell, Pittsfield  
 Gertrude W. Schenck, New York City  
 Lulu H. Sherrill, Sandy Hill, NY  
 Lizzie B. Smith, Dorchester  
 Lizzie M. Spalding, Pittsfield  
 May Stevens, Pittsfield  
 Clara E. Stoeck, Bridgeport, CT  
 Libbie B. Storm, Stormville, NY  
 Kate B. Story, Gloucester  
 Lettie A. Stowe, Plantsville, CT  
 Carrie Taylor, Pittsfield  
 Fannie I. Tolman, Fitchburg  
 Bertha B. Tripp, Poughkeepsie, NY  
 Estelle M. Van Deusen, Westfield  
 Mary Van Ness\*, Hudson, NY  
 Hattie L. Wales, North Abington  
 May A. Walker, Winsted, CT  
 Mary R. Wheeler, South Adams  
 Fannie E. White, Chicopee  
 Annie F. Whitbeck, Coeymans, NY  
 Lizzie E. Whitney, Westfield  
 L. Ella Wilcox, Canandaigua, NY  
 M. Lizzie Wilson, Allentown, PA  
 Kate E. Wright, New York City

Hattie N. Wright, Haddam, CT

# DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

Mary Adam, Pittsfield  
 Emma Blanche, Pittsfield  
 Mary T. Briggs, Pittsfield  
 Ida Cone, West Stockbridge  
 Hattie Cooley, Pittsfield  
 Arthur Cooley, Pittsfield  
 Mary G. Davis, Pittsfield  
 Florence N. Gaston, Pittsfield  
 Fannie Hotchkin, Lenox  
 Mary C. Howland, Worcester  
 May Kellogg, Pittsfield  
 Carrie Kellogg, Pittsfield  
 Kate E. Martin, Malone, NY  
 Belle Pomeroy, Pittsfield  
 Mary Powers, South Adams  
 Mrs. Lizzie Sanford, North Adams  
 Josephine S. Shear, Albany, NY  
 Hattie L. Wales, East Randolph  
 Sophia M. Warriner, Hinsdale  
 Sarah Werden, Pittsfield

1870

Clara C. Alger\*, Saratoga Springs, NY  
 Nettie Archer, New York City  
 A. Phebe Ashley, Pittsfield  
 Ella J. Avery, Fair Haven, CT  
 Alice J. Ayres\*, Hadley  
 Ella E. Badgley\*, Battle Creek, MI  
 Maggie Ballantyne, Washington, DC  
 Grace A. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Jessie C. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Emma J. Bartholomew, Ansonia, CT  
 Bell Beach, Branford, CT  
 Triphie M. Beals\*, North Abington  
 Susie M. Belcher, East Randolph  
 Louise O. Berens, Philadelphia, PA  
 Olivia M. Berens, Philadelphia, PA  
 Lizzie D. Bidwell, Chester, PA  
 Helen M. Bierce, Cornwall Bridge, CT  
 Mary J. Billings, Somers, CT  
 Jennie E. Blair, East Brimfield  
 Lizzie S. Blair, East Brimfield  
 Clara J. Bragdon, New Albany, IN  
 Amelia B. Brockett\*, Mount Carmel, CT  
 Carrie L. Cady\*, New Haven, CT  
 Mary E. Cady, New Haven, CT  
 Louise Carpenter, New Lebanon Spr., NY

Sarah G. Carpenter, New Lebanon Spr., NY  
 Lizzie P. Carter, Pittsfield  
 Stella Carter, Pittsfield  
 Lizzie Cathell, New York City  
 Minnie B. Chamberlain\*, Redding, CT  
 Louie W. Chapman\*, Pittsfield  
 Emma L. Church, Middlefield  
 Ella M. Coburn, Hopkinton  
 Annie C. Collier, Hudson, NY  
 Helen Comstock, Lenox  
 Lillie Comstock, Lenox  
 Lizzie Corser, Springfield  
 Louise M. Dinsmore, Boston  
 Ruth W. Emerson, Pittsfield  
 Ellen L. Gleason, Pittsfield  
 Maria V. Goodrich, Waterford, NY  
 Grace Guernsey, Hudson, NY  
 Mary S. Haeger, Pittsfield  
 Eliza J. Haigh, Newburg, NY  
 Mary S. Hall, Middletown, CT  
 Mary E. Harrington\*, Port Huron, MI  
 M. Belle Hartwell, Ware  
 M. Annette Hatfield, South Hadley Falls  
 E. Nora Hayward, Baltimore, MD  
 Cora G. Higbie, Rochester, NY  
 Elsie M. Holbrook, New York City  
 Jennie S. Howe\*, New Albany, IN  
 Nellie M. Hull, Brooklyn, NY  
 Italia Jones, Pittsfield  
 Alida E. Kingman, Brooklyn, NY  
 Jennie M. Knight, Hatfield  
 Sarah L. Lawrence, Malone, NY  
 Alice Learned, Pittsfield  
 Henrietta D. Learned, Pittsfield  
 Fannie Linn, Pittsfield  
 Lillie M. Lookinland, Highgate, VT  
 Hattie L. Lord, West Newton  
 Marion W. Loring, Weston  
 Jennie Mallery, Pittsfield  
 Hannah D. Mead, Middletown, NY  
 Isabel O. McBride, Silver City, ID  
 Bettie R. McMahon, New Albany, IN  
 Mary J. McMahon, New Albany, IN  
 Etta M. Monk, Stoughton  
 Minnie R. Morey, Pittsfield  
 Kittie J. Morrill, Dubuque, IA  
 Lydia M. Murdock, Pittsfield  
 Ida L. Murray, Pittsfield  
 Minnie M. Murray, Pittsfield  
 Fannie S. Oatman, New Haven, CT  
 Minnie P. Ogden\*, Washington, DC  
 Mary K. Palmer, Cleveland, OH

Emilie J. Parish, Hinsdale  
 Fannie V. Parsons, Amenia, NY  
 Sallie A. Patten, Stafford Springs, CT  
 Ella L. Pickering, Concord, NH  
 Laura M. Powell, Pittsfield  
 Emma J. Price\*, Warehouse Point, CT  
 Fannie Rodman, New Haven, CT  
 Henrietta M. Rowe, Patchogue, NY  
 Lizzie M. Rolfe, Boston  
 Mary L. Russell, Pittsfield  
 May E. Russell, Pittsfield  
 Ella Scott, Pittsfield  
 Kate M. Shear, Albany, NY  
 Alice Smith, Essex, CT  
 Isabel Smith, Essex, CT  
 Emma M. Smith, Pittsfield  
 Ida Smith, Essex, CT  
 Lizzie M. Sparks, Fort Smith, AR  
 Lizzie M. Spaulding, Pittsfield  
 Mary L. Stebbins, Brooklyn, NY  
 May Stevens, Pittsfield  
 Ella C. Symonds, Springfield  
 Carrie Taylor, Pittsfield  
 Fannie M. Terry, Otter Creek, IL  
 Hattie W. Tuttle, Ware  
 Phenie Van DeMark, Phelps  
 H. Lizzie Wallace, Milford, NH  
 Zadie E. Willson, Amenia, NY  
 M. Lizzie Wilson, Allentown, PA  
 Hattie N. Wright, Haddam, CT  
 Mattie B. Utz, Pittsfield  
 Nettie Yeamans, Westfield

## DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

Mary Adam, Pittsfield  
 Ida A. Arnold, Pittsfield  
 Mary A. Bissell, Pittsfield  
 Mary T. Briggs, Pittsfield  
 Nellie Briggs, Pittsfield  
 Mattie Clapp, Pittsfield  
 Ida Cone, West Stockbridge  
 Mary Coogan\*, Pittsfield  
 Annie F. Cox, Hallowell, ME  
 Ellie Enright, Pittsfield  
 Carrie Filley, Pittsfield  
 Sarah P. Goodman, Pittsfield  
 Fannie Hotchkin, Lenox  
 Mrs. Joel Jackson, Pittsfield  
 Bella Keveaney, Lee  
 Etta Lawton, Pittsfield  
 Gertrude Linn, Pittsfield

Mary Marsh, South Adams  
 Mary Millard, Pittsfield  
 Mary A. O'Donnell, Pittsfield  
 Hattie E. Osborne, Pittsfield  
 Anna E. Parkill, South Adams  
 Georgie Patten, Pittsfield  
 Louise Patten, Pittsfield  
 Florence E. Pierce, Pittsfield  
 Belle Pomeroy, Pittsfield  
 Mrs. Edward Pomeroy, Pittsfield  
 Ella Pratt, Lanesboro  
 Eliza A. Regan, Pittsfield  
 Nellie P. Saunders, Augusta, ME  
 Mrs. F. B. Seymour, Pittsfield  
 Ella Stowell, West Stockbridge  
 Nellie Teeling, Pittsfield  
 Annie Turtle, Cheshire  
 Mary A. Walsh, Lee  
 Sophie M. Warriner, Hinsdale  
 Sarah Werden, Pittsfield  
 Lida Willis, Pittsfield

1871

Mary Adam, Pittsfield  
 Clara C. Alger, Saratoga Springs, NY  
 A. Phebe Ashley, Pittsfield  
 Alice J. Ayres, Hadley  
 Sabra G. Ayres, Amherst  
 Lizzie R. Axtell, Pittsfield  
 Ella E. Badgley\*, Battle Creek, MI  
 Grace A. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Jessie C. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Lillie Barnes, Pittsfield  
 Emma J. Bartholomew, Ansonia, CT  
 Triphie M. Beals, North Abington  
 Louise O. Berens, Philadelphia, PA  
 Olivia M. Berens, Philadelphia, PA  
 Helen M. Bierce, Cornwall Bridge, CT  
 Mattie Blodgett, Pittsfield  
 Mary B. Botsford, Winsted, CT  
 Clara K. Bragdon\*, New Albany, IN  
 Ida M. Brown, Dalton  
 Jennie L. Brown, Pittsfield  
 Grace I. Budington, Kingston, NY  
 Anna Butler\*, Muscatine, IA  
 Esther Butler, Muscatine, IA  
 Lizzie P. Carter, Pittsfield  
 Stella Carter, Pittsfield  
 Hattie Campbell, Cocksackie, NY  
 Julia E. Canfield, Nyack, NY  
 Eva D. Case, Gulton, NY

Tillie E. Case, Brooklyn, NY  
Minnie Chamberlain\*, Redding, CT  
Agnes Clapp, Pittsfield  
Annie B. Clapp, Pittsfield  
Lillie Clapp, Pittsfield  
Fannie A. Clark, South Adams  
Jennie L. Coleman, Pittsfield  
Maggie Colt, Pittsfield  
Bessie Colt, Pittsfield  
Ida C. Cone, West Stockbridge  
Mary A. Coogan\*, Pittsfield  
Anna Daboll, Mystic  
Nellie Darlington, Westchester, PA  
Louise M. Dinsmoor, Boston  
Mary Dutton\*, Pittsfield  
Jennie L. Eaglesfield, Terre Haute, IN  
Lillie D. Fowler, Newburgh, NY  
Ellen L. Gleason, Pittsfield  
Libbie Gorton, Lanesborough  
Louise Gorton, Lanesborough  
Eliza J. Haigh, Newburgh, NY  
Carrie E. Hale, Dalton  
M. Belle Hartwell, Ware  
M. Annette Hatfield, South Hadley Falls  
Florence Hoag, Tarrytown, NY  
Katie Hughston, New Haven, CT  
Isabella N. Hume, New Haven, CT  
Mary E. Ingraham, Pittsfield  
Mary L. Kimball, Portsmouth, NH  
Jennie M. Knight, Hatfield  
Mary E. Lincoln, Baltimore, MD  
Hattie L. Lord, Newton  
Marion W. Loring, Auburndale  
Martha A. Maffett, Wilkesbarre, PA  
Mary C. Morvin, East Line, NY  
Frances A. Mattison, Albion, NY  
Isabel C. McBride, Silver City, ID  
Hannah D. Mead, Middletown, NY  
Grace C. Miller, Damariscotta, ME  
Frances B. Mitchell\*, Dalton  
Etta M. Monk, Stoughton  
Abby T. Montague\*, Sunderland  
Georgie A. Munson, Bridgeport, CT  
Lydia M. Murdock, Pittsfield  
Ida L. Murray, Pittsfield  
Minnie M. Murray, Pittsfield  
Florence A. O'Hara, New Haven, CT  
Fannie M. Olmstead, Warehouse Point, CT  
Laura A. Peck\*, Bennington, VT  
Laura M. Powell, Pittsfield  
Ida Quackenbush, Pittsfield  
Helen A. Reed, Bridgeport, CT

May Reeves\*, Richmond, IN  
Marie Reichinger, Vienna, Austria  
Henrietta M. Rowe, Patchogue, NY  
Mary L. Russell, Pittsfield  
Bertha Russell, Pittsfield  
Abby L. Sanderson\*, South Hadley Falls  
Mary O. Sanderson, Bernardston  
Elizabeth Siegelbaum, Pittsfield  
Dora M. Smith, Lenox  
Emma M. Smith, Pittsfield  
Lizzie M. Sparks, Fort Smith, AR  
Lizzie M. Spaulding, Pittsfield  
Ellie L. Stanton, London, England  
Mary Stevens\*, Pittsfield  
Josephine C. Stewart, Norwich, CT  
Agnes S. Stewart, Norwich, CT  
Florence D. Strecker, Philadelphia, PA  
Lottie A. Taber, Cazenovia, NY  
Carrie Taylor, Pittsfield  
Emma Taylor, New York City  
Fannie M. Terry, Otter Creek, IL  
Ella C. Thompson, Brooklyn, NY  
Lottie Tracy, Toledo, OH  
Emily F. Tuttle, Brooklyn, NY  
Julia H. Wadhams, Goshen, CT  
Mary Werden, Pittsfield  
Grace West, Pittsfield  
Fanny E. Whipple, Pittsfield  
Anna H. Wilcoxson\*, Stuyvesant, NY  
Lila Willis, Pittsfield

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, FRENCH  
AND DRAWING

Sarah L. Allen, Pittsfield  
Ida M. Arnold, North Adams  
Mary E. Bates, Pittsfield  
Ida M. Beckley, Berkshire  
Sophia M. Best, Berkshire  
Mary T. Briggs, Pittsfield  
Mattie Clapp, Pittsfield  
Annie E. Clark, South Adams  
Hattie Cooley, Pittsfield  
Eva Curtis, Lenox  
Mary G. Davis, Pittsfield  
M. E. Gibbs, Lee  
Sarah P. Goodman, Pittsfield  
Fanny Hotchkin, Lenox  
Florence Learned, Pittsfield  
Carrie Lloyd, Pittsfield  
Mary Marsh, South Adams  
Julia J. McAlpine, Pittsfield



Sarah J. McAlpine, Pittsfield  
 Melvina Nickerson, Pittsfield  
 Anna E. Parkhill, South Adams  
 Georgia Patten, Pittsfield  
 Louise Patten, Pittsfield  
 Mrs. W. R. Plunkett, Pittsfield  
 Libbie M. Pollock, Pittsfield  
 Belle Pomeroy, Pittsfield  
 Ella Pratt, Lanesborough  
 Mrs. F. B. Seymour, Hinsdale  
 Edith Tower, South Adams  
 Sarah Werden, Pittsfield

1872

Mary L. Adam, Pittsfield  
 Clara C. Alger\*, Saratoga Springs, NY  
 Lizzie R. Axtell, Pittsfield  
 Alice J. Ayres\*, Hadley  
 Ida W. Ayres, Pittsfield  
 Nellie Ayres, Pittsfield  
 Grace A. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Jessie C. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Frank Baldwin, Baldwinville, NY  
 Lillie Barnes, Pittsfield  
 Maggie A. Bates, Pownal, VT  
 Mattie Blodgett, Pittsfield  
 Clara K. Bragdon\*, New Albany, IN  
 Mary Broadhead, Cornwall, NY  
 Lizzie H. Brodrick, Lyme, CT  
 Jennie L. Brown, Pittsfield  
 Anna Butler\*, Muscatine, IA  
 Esther Butler, Muscatine, IA  
 Hattie Campbell, Coxsackie, NY  
 Julia E. Canfield, Nyack, NY  
 Lizzie P. Carter, Pittsfield  
 Eva D. Case, Fulton, NY  
 Florence Chamberlin, Cleveland, OH  
 Sarah H. Chandler, Thompson, CT  
 Agnes Clapp, Pittsfield  
 Annie B. Clapp, Pittsfield  
 Lillie S. Clark, Ottawa, IL  
 Ida H. Clark, Ottawa, IL  
 Jennie E. Cole, Peru, NY  
 Bessie Colt, Pittsfield  
 Mary A. Coogan, Pittsfield  
 Ida E. Dodd, Indianapolis, IN  
 Bertha A. Downer, New Haven, CT  
 Mary Dutton\*, Pittsfield  
 Nettie F. Fernald, Wellesley  
 Mary H. Fisher, Pottsville, PA  
 Ida M. Gale, Pittsfield

Florence Gale, Pittsfield  
 Lizzie V. Gordon, Red Bank, NJ  
 Ruth V. Gordon, Red Bank, NJ  
 Elizabeth Gorton, Lanesborough  
 Louise Gorton, Lanesborough  
 Georgianna Greene, Saginaw City, MI  
 Elizabeth N. Griswold\*, Whitehall, NY  
 Flora E. Hamilton, Whitehall, IL  
 Abbie B. Harder, Philmont, NY  
 Cornelia F. Harmon, New York City  
 Florence V. Harmon, New York City  
 Ida A. Harrington, Port Huron, MI  
 Arline H. Harris, New London, CT  
 Minnie H. Hicks, Tolland, CT  
 Annie L. Hopkins, Bridgeport, CT  
 Lethe E. Horton, Pittsfield  
 Isabella N. Hume, New Haven, CT  
 Mary E. Ingraham, Pittsfield  
 Helen M. Ives, Mount Carmel, CT  
 Annie A. Jones, Deep River, CT  
 Ada B. Laflin, Pittsfield  
 Ida B. Lane, Enfield  
 Henrietta D. Learned, Pittsfield  
 Alice Learned, Pittsfield  
 Lizzie W. Lewis, Wolcottville, CT  
 Marion W. Loring, Auburndale  
 Ruth R. Maffet\*, Wilkesbarre, Pa.  
 Cornelia A. Masson, New York City  
 Isabel O. McBride, Boise City, ID  
 Anna E. R. Miller, Brooklyn, MI  
 Frances B. Mitchell\*, Dalton  
 Abby T. Montague\*, Sunderland  
 Lydia M. Murdock, Pittsfield  
 Ida L. Murray, Pittsfield  
 Minnie M. Murray, Pittsfield  
 Fannie M. Olmstead, Warehouse Point, CT  
 Stella M. Parmenter, Athol  
 Laura A. Peck\*, Bennington, VT  
 Minnie W. Peckham, Wallingford, CT  
 Laura W. Powell, Pittsfield  
 Helen A. Read, Bridgeport, CT  
 May Reeves\*, Richmond, IN  
 Mabel Richards, Pittsfield  
 M. Antoinette Root, Bristol CT  
 Mary L. Russell, Pittsfield  
 Bertha Russell, Pittsfield  
 Annie H. Ryder, Medford  
 Georgia Schryver, Rhinebeck, NY  
 Ida C. Sessions\*, Bristol, CT  
 Zaila M. Severson, Indian Orchard  
 Belle D. Sheldon, Binghamton, NY  
 Carrie L. Shepard, Blandford

Emma M. Smith, Pittsfield  
 Emma Smith, Pittsfield  
 Grace E. Somers, Lanesborough  
 Carrie Spaulding, Pittsfield  
 Ellen L. Stanton, London, England  
 May Stevens\*, Pittsfield  
 Lucy P. Stevens, Philadelphia, PA  
 Carrie Taylor, Pittsfield  
 Frances M. Terry, Otter Creek, IL  
 Ella C. Thompson, Brooklyn, NY  
 Caro W. Titcomb, Plympton  
 Lillie H. Tolman, Boston  
 Kate V. Tousey, Indianapolis, IN  
 Emily F. Tuttle, Brooklyn, NY  
 Hattie W. Tuttle, Ware  
 Fannie W. Tuttle, Littleton  
 Mary W. Tyler\*, Esidumbini, Natal, Africa  
 Louise C. Webster, Terryville, CT  
 Mary Werden, Pittsfield  
 Grace West, Pittsfield  
 Josephine C. Whipple, Pittsfield  
 Fannie E. Whipple, Pittsfield  
 Hattie N. Whitford, Sherburne, NY  
 Anna H. Wilcoxson\*, Stuyvesant, NY  
 Tillie Wilson, Allentown, PA  
 Lila Willis, Pittsfield  
 Hattie F. Wolcott, Pittsfield  
 Eleanor M. Wright, Williamstown  
 Laura C. Wright, Pittsfield

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, FRENCH  
AND DRAWING

Ida M. Arnold, South Adams  
 L. P. Bartlett, Pittsfield  
 Ida M. Beckley, Berkshire  
 Sophia M. Best, Berkshire  
 Mary A. Bissell, Pittsfield  
 Katie A. Bigelow, Pittsfield  
 Grace I. Budington, Kingston, NY  
 Alice M. Burt, South Adams  
 Emma Church, Middlefield  
 Mattie Clapp, Pittsfield  
 Mary McCleary, Pittsfield  
 Jennie E. Cole, Peru, NY  
 Hattie Cooley, Pittsfield  
 Lizzie Crane, Dalton  
 Mary G. Davis, Pittsfield  
 H. W. Dewey, Pittsfield  
 Anna Feeley, Pittsfield  
 Mrs. E. S. Gale, Pittsfield  
 M. Emma Gamwell, Pittsfield

Ellen L. Gleason, Pittsfield  
 Fanny Hotchkin, Lenox  
 Lucy B. Jenks, South Adams  
 Carrie Lloyd, Pittsfield  
 Minnie R. Morey, Pittsfield  
 Anna E. Parkill, South Adams  
 Louise Patten, Pittsfield  
 Georgie Patten, Pittsfield  
 Ida Pierce, Pittsfield  
 Sibbie M. Pollock, Pittsfield  
 Maggie Pomeroy, Pittsfield  
 Belle Pomeroy, Pittsfield  
 Ella Pratt, Lanesborough  
 Annie I. Read, North Adams  
 Nellie H. Richards, Pittsfield  
 Nellie B. Richmond, South Adams  
 Kittie Smith, South Adams  
 Lizzie Thayer, South Adams  
 Carrie Warren, Pittsfield  
 Mary Wheeler, South Adams  
 M. Abby Wood, Pittsfield  
 Hattie N. Wright, Glastenbury, CT

1873

Mary L. Adam, Pittsfield  
 Ida W. Ayres, Pittsfield  
 Nellie Ayres, Pittsfield  
 Frances L. Ayres, Pittsfield  
 Grace A. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Jessie C. Baker, Pittsfield  
 Clara Ballou, Pittsfield  
 Julia E. Barnard\*, Westhampton  
 Lillie Barnes, Pittsfield  
 Emma L. Best, Kinderhook, NY  
 Lizzie A. Best, Chatham, NY  
 Mattie Blodgett, Pittsfield  
 Nellie Booth, Pittsfield  
 Anna H. Brown, Morris, IL  
 Jennie L. Brown, Pittsfield  
 Tillie B. Burgess, Brooklyn, NY  
 Agnes Butler, Pittsfield  
 Alice Carman, New York City  
 Eva D. Case, Fulton, NY  
 Sarah H. Chandler, Thompson, CT  
 Edith M. Church, Uncasville, CT  
 Virginia Church, Pittsfield  
 Agnes Clapp, Pittsfield  
 Lily Clapp, Pittsfield  
 Ida H. Clark, Ottawa, IL

[To be continued]

# STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855 HINSDALE

[Continued from Volume 27, Number 2, Page 69]

Abstract by Meta L. Stark

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

119	128	Jonathan H. White	19	M		Student	Mass.
		Ralph H. White	14	M			Mass.
		Sophia VanAlstine	22	F	B		Mass.
120	129	J. Jarvis Deming	35	M		Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah Deming	33	F			Mass.
		Henry A. Deming	33	M		Farmer	Mass.
		Isabelle Deming	28	F			Mass.
		Marian Deming	6	F			Ohio
121	130	Charles Tracy	36	M		Farmer	Canada
		Josephine Tracy	28	F			Canada
		Charles Tracy	6	M			Mass.
		Franklin Tracy	5	M			Mass.
		Lewis Tracy	3	M			Mass.
122	131	Amos Raymond, 2nd	54	M		Farmer	Mass.
		Julia Raymond	52	F			Mass.
		Myra Raymond	24	F			Mass.
		Edward Raymond	15	M		Cup Maker	Mass.
123	132	Nelson Controy?	45	M		Farmer	Canada
		Sophia Controy?	40	F			Canada
		Joseph Controy?	12	M			Canada
		Listed as female					
124	133	Harlow Spring	55	M		Farmer	Conn.
		Cynthia L. Spring	44	F			Mass.
		Willis P. Spring	2	M			Mass.
		Samuel Loveland, 2nd	11	M			N.Y.
125	134	Joel Julist?	27	M		Carpenter	Canada
		Eliza A. Julist?	19	F			Canada
		Julia Julist?, Jr.	3	F			Mass.
		Mary Julist?	4m	F			Mass.
126	135	William Hinsdale	65	M		Farmer	Conn.
		Abigail C. Hinsdale	59	F			Mass.
		Franklin W. Hinsdale	28	M		Manufacturer	Mass.
		James H. Hinsdale	23	M		Farmer	Mass.
		Edward Hinsdale	25	M		Farmer	Mass.
127	136	Thomas McGuire	35	M		Laborer	Ireland
		Mary S. McGuire	36	F			Ireland
		William McGuire	6	M			Mass.
		Catherine S. McGuire	4	F			Mass.
	137	Squire? Hoose	35	M	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sophronia Hoose	34	F	M		Mass.
		Milton Hoose	15	M	M		Mass.
		Martha S. Hoose	10	F	M		Mass.
		Mary E. Hoose	5	F	M		Mass.
		Amos T.? Hoose	4	M	M		Mass.
	138	Amasa Bradway	38	M		Laborer	N.Y.
		Lovina Bradway	39	F			N.Y.

	Caroline Bradway	16	F		N.Y.
	Harriet E. Bradway	15	F		N.Y.
	Charles H. Bradway	12	M		N.Y.
	George W. Bradway	8	M		N.Y.
139	Salmon Loomis	66	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Nancy Loomis	59	F		Mass.
	Margaret Loomis	18	F		Mass.
	James R. Shaw	13	M		Scotland
	James Ridgeway	29	M	Laborer	England
140	Daniel Watkins	57	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Harriet Watkins	57	F		Mass.
	Angelia Watkins	24	F		Mass.
	Lucelia Watkins	20	F		Mass.
141	Monroe F. Watkins	25	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Sarah W. Watkins	23	F		S.C.
	John Shaw	19	M	Farmer	Scotland
142	Charles K. Tracy	45	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Nancy M. Tracy	44	F		N.Y.
	Charles E. Tracy	12	M		Mass.
	William W. Tracy	8	M		Mass.
132 143	Ezra B. Tracy	37	M	Farmer	Mass.
	James Gill	28	M	Laborer	Ireland
	Rufus Williams	38	M	M Farmer	Mass.
	Maria P. Williams	37	F	M	Mass.
	F--- G. Williams	12	M	M	Mass.
133 144	Harriet V. Tracy	34	F		Mass.
	George William Tracy	15	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Clarissa Thompson	70	F		Mass.
	Clara Gilbert	11	F		N.J.?
134 145	Ashael Barker	40	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Simeremus? Barker	48	M	Farmer	Mass.
	John B. Barker	20	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Thomas F. Barker	17	M	Farmer	Mass.
135 146	William Lyman	63	M	Blacksmith	Mass.
	Sally Lyman	65	F		Mass.
	William Lyman, Jr.	36	M	Blacksmith	Mass.
	June Lyman	36	F		Mass.
	Polly Watkins	85	F	(Pauper)	Mass.
136 147	B. B. Hamblin?	46	M	Fork & Hoe maker	N.Y.
	Thirza Hamblin?	50	F		Mass.
	David S. Hamblin?	25	M	Carpenter	Mass.
	Helen M. Hamblin	14	F		N.Y.
	Francis Squire	23	M	Engineer	Mass.
	Sarah S.? Squire	20	F		Mass.
	Lillie Estell Squire	6m	F		N.Y.
	Sarah M.? Weaver	56	F		Mass.
137 148	Cephus Cole	62	M	Farmer	Mass.
	Polly Cole	62	F		Conn.
	Jane M. Cole	24	F		Mass.
138 149	Isaac Lyman	54	M	Blacksmith	Mass.
	Mary Lyman	56	F		Conn.
	Sarah Lyman	23	F		Mass.
	Harriet Lyman	17	F		Mass.
	Edward Lyman	20	M		Conn.

## Hinsdale, 1855 Census

107

		Charles Lyman	14 M		Mass.
139	150	John Watkins	31 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Harriet Watkins	30 F		Mass.
		Charles Watkins	8 M		Mass.
		Mary J. Watkins	5 F		Mass.
140	151	P. Warren Knight	33 M	Tanner	Mass.
		Jane A. Knight	32 F		Mass.
141	152	Asher Knight	62 M	Tanner	Mass.
		Abigail Knight	58 F		Mass.
		George F. Knight	36 M	Tanner	Mass.
142	153	Judson L. Reed	36 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Mary Reed	31 F		Mass.
		Ascha? B. Searl	43 F		Mass.
	154	Luther Watkins	67 M	Tanner	Mass.
		Lucretia Wills	36 F		Mass.
		James B. Hamblin	23 M	Blacksmith	Mass.
		Malissa Hamblin	22 F		Mass.
		Fannie L. Hamblin	F		Mass.
	155	Samuel Watkins	43 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Maria P. Watkins	35 F		Mass.
		George M. Watkins	15 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Henry Wells Watkins	10 M		Mass.
		Lydia Meacham	70 F		Mass.
		John Nash	60 M	Farmer (Pauper)	Mass.
	156	James W. Wicker	32 M	Tanner	Mass.
		Maria E. Wicker	27 F		N.Y.
		Elizabeth Wicker	9 F		Mass.
		Frederic F. Wicker	6 M		Mass.
		Edward Wicker	5 M		Mass.
		Augusta Wicker	2 F		N.Y.
		Clara Wicker	6m F		Mass.
	157	James Maxwell	33 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Mary Maxwell	31 F		Ireland
		Owen Maxwell	5 M		Ireland
		Francis Maxwell	3 M		Mass.
		Mary Ann Maxwell	1 F		Mass.
		Chis? Sandeford	61 F		Ireland
		Ann Sandeford	22 F		Ireland
	158	James Clark	27 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Catherine Clark	30 F		Ireland
		Peter Clark	5 M		Mass.
		Mary Ann Clark	3 F		Mass.
		James Clark	16m M		Mass.
	159	Whitfield R. Bottum	39 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Alice M. Bottum	36 F		Mass.
		Fannie Bottum	11 F		Mass.
		Caroline Bottum	2 F		Mass.
	160	William J. Anthony	31 M	Boot Maker	Mass.
		Electa Anthony	33 F		Mass.
		Christopher Anthony	8 M		Mass.
		Elizabeth Anthony	6 F		Mass.
		Eliza Anthony	3 F		Mass.
		Mary A. Anthony	1 F		Mass.
		Angeline Hayden	40 F		Mass.

	161	Patrick Gillen	40 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Jane Gillen	28 F		Ireland
151	162	Ambrose Meacham	51 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Electa Meacham	51 F		Mass.
		Harriet R. Meacham	27 F		Mass.
		Augusta Meacham	24 F		Mass.
	163	Daniel Hagun?	43 M	Laborer	Ireland
		James Hagun?	35 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Margaret Hagun?	36 F		Ireland
		Patrick Hagun?	78 M	Laborer	Ireland
152	164	Isaac Livermore	63 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Betsey Livermore	55 F		Mass.
		Jane A. Livermore	28 F		Mass.
		Sarah A. Livermore	23 F		Mass.
		Elijah M. Livermore	21 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary E. Livermore	13 F		Mass.
153	165	Charles H. Plunkett	54 M	Manufacturer	Mass.
		Nancy J. Plunkett	39 F		Mass.
		Henry Plunkett	21 M	Merchant	Mass.
		Mary R. Plunkett	19 F		Mass.
		Emily W. Plunkett	17 F		Mass.
		Thomas R. Plunkett	15 M	Clerk	Mass.
		George S. Plunkett	10 M		Mass.
		Mary Fitzgerald	22 F		Ireland
		Hugh McGuire	22 M	Laborer	Ireland
154	166	Frederick Curtis	56 M	Station Agent	Mass.
		Martha C. Curtis	46 F		Mass.
		Worthington W. Curtis	20 M	Assistant	Mass.
		Sarah S. Curtis	18 F		Mass.
		Clinton W. Curtis	16 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Arthur F. Curtis	14 M		Mass.
		Frank P. Curtis	6 M		Mass.
		Caroline Pierce	76 F		Conn.
155	167	James Miller	57 M	Manufacturer	Mass.
		Lucy Miller	54 F		Mass.
		Eliza Miller	26 F		Mass.
		Emily Miller	23 F		Mass.
		Ellen Miller	22 F		Mass.
		George Putnam	47 M	Farmer	Mass.
156	168	Cynthia Snow	46 F		Mass.
		June E. Snow	16 F		Mass.
		Charles Snow	6 M		Mass.
		Samuel Burmingham	32 M	Farmer	England
		Augustus Shutt?	27 M	Farmer	Germany
		Silas Bingham	42 M	Millwright	Mass.
		Mary C. N. Bingham	34 F		Mass.
		Julia Ann Bingham	16 F		Mass.
		Elizabeth N. Bingham	8 F		Mass.
		Susan H. Bingham	3 F		Mass.
		Charles F. Bottum	32 M	Broker	Mass.
170		Chester Clark	47 M	Wagon Maker	Mass.
		Maria P. Clark	42 F		Mass.

[To be continued]

## **BERKSHIRE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS**

### **CITY AND TOWN CLERKS**

Adams 01220, Paul Hutchinson (413) 743-8320  
Alford 01266, Paula H. Moskowitz (413) 528-4536  
Becket 01223, Jeanne W. Pryor (413) 623-8934  
Cheshire 01225, Christine B. Emerson (413) 743-1690  
Clarksburg 01247, Marie Allard (413) 663-8247  
Dalton 01226, Barbara L. Suriner (413) 684-6103  
Egremont 01258, Margaret A. Muskrat (413) 528-0182  
Florida 01350, Lisa H. Brown (413) 664-6685  
Great Barrington 01230, Mary Ellen Siok (413) 528-3140  
Hancock 01237, Marjorie L. Southard (413) 738-5225  
Hinsdale 01235, Dawn L. Frissell (413) 655-2301  
Lanesborough 01237, Judith A. Gallant (413) 442-1167  
Lee 01238, Suzanne M. Scarpa (413) 243-5505  
Lenox 01240, Marie Colvin (413) 637-5506  
Monterey 01245, Barbara B. Swann (413) 528-5175  
Mount Washington 01258, Thomas Furcht (413) 528-4971  
New Ashford 01237, Richard DeMyer (413) 458-5671  
New Marlborough 01244, Margaret W. Smith (413) 229-8116  
North Adams 01247, Mary Ann Abuisi (413) 662-3015  
Otis 01253, Janet A. Baker (413) 269-0101  
Peru 01235, Mary M. Wheeler (413) 655-8027  
Pittsfield 01201, Jody L. Phillips (413) 499-9361  
Richmond 01254, Pam Patterson (413) 698-3315  
Sandisfield 01255, Dolores Harasyko (413) 258-4711  
Savoy 01256, Jane Phinney (413) 743-4290  
Sheffield 01257, Felecie O. Joyce (413) 229-8752  
Stockbridge 01262, Linda Hunt (413) 298-4714  
Tyringham 01264, John Curtin, Jr. (413) 243-2999  
Washington 01223, Allison Mikaniewicz (413) 623-2185  
West Stockbridge 01266, Tina Skorput Cooper (413) 232-0300  
Williamstown 01267, Mary C. Kennedy (413) 458-9341  
Windsor 01270, Evelyn Bird (413) 684-3977

### **CEMETERY OFFICES**

Adams, 65 Park St., Adams, MA 01220 (413) 743-0108  
Dalton, Main St., Dalton, MA 01226 (413) 684-0604  
Great Barrington, Stockbridge Rd., Great Barrington, MA 01230  
(413) 528-1800  
Lee, Town Hall, 32 Main St., Lee, MA (413) 243-5520  
Pittsfield, 203 Wahconah St., Pittsfield, MA 01201 (413) 447-7953  
North Adams, 10 Main St., North Adams, MA 01247 (413) 663-3298  
St. Joseph's, 222 Pecks Rd, Pittsfield, MA 01201 (413) 499-1317  
Williamstown, East Main St., Williamstown, MA 01267 (413) 458-8657

### **REGISTRIES OF DEEDS**

Northern Berkshire, 65 Park St., Adams, MA 01220 (413) 743-0035  
Central Berkshire, Bank Row, Pittsfield, MA 01201 (413) 443-7438  
Southern Berkshire, 334 Main St., Great Barrington, MA 01230  
(413) 528-0146

### **REGISTRY OF PROBATE**

Berkshire County, Bank Row, Pittsfield, MA 01201 (413) 442-6941

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. BOX 1437

PITTSFIELD, MA 01202-1437

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PITTSFIELD, MA  
PERMIT NO. 48

07

American-Canadian  
Genealogical Society  
Box 6478  
Manchester, NH 03108-6478

**IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL ENCLOSED!**

**- THE AUGUST *NEWSLETTER***