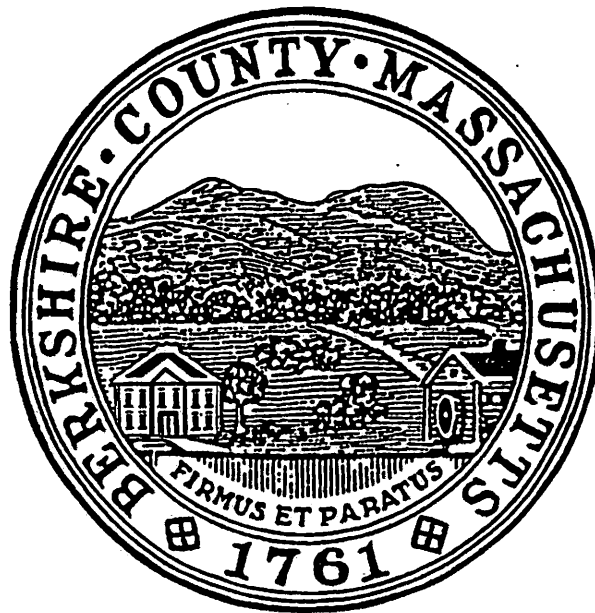


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Berkshire Genealogist



Volume 32 Number 1

Winter 2011

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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The organization is a non-profit genealogical society 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 in January, April and October, featuring both amateur and professional genealogists discussing a wide variety of topics.

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BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

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SOME OLD-TIME TAVERNS

From *The Berkshire Hills*, June 1, 1901

The first tavern for the entertainment of man and beast ever opened in Northern Berkshire, was just to the north of old Fort Massachusetts, near the site of the present Capt. Clement Harrison farm mansion. It was kept by Oliver Parker, Senior, one of the pioneer settlers of North Adams, whose first business venture was the bringing of grain on horseback over an Indian trail across the Hoosac mountain and supplying North Adams and Williamstown with corn meal, the most of which was ground at the famous old Krigger mill in the latter place.

It was in 1777 that Oliver opened this hotel having Didimus and Ezra Parker as his assistants. Their principal guests were continental soldiers, and often these were present in such numbers that a half-dozen beeves a week were killed to supply their tables, with other quantities of food in like proportion. The crowds coming in upon them were at times so great that many nights there was not floor space enough on their premises to accommodate the weary soldiers, and every portion of the tavern was filled with these sleepers. Many of these guests were without money, and others paid in continental or "card money," which fluctuated so heavily in value that the more one had of it the "poorer he was." But the Parkers were staunch patriots and whigs, were neither penurious, hard hearted or fisted, though after a while the tavern business became so unprofitable that they threw up the sponge as tavern keepers.

THE OLD BLACK TAVERN

The second and most famous ancient hotel in Northern Berkshire was on the corner of Main and State streets, the site now being occupied by Martin's Block. The structure at first was a story-and-a-half dwelling built by Samuel Day and was occupied up to 1780 by Abiel Smith. It was owned in 1788 by David Darling, who built on an east wing, and in 1795 opened it as a public house, afterwards selling it to Roger F. Wing. Bethuel Finney became its next owner in 1804, erected a two-story main building on the front, keeping the hotel until 1808. Richard Knight purchased it with 40 acres adjoining, and in 1812

leased it for three years to George Whitman. From 1814 to 1816 it was run by William E. Brayton, who was succeeded by Alpheus Smith, afterwards the famous war selectman of the town of Adams, who conducted it for 20 years, when it was used for an eating saloon and for tenement purposes until it was torn down to be replaced by Martin's Block. It was originally named the "Black Tavern" on account of having been painted that sombre color. In its palmy days it was fronted by a grand row of Lombardy poplars, only one of which remained when it was demolished. As late as 1840 Capt. Richard Carter used to be brought down to the Black Tavern from his Clarksburg home, having become infirm with rheumatism and old age, and at a penny a cup sell luscious walnut meats from a battered tin trunk to the youth of the village. Sitting under the one remaining Lombardy poplar in his huge arm chair, with a cheery word for all who turned that historic corner, his snow white hair flowing down his shoulders from beneath his high black hat, he was a venerable character of the years ago.

THE OLD BERKSHIRE HOUSE

The third hotel in north Adams was the Berkshire house, the location of which through the management and enterprise of the Albert E. Richmond family, with Clinton Q. Richmond as manager, is now occupied by one of the most palatial and finely appointed combined hotels and theatres in New England, and most appropriately bears the name of the "New Richmond House." The Berkshire House like the famous original old Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, was built in sections to keep pace with the demands of the traveling public up through the past century. It was built in 1815 by Col. William G. Waterman. It was at first two-stories high, with two square rooms below, the east being the post office, the landlord being the second postmaster in the village, and the west for a reception room. Afterwards George Whitman, a pioneer citizen, bought the property, built on a three-story addition to the east end, and added a third story to the original building. In excavating for the foundations of this

addition an enormous pine stump called "the Colegrove stump" was exhumed. Afterwards the hotel was run for several years by Reuben, a son of George Whitman, and also by Henry Jenks. It was then purchased by Rufus Westcott, brother-in-law of W. E. Brayton, who build on eight feet to the west end, carrying up the same two stories, thus securing a bar room and a number of chambers. It was afterwards owned in 1828 and conducted by Nathaniel G. Waterman and was bought by James Wilbur in 1829. Mr. Wilbur made extensive improvements in 1835, raising the entire structure three-stories high, straightening its middle chimney, building on piazzas, the lower being adorned with huge brick pillars or pilasters, neatly covered with white plaster, the brick having been burned in the old John Hathaway yard in Willow Dell, where one John Lee met with an untimely death by the caving in of a clay bank, an event duly chronicled on an old brown board erected on the spot, and remaining undisturbed for very many years.

When it was remodeled and repaired by James Wilbur, he had the old chimney, which was built in three angles in the old house, and was famous for filling the old time hostelry with volumes of discomfiting smoke in damp weather, torn down and a new chimney constructed in its place. This mason work was performed by Loren A. Benton, a cousin of Thomas Benton, the once famous Missouri statesman, whose daughter Jessie was the wife of the celebrated John C. Fremont. It was he who walled a full jug of whiskey into this chimney, which caused such an excitement when the old hotel was torn down to make way for the present New Richmond House. The joke of this occasion was that when Deacon Jeremiah Wilbur, who saw this jug of whiskey placed in hiding in 1835, laid hands on it after its 65 years of imprisonment, the contents had all evaporated through the earthen pores of the receptacle and no one got a chance to sample the rare old alcoholic brew of the early days. When mason Benton finished this chimney he placed a board over its top and went down to the old bar room and wagered the drinks for the crowd with Uncle Jim Wilbur that it wouldn't smoke. The fire was lighted and the occupants of the hotel were completely smoked out, when Benton ascended to the roof and removed the

board and claimed the bet, which was very gladly paid by Uncle Jim.

While the second story piazza was in course of construction and before the railing had been placed thereon, Jenks Kimball and Thomas Hodge went out upon the same, both being short, stout and sturdily built and prominent men. In some way or other, as they stood upon the piazza flooring, they became involved in a heated argument as to who was the strongest, and after the fashion of old-time muscular notorieties, suddenly clinched. As they wrestled and writhed, it was a miracle that they did not fall to the ground beneath. Suddenly Hodge threw Kimball to the floor, and so intent were both in trying to overcome the other, that they were oblivious of all danger. Several men were attracted from the lower platform by the noise of the struggle and appeared upon the scene just in time to save the two worthies, who were fast-locked in each other's arms, from a fearful if not fatal accident.

In the third-story of the State street end of the hotel was a room fitted up as a Free Mason Lodge. What Masonic Lodge held its convocations here is unknown, but possibly old Franklin Lodge of Stafford's Hill might have occasionally met here, as it did in Cheshire and Lanesboro. An aged citizen remembers that the seats were arranged in a circle, that there was a huge sounding board above the altar, which was in the center, and that the ceiling and walls were covered over with painted Masonic emblems. After the Masonic fraternity gave up this hall, it was supplied with what was know as "a spring floor," and being the first improvement of the kind in the county, was very popular with dancing parties. This was also the first real amusement hall in the village, and here concerts, lectures and singing schools were held for a long time. Prior to this, however, shows were sometimes held in a small room in the Black Tavern, of which was the exhibition of the Siamese Twins, who were born fastened to each other with a short ligament of muscles and flesh.

James Wilbur conducted the Berkshire House until 1841 when he deceased at the age of 55 years. It was afterwards run by Benjamin Howard of Worcester, a brother-in-law of Thomas Baker, the first village butcher, but with poor success. The property

having been willed by James Wilbur to his sons George and Jeremiah, they made a good many improvements and conducted the same from 1839 to 1843. It was in 1843 that the village was stirred up with a great temperance movement in which the Martha Washingtonians and Cold Water Army came to the front in such force, that for a season the sale of liquor was stopped, except as it was smuggled in from Troy in teams under a cover of dark nights. In 1843, at a temperance meeting at the old white school house on Church Hill, whose site is now occupied by the Baptist church, it was resolved to stop liquor selling in the Berkshire House. The landlords being interviewed, Jeremiah fell in with the temperance people and refused to sell any more liquor, while George persisted in selling old cider. A compromise was effected by the temperance people buying all the hotel liquors, and by Jeremiah's taking the house and keeping it as a temperance hotel. The event was celebrated by a multitude of temperance people who gathered at North Adams from all over the county. Hon. Henry W. Dwight of Stockbridge made an eloquent address at the Congregational Church, a big and bountiful dinner was spread in the upper hotel stories, where by a system of folding doors 500 guests could be seated at once, and the occasion was one of the great temperance rejoicing in Berkshire County. A large platform was erected in front of the hotel on Main street on which was placed a huge tub. Into this tub was poured the liquor purchased from the Wilburs, to which was added a huge quantity of other combustible material, and the bonfire was lighted and burned with great rapidity amid the cheers of the thousands assembled. The temperance people were triumphant, the liquor lovers sad, but silent, though it is related that Bill Bracy plunged down on his knees and drank some of the escaping fluid from the gutter, in his regret at such a waste of his favorite beverage.

Jeremiah becoming tired of hotel keeping, the Berkshire was run for a few years by George and John Wilbur, by Goodnow and Darby, and by a man from Athol. It was then purchased by Jenks Kimball and John Holden, having been closed for a short time in 1844. From 1846 to 1847 Harry W. Brown was the lessee and conducted a popu-

lar house. Mr. Brown formerly ran the old stage tavern in the lower Lanesboro village for many years, and was there from 1830 to 1840. He gave up the Berkshire House to become the first station master of the Troy and Boston, or Hoosac Tunnel railroad at North Adams, which post he held until his death. He was succeeded by Gen. Elijah Bailey of South Adams and Phinehas Cone, a well-known Lenox and Williamstown hotel man, these two conducting the same for a number of years. In 1856 it became the property of R. D. Hicks, and old and experienced landlord, who once owned the American House in Pittsfield. At this period, it being the only hotel in North Adams, it had a very profitable and thriving business.

In 1860 the Berkshire House was purchased by Albert E. Richmond of Hoosick, who was a model and thoroughly popular and highly respected landlord and conducted it until 1865. Mr. Richmond's grandfather was a native of Rhode Island, a soldier in the Revolutionary War and after its conclusion had moved to Pittstown, N.Y. His son Josiah, and the father of Albert E. had kept a stage hotel on the old stone turnpike from Hoosick to Troy for many years and the family had afterwards removed to Hoosick. Thus the New landlord had been thoroughly instructed in the hotel business and was most successful in this role. Thinking to enter upon a wider field, in 1865 he sold the Berkshire House to D. S. Simmons and removed to Troy, where he conducted the Mansion House on River street for eighteen months. Mr. Simons had previously completed several large contracts in the building of the Troy and Boston Railroad, now the Boston & Maine, his last having been the excavation of the "little rock tunnel" passing to the westward from the freight depot grounds under Furnace Hill, and who after leaving North Adams built the American House at Greenfield, of which town he became a prominent citizen and where he deceased after the accumulation of much wealth.

In 1866 A. E. Richmond returned to North Adams, repurchased the Berkshire House, which with the New Wilson House, which he leased for two years of A. B. Wilson, the famous sewing machine inventor, and its builder and owner, he ran until 1868.

It was in this year that he built on to the State street front a four story addition to the Berkshire House, fronted with spacious piazzas and 100 feet in length, the first floor being occupied by the hotel office, bar room and stores, and the upper by the parlors, dining room, kitchen and guest rooms, both single and in suite. This addition, which has been preserved and will be used in part as an annex to the present new structure, doubled the guest capacity of the Berkshire House, and on its completion the hotel took the name and was afterwards known as the Richmond House." Mr. Richmond continued in the active management of the hotel for several years and then leased it until 1893 to Lewis L. Scott, who was succeeded by John Darrow. After the death of Mr. Richmond it passed into the hands of the Richmond family and was leased by Frank P. Wood until 1899. Until the opening of the New Richmond House, a few days ago, it was conducted by Clinton Q. Richmond the able manager of the Richmond family estates.

In closing the description of the old Berkshire House, which with three other old hotels in North Adams are no longer landmarks in the present city it may be noted that the State street wing was first constructed by James Wilbur, parallel east and west with the old main hotel structure, and to the south of it. It then had a tackle block in the peak of the roof on the west end in which were also two sliding doors leading into the first and second stories. It was used for many years on this site as a grain storehouse in which Mr. Wilbur was a prominent dealer and for a long period supplied the northern portion of the county, as well as being an extensive shipper by teams to the Hudson river markets. He afterwards moved this building and attached it as a wing to the State street end of the main hotel and used it for hotel purposes. The low building fronting this wing was in the years of his first proprietorship built on to it from the main hotel platform by A. E. Richmond for a dining room, which greatly enlarged his facilities for the entertainment of guests and for local festivities of that day. It was at this period that Mr. Richmond robbed the Main street front of the hotel of its dusky barrenness by the building of a little oval fenced-in park, which he filled with shrubbery and flowers, much to the pleasure and

satisfaction of the citizens of that day and to the traveling public.

During the past century the old hotels of Berkshire county have been visited by many distinguished personages, and have been the scenes of many interesting happenings. Previous to 1840 the choristers of the churches used to teach the singing schools, and thus kept their choirs in material and up to the standard. Then there appeared in North Adams an old traveling singing master named Lucas, a good teacher, but of a most erratic and eccentric character. His schools were flourishing for a period, but the citizens objected to his wedding one of his young lady pupils, and so vehement were they that the old musician disappeared after a fearful night of assault with damaged eggs. Miss Field, afterwards Mrs. John F. Arnold, then trained most successfully the younger people in song, and graduated many juvenile classes with delightful concerts in the old time churches. Then came a series of musical conventions presided over by notable vocal teachers from down east, prominent among whom was Prof. Frost of Boston. The older and younger people of North and South Adams and Williamstown clubbed together for this instruction and the expense was partly defrayed by public concerts given in each town at the close of the conventions, the same having been kept up for several years.

After the construction of his New State street dining room, Mr. Richmond got up a splendid farewell banquet for the members of one of these conventions, 150 persons being seated at the tables. During the feast a wild herd of cattle were driven into the hotel stable yard to feed by some drivers. One of these suddenly bolted into the west end door of the dining room, ran its whole length, passed through a door into the main structure and jumped from the main entrance into the street without doing the slightest damage. During the escapade the guests and attendants were so paralyzed with fear that they sat or stood as still as marble statues.

During the early history of the Hoosac tunnel building, there was often much excitement at the old Berkshire House. And many a crowd was addressed by notable personages from its second story piazza. It was one dark evening, illuminated with nothing but the big hotel lantern at the State

street end, that General Ben Butler added to his popularity in that section by speaking in favor of the Hoosac tunnel in the days when a good word meant much for the success of that great undertaking. But Ben was as sly as usual and had everybody denied a place on the piazza who could possibly report his utterances for publication in the newspapers at Springfield and down east. But he was outwitted by the then young editor of the News and Transcript, who penciled him in his notebook in the darkness of the street below, a feat which the General never forgot in after years, it having not only given him a genuine scare, but developed a previous latent gift in the reporter.

Another incident in this old piazza was a mishap which happened to John A. Andrews, the famous war governor of Massachusetts. Having addressed a patriotic crowd from this piazza one afternoon during the Civil War, he had quite an audience of the prominent ladies of that part of the county about him on this piazza. In the upper hall he was offered some fine apples, and seizing the tray, started to go out on the piazza to treat the ladies. The piazza was a little higher than the threshold, through some mistake in early construction, and there was a treacherous elevation here which many persons still remember. The Governor struck his toe against this slight elevation and fell sprawling on the piazza, while his apples rolled about in all directions.

The front of the two-story portion of the old Black Tavern, when the Martin block was built, was removed to State street and still stands in a remarkable state of preservation in the rear of the Mansion House, being occupied as a stable and for storage purposes.

This venerable relic has further interest from the fact that the old hotel was once run for a short time by Roger Flood, a poor North Adams boy, who from nothing built himself up to high prominence and position in Troy. Roger was the son of Luke Flood, a skillful moulder of brass and metals and machinist, who came from Norwich, Conn., and set up the machinery in the old stone cotton mill on River street, built by Richmond and Hall in 1831, and who afterwards made the castings for Wilson's sewing machine. Roger Flood afterwards went to Troy and accepted the position of porter in Dauchy & Co.'s wholesale grocery store on River street. In a few years he rose to be a partner in this firm which afterwards became that of Dauchy & Flood. He was a man of the shrewdest business talent and his rise to prominence, trust and popularity was rapid, added to which was a kind, sympathetic, helpful and generous disposition. For a number of years he was the able president of the Manufacturers Bank in Troy, which under his management was the only one in the city to survive the panic of 1857. For a number of years prior and during the Civil War he was the treasurer of Rensselaer County. In 1864, at its close he went by special train to Alexandria, Va. to pay off the county volunteers. Late one very dark night in stepping off his train he was struck by a locomotive passing on a parallel track and instantly killed at the age of 44. He was an ardent patriot and a warm friend of the soldiers, his sad death in the prime of his promising manhood being universally lamented. He was father of N. B. Flood, the well known grocer in North Adams.

[To be continued]

SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH - SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS - 1850 to 1900

1850 to 1868	Deacon J. H. Dunham	1885	William Tolman
1868 and 1869	Deacon William Robinson	1886	James D. Shipton
1870 and 1871	Deacon William B. Rice	1887 to 1889	Deacon George Shipton
1872 and 1873	Deacon Albert Tolman	1890 and 1891	S. D. Andrews
1874 and 1875	Deacon William B. Rice	1892 to 1894	F. G. Ferry
1876 to 1881	T. P. Tobey	1895	C. H. Mattoon
1882 and 1883	Deacon George Shipton	1896 and 1897	Deacon J. P. Sayles
1884	P. F. Cooley	1898 to 1900	Edward Tolman

HISTORICAL NOTES OF SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE

From *The Berkshire Hills*, October 1, 1901

On the so called West Road from Great Barrington to Sheffield, and not far from the farm of the late Joel Baldwin, and midway between that and the Joel Vosburgh place, may be found a lonely grave, just over the highway fence. The inscription on the moss grown tombstone reads: "To the memory of Zebulon Stevens, who died 1776, aged 32 years." Tradition has it that the death of Stevens was caused by the small pox caught from an uncle returning home from service in the Revolutionary army with that disease, and his burial in this lonely spot would verify it. Inspection of Revolutionary War rolls shows that both Ebenezer and Nehemiah Stevens from Sheffield served in that army, but which was the afflicted uncle of young Stevens is unknown. Near this spot the child of an old Negro slave, named Peleg, is said to have been buried, and some others.

In the records of Salisbury, Ct. in 1770 the marriage of Jonathan Kelsey and Sarah Chapman of America is recorded and the birth of their daughter Sarah in 1771. The couple were settlers in Alford before its incorporation, and went elsewhere for marriage because it was without a proper minister and proper town records. Thus the marriage of Oliver Watson and Rachel Olds, who lived in Great Barrington before its incorporation in 1761, is recorded in Sheffield in 1757. These were the great-grandparents of Charles Watson of Great Barrington. Tradition handed down from the past has it that Oliver Watson was a carpenter, and that he was the first man in the infant settlement to erect buildings by square rule in place of scribe rule. Square rule was the scientific way of laying out and forming buildings by exact measurement, while the old scribe rule

was "cut and try."

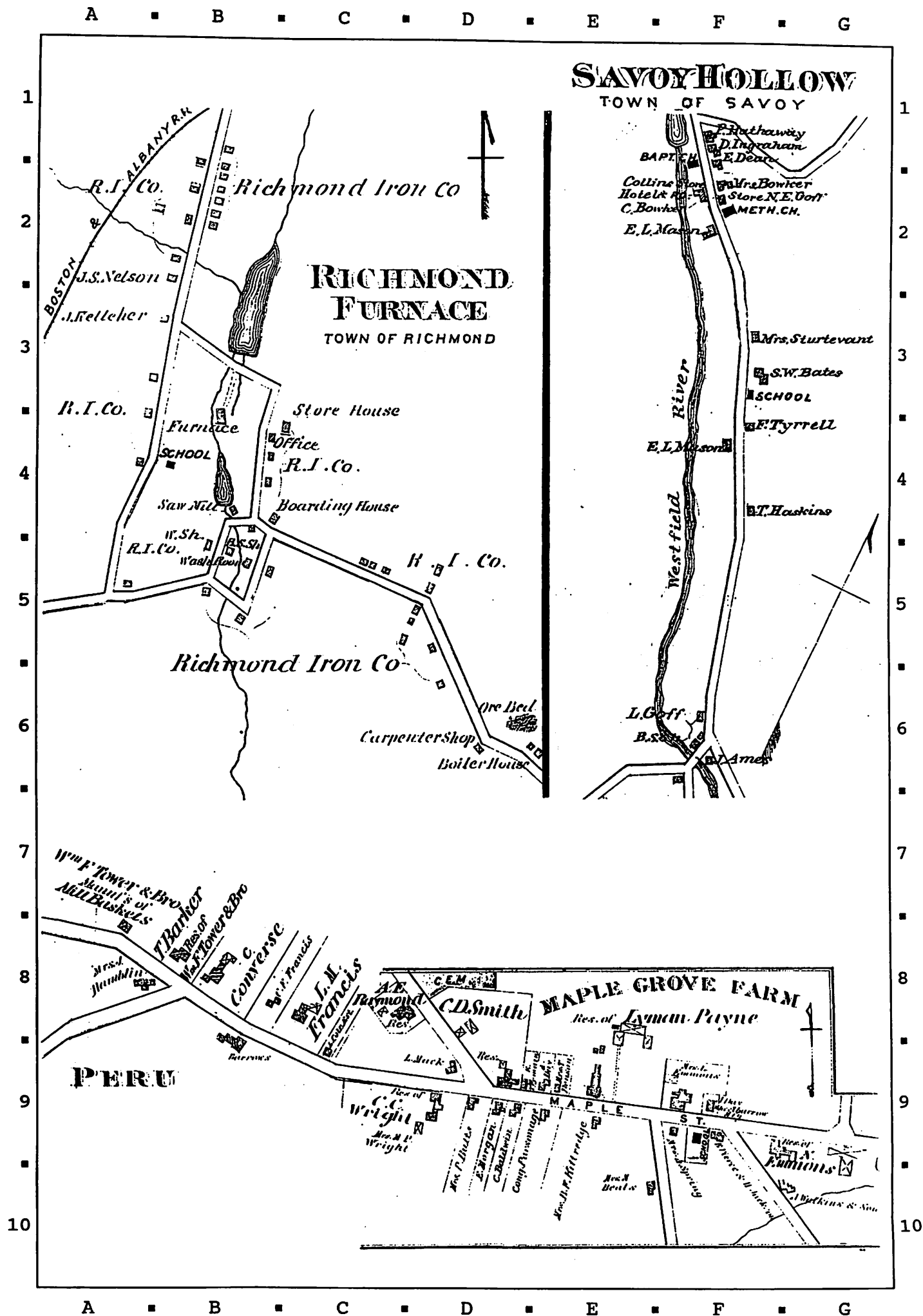
The Sheffield records also show that these Alford people were married in that town: Daniel Kelsey and Joanna Bronson in 1757, William Bronson and Esther Kelsey in 1759, and Moses Fairfield and Susannah Bosworth in 1745. The latter couple were the ancestors of Fanny, the wife of William Cullen Bryant, though they never resided in Alford. However, their son Zaccariah, the father of Fanny, and his brother Moses, became citizens of the town at the close of the 18th century.

The marriages of some of Egremont's early settlers are also recorded at Sheffield, Jonathan Welch and Catherine Karner in 1758, Michael Loomis and Mary Karner in 1758, and David Winchell and Mattaline Karner, the same year. Both Mattaline and Mary Karner were probably sisters and were married in December and at the same time. Mary was the daughter of the first Andrew Karner who settled on the Indian Reservation in Egremont. In the Registry of Deeds at Pittsfield it is found that Andrew Karner conveyed to his daughter, Mary, wife of Lieut. Michael Loomis, 80 Acres of the Indian land, bounded on the north by the Indian land, east by the farm of his daughter Magdalen, the wife of Joseph Winchell, south by the dividing line of the Indian land, and west by land of Daniel Loomis. The Sheffield records also show that Andrew Loomis married Catharine Karner in 1758, and that Jacob Karner married Catherine Taylor in 1757. This historian in the attempt to establish the relationship of the many pioneer Catherine Karners, is at fault.

* * * * *

MAP OF RICHMOND FURNACE, SAVOY HOLLOW AND PERU (Maple St.) - 1876

Ames, J.	F-6	Butts, P.	D-9	Goff, L.	F-6	Mason, E. L.	F-2	Sturtevant, Mrs.	G-3
Baldwin, C.	D-9	Collins	F-2	Goff, N. E.	F-2		F-4	Tower, William F.	A-7
Barker, T.	B-8	Converse, C.	B-8	Hamblin, J.	A-8	Morgan, E.	D-9		B-8
Barrows	B-9	Day, A.	E-9	Hathaway, P.	F-1	Nelson, J. S.	A-2	Tremain, F.	E-9
Bates, S. W.	G-3	Dean, E.	F-1	Ingraham, D.	F-1	Payne, Lyman	F-8	Tyrrell, F.	G-4
Beals, M.	E-10	Emmons, L.	F-9	Jackson, H.	F-10	Pierce, E.	F-9	Watkins, A.	G-10
Benson, T.	E-9	Emmons, N.	G-9	Kelleher, J.	A-3	Raymond, A. E.	D-8	Wright, C. C.	C-9
Bowker, C.	F-2	Francis, C. F.	C-8	Kittredge, B. F.	E-10	Smith, C. D.	D-8	Wright, M. P.	C-9
Bowker, Mrs.	F-2	Francis, L. M.	C-8	Mack, L.	D-9	Spring, A.	F-9		



BERKSHIRE BRASS BANDS

From *The Berkshire Hills*, April 1, 1901.

[Continued from Volume 31, Number 4, Page 114]

STOCKBRIDGE SILVER CORNET BAND

This fine band was organized in April 1871 and was reorganized April 9, 1894. Its first instructor was the late Captain Augustus V. Shannon of Lee, and its present instructor is Herbert C. Kells of Pittsfield. Its original charter members now living are: William Mercer, James F. Pilling, William H. Stafford, John W. Stafford, J. O. Jacot, Charles H. Willis, John L. Pilling, Frank VanDeusen, John Mercer, James F. Sumner.

For rising of a quarter of a century there has been no break in this organization, while during this time its music has been of a high standard. Its first leader in 1871 was James F. Pilling, who was succeeded by John Keyser, but was again elected such in 1873. The in order came W. H. Casey, R. B. Hunter and S. Hoafmyer; the latter being elected and resigning, Fred Rathbun was elected in his place. James VanDeusen came next and was succeeded by James F. Pilling in 1888, who filled the position for the third time. He was succeeded by Benjamin Mercer, John W. Stafford and Henry Bene. The drum-majors of this band have been W. H. Stafford, Simon Hoafmyer and Harry Babcock.

The present make up of the band is as follows: Bass, Ben Mercer, John Knowles; tenors, Elery Rathbun, Sol. Haley; altos, Arthur Searing, Harry Bell, Charles Winslow, Sol. Turner; clarionets, Halsey Dean, Edward Vandemeyer; cornets, Herbert C. Kells, Edward Searing, Jonas Mercer, Harry Bene, Eric Ericson; baritone, John Stafford; bass drum and cymbals, Charles Babcock; snare drum, Jonas Doyle.

The formation of this band in 1871 was largely due to the energy of its first and second leaders, John Keyser, its second leader was a very musical German who was employed on the Dwight homestead. The first band used the Schreiber instruments, which came up over the shoulder with a broad flare. Owing to a peculiar yellow uniform the down county boys used to desig-

nate the Stockbridge band as the "Yellow Birds."

LEE BANDS

The first brass band in the town of Lee was organized in 1857 through the instrumentality of William Taylor. Tradition has it that Thomas Gill was its first leader, while it is known that George S. Baker, now of Great Barrington, was its third. However, it was not long after its formation that the late Capt. A. V. Shannon, who was not only a natural musician, but had perfected himself in the study of band music, when just out of his teens, became its second teacher and leader and brought it up to so high a degree of proficiency that in its day it was a crack band of the county. Besides his own great ability, leader Shannon had in its membership good musical material to work with, the flourishing paper mills of that day having brought to the town as workmen an unusual amount of English and Irish and other foreign musical talent to reinforce the native musicians.

SHANNON'S BRASS BAND

The members of this pioneer and memorable band whose wonderful talent gave it great fame without as well as within the county were: A. B. Shannon, Leader, George S. Baker, John Hayden, William Combs, Frank Gross, William Gross, Samuel Freeman, C. P. Melias, Angelo Peters, Patrick Hall, Peter Daley, Thomas Gill, Joshua Stead, Patrick Conley, Jake Boland, Dennis Welsh, Charles Campbell, Michael Daley, Augustus R. Smith, Thomas Hall. Of these there are now known to be living, C. B. Melias, William Combs, Frank Gross, William Gross, George S. Baker, Patrick Conley, Dennis Welch, Charles Campbell, Michael Daley, Augustus R. Smith and Thomas Hall. When this organization finally disbanded the old instruments were turned over to Dominick May. Some of these were sold while quite a number are still in possession of Lee families.

LEE CORNET BAND

Out of the old Shannon Band there was organized in 1863 the Lee Cornet Band. One hundred citizens of the town formed a Band Association, pledging \$3.00 each annually to furnish instruments, uniforms and to pay expenses of this band. Elizur Smith was first, and Wellington Smith, second president of this association, and A. V. Shannon was its first teacher and leader. It played the Lee company, under the command of Capt. Shannon into the camp of the Forty-Ninth Regiment at Pittsfield in 1863, and was afterwards led by others. It was in great shape in 1878 and 1879 and was in attendance at the Berkshire County Fair at Pittsfield both years.

All who remember this great exploit at this Fair in 1878, and there are a great many yet living, have never ceased laughing over it. It was the occasion of the gathering of all the crack bands of Western Massachusetts in a great band concert competition on the Fair Grounds, for which the society awarded prizes for the best music. Through the machinations of a number of fun-loving spirits of Lee and Pittsfield, the Lee Cornet Band was entered for the competition at the latest possible moment, and the fact was only known to but few persons.

The band came up from Lee ununiformed and in their working clothes and landed on West street without creating any attention. From thence they were piloted to a room on Fenn street, and were carried up to the fair grounds in an old and rickety hay wagon. Of course every one not in on the secret, wondered who these "old farmers" with band instruments were, and there was a heap of merriment at their expense. But when they were called to the band-stand and led by Capt. Shannon, so far eclipsed the performances of all the bands present that they were promptly awarded the first prize, not only by the awarding committee but by the great concourse of people assembled on the occasion, there was the greatest enthusiasm over the event. The band came up to the fair the next year and were great favorites. But this victory after all was an unfortunate one, as the members got the "big-head" over being crack musicians, failed to keep in close companionship as formerly and four years after went out

of organization. C. B. Melias undertook to run the band for a while afterwards but it finally yielded up the ghost from the disease of "championship."

LAST BAND ORGANIZATION

In 1884 the Lee Cornet Band was reorganized by H. B. May, S. D. Couch, J. B. Goussett, Charles W. McAlpin; H. B. May being president, J. B. Goussett secretary and treasurer, and Charles W. McAlpin, leader. In 1886 Mr. McAlpin removed to Wisconsin and for a short time was succeeded as leader by Peter Killian of Pittsfield. During 1886, Prof. William Watts, a clarionet soloist in Gilmore's Band of New York moved to Lee and became manager and leader of this band and under his supervision it regained much of its old-time prestige. It however disbanded in 1892, and though most of its members are living, Lee has had no brass band since, though there has been some talk lately of making an attempt to start one.

The members of the last band organization were: William Watts, E flat and B flat clarionet; Charles W. McAlpin, clarionet; George Dorman, E flat clarionet; Charles Hamblin, piccolo; C. P. Melias, E flat cornet; M. L. Smith, S. D. Couch, Ensign Kenne, William Johnson, Charles Beach, B flat cornet; Kaleb S. Korh, solo alto; George B. Benton, Michael Norton, B flat alto; Charles F. Smith, Henry M. Smith, tenor; Thomas P. Ryan, Howard Tuttle, trombone; Archie Morin, baritone; J. B. Goussett, E flat bass; William Grosser, B flat bass; Michael Connelly, snare drum; M. H. Hayes, bass drum; Wilbur Chaffee, cymbals.

It is related of this latter band that it once went over to Otis to play at a Grand Army encampment. After the procession had entered the hall for dinner, which was a sumptuous one, the band men discovered a couple of dozen earthen beer bottles on the tables, and being rather dry appropriated them and commenced to sample their contents without waiting for tumblers. The result was a couple of dozen excruciating countenances, the bottles being filled with vinegar to flavor the pork and beans provided for the occasion.

HOUSATONIC CORNET BAND

The oldest band in Southern Berkshire in continuous service through the past century,

is the Housatonic Cornet Band. It was organized in 1867 and has maintained itself without a break up to the present time, and in no period of its existence has it been in such fine shape professionally, musically and peculiarly as today, and so capable of giving its patrons the highest satisfaction in public parade and concert.

Its first leader was W. H. Sumner. Its charter members were as follows: Cornet, Charles Moore, H. Hobson, George Teil; alto, J. Shea, F. R. Warfield, F. W. Andrews; tenor, N. Adams, W. Andrews; bass, W. A. Morrell; snare drum, L. Moore; bass drum, J. Kinney. Of these now living are W. H. Sumner of Westfield, H. Hobson, George Teil of North Adams, J. Kinney and Louis Moore. Mr. Sumner held the leadership for quite a number of years, when he was succeeded by Cain Brown who held it a single year. Then Mr. Sumner took it again and held it until he removed from the town. Then William H. Brown was elected leader and held the same for ten months, when rehearsals were discontinued for about six months. At the end of this period rehearsals were again commenced with J. J. Brown as leader. After four years he was succeeded by Howard Weller who resigned after a single rehearsal and who was succeeded by William M. Brown, who has held the position up to the present. The band is now made up of William H. Brown, director and manager, J. H. Gordon, Thomas Heffernan, Charles Gillette, James Doyle, Thomas Doyle, Eugene Cuennim, William Richmond, Fred Stoddard, John Klahn, George H. Brown, L. Staube, J. E. Butler, J. Cuennim, P. A. Barnes, Daniel Haggerty, Jr. and John Cuennim.

Each Monday evening from the first of June to the third in September the band gives open air concerts every year which are paid for by popular subscription. Several notable professional musicians have graduated from its ranks in the past. Of these is Archie Brown, five successive years cornetist with the Frank Daniels Opera Company, also solo cornetist for Gartland's famous band of Albany, N.Y. This gentleman was formerly solo cornet for the old Germania Band of Pittsfield and afterwards for Colt's Band of Hartford. Milford H. Sumner, once of the Housatonic Cornet Band, is now professor

and tutor of the Springfield Conservatory of Music and also solo cornetist for the Philharmonic Orchestra of that city. For a number of years Arthur S. Brown of the Housatonic was slide-trombone soloist for the London Theatre of New York and now holds a similar position with the Gaiety Theatre of Albany - besides he is baritone soloist for Elgies famous Tenth Battalion Band, N.G.S., N.Y.

THE MOZART BRASS BAND OF GREAT BARRINGTON

The Mozart Brass Band of Great Barrington, and the first in that always enterprising and beautiful town, was organized in 1840 and had for its teacher Major E. Lee of Hudson, N.Y. It continued in existence for two or three years, but during that time it furnished music for many political and other gatherings in the southern portion of the county, including a Log Cabin Convention in Pittsfield, a very large one at Otis, and August 26, 1840 at the mammoth Whig Convention for "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," at Great Barrington, where it was estimated that from fifteen to twenty thousand people were assembled. As nearly as can be ascertained this band was composed of the following persons: Teacher, Major E. Lee, key bugle; leader, William Gilmore, spinner, clarionet; Henry Foote, farmer, clarionet; Seth G. Pope, key bugle, carpenter; George J. Kipp, key bugle, mason; Elias Miller, piccolo and flute, carpenter; Alonzo Briggs, piccolo and flute, mason; William Clark, French horn; James Blake, trumpet, carpenter; Lucius J. Nettleton, trombone, carpenter; Austin Briggs, trombone, mason; Beman Moulton, painter, bass horn; Frank Eddy, bass drum, tinsmith; Stephen E. Smith, snare drum, carpenter. The only surviving members of this old band are Seth G. Pope of Alexandria Bay, N.Y., and George J. Kipp of Great Barrington.

THE MAHAIWE CORNET BAND

The Mahaiwe Cornet Band, and the second, was organized March, 1855. It disbanded February, 1857, in consequence of the removal from town of quite a number of its members. It was taught by Amos Bond of Chicopee, who proved himself to be a master instructor. Under his guidance the band was

soon able to play in a very creditable manner, and with a proficiency seldom attained at that period, except by a city band. Amos Bond was a brother of Alonzo Bond, who was for many years the leader of Bond's Band of Boston, then acknowledged to be the best in New England. Through this relationship Amos Bond was able to furnish the very choicest and latest music of the day to his pupils. This was a most important advantage; such music, which was always in manuscript, was guarded very jealously by those who possessed it, and could not be obtained at any cost, only the most common and simple music was printed in that day, the bands holding their choice manuscript music as personal property. This was the membership of this Cornet Band; Leader, Henry T. Robbins, George C. Combs, William Grady, and later Timothy P. Griffin, E flat soprano; Alfred T. Bryant, George W. Briggs, B flat alto, William Evans, Theodore Dewey, E flat tenor; Austin H. Briggs, Edwin L. Lathrop, B flat baritone, William J. Woodworth, Beman H. Moulton, E flat contra bass; Eugene H. Robbins, snare drum; Charles Crippen, bass drum.

The only surviving members of this band are Henry T. Robbins of Great Barrington, Theodore Dewey of Rutherford, N.J., William J. Woodworth of Binghamton, N.Y., and Eugene H. Robbins of Pittsfield. William Grady of this band was for many years a musician in the English army and was a star player on the cornet. He is reported to have served in the northern armies during the Civil War. Timothy P. Griffin is also reported to have been the leader of a regimental band in the northern armies in the same war. A peculiarity of Griffin was that he had a wonderful "stiff upper lip" and could play all day with perfect ease. He therefore went by the name of "leather lip." It is thought that this lip action in band musicians gave rise to the command to "keep a stiff upper lip" on every and all occasions. Bandmaster Ed Clapp took his first lessons of Amos Bond.

The first public appearance of this band was July 4, 1855 at Pittsfield; at the Barrington fair the following September; at the mammoth sleighride to Lee, January 1856. The following February it gave concerts at Great Barrington, Lee, West Stockbridge and other places. May 1856 it played at the

reception of its first engine for the Forest Fire Company of East Lee, July 4, at the Great Barrington celebration, and July 26, for a fancy dress torchlight parade through Ice Glen at Stockbridge, which was followed by a dance on the green. On August 26th of that year it escorted the Great Barrington Fremont delegation to a Republican Mass meeting at Falls Village, Conn., etc. Once coming up to Pittsfield for a picnic party held in Curtis woods, and wearing thin white trousers, the band was so viciously attacked by mosquitoes that when they got through these garments were bountifully spotted with red. After the retirement of this band there was quite an interval before St. Peter's Irish Band was formed, which during its existence played at the Barrington Fair, the Egremont band being employed on the same occasion.

GREAT BARRINGTON CORNET BAND

In 1893 this band was organized and continued to play until 1897, when it broke up. Leader, A. M. Baldwin, W. R. Crippen, W. L. Bliss, J. W. Bennett, cornet; C. E. Culver, George Taylor, E. M. Addis, clarinet; O. T. Steadman, W. D. Hill, E. Newell, trombone; C. H. Booth, Alex. Mitchell, F. H. Joyner, alto; J. L. Fiske, F. D. Rowe, E flat bass; T. A. Wolcott, snare drum; W. L. Benedict, bass drum; L. A. Hagadorn, Drum Major.

GREAT BARRINGTON BICYCLE BAND

This band, which was organized in 1900, is giving the town most excellent service. Quite a number of the Baldwin band are members of the same, and has for its accomplished leader, Thomas W. Sheridan.

FIRST EGREMONT BRASS BAND

The first brass band in Egremont which was organized in 1855, and its membership made up of citizens of North and South Egremont, is thus remembered by B. K. Dunlap, who is still living in that town. Leader, Grove Curtiss; members, Wilbur Curtiss, Robert Sherman, Samuel Sherman, William Lang, John Koppshafsky, Harvey Winegar, B. K. Dunlap, William O'Connell, Lewis Judd. Wilbur Curtiss afterwards became a musician in one of the bands connected with Rice's circus.

SECOND EGREMONT BRASS BAND

The second brass band was organized at South Egremont in June, 1882, and consisted of 14 members, as follows: Leader and teacher, William L. Bliss, B flat cornet; George Kopp, Charles Decker, A flat cornet, George A. Peck, George Cahail, Ben Dunlap, alto; Horace Loring, baritone; Grove Loring, tenor; Andrew Dunlap, B flat tenor; John Dunlap, Frank Rowe, B flat bass; E. H. Peck, drum. All these members are living with the exception of Charles Decker. The organization lasted for three years.

MONTEREY BRASS BAND

The towns of Tyringham, Otis and Sandisfield depended on the old fashioned drum corps for public music and there were some noted organizations of that kind from the days of the Revolution up. Years ago there was a brass band organization, however, in Monterey, whose membership was made up from musicians in these towns as well as in Monterey, but no farther trace of this old organization can be obtained. In 1882, however, Monterey citizens started a subscription and raised a generous fund to uniform and equip its second brass band. The band numbered 18 pieces, its instruments were purchased of the Southfield band in New Marlboro, which had disbanded, and the uniforms were made by A. N. Cone of Lee, now of Pittsfield. The enterprise was started by William S. Bidwell and J. B. Goussett, Mr. Bidwell being the leader, Mr. Goussett treasurer and Orlo Hadselle, secretary. The band remained in organization about four years.

FIRST SOUTHFIELD CORNET BAND

The first brass band in the old town of New Marlboro was organized in the village of Southfield in the summer of 1876. It was made up as follows: Leader, Miles G. Parsons, solo E flat cornet; H. Adams, A. Cook, solo E flat cornet; W. C. Watter, W. E. Kasson, Homer Canfield, B flat cornet; Mark Hartwell, baritone; Sheldon Adams, first alto; J. A. Turner, second alto; Charles Hyde, tenor; G. C. Watter, tenor drum; E. C. Cook, bass drum; Irwin Baldwin, Will Parsons, E flat bass; Sam Wolcott, cymbals. This band was taught two years by Mr. Casey of Stockbridge, and kept in organiza-

tion for ten years, experiencing the usual ups and downs of a county institution of this character. Later on in its life these persons were connected with this first band: Thomas Cady, B flat cornet; Frank Hyde, alto; Ben Alling, baritone; O. Moore, tenor; F. Moore, alto; J. R. Baldwin, Frank Riga, E flat bass. When the organization broke up the instruments were sold to a band in course of formation at Monterey.

Of these first members F. Rigel, Mark Hartwell and Irwin Baldwin are deceased. Still resident in Southfield are: Farmers, W. E. Kasson and Thomas Cady; poultryman Sheldon Adams, and whip-center manufacturer, J. A. Turner. A. J. Cook is a whip manufacturer of Westfield; Miles G. Parsons, a bicycle maker at Torrington, Conn.; H. Adams, a clergyman at Danvers Center; W. C. Watter, a merchant at Allegan, Mich.; Homer Canfield, a farmer at Walla Walla, Washington; Charles Hyde and Will Parsons, clock-makers at Winsted, Conn.; Sam Wolcott, a farmer, O. Moore, a tinman and F. Moore, a sawyer at Colebrook, Conn.; G. C. Watter, a manufacturer at Hastings, Mich.; Frank Hyde, a plater at Philadelphia; Ben Alling, an agent, and E. B. Cook, a State House messenger at Boston, and J. R. Baldwin, a whip salesman at Waterbury, Conn.

TURNER AND COOK'S CORNET BAND

The second and present Southfield Band was organized in 1897 and is composed largely of boys employed in Turner & Cook's Rawhide Factory. It has been very successful and furnished music for all occasions in that section of the county. It has a good round sum in the treasury and has divided up \$500 among its membership since its start. It plays up to date music and is always open to an engagement on the shortest notice. Its make up is: Leader, J. A. Turner, H. J. Cook, solo B flat cornet; T. Ceuley, A. J. Wheling, first B flat cornet; Ernest Leffingwell, second B flat cornet; Sheldon Adams, baritone; A. Alexander, first trombone; B. Bradley, B flat bass; Ralph Bradley, first alto, C. Pindy, second, B. Kussen, third; H. Williams, E flat bass; Rob Bradley, bass drum and cymbals; H. Aluerman, tenor drum.

BAND NOTES

Many of the older residents in North

Adams still proudly smile at the memory of what was called Smart's Sockum band. This was an organization of roguish amateurs who could play on any instruments they could lay their hands on, from a tuber to a fiddle or tin pan and appeared playing the most discordant airs in the rear of the processions. They were under the leadership of Capt. Smart, of 10th Mass. Regiment memory, who was an incorrigible wag who brandished a long pole over their heads as a time keeping baton, indulging in wild extravagancies of motion beyond the dreams of a bandmaster or drum major. The sublime din he could draw forth from his organization, its strict obedience to his pantomimic gestures, and the stolidity of countenance exhibited in the ludicrous performances, were beyond description.

The older wags of South Adams now living who used to put soft soap in John J. Dutcher, the village painter's trombone, never tire of repeating his eloquent language on these occasions.

It is related that St. Joseph's band made its first street parade at a picnic held in Pomeroy's Grove. Very naturally the streets were lined with spectators and a great deal of interest was manifested. In going down Depot street, though perfectly familiar with the music in hand, for some unexplained reason every instrument failed but the cornet of the leader and his second. But they kept right along, the other players one by one picked up the lost thread, and the accident was never repeated.

William Wheeler, formerly leader of Wheeler's Band at North Adams, now resides on a farm in Windsor. He is a left hand performer on the violin.

William S. Combs, of the old Lee Band, is a resident of Ontario, California. He masterfully played the big bass drum, and Editor James Harding of the Pittsfield Sun, when a boy, used to help hold it up with great pride when the band came out on public occasions. On an old cornet of this band one of Mr. Harding's daughters took her first lessons; afterwards becoming proficient on this instrument. At the great wide awake celebration in the Lincoln days, George S. Baker led the Lee contingent headed by Abiel W. Pease, father of the late Detective Moses

H. Pease, with his band of musicians.

In 1860 or thereabouts there was a Cornet Band in Pittsfield which existed a short time, but of which a few slight particulars can be gleaned. It is however known that J. L. Ensign, William J. Hawkins and Dwight Francis were members of the organization. William Curtis of the second Egremont Band, afterwards played the violin for Dan Rice, when the latter was training the first rhinoceros to perform tricks in the circus ring.

As to the first brass band organized in Great Barrington, I will jot down my remembrance of it hoping that more than one other than myself, which so far as I know are the only members now living, may have pleasure in reviving old memories connected with that musical organization. The band was organized by Major Lee, who was of English birth, and a master of any and every wind instrument used in those days. His favorite instrument, however, and with which he always led the band, was the key bugle. As a teacher, he was far from being arbitrary, perhaps a little lax, as he was inclined to being social. He enjoyed and had a small fund of fairly good stories, and was especially fond of the social glass.

I cannot fix the date of the organization of this band, but place it about 1840. One thing has always come to the surface in my occasional remembrance of the band, and that was the very few in it who really had any musical talent, even a latent kind, in them. I can recall but three, William Gilmore, who enjoyed his clarionet, Frank Eddy, leader of the choir in the Episcopal church, and Beman Moulton, who led the choir in the Congregational church. The balance of us, with one exception, could keep step when playing "quickstep" time and change step to time when playing "slow march." The exception was always a puzzle to me, for while there was no marked discord from his trombone, his step was always the same, whether the time as "Yankee Doodle." or the "Dead March in Saul." The stride might be shortened or lengthened, but was always perfectly independent.

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DALTON MEMORIES

From *The Berkshire Hills*, July 1, 1901

The "Chamberlain Homestead" in Dalton, an old colonial mansion standing on the western shore of Weston's pond, and facing the terminus of the electric railway, is of more than ordinary historical interest. It was built by John Chamberlain in 1801 and is therefore 100 years of age, though it is in such a remarkable state of preservation that it shows no trace of the age which entitles it to the observance of a centennial anniversary the present year. At the time of its construction it was the finest and best built house in the County of Berkshire, and its spacious vestibule and hall, grand stairway and elegant rooms, bear witness to this assertion. It was constructed from roof to base-board from the finest timber to be found in the Dalton forests and the entire board covering the mansion was sawed out from a single monster pine tree which stood on what was known as Anthony Hill. All the outer and inner woodwork was wrought out by hand and every lower and upper room is supplied with a fireplace, those in the lower having fine old fire frames with cranes. It is notable that the first Franklin stove brought into the county was set up in this house. Much of the rich old furniture of the olden time is still preserved in this mansion, while an oil portrait of Squire John Chamberlain, its builder, and the four seasons painted on glass are to be seen upon its walls. In the dining room still stands a magnificent old-fashioned sideboard with the ancient punch bowl, flip glasses and a wealth of old-time cut glass thereon, while the old clock upon the stair landing, the handy card table holding up a file of the old Farmer's Almanac since 1793, are rare souvenirs of the century past and gone.

In a small room in the north-east corner of this mansion was located the first Dalton post-office. It was opened May 4, 1812, having for its postmaster John Chamberlain, Jr. The first receipt for a quarter's postage from the United States government was from May to October 1812 and the amount was sixteen cents. John Chamberlain held this office from 1812 to 1844, when he was succeeded by Franklin Weston, in whose store and residence, standing just across the way from the present post-office, it was kept until established in its present quarters.

From 1800 up to 1820 or later, Lanesboro Gulf was full of Negro cabins, the occupants of

which were for the most part a colony of slaves who had fled from their masters in New York state, from time to time, and were securely hidden away from pursuit in this wilderness. Some of these cabins had their patches for the cultivation of corn and potatoes, and fish, berries and roots were abundant. On such these colored folks lived comfortably, but humbly, but in the enjoyment of freedom which they had thus isolated themselves to procure. The heads of these thriving families bore the names of their old New York owners, and among them were the Van Alstyne's, Van Burens, Fitches, Jacobs, Moores and Jacksons, the latter once being slaves of Gen. Andrew Jackson. They had their corn ground at the old Dalton grist mill and bought their necessities and luxuries at the Dalton store.

Zaccheus Shepherd was a stuttering Negro and used to drive two little bulls attached to a small two-wheeled cart, which he called his "pouts." They were very docile in harness and did all the teaming and express business between the gulf and the town. "Zack" was a very festive and talkative character and his neighbor Billy Van Alstyne being asked what caused his death, said that it was "the old-fashioned inflammation." On certain occasion Parson Jennings, John Chamberlain, Dr. Ferry, David Carson, and a few others were in the old store when Chamberlain asked Billy to give them some music on the fiddle. Billy, who was considerable of a chord scraper, if not so much a musician, said he didn't think it right to play before the minister. Parson Jennings however insisted that he should perform, saying, "Billy, go on," and consequently he gave them "Jack on the Green" and a number of other airs. At the conclusion Parson Jennings turning to John Chamberlain said: "How that plaguey nigger can fiddle, Uncle John, while you and I couldn't tease a single note of that catgut bridge."

Amasa Day built the large brick house on Day mountain, afterwards owned by William T. Maynard. In the early years of the past century the Day farm grew famous crops which annually filled three large barns and much wheat and hay was stacked out. One season six acres of wheat on this farm gave a great yield, and was said to have been the finest wheat field that "ever stood

[Continued on page 23]

FAMILY GENEALOGIES

From the Family History File, Berkshire Athenaeum

ABELL (ABEL, ABELS)

Joshua Abell from Rehoboth: to Woodstock, Ct.

b [1731] ca1767 to Goshen, Mass.

d 29 Oct 1811 Goshen

m(1) Elizabeth

d 29 Aug 1774

Children: Order uncertain

Mary m 1777 Cyrus Lyon Go.

Joshua b 1755

Benjamin b 1757

Nathaniel

John to Fairfield, Vt.

Asa

Jesse

m(2) int 23 Jun 1777 Ruth wid. Mannin of Woodstock, Ct. d 29 Aug 1777

m(3) int 7 Aug 1780 Chfd Molly Lyon b 1745 (Caleb of Woodstock
and Goshen)

Ch:

Betty b 5 Aug 1781 d 1782

Sarah b 14 Jul 1783 m 27 Nov 1806 Amos Whitmarsh Pool (Jephtha of Plainfield)

Joseph b 24 Nov 1785 Plainfield

Ezra b 23 Nov 1788 d 26 Oct 1802

Ref: Hist. Goshen 133, 234 Chfd Mar. Hampshire Co. Probate 1 25, 27 327, 28 77Joshua² Abell (Joshua¹)

b [1755]

d 8 Aug 1833 Go.

m 12 Dec 1787 Dorothy "Dolly" Parsons d Sep 1803

Ch:

William b 15 Sep 1788 to Plainfield, NJ

Anne b 19 Dec 1790 d < 1832

Prudence b 6 Oct 1792 m Whitney

George b 2 Mar 1796 m Tryphena Cathcart to Conway

Nancy b 13 Apr 1797 m 12 Apr 1827 Oliver T. Cathcart Goshen

Calvin b 5 Apr 1799 d < 1832

Susannah b 7 Feb 1802 d 2 Apr 1858 unm.

m 8 Mar 1804 Phebe Cathcart b [1762] d 14 Nov 1846

Ref: Hist. Goshen Hamp. Co. Probate 1 26Joseph² Abell (Joshua¹ & [3] Molly Lyon) Plainfield

b 24 Nov 1785 Goshen

m 27 Apr 1809 Polly Pool (Jephtha & Olive Whitmarsh) b 18 Jul 1788

Ch:

Benjamin Franklin b 1 Aug 1813

Prescott

Calvin

Sally Maria

Ref: Hist. Goshen 133; Plfd Ch. Rec.

William³ Abell (Joshua², Joshua¹) "Capt." Goshen, Plainfield

b 15 Sep 1788 NJ?
 m int 15 Apr 1824, Goshen, Jerusha Smith Arms b 11 Aug 1792, Had.
 (Eliakim, Jr., Drfd, & Tabitha Leonard, Sund.)

Ch:

Eliza b 15 Apr 1825
 Calvin d 9 Jul 1830
 Charles d 24 Jul 1830

Ref: Hist, Goshen 226 Hist Drfd 39

George³ Abell (Joshua¹, Joshua²) Goshen, Conway
 b 2 Mar 1796 Goshen
 m 1830 Tryphena Cathcart b (1809) d 7 Sep 1854
 Ch: (Gershom & Polly Taylor of Goshen)
 Lewis S. m 1859 Martha Packard
 George Austin b 14 Jun 1839 F 1st Mass. Cav.
 Caroline Parsons b 27 Feb 1831 m 27 May 1857 Joseph Blake to Amh
 to Amh

Wealthy C. b 18 Jul 1846

Ref: Hist Goshen 133, 241, 228 Conway VR

Versal³ Abell (Nathaniel², Joshua¹) Goshen, Wmsb
 b 23 Sep 1789
 m int 11 Sep 1819 Sally Potter
 Ref: Goshen Mar

Franklin Laisdell³ Abell (Nathaniel², Joshua¹) Cummington
 b 16 Apr 1801 Goshen
 d 27 May 1849 Wmsb
 m int 3 Jan 1846 Eliza Mason of Spencer (Joseph & Elizabeth White)
 Ch:

George F.

Ref: Hampshire Prob. 1 26½ wid Eliza M. 1 Jul 1849 adm. with Asahel
 G. Abell, surety. Estate insolvent.
 Ansel G. Abell 2 Jul 1850 gdn to George F.
 Cum Mar & D Spencer VR

Benjamin² Abell (Joshua¹) Chesterfield, Goshen
 d 10 Feb 1808
 m int 20 Sep 1779 Persis Banister (Joseph & Mary Hinds) b 31 Dec 1760 Brkfd
 Ch:

Benjamin b 16 Jan 1781
 Elizabeth b 8 May 1782
 Banister b 14 Oct 1783
 Cynthia b 8 Jun 1785 m 1806 John Willcutt
 Asa b 19 Jun 1787 to Swanton, Vt.
 Barzillai
 Theophilus
 Persis b < 1794
 Dolly b > 1794
 Theodosia
 Silvia
 Belinda
 Ezra

Ref: Hampshire Prob. 1 24 Persis wid. 29 Mar 1808 admin., brother Nathaniel surety
 Chfd Mar. Hist. Goshen 133, 237

Nathaniel² Abell (Joshua¹)
m 7 Dec 1788 Eunice French
Ch:

Goshen

Versal b 23 Sep 1789 to Wmsbg
Clarissa b 3 Jun 1791
Polly b 15 Oct 1792
Sally b 26 Apr 1794
Mittie b 1 Mar 1796 m 30 May 1820 Henry Hannum, Pelham
Asahel S. b 7 Sep 1797 to Nhmp
Franklin Laisdell b 16 Apr 1801 to Cummington
Esther b 27 May 1803 m 1824 Edson Cook to Plfd
Ansel b 15 Apr 1805 to Nhmp
Austin b 27 Feb 1807

Ref: Hist. Goshen 133, 216; Pelham VR; NEHG 90 352

Jesse² Abell (Joshua¹)
b < 1775

Goshen

m int 15 Nov 1795 Sally Orcutt (?Ebenezer) of Chfd

Ref: Chfd Mar Hist Goshen 223

AMES (EAMES)

Naomi Ames mar int Sep 1786 Capt. James D'Wolf of Otis

Ref: Berkshire Co. Probate 28811 Abner Ames Becket VR Otis VR

Probate of estate of Abner Ames

Joel Ames of Becket 7 Apr 1812 appointed asministrator; Thomas Chaffee and Benjamin Wadsworth, Jr. both of Becket, sureties.

Allowance 4 May 1813 \$200 to widow Rachel.

Settlement 4 Apr 1813 of remaining personal property: \$309.91

to dau. Mercy w of William (on one paper "Ira") Hunter

to dau. Ruth w of Thaddeus Kingsley

to dau. Polly w of Benjamin Wadsworth, Jr.

to s Zephaniah

to s Joel

to ch. of dec'd dau Naomi, w of James DeWolf of Otis

Abner Ames (or Eames) came 1777 from Voluntown, Ct. to Becket, had a brother David.

Polly mar. 13 Apr 1797 Benjamin Wadsworth b 12 Feb 1774 Becket, son of Benjamin and Olive Shapley

Zephaniah mar. int. 6 May 1800 Diantha Case of Simsbury and had ch. Orpheus-Case b 17 Apr 1801; Anna b 20 Sep 1802; Ardela b 12 Sep 1804; Loring b 13 Sep 1806

Joel mar 14 Dec 1795 Azubah Putnam and had ch. Putnam who mar (1) 15 Dec 1827

Caroline Little, (2) 1 Jan 1845 in Chester, Minerva D'Ette Benham, prob wid.;

Joel who mar 16 Oct. 1817 Lucy Nichols; Pliny who mar 21 Feb 1822 Abigail

K. Nickols; Abner J. b [1817] who mar 3 May 1848 Eliza W. Prentice of Chester.

Naomi Ames mar int Sep 1786 Capt. James D'Wolf of Otis and had ch. Amanda who mar 5 May 1817 Timothy Smith of Otis; Apam(?); James; Mathew; Whitman, all bap. 12 Dec at Cong. Ch. Otis.

ANDERSON - COLLINS

Abraham Collins Born April 28, 1772 in Tyringham, Mass.
Solomon Collins

Elisha Collins

Elijah Collins (was in War of 1812)

Isaac Collins

Huldah Collins

Jacob Collins (all brothers and sisters)

Abraham Collins married in Ira, Vt., by Esq. Sherman, Experience Baker, born Nov. 1775 in 11, 1775 in Chester, Mass. Died 1861

Their children were:

Hiram Collins	born May 3, 1797	Ira, Vt.
Polly Collins	born Sept. 10, 1799	Chataugay, NY died 1849
Abraham Collins	born Dec. 16, 1801	Chataugay, NY died Dec. 16, 1855
Hulda Collins	born May 25, 1804	Chataugay, N. Y.
Laura Collins	born Dec. 19, 1806	Chataugay, N. Y. died Jan. 5, 1841
Elisha Collins	born May 9, 1809	Potsdam, N. Y.
Harley Collins	born Feb. 27, 1812	Potsdam, N. Y. died Nov. 1814
Alvia Collins	born Aug. 15, 1814	Potsdam, N. Y. died Jan. 1836
Baker Collins	born Sep. 27, 1816	Parishville, N. Y. died Oct. 24 1898
Sarah Collins	born Nov. 9, 1818	Parishville, N. Y. died Jan. 1824

Baker Collins married May 29, 1845 to Melissa Wellington.

Darius Anderson born Dec. 18, 1796 married Jan. 10, 1819 to Polly Collins. Both are buried at Pierrepont. He may have been born in Royalton, son of William and Freelove Anderson. He had 2 wives (1) Polly Collins and (2) Katherine Cline. She is buried at Pierrepont.

Darius and Polly had issue of:

J. Henry Anderson born Aug. 28, 1819 died 1902, buried Pierrepont. He was blind.

Married but wife left him with a little boy and hasn't been heard from since.

Esther Anderson born April 7, 1821 died April 15, 1821

Lucius Anderson born April 29, 1822 died Mar. 5, 1846 at 24 yrs.

Numan L. Anderson born April 14, 1824

Ormande Anderson born Mar. 19, 1826

George W. Anderson born Feb. 6, 1827 died Jan. 16, 1901 buried at White Church

Nelson Anderson born Jan. 10. 1830 died 1912 buried Brick Chapel

Norman Anderson born Aug. 7, 1831 died April 20, 1903 at 71 yrs. buried at Beech Plains.

Lucy Rosina Anderson born April 10, 1833 died Nov. 3. 1916 buried at White Church

Allen H. Anderson born Dec. 16, 1836 buried Beech Plains.

Laura A. Anderson born Aug. 24, 1838 died June 3, 1908 buried at South Colton

Jane Anderson born Jan 11, 1840 died July 9, 1907 buried Pierrepont.

Orrilla Anderson born April 24, 1842

Charles E. Anderson born 1844 died 1918 buried Pierrepont.

ANDREWS

Jeremiah Andrews, born 1/16/1732 died 6/1782 m Sarah Bryant

1. Benajah Andrews b 1760 d 9/5/1805 m 1795? in West Stockbridge Charlotte Eleanor Burghardt (1st white child born in West Stockbridge, dau of Lambert Burghardt)

1. Benejah Burghardt Andrews b 1796 West Stockbridge.

2. Betsey Andrews b 1798 West Stockbridge m J. P. Jones, Monticello, N. Y.

2. Theodore Andrews b 6/1765 d 9/1850 m Orinda Bosworth b 1768 d 1860

1. Twin boys b & d same day at Addison, Vt.

2. Nancy Andrews d young at West Stockbridge.

3. Esther Andrews b 10/21/1791 West Stockbridge.

4. Jeremiah Andrews b 5/1/1793 Canaan, Ct.

5. William Andrews b 4/19/1795 West Stockbridge.

6. Richard Andrews b 1/4/1797.

7. Daniel F. Andrews b 4/10/1799.
8. David Andrews
9. Elijah Andrews b 3/12/1803 Canaan, Ct.
10. Orinda B. Andrews
11. Hiram Andrews b 2/17/1808
12. Harriet Andrews b 2/17/1808
3. Sybil Andrews b ca1763 m Jonathan Andrews
 1. Clarissa Andrews b West Stockbridge.
 2. Polly Andrews b West Stockbridge.
 3. Rachael Andrews b Jan. 1792 West Stockbridge.
 4. Sybil Andrews b 1795 New Canaan, N.Y.
4. Sarah (Sally) Andrews b 9/12/1768 m 1788 Silas Belden of Addison, Vt.
 1. 2 sons
 2. 2 daughters b Addison, Vt.
5. Joshua Andrews b 1770 d ca 1804 m 1794 Mary Lee d 1830 of Tioga Co. Pa. & Seneca Co. N.Y.
 1. Jeremiah Bryant Andrews b 11/29/1794
 2. Elizabeth Andrews b 1797
 3. Sarah Andrews b 4/27/1801
 4. Maria Andrews b 10/12/1803
6. Abiah Andrews b 1/7/1772 m 2/5/1797 David Goodrich of Stockbridge b/3/10/1766 d 5/17/1830
 1. Horace Goodrich b West Stockbridge
 2. Harriet B. Goodrich b West Stockbridge
 3. Samuel B. Goodrich b West Stockbridge
 4. David B. Goodrich b West Stockbridge
7. Esther Andrews d 10/29/1855 m Dec 1823 Elkanah Reed, lived in West Stockbridge
8. Jeremiah Andrews m(1) Amelia Holcomb m(2) Mary Treat at Penn Yan, N.Y.
9. Elijah Andrews b 1/21/1774 d 3/21/1832 m 6/7/1798 Mary Ann Stone of West Stockbridge b 6/10/1780 d 4/10/1851
 1. Sophronia Andrews b 10/18/1799 m John Easland of West Stockbridge. Had 1 son & 3 daus
 2. Ambrose Andrews b 7/19/1801 m 7/27/1826 Eliza Ann Parlion of N.Y. d 11/18 1844
 1. Joshua Andrews b 7/17/1827 no issue
 2. John Andrews b 1829 d 1831
 3. Ambrose Andrews b 1831 d 1831
 4. Infant b & d same day
 5. Daughter d young
 3. Amos Andrews b 1/25/1803 m 4/24/1826 Roxy Cordelia Taylor d 11/27/1867 of West Stockbridge & Cleona, Iowa (lived in Mass., Ill., Miss. & Iowa)
 1. Elijah Taylor Andrews b 10/10/1827 West Stockbridge
 2. Eliza Matilda Andrews b 2/10/1830 Canaan, N.Y.
 3. Mary Ann Andrews b 2/10/1832 Windsor, Conn.
 4. Abigail Tryphena Andrews b 4/20/1834 Adams County, Ill.
 5. Samuel John Mills Andrews b 3/22/1836 Adams County, Ill.
 6. Joshua Andrews b 8/1/1840 Adams County, Ill. d 1839
 7. Joshua Andrews (2nd) b 8/1/1840 Adams County, Ill d Oct. 1848 St. Louis, Mo.
 8. Lydia Clarissa Andrews b 8/5/1841 West Stockbridge d 1848 St. Louis, Mo.
 9. Harriet Elizabeth Andrews b 8/5/1847
 4. Mary Andrews b 1/4/1806 m 9/23/1828 Charles Curtiss, Wayne Co. N.Y.
 - 3 sons & 5 daus
 5. Abigail Andrews b 5/1/1808 m 1/25/1835 Newbury Olds of West Stockbridge & Davenport, Iowa 5 sons & 3 daus

6. Charlotte Andrews b 7/24/1810 m(1) 4/1830 Randall Spaulding d 11/16/1845 Illinois m(2) Alexander H. Baird b 9/11/1804 of N.Y. & Kansas - 1 dau
7. Cordelia Andrews b 11/24/1812 m 10/27/1837 Ozias Olds of West Stockbridge
 1. Mary - Old Stockbridge
 2. Maria - Old Stockbridge
 3. Charles - Old Stockbridge
 4. Edwin - Old Stockbridge
8. Sarah Andrews b 4/11/1815 d 7/22/1855 m Hosea Blackmer of West Stockbridge & Dana d 3/20/1858 - 4 sons & 5 daus
9. Harriet Ann Andrews b 10/4/1817 m 5/15/1842 Dr. Darius Stevens of Great Barrington & Davenport, Iowa - 1 son & 2 daus
10. Lydia C. Andrews b 2/23/1820 m 10/26/1842 John Cotton Partridge of East Palmira, N.Y. & West Stockbridge - no children
11. Andrew J. Andrews b 10/9/1822 d 4/9/1836 West Stockbridge

* * *

1. Ambrose Andrews (from a separate Andrews family as we interpret the chart. Ed.) b 1779 d 8/7/1845 m 1805 Hannah Phelps dau of Jacob Phelps & Abigail Williams Prior. Hannah d 6/1/1839 Both buried in Rose Cemetery, Vermilion Co., Ill. In 1818 he moved from Madison Co., N.Y. to Pike Co., Ohio but lost their farm through a bad title and emigrated to Newell Twp., Vermilion Co., Ill. in 1829
 1. Mary Ann Andrews b 9/10/1806 d 1/20/1885 Madison Co., N.Y. m 9/8/1833 James Cunningham
 1. Hannah C. Cunningham
 2. Ambrose F. Cunningham
 3. William O. Cunningham
 4. James A. Cunningham
 2. Ambrose Phelps Andrews b 10/22/1808 d 8/4/1886 Madison Co., N.Y. m 4/8/1832 Elizabeth Newell b 7/17/1811 Harrison Co., Ky., dau of Squire James Newell
 1. Mary Ann Andrews
 2. Amelia Hannah Andrews
 3. Austin Spencer Andrews
 4. Sophia Andrews
 5. Samuel Andrews b 1841
 6. Ellen Andrews
 7. James Orville Andrews
 8. Helen Victoria Andrews
 9. Alice Margaret Andrews
 3. Ruth Andrews b 1811 N.Y. d 2/8/1857 buried Rose Cemetery
 4. Sophia Andrews b 1813 d 1833 buried Rose Cemetery
 5. David P. Andrews b 7/17/1815 d 2/17/1879 Madison Co., N.Y. m 7/14/1848 Rhoda Zumwalt b 2/22/1818 d 11/9/1897 Ky.
 1. Dewitt Andrews
 2. James A. Andrews
 3. Charles R. Andrews
 4. Clara J. Andrews
 6. Luman Austin Andrews b 1818 Madison Co., N.Y. m 3/10/1842 Julia Ann Edwards
 1. Martha Andrews b 1842
 2. Elizabeth Andrews b 1844
 3. David P. Andrews b 1847
 4. Samuel F. Andrews b 1848
 5. Rhoda Andrews b 1851
 6. Hannah C. Andrews b 1854

7. Mary A. Andrews b 1857
8. Stephen A. Andrews b 1859
7. Dewitt Clinton Andrews b 1821 Ohio m Steuben Co., N.Y. 8/11/1844 Susannah Mead
8. Samuel Franklin Andrews b 1823/4 Ohio d 2/24/1867 buried Rose Cemetery m Olive Craig Andrews dau of Luman Andrews
 1. Orlando Andrews died 3 yrs
 2. Harriet Andrews died 8 yrs
 3. Edgar Andrews died 10 mos.
(plus others)

* * *

1. Unknown Andrews

1. Luman Andrews b 1795 Mass. enlisted War of 1812 at West Stockbridge.
m 11/3/1822 Sally Campbell Steele, Ripley Co., Ind. 1840-1850
 1. Samuel J. S. Andrews b 1823 Ohio
 2. Harriet Andrews b 1831 Ind.
 3. Olive Craig Andrews (see above) b 1833 Ind.
 4. Agnes Andrews b 1834 Ind.
 5. Mortimer Andrews b 1836 Ind.
 6. Luman H. Andrews b 1838 Ind.
 7. Sarah Jane Andrews b 1842
 8. William C. Andrews

* * *

1. Unknown Andrews

1. Stephen Andrews b 1796 Mass. m Maria--- b 1803 Mass. (Ripley Co. Ind., 1830-50)
 1. Stephen Andrews Jr. b 1827 Ind.
 2. Nancy W. Andrews b 1828 Ind.
 3. Maria E. Andrews b 1834 Ind.
 4. Martha J. Andrews b 1836 Ind.
 5. Isaac H. Andrews b 1837 Ind.
 6. Harriet E. Andrews b 1841 Ind.
 7. Amelia C. Andrews b 1843 Ind.
 8. Joseph F. Andrews b 1845 Ind.

* * *

1. Unknown Andrews

1. Elisha Andrews b 4/4/1790 m ca1810 Sarah---

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Memories - from page 16

out doors" in Berkshire County. One fall Amasa had a very fine shoat miraculously disappear and he gave the porker up for lost. Afterwards the animal was found to have made a nest in one of the large wheat stacks from which he was thrashed out, and at which Uncle Amasa exclaimed, "Less wheat and more pork." He came down to the old grist mill every day in the year, where he was sure to be met by John Chamber-

lain and David Carson. Once while he and Parson Jennings were settling their yearly accounts, the Parson asked to see his books. Looking down the account the Parson found several charges for "Taters," when he said, "Amasa your figures and intentions are all right but your spelling is simply horrible."

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PITTSFIELD SCHOOLS IN THE EARLY DAYS

From *The Berkshire Hills*, April 1, 1906

From a recent address before the Berkshire Historical Society by William B. Rice, the Nestor of the public schools of Pittsfield, who for many years has rendered and at advanced age is still contributing his faithful and invaluable services thereto, and from a few other sources, it is made possible to compile a short historic sketch of the progress of education within the boundaries of Pontoosuc Plantation and the earlier years of the township.

As far back as 1747 there was a state law which required every township of 100 householders to maintain a grammar school, with a teacher at its head qualified to fit youths for Cambridge University. This was all the educational legislation through all the Provincial and Revolutionary eras of the state, and though Pittsfield in these years was quite liberal in an individual way, and considering the financial condition of its pioneers, with its district schools, whose teachers eked out their salaries by "boarding round" with families, with many other towns in the Commonwealth, it thoroughly ignored this grammar school law.

There is no record that the plantation made any appropriation for schools previous to the disturbing French and Indian wars, or during their continuance, or before the incorporation of the town in 1761. In 1762 forty pounds were voted to build little school houses in the east and west ends of the town, but there is no record that this was expended for the purpose. In 1766 Col. James Easton was voted 36 pounds to build three school houses, and these, which were in the east, west and middle parts of the town served school purposes until 1790. One of these was 22 and the others 17 feet square, each had four windows of twelve panes of glass each, but there were no formally defined boundaries to these three districts.

When the township was laid out and incorporated one-sixteenth of the same was reserved in a lot for the support of schools, but this resulted in no income for the schools until 1773, when it yielded six pounds. The Parson Allen agreed to give six pounds annually for four years and the town voted

one hundred pounds for support and schooling in the east, west, middle, northwest and northeast districts. Small amounts were then raised annually until 1775 and 1776 the famous years of the Revolution, during which no money was voted, but in some way the schools were kept open until 1777. In 1788 200 pounds in continental currency were raised for schools, which was then worth about \$50 in silver, and none was raised for two years thereafter.

Although the town had long had more than the requisite number of families for whose accommodation the law demanded the establishment of a grammar school, no mention is made of any provision for such until 1781, when there was not the slightest prospect of establishing such. In 1781 after the courts had been reestablished in Berkshire County, after a suspension of seven years, this grammar school action was the result of a move of the democrats to disturb the federalists of the town by threatening an indictment against the same for not obeying the grammar school law, and to dodge a threatened fine for this neglect. Eli Root was appointed an agent to answer to this indictment. The people of the town were very poor at this period and this unwise action set them in open opposition to the establishment of a grammar school in the town for quite an indefinite period, though in 1781 to 1837 and band of earnest and liberal citizens tried to overcome the public sentiment of a majority of the voters against school support.

A legislative statute in 1790 for the first time empowered the towns of the Commonwealth to lay out defined school districts, and Pittsfield fixed upon seven. In 1792 the building of a new church at the center, the creation of the park, the vote to build a new town hall, and a general good feeling among the people, encouraged the friends of the grammar school to again undertake to make the establishment of such popular, but the majority kicked so hard that the contest was abandoned in 1844.

In 1822 the Pittsfield Academy was estab-

[Continued on page 26]

REPORTS OF THE HANCOCK SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 1881-1893

TEACHERS - 1881-82: Nettie White, Eunice White, Helen Dawley, Fannie Smith, Florence Hadselle, Mrs. George Turner, Ida Smith, Miss Averill Copley. **1883:** M. D. Hadsell, N. Y. White, E. A. White, Mary Sweet, Louisa Kelly, H. C. Dawley, M. Rogers, E. C. Horton, Martha Johnson, Joseph Johnson. **1883-84:** Annie Kellogg, E. A. White, Nettie White, Jennie Green, M. D. Hadsell, Sarah A. Gardner, H. C. Dawley, Lizzie P. Jones, Delia R. White, Mrs. George Turner, Martha Johnson. **1884-85:** Minnie Torrey, E. A. White, C. W. Sabin, M. D. Hadsell, H. C. Dawley, L. A. Brown, Florence Hadsell, Mrs. C. J. Gavitt, Ora Beebe, Mrs. George Turner, Martha Johnson. **1885-86:** C. W. Sabin, Ora Beebe, S. M. White, M. D. Hadsell, Ora Beebe, F. E. Abbe, S. A. Gardner, Florence Caldwell, Jennie Russell, Mrs. G. L. Turner, Martha Johnson. **1886-87:** Mrs. S. M. White, Sarah A. Gardner, Ora O. Beebe, Fred G. Gardner, Florence Caldwell, E. L. Crandal, Genevieve Goold, Mrs. G. L. Turner, Martha Johnson. **1887-88:** Grace W. Morey, Sarah A. Gardner, Fred G. Gardner, E. L. Crandall, H. Louise Gardner, Nettie G. Crandall, Mrs. G. L. Turner, Emoretta Belden. **1889-90:** Sarah A. Gardner, E. M. Pitts, Nettie G. Crandall, Nellie R. Harrington, Mary A. Dee, Emoretta Belden. **1892-93:** Mary E. Jones, Ralph Rose, Clara L. Cranston, Annie S. Dee, Sarah A. Gardner, Nellie H. Shumway, Mary A. Dee, Emoretta Belden.

PERFECT IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR - 1883: Rowland Johnson, Ella Stevens, Fanny Eastbrooks, Edith Hall. **1883-84:** Sarah Morgan, Edith Hall. **1884-85:** Lewis Turner, Mary B. Ransom, Fanny M. Estabrooks, Lizzie M. Belden, Edith Hall, Alice Kay, Henrietta Morgan, Fidella Estabrooks, Sarah Morgan, Annie Dee, Lizzie Dee, Mary Johnson, Allie Rose. **1885-86:** Lewis Turner. **1887-88:** Willie Bly, Harold Goodrich, J. Lewis Turner, Sarah Morgan. **1889-90:** Grace M. Blake, Maude A. Gardner, Lizzie Dee, Lizzie Hurley, Sarah Morgan, Clara Wilmarth, Carrie Kiersten. **1892-93:** Ethel V. Goodrich, Hattie Decker.

PERFECT FOR ONE TERM - 1883: John Murphy, Lizzie Belden, Henrietta Morgan, Fidella Eastbrooks, Nettie M. Jones, Sara Wells, Jennie Lee, Florence McClintock, Edwin Lee, Willie Costine, Orvinsey Brockway, Orin Clark, Lottie Clark, Lewis Turner. **1883-84:** Lizzie M. Belden, Fannie L. Carpenter, Lottie P. Carpenter, Mary J. Johnson, Howard Chittenden, Sylvia Chittenden, Lura Jones, Morton Murphy, Dannie Whitman, Reuben Blatchford, Myrtie Beebe, Katie Tucker, Allie Rose, Mary Heisler, Lena Heisler, Adele Nignerey. **1884-85:** Florence Chittenden, Howard Chittenden, Morton Murphy, George Wells, Fannie Wells, Lottie Clark, Ida Jones, Orvinsey Brockway, Katie F. Martin, Rosie Bellman, Jennie Bellman, Mary Heisler, Mary Jacquot, Ida Tucker, Dannie Whitman, Ida LeBarron, Perry Rathbun. **1885-86:** Gifford Smith, Willie Bly, Sylvia Chittendon, Clarrisa Chittendon, Mabel Eldridge, Sarah Wells, Katie Tucker, Frank Nicklein. **1886-87:** Myrtie Beebe, Winnie Gibson, Ernest Eldridge, Eddie Hadsell, Willie Bly, Ida Jones, Mabel Eldridge, Alice Eldridge, Leavitt Hecox, Howard Chittenden, Gifford Smith, Ida Jones, Edith Hall, Fidella Estabrooks, Sarah Morgan, Frances Hall, Katie Morgan, Agnes Ross. **1887-88:** Frances Hall, Henrietta Morgan, Clara Wilmarth, Jennie Filmore, Maud Hinckley, Clarence Crandall, Ethel Crandall, Clarissa Chittenden, Gifford Smith, Henry Smith, George S. Blake. **1889-90:** Florence Chittenden, Alice Shaw, Emma Ellsworth, Ida Jones, Jennie Fillmore, George Vickery. **1892-93:** John Burke, Willie Burke, Kleber Whitman, Harold B. Goodrich, Frank Beebe, Grover Derby, Dennis Murphy, James Murphy, Perry Rathbun, Harvey Chittendon, Ethel Crandall, Ida M. Jones, Florence Sneider, Alice M. Dee, Lizzie H. Dee, Bessie Ostrander, Carrie Keirsten, Fannie Decker.

ABSENT ONE DAY DURING THE YEAR - 1883: Libbie Brockway. **1884-85:** Mabel Eldredge. **1887-88:** Lizzie Hurley, Charley Dee, Mary Johnson, Fidella Estabrook, Ida Jones. **1889-90:** Frank Beebe, Jay Beebe, Irene Wetherel. **1892-93:** Rudolph Keirsten, Nellie Fitzgerald, Maud Ford, Clara Wilmarth, Susie Mathews.

PERFECT FOR TWO TERMS - 1883: Ernest Crandall. **1883-84:** Nettie Crandall, Ida Jones. **1884-85:** Mamie Dee, Lura Jones, Ora Sweet. **1885-86:** George B. Wells. **1887-88:**

Mabel Eldridge, Alice Eldridge. 1889-90: Ruth Tabor. 1892-93: Louis J. Dee, Clarence Crandall, Freddie Jones, Myrtie Jones, Alice Shaw, Bertha Whitman.

ABSENT ONE HALF DAY FOR ONE TERM - 1883: Lizzie Hurley, Josephine Hurley. 1883-84: John White. 1884-85 Eliza Whitman, Reuben Blatchford. 1885-86: Carrie Jacquot, Orvinsey Brockway, Henry Smith, George Smith. 1886-87: Ethel Crandal, Willie Bly, Sylvia Chittenden. 1887-88: Katie Martin, Florence Bragg, Florence Chittenden, Sylvia Chittenden.

ABSENT ONE DAY FOR ONE TERM - 1883: Myrtie Beebe, Ora Sweet, Daniel Whitman. 1883-84: Eddie Hadsell, Ida LeBaron. Orvinsey Brockway. Ora Sweet. 1885-86: Ida Tucker, Mary Johnson, Sarah A. Dee, Lizzie H. Dee, Alfred Rathbun, Perry Rathbun, Alice Eldridge, Ida Jones, Minnie Smith, Florence Chittendon, Judith Jones, Morton Murphy. 1886-87: Morton Murphy, Ida Jones, Florence Chittendon, Alice Eldridge, Mabel Eldridge, Lura Jones. 1887-88: George Wells, Perry Rathbun. 1889-90: Clarence Crandall, Charles Dee, Roland Rider, Rudolph Kiersten, Louis J. Dee, Beulah Snider, Dessie Lapham, Clarrissa Chittendon, Annie Morey, Marian Zahn, Sylvia Chittendon.

ABSENT ONE HALF DAY FOR TWO TERMS - 1883: Morton Murphy. 1885-86: Howard Chittenden, Mamie Dee, Myrtie Beebe. 1889-90: Ethel Crandall. 1892-93: Marion Shaw, Arnold Jones

ABSENT ONE DAY FOR TWO TERMS - 1883: Howard Chittenden, Nettie Crandall. 1883-84: Mary B. Ransom, Fanny M. Eastbrooks, Fidella E. Eastbrooks, Henrietta Morgan. 1889-90: Mabel Eldridge, Alice Eldridge.

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Schools - from page 24

lished by private citizens, but it was never incorporated. Henry Strong, a graduate of Yale College, was its efficient principal and its sessions were held in what was known as the "grammar school room" in the town house. Many of the early natives of the town owe their education to the facilities afforded by this old academy. It charged a tuition necessary to its support and educated leaders, but not the community at large. It existed until the year 1832, when the town house was removed and its educational mission was the reinforced for families of means by the Dewey Gymnasium for Boys and the Female Academy.

Education languished in Berkshire County and especially in Pittsfield until Horace Mann was made Secretary of the State Board of Education of the Commonwealth. In 1840 he visited North Adams, Great Barrington and Pittsfield and wrote of his visit "to make an impression for the cause of free education in Berkshire is like attempting to batter down the rocks of Gibraltar with one's fists." Of the meeting he held in Pittsfield on this occasion he wrote "after opening the convention

with not an individual present, at the close of an hour eight persons appeared from other towns and four more joined them by noon. In the afternoon I lectured to 100 men and a dozen women and when I concluded the company dispersed like a flock of birds who had been shot into." In 1845 Horace Mann formed the idea of holding Teachers' Institutes in the larger towns, the parent of the Massachusetts Normal Schools, and this brought the Commonwealth out of its educational dark ages. He wrote of his second visit to Pittsfield "at last there is a little dawning of summer in the Berkshire Arctic regions of learning. All the schools were on their vacation. Gov. Briggs and myself borrowed brooms of a neighbor and swept and dusted the dirty school house and had all ready for the very well attended institute at nine o'clock." Pittsfield, now so high up in the educational ranks of the state for its public schools, was for a long period far behind the other 337 towns in the Commonwealth in this particular, and kept well down the middle rank for a long time.

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EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY

From *The Berkshire Hills*, October 1, 1905

The following paper was read before the Berkshire Historical Society at Pittsfield, May 4, 1905, by Col. W. H. Phillips.

When Josh Billings, in one of his later day visits to his native Berkshire hills retired to bed at the hotel of mine host, Tot Mallory of New Ashford, he glanced up at old Greylock, whose hoary head was bathed in bright moonlight, with the reverence this notable mountain always inspires. On arising in the morning to cleanse his face in cold spring water in a basin resting on a rude wooden bench just outside the kitchen door, he slowly raised his eyes to the northeastward and quietly informed Tot Mallory that his mountain was still there and had not moved a single inch during the preceding night. When on a wild November morning we were first added to the male census of Lanesboro in 1830, over three score years ago, our cradle was shadowed by this grand old height, and out lullaby was the fierce winds which overswept its summit. Overlooking the broad acreage of the county only history and tradition has too feebly conveyed to human intelligence the scenes this eminence has looked down up in since it was God erected, from an unbroken wilderness down to the days of the red men reveling in their plentiful hunting grounds at its base, the curling smoke from the log cabins of the pioneers, the ensanguined strife of two French and Indian wars, the dark and eventful period of the Revolution and the later disturbances of Shays' Rebellion. Yet like a grim sentinel at the northern county mountain gateways in the past half century it has seen a great population springing up at its foothills and far beyond the two goodly cities teeming with manufacture, trade and citizenship arising on the plains beneath it, and the prancing iron horse developing the many towns and calling into service material resources to an extent undreamed of by those who first made home in sight of its massive pinnacle.

In 1835 there was nothing but district schools in Berkshire with the exception of Lenox academy and Williams college, then in its infancy, with a Medical college and a few small seminaries in Lanesboro, Lenox and

Pittsfield. There were no railways, and stages, and teams alone accommodated passenger and freight traffic. Wood alone was used for fuel and hard coal strikes of every character were unknown. There were no public water works, and the swoop and chain and the old oaken bucket which stood in the well was the only source of individual and public supply; for fighting conflagrations there was no other weapons but the old fire bucket brigade, while oil and tallow candles were the only products for public or private illumination, and the gifts of no Rockefeller disturbed the public mind. There were no theatres or halls of amusement then, and mammoth sleigh rides and hotel balls were the only public gatherings outside of political assemblages and church worship. The few newspapers of that day were mostly filled with clippings from city journals, the most of which related to foreign intelligence, and the space that was devoted to the most startling local happening was often but a scant stick-full. The most important man or woman of the period might visit the leading cities of the Union, or the continent of Europe, without mention in a single line in the home press, except such imported a Merino sheep, when columns are now insufficient to mark the comings and goings, and journeyings both far and near upon the earth of a promiscuous multitude. Advertising was an unknown art, and so much so that the starting of a paper mill in Dalton was confined to a bare inch announcement, while now a single bank notice fills a newspaper page and single dry goods, clothing and furniture advertisements often require a supplement. Editorials of that period were seldom indulged in, though becoming prominent features at a later day, while an individual or a public puff was not to be thought of for love or money.

Personal allusions to their newspapers or themselves were not made at that period and never a word of criticism as to the localities in which these journals were situated ever found their way into print. There was not enough general local news published for one country editor to purloin from another without giving credit, and of course there were no

foolish controversies in which one newspaperial kettle might call the other kettle black, when the scissors of both were sooty. Private character was not chopped up into public or sensational hash and great caution in the handling and mention of local, state and national individuals of prominence was taken, while no newspaper verdicts were rendered in advance of the courts.

There no slants or unpleasant criticisms indulged in whereby it might be made to appear to those unacquainted with real facts that two prominent localities in the county and the citizens thereof were in a bull-dog clinch for mastery, and which mistaken idea, might, in many instances, badly work in the end to the detriment of both, while in truth every city, town, village and hamlet in the county of Berkshire was then and is now dependent on each other in mutual religious, political, commercial manufacturing and social interests, and for their reputation for good horse or common sense both at home and abroad. Not until 1860 was a witty passage of arms in print tolerated by the old time public between county editors renowned for wit and sarcasm, and this but to a limited extend, and quite often these were called by the public to a peremptory hall. From 1800 to 1860 it can be said for the veteran editors of Berkshire county that they paid as careful attention to their editorial and reportorial knitting as did the old time pastors to the doctrines and opinions uttered in their pulpits, and it they dropped an unjust and discourteous stitch, a good deal of unraveling had to be done to pacify their patrons and their several communities.

It was the feature in this early period that parents who had acquired intelligence and property in life's struggle insisted that their children should be trained and educated in the same manner. As a consequence the generation who, in their youth, knew Lanesboro and Lenox, Great Barrington, Otis and Cheshire as the prominent towns of the county, unfed with pecuniary help of any importance, were left to win their own way, and thus many of them became self made men and women, and though most of them have passed beyond, did honor to the country of their nativity during their lives both in their own and in the states of the Union to which they emigrated.

In 1835 and in the following years, the

town of Pittsfield began rapidly to develop in population and as a trade center. While but a few wealthy people up to 1860 were accustomed to seek the larger cities for general trade, the middle classes and the majority in all the county towns frequented Pittsfield for the purchase of female and male attire and for the more costly household furniture. Such a popular mart the town and city has grown to be in the years that it stands in the same relation to the citizens of Berkshire as Springfield to Hampden and Worcester to Worcester county. Within a few past years the importance of Pittsfield as a commercial center for the county has grown to an extent that its merchants compete in the character and magnitude of their stocks with all the inland cities of New England and New York. The complete system of electric street railways, rendering the shire city so easy of access, has so materially helped to bring the city of Pittsfield to the very doors of most of the inhabitants of the county for trade, that in the space of 70 years it has leaped forward from a small hamlet to its present proud metropolitan proportions, while that it is the one city beautiful in this Switzerland of America, is everywhere acknowledged.

To close the eyes in contemplation and to endeavor to recall the faces of Berkshire in our very early days and still later farther down the steppes of the fleeting years, and to recall to mind the history of their notable careers, is ever a saddening effort. With the exception of a minute fractional portion of their numbers the Berkshire winds, the Berkshire clouds, the Berkshire rains and the Berkshire snows now and long ago have swept over the sacred mounds raised above their forms in the God's acres beside the waters of the Hoosac, the Housatonic and the Green rivers, and on the high hills rising at either hand above them. There are but a few tired stragglers left even of our own beloved and honored generation, and the years begin to weigh heavily upon them. All speak of life as a forceful battle and they never will be satisfied until they have looked upon the face of Him whose final summons they now reverently await.

* * * * *

SUPPORT OF THE POOR - MOUNT WASHINGTON

1888

Paid George W. Gorham, for keeping J. Shover 11/1/1887-2/1/1889	\$120.50
H. Y. Whitbeck and Louisa (Whitbeck) for keeping John Shover	104.00
Edwin Laird for keeping Horace, (\$10.00) and Jack Shover (\$12.00)	22.00
I. Spurr, for clothes for poor	<u>6.45</u>
	\$252.90

1890

Paid H. Y. and Louisa W. Whitbeck for keeping John Shover	\$104.00
Dr. Gordon, medical services for W. Morrison	32.25
T. Keating, goods for Morrison	4.84
Edwin Laird, keeping Jake Shover	78.00
H. L. Weed, goods for Morrison	1.88
J. N. Whitbeck, keeping H. Shover	4.30
David Brusie, clothes for John Shover	4.78
I. Spurr, clothes for Jake Shover	4.50
On account of J. Funk	10.00
Dr. Beebe, consultation with Dr. Gordon, for Morrison	7.00
O. C. Whitbeck, clothing for H. Shaver	3.90
O. C. Whitbeck, care of Shover when sick	<u>6.00</u>
	\$261.45

1891

Paid H. Y. and Louisa Whitbeck, for keeping John Shaver one year	\$104.00
Andrew Morrison, digging grave	1.50
Edwin Laird, digging grave and care of Jacob Shaver	6.50
David Brusie, clothes for John Shaver	4.52
Frank B. Schutt, clothes for Horace Shaver	7.75
Jacob Shaver's casket	<u>12.00</u>
	\$136.27

1892

Paid H. Y. Whitbeck, keeping J. Shaver	\$52.00
Louisa Whitbeck, keeping J. Shaver	52.00
D. M. Brusie, clothes, keeping J. Shaver	3.74
I. Spurr, boots for J. Shaver	<u>2.25</u>
	\$109.99

1894

Paid H. T. Whitbeck, keeping J. Shaver	\$52.00
Louisa Whitbeck, keeping J. Shaver	52.00
F. B. Keating, clothes for J. Shaver	4.15
A. Whitbeck, clothes for J. Shaver	<u>3.75</u>
	\$111.90

1895

Paid Louisa Whitbeck, for keeping J. Shaver	\$90.00
Louisa Whitbeck, care of Cora Schutt	15.00
W. I. Gordon, medical attendance Cora Schutt	8.00
F. B. Keating, clothes for Shavers	<u>6.91</u>
	\$119.91

1897

Paid T. B. Keating, clothes for Shavers	\$9.03
Louisa Whitbeck, keeping John Shaver	67.00
J. C. Benton, boots and shoes for H. Shaver	3.75
C. M. Gibbs, clothes for H. Shaver	2.90
Angie Whitbeck, keeping H. Shaver	<u>8.00</u>
	\$90.68

STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855

STOCKBRIDGE

[Continued from Volume 31, Number 4, Page 144]

104	110	Frances M. Webster	46	F		Mass.
		Charles E. Webster	19	M	Laborer	Mass.
		Frances M. Webster	16	F		Mass.
		Helen L. Webster	14	F		Mass.
		Jane E. Webster	9	F		Mass.
		George T. Webster	7	M		Mass.
		John G. Webster	5	M		Mass.
		Emma M. Webster	3	F		Mass.
105	111	Shubel Snow	96	M	Painter	Conn.
		Rachel Snow	60	F		Mass.
		Betsey A. Snow	18	F		Mass.
		Sarah E. Walker	10	F		Mass.
106	112	Robert E. Galpin	60	M	Farmer	Conn.
		Cynthia S. Galpin	44	F		Conn.
		Mary T. Galpin	19	F		Conn.
		Charles Riley	?48	M	Laborer	Ireland
107	113	Alfred H. Dashiell Jr.	38	M	C. Clergyman	Md.
		Mary M. Dashiell	28	F		N.Y.
		John L. Mason Dashiell	6	M		N.Y.
		Alfred H. Dashiell, 2d	4	M		Mass.
		Thomas M. Dashiell	3	M		Mass.
		Barbara Homan	17	F		Germany
109	114	Nancy Hoxie	60	F		Mass.
	115	Eunice Hicks	62	F		Mass.
110	116	Clarissa A. Dresser	42	F		Conn.
		Amelia H. Dresser	17	F		Mass.
		Edwin E. Dresser	12	M		Mass.
		Charlotte E. Dresser	10	F		Mass.
		Simon S. Pease	20	M	Clerk in Bank	Conn.
		Mary Fitzpatrick	?20	F		Ireland
111	117	Gilbert B. Nettleton	27	M	Carpenter	Conn.
		Charlotte E. Nettleton	22	F		Mass.
		Estella A. Nettleton	2	F		Mass.
		Stephen Tucker	79	M	Farmer	Mass.
112	118	Horatio Byington	57	M		Mass.
		E. Pamela? Byington	49	F		N.Y.
		Alice Byington	13	F		N.Y.
		Rebecca Byington	11	F		N.Y.
		Mary Parlan	18	F		Ireland
113	119	Julia A. Spalding	48	F		Conn.
		Elizabeth O. Spaulding	14	F		Mass.
		Bridget O. Shannacy	20	F		Ireland
114	120	George T. Jones	37	M	Gardener	
		Sarah A. Jones	34	F		
		Thomas P. Jones	13	M		Conn
		Sarah G. Jones	8	F		Conn.
		Lucy A. Jones	3	F		Conn.

Stockbridge, 1855 Census

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115	120	Patrick Pine	33	M	Laborer	Ireland
		Margaret Pine	26	F		Ireland
		William Pine	4	M		Mass.
		Margaret Pine	2	F		Mass.
116	122	James Caffrey	47	M	Grdener	Ireland
		Ann Caffrey	38	F		Ireland
		John Caffrey	18	M	Laborer	Ireland
		Mary A. Caffrey	15	F		Mass.
		James Caffrey	14	M		Mass.
		Thomas Caffrey	12	M		Mass.
		William Caffrey	12	M		Mass.
		Philip Caffrey	11	M		Mass.
		Margaret Caffrey	10	F		Mass.
		Ellen Caffrey	8	F		Mass.
		Rosanna Caffrey	6	F		Mass.
		Eliza Caffrey	5	F		Mass.
		Julia Caffrey	3	F		Mass.
		Catharine Caffrey		F	(name-age crossed out)	Mass.
117	124	Matthus Bulkley	30	M	Laborer	Ireland
		Jane? Bulkley	26	F		Ireland
118	125	Chauncey Curtis	48	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Fanny Curtis	47	F		Mass.
		Lavinia Curtis	15	F		N.Y.
		Egbert Curtis	13	M		N.Y.
		Annie L. Curtis	8	F		Mass.
		Ellen Kelly	18	F		Ireland
		Hopefull A. Bemint?	45	F		Mass.
119	126	Asa B. Stafford	40	M	Blacksmith	Mass.
		Joanna B. Stafford	32	F		N.Y.
		Ruth A. Stafford	10	F		Mass.
		Frances L. Stafford	2	F		Mass.
120	127	Alpheus Stafford	43	M	Blacksmith	Mass.
		Julia A. Stafford	26	F		Mass.
		Willaim H. Stafford	11	M		Mass.
		Frances S. Stafford	9	F		Mass.
		Mary A. Stafford	3	F		Mass.
		Charles E. Stafford	10m	M		Mass.
		Henry L. Plumb	35	M	Merchant	Mass.
		Frances Plumb	28	F		Mass.
		Charles S.? Plumb	8	M		Mass.
		Arthur W. Plumb	2	M		Mass.
		Charles H. Plumb	27	M	Merchant	Mass.
		Elizabeth Ready	22	F		Ireland
		Ellen F. Porter	15	F		N.Y.
122	129	Catherine O'Boyle	27	F		Ireland
		Charles O'Boyle	5	M		N.Y.
123	130	Bancroft Fowler	79	M	C. Clergyman	Mass.
		Susan H. Fowler	28	F		Mass.
		Frances D. Fowler	25	F		Mass.
		Mary E. Gilbert	16	F		Mass.
		Lillian L. Gilbert	6	F		Mass.
124	131	Benjamin Pillings	35	M	Tailor	England
		Hannah Pillings	43	F		Mass.
		James F. Pillings	12	M		Mass.

		John L. Pillings	10 M		Mass.
		Frances F. Dwight	57 F		Mass.
		Henry W. Dwight	30 M		Mass.
		Frances S. Dwight	19 F		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: 7 July 1855 Enumerator: Ralph Deming					
125	132	Thomas Daley	30 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Nora Rice	23 F		Ireland
127	134	William Darbe	47 M	Inn Keeper	Mass.
		Mary A. Darbe	31 F		Mass.
		Frances E. Darbe	10 F		Mass.
		George E. Darbe	8 M		Mass.
		Allice M. Darbe	1 F		Mass.
		Julia Henrie?	19 F		Ireland
		Catharine ?	23 F		Mass.
		Charles Gambel	19 M	Laborer	Mass.
		Bridget McCormick	50 F		Ireland
		Mary Flinn	20 F		Ireland
		Catharine ?	26 F		Ireland
		Bridget Rarstan?	25 F		Ireland
		S. C. Ogden	48 M	Merchant	N.Y.
		S. F. Ogden	40 F		N.Y.
		Ann Ogden	11 F		N.Y.
		Wallace Ogden	6 M		N.Y.
		John Weyman	39 M	Farmer	N.Y.
		Henrietta D. Weyman	32 F		N.Y.
		Isabelle C. Weyman	15 F		N.Y.
		Henrietta Weyman	10 F		N.Y.
		Mary Weyman	3 F		N.Y.
		William E. Boardman	50 M	Merchant	N.Y.
		Rosina L.? Boardman	39 F		N.Y.
		Henry S. Boardman	15 M	Student	N.Y.
		Robert W. Andrews	46 M	Merchant	N.Y.
128	135	William Brogan	39 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Ellen Brogan	35 F		Ireland
		Catharine Brogan	16 F		N.Y.
		William Brogan	13 M		Mass.
		Ellen M. Brogan	3 F		Mass.
129	134	Nathaniel A. Waters	46 M	Tailor	Vt.
		Julia E. Waters	45 F		Mass.
		Edgar N. Waters	19 M	Clerk	Mass.
		Ellis N. Waters	17 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Ella I. Waters	15 F		Mass.
		Isabelle Waters	13 F		Mass.
		Elizabeth A. Waters	7 F		Mass.
		Conrad ----ardt?	28 M	Tailor	Germany
		Sophronia Crippen	28 F		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: 9 July 1855					
130	135	Henry Knapp	55 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Minerva Knapp	52 F		Conn.
		Lorella Knapp	22 F		Mass.
		George H. Knapp	21 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Edmund S. Knapp	16 M	Laborer	Mass.
		William M. Knapp	14 M		Mass.

Stockbridge, 1855 Census

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		Lydia I. Knapp	12 F		Mass.
		Patience I. More	20 F		N.Y.
		John Morey	19 M	Spinner	Conn.
		George Conar	18 M	Laborer	Mass.
		Louis Bedore	16 M	Laborer	Mass.
131	136	Benjamin Dingman	39 M	Farmer	N.Y.
		Cassan B. Dingman	41 F		N.Y.
		Susan D. Dingman	14 F		N.Y.
		Ellen R. Dingman	12 F		N.Y.
		Mary M. Dingman	6 F		Mass.
		Gertrude G. Dingman	5 F		Mass.
		Benjamin F. Dingman	2 M		Mass.
		Martin V. B. Dingman	23 M	Farmer	Mass.
132	137	Richard Evans	53 M		Wales
		Margaret Evans	60 F		Wales
		Mary Evans	26 F		Wales
		Sarah Evans	22 F		Wales
		William Evans	20 M	Wool Sorter	Mass.
		John Dooley	40 M	Laborer	Ireland
133	138	George Spoor	33 M	Laborer	Conn.
		Lydia C. Spoor	36 F		Mass.
		Albert M. Spoor	7 M		Mass.
		Zoe I. Spoor	6 F		Mass.
134	139	Henry Shaw	40 M	Spinner	England
		Elizabeth Shaw	45 F		England
		Marianne Shaw	21 F		England
		Charles Bedford	14 M		England
135	140	Harriet Miller	44 F		Mass.
		Cyrus Miller	20 M	Finisher	Mass.
		Frederic Miller	18 M	Finisher	Mass.
		John Belden	21 M	Clerk	Conn.
136	141	Patrick Daley	35 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Catherine Daley	32 F		Ireland
		Margaret Daley	8m F		Mass.
		Bridget Daley	60 F		Ireland
		Bridget Daley Jr.	23 F		Ireland
137	142	John A. Lynde	40 M	Carder	N.Y.
		Julia Lynde	35 F		N.Y.
		Helen Lynde	17 F		N.Y.
		Emely Lynde	10 F		Mass.
		Elizabeth Shelman	66 F		N.Y.
138	143	James Walworth	43 M	Fuller	England
		Sarah Walworth	42 F		England
		Ellen Barker	18 F		England
		John Barker	16 M	Jigger	England
139	144	John Bragg	76 M	Farmer	England
		Ellen Bragg	24 F		England
		Bridget Feeling?	17 F		England
140	145	John Ensminger	46 M	Weaver	Germany
		Christina Ensminger	48 F		Germany
		Christina Ensminger	23 F		Germany
		Caroline Ensminger	21 F		Germany

[Continued on page 34]

WANTED A WIFE - BADLY

From the Bridges Scrapbook, Local History Department, Berkshire Athenaeum.

A worthy man advertised for a wife. She was to be between seventeen and twenty-five, and a good seamstress. Also, she was never to have been married, although the advertiser himself was a widower - but men are the lords of creation. He bravely confessed that he was neither rich nor handsome, but would treat his wife well.

A wicked wag wrote a reply to the advertisement, which drew the following answer from the wife-hunter. N.B. - Grammar no object.

Mrs. or Dear madam From your first letter you stated to that you prefer a kind and True friend to one of riches or Beauty i am the very Man for your Mind my first and Greatest Care is Pay attention to the Every Wants and Comfort and happiness of a wife my first wife used to say She had Enjoyed more happiness in 3 months after i married her that she Enjoyed in 7 years i am most Powerful and a splendid Provider without any Stint for Whatever Now as thousands upon 1000s Can Testify of this fact i am a man of all Stiring Preservance and industrious and

temperate Sober upright and honest in all My Dealling in neither Drink or Smoke or Chew Tobacco or Go to any Places of amusement and as for swearing i have not Sworn abad Word Sence 1842 i belong to the episcopal Church first-Ward all this What i have Said is areality i have no temper to guard i do not Believe in aquareling life i am one of the Most Peacebel and quiet men now living and i have to much respet for a wife to treat her bad i have ben wounded in the texican war. 1836 so i am not called hansom as all Can see aound on on My face you will know me By the red Striple an red Calico vest milatory Cap With a silver star Before my cap this is no hoax neither Do i wish to take any advantage of your frankness but Will Protect at my peril So help me God Now Misess if you are the very identical Lady who have riten to me about our union do Come at all Harzard Call at my residence Between ----- and ----- Streets

Name over the Door or rite me through the Post offe but i would rather Call
you must Excuse me for this letter

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1855 Census - from page 33

140	145	Christian Ensminger	19	M	Weaver	Germany
		Philip Ensminger	17	M	Laborer	Germany
		Sophia Ensminger	16	F		N.Y.
		John Ensminger, Jr.	13	M		N.Y.
		William Ensminger	11	M		N.Y.
		Peter Ensminger	8	M		Mass.
		Henry Ensminger	6	M		Mass.
141	146	Henry C. Fenn	42	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah A. Fenn	33	F		Mass.
		Ellen Fenn	9	F		Mass.
		Alice Fenn	1	F		Mass.
142	167	Reuben Castle	28	M	Farmer	N.Y.
		Jane M. Castle	29	F		N.Y.
		Emma S.? Castle	3	F		Mass.
143	148	Roland C. Wharfield	41	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah C. Wharfield	39	F		Mass.
		Henry C. Wharfield	16	M	Farmer	Mass.
144	149	Ready McCabe	60	M	Laborer	Ireland
		Catherine McCabe	50	F		Ireland

[Continued on page 35]

ANCESTOR TABLES

CDIX. JOHN HENRY BENNETT, JR., Submitted by his daughter, June Bennett, 380 Robinson Ave., Staten Island, NY 10312.

I.

1. John Henry BENNETT, Jr., 1926-2009; Manhattan, New York; Staten Island.

II.

2. John Henry BENNETT, Sr., 1896-1965; Brooklyn, New York; Manhattan; Staten Island.
3. Mary LIBIS, 1898 (96)-1991; Hungary; Manhattan; Staten Island.

III.

4. Herman Ensign BENNETT, 1866-1942; Norwalk, Connecticut; Brooklyn, New York; Staten Island.
5. Mary C. ALBIN, 1866-1902; Manor, New York; Moriches, New York; Brooklyn.
6. Josef LIBIS, - ; Hungary; Austria.
7. Catarina SAULZAR, - ; Austria; Hungary.

IV.

8. Henry C. BENNETT, 1832-1912; Pittsfield, Massachusetts; Norwalk; Queens, New York.
9. Jennie A. WEED, 1844-1912; Connecticut; New York.
10. John W. ALBIN, 1826-ca1884; Sayville, New York; Moriches.
11. Elizabeth ROBINSON, 1829-1906; Moriches; Manhattan.

V.

- 16.*Peter BENNETT, ca1790- ; Spain; Pittsfield.
- 17.*Laura C. CLARK, ca1797- ; Pittsfield.
22. Elkanah ROBINSON, - ; Long Island, New York.
23. Bathshebe OSBORNE, - ; Long Island.

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1855 Census - from page 34

144	149	Thomas McCabe	25 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Mary A. McCabe	23 F		Ireland
		Patrick McCabe	20 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Margaret McCabe	18 F		Ireland
		John McCabe	16 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Peter Derry	24 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Edward S. Castle	17 M	Laborer	N.Y.
		Michael McCabe	12 M		Ireland
145	150	Matthew O'Halloran	30 M	Shoe Maker	Ireland
		Ann O'Halloran	36 F		Ireland
		Mary O'Halloran	2 F		Mass.
		Hannah E. H-- Ardley	21 F		Ireland
		William Ardley	5m M		N.Y.
147	151	John Willson	52 M	Paper Maker	Scotland
		Mary A. Wilson	42 F		Mass.
		Mary G. Wilson	14 F		Mass.
		Merriam Wilson	10 F		Mass.
		John T. Wilson	8 M		Mass.

[Continued on page 36]

PERU RECORDS

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT 1885-1886

MARRIAGES RECORDED - 1885

	Oct. 6	Florence Louisa Kilbourn
	Oct. 16	Mattie Fay Hathaway
June 29 Luman W. Frary & Eva Roberson	Oct. 17	Alexander Watkins
Sep. 3 Phillip M. Watters & Hyla A. Stowell		
Sep. 8 Dolph Magnin & Mary J. Torrey		

DEATHS RECORDED - 1885

BIRTHS RECORDED - 1885

Feb. 9	George Droshin	Jan. 14	Ann Frary
Feb. 22	Bertha Davis	Jan. 26	Edith Tyler
Jun. 7	Sylvia Grace Raymond	Feb. 23	Lizzie B. Torrey
Jun. 15	George Joseph Schnopp	Apr. 2	Lydia D. Peirce
Sep. 28	Clara May Wheeler	Apr. 17	Henry B. Peirce
		May 26	Smith Thompson
		Sep. 16	Esther Ranville
		Dec. 20	Anna M. Dennett

REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR 1884-1885

Paid W. N. Stone for care of Mrs. Fairbanks to April 1, 1885	\$28.38
Willis Haupt for care of Baldas Haupt to April 1, 1885	41.00
William Jandro for care of Baldas Haupt	113.75
Arthur Wheeler for care of Waldo Wheeler	117.00
Margaret Malaly for care of child	28.00
William Kilbourn for care of Mrs. Kilburn	78.00
For Caleb Gilman	1.50
Town of Middlefield for care of Joseph Butcher & wife	15.00
Dr. E. C. Collins for professional services,	
	Caleb Gilman 10.50
	Baldas Haupt 10.25
	Ann Frary 2.00
	<u>\$445.38</u>

James S. Barnes, Wesley A. Pierce, Sanford H. Pelton, Overseers

* * * * *

1855 Census - fom page 35

147	151	George W. Wilson	5 M		Mass.
148	152	Thomas Larkin	40 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Mary Larkin	40 F		Ireland
149	153	Roger Barry	35 M	Butcher	Ireland
		Catharine Barry	30 F		Ireland
		James Barry	3 M		Mass.
150	154	Matthew Burns	35 M	Laborer	Ireland
		Rosanna Burns	30 F		Ireland
		John Bulkley	4 M		Ireland
151	155	Noah Sheldon	66 M	C. Clergyman	Mass.
		Lydia Sheldon	57 F		Mass.
		Mary E. Sheldon	31 F		Mass.
		Martha H. Sheldon	27 F		Mass.

[To be continued]

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR WRITING QUERIES

1. Give the full name, including middle name or initial, of the person subject to enquiry.
2. Establish identity of the person by giving place and date of birth, place and date of death, parentage, place and date of marriage and identity of spouse to the extent these data are known, as:
 John DOE b Hartford, CT 12 Jan 1900; d Fairfield, CT 19 Mar 1967 s/o Richard & Abigail (WESTON) DOE m Hartford 11 June 1923.
3. If unable to give a complete description of the person under enquiry, start with a son or daughter for whom more information might be available and ask for that person's ancestry.
4. Identify spouse in manner described in (2) above.
5. State what information is desired, as:
 Need ancestors of John and Abigail.
6. Place the question at the end of the query.
7. Do not abbreviate the names of persons or towns.
8. For any locale outside Massachusetts, be sure to identify the state.
9. Dates should be written: day, month, year as: 13 Oct 1743.
10. Use multiple queries rather than several parts to the same query.
11. Queries should not exceed four or five lines and should be submitted as an ASCII file on a diskette or E-mailed to bfhainc@gmail.com marked as a query on the subject line. Printed or typed queries will also continue to be accepted.
12. Well-known abbreviations may be used but elaborate use of them is not required.
13. Address for reply should be stated on each card so that the Editor is not obliged to keep their envelope as well in order to have a complete record.
14. Acknowledge receipt of all replies and reimburse respondent for postage and the cost of any material copied. One should not be left out of pocket for having answered a call for help. If the submitted material is of little use, that is the risk assumed in transactions by correspondence.
15. When requesting information, always include a SASE.
16. Help your query editor judge the effectiveness of this section. If you make a contact that provides significant help with your search, won't you let us know?

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

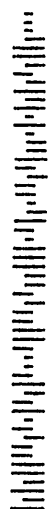
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- THE FEBRUARY *NEWSLETTER*

- OFFERING OF 1904 BERKSHIRE COUNTY MAPS