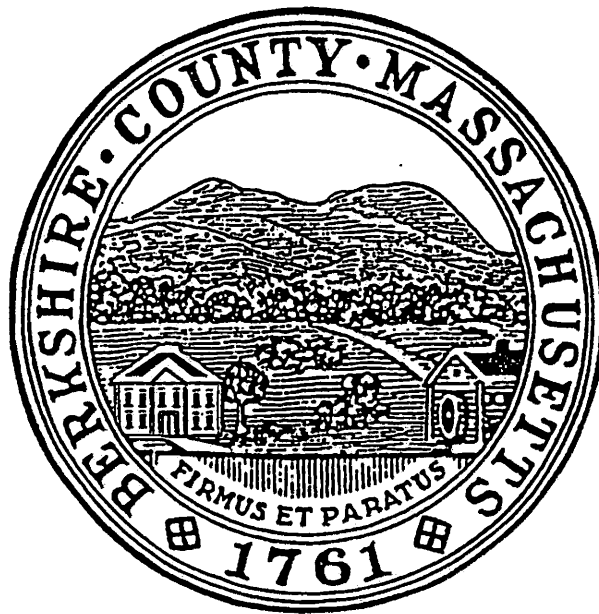


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Berkshire Genealogist



Volume 34 Number 3

Summer 2013

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.

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

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

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berkshire genealogist

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CONTENTS

TRACKING FAMILY TREASURES AT THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM Kathleen M. Reilly	75
SEPTUAGENARIAN DINNER	77
ANCESTOR TABLES CDXVIII. Steven Dale Stannard	80
MAPS OF CUMMINGTON AND PLAINFIELD [Hampshire County]	81
OLD AND NEW SOUTH WILLIAMSTOWN CHURCHES	82
VITAL RECORDS OF WEST STOCKBRIDGE - 1944, 1945, 1949, 1955	85
VITAL RECORDS OF GREAT BARRINGTON - 1887	89
THE SHAW FAMILY	90
STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855 WASHINGTON	94
OLD STAGE LINES IN NORTHERN BERKSHIRE	99
OLD MEETING HOUSES IN THE TOWN OF ADAMS	101

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BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

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TRACKING FAMILY TREASURES AT THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM

By Kathleen M. Reilly, Local History Supervisor, The Berkshire Athenaeum

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From *Archival Anecdotes*, Volume 7, Number 1, Page 9 [Updated to 2013]

For most of us, family history isn't just about genealogical charts, names, dates and locations. We also have those 'family treasures' handed down from previous generations. Some of these items may be quite valuable from a monetary point of view, but more often it is the memories and emotions connected to them that make them important.

Grandma's cookie jar or tea kettle, Grandpa's old tools or coin collections, the uniform Uncle John wore during World War II, postcards sent by Aunt Mary when she traveled across country on her honeymoon in 1937 ... whatever it is that you have on a shelf or stored away in attic, basement or closet, each item has a place in the story of your family's history. But very often, by the time we become interested in documenting our personal histories, Grandma and Grandpa, Uncle John and Aunt Mary, are no longer around to answer our questions about these bits of history. We then find ourselves faced with the task of unearthing information about our treasures without the benefit of firsthand accounts. Fortunately, there are many sources of information to aid us in this quest.

If you are just beginning the process of documenting your own family treasures, there is a wonderful little book published by the Ontario Genealogical Society entitled *Help! I've Inherited an Attic Full of History: a guide for genealogists – and others – on ways to hand the past on to the future*. Published in 1998, this 92 page soft-cover book by Althea Douglas, guides you through the process of sorting, dating, evaluating and (perhaps!) disposing of the accumulation of a lifetime. A copy of this book is available for use in the Local History Department.

Many people begin the process by organizing family photographs. There are many books available to help you identify the types of photos you have and the approximate dates when photos of each type would have been taken. Books such as *Uncovering Your Ancestry Through Family Photographs* by Maureen A. Taylor, *Windows On the Past: Identifying, Dating and Preserving Photographs* by Diane V. Gagel, and *Care and Identification of Photographic Prints* by James M. Reilly – among many others – are available at the library. Sources such as *Photographing Your Heritage* by Wilma Sadler Shull, *Retouching Your Photographs* by Jan Way Miller, and a video entitled *How to Put Your Photos on Video and Produce Your Own Video Photo Album* by Bob Burg will help you to create and manage photo collections.

As you proceed with this undertaking, you may find the need to research many other kinds of ephemera. Do you have an assortment of kitchen utensils and dishes? Try perusing books such as *Kitchen Antiques* by Mary Norwak, *The Housewares story: A history of the American housewares Industry* by Earl Lifshy or *Kitchen collectibles: an Illustrated Price Guide* by Ellen M. Plante. Needlework? Available titles include: *The Embroiderer's Story* by Thomasina Beck; *Needlework in America: history, designs and techniques* by Virginia Churchill Bath; and *Plain & Fancy: American women and their needlework, 1700-1850* by Susan Burrows Swan – among many others. For quilts you might consult *The Pieced Quilt; an American design tradition* by Jonathan Holstein or *The Romance of the Patchwork Quilt in America* by Carrie A. Hall.

Are there unidentified pieces of silver or old jewelry in your treasures? How about old clocks or pieces of pottery? Searching the library's catalog will reveal such sources as: *Early American Silver and its Makers* by Jane Bentley Kolter, *A Directory of American Silver, Pewter and Silver Plate* by Ralph and Terry Kovel, *American Silversmiths and Their Marks* by Stephen Ensko and *The Arts and Crafts in New England* by George Dow among numerous other titles.

For uniforms, you might consult *Military Dress of North America, 1665- 1970* by Martin Windrow and for medals, insignia and decorations the library has such titles as *Orders, Decorations and Insignia, Military and Civil* by Robert E. Wyllie and *Medals and Decorations* by James A. Mackay. Were your family members collectors of old toys, dolls and teddy bears? Such books as *American Antique Toys, 1830-1900* by Bernard Barenholtz, *Antique Toys and Their Background* by Gwen White, *The Golden Age of Toys* by Jac Remise and *Pageant of Toys* by Mary Hillier will help in their documentation.

Postcards present another area for research and documentation. Books such as *An American Postcard Collector's Guide* by Valerie Monahan and *The Official Identification and Price Guide to Postcards* by Diane Allmen will offer assistance, but don't forget all the information and clues contained in the note and addresses written on the postcards! A number of sources will help you to document old tools that you may find in your personal treasure chests. Examples include: *The Tools that Built America* by Alex Bealer and *Encyclopedia of Antique Tools & Machinery* by C.H. Wendel.

Furniture? Stamps? Knickknacks? Old Books? Certificates? Letters? Documents? Works of Art? Whatever it is you find in your attic, cellar or closets, each object is a piece of the puzzle. Together they create a picture of **your** family's history. Using the resources at your Local Library you can piece the puzzle together! Enjoy!!!

* * * * *

SEPTUAGENARIAN DINNER

From *The Berkshire Hills*, May 1, 1900.

As far back as 1860 the late Hon. Thomas F. Plunkett began to call the attention of his fellow citizens to the fact of an unusual number of long-lived men in the old town as compared with other localities of equal age and population, as well as the high character of such for virtue and intellectual ability, and suggested that these be assembled together and as a mark of high respect and regard given a public dinner. Several years sped on and in the meantime quite a number of those thus thought to be honored had deceased, of whom was Phineas Allen, the founder of the *Pittsfield Sun*, at the age of 84, Hon. Edward A. Newton, 78, Rev. Herman Humphrey, D.D. first president of Amherst College, and pastor of the First Congregational Church, 83, Hon. Henry Hubbard, 81, Hon. H. H. Childs, founder of the Berkshire Medical College, 84, Thomas Durant, 75, Col. Thaddeus Clapp, 86, Walter Laflin, 74, and Walter Tracy, 85.

Early in June 1870, Mr. Plunkett and others met on the site of the old elm in the park and decided to put the plan into immediate execution. Immediately calling a meeting for the purpose it was decided to give this dinner at Cebra Quackenbush's American House, June 30, and the following were appointed on committees to arrange for the event: Thomas F. Plunkett, Robert Pomeroy, Thomas Colt, Phineas Allen, John C. West, Ensign H. Kellogg, James Francis, Washington M. Root, Gilbert West, J. E. A. Smith, T. P. Pingree, Prof. John Tatlock, G. T. Barker, J. Dwight Francis, Edwin Clapp, Cebra Quackenbush, George Y. Learned, Abraham Burbank, Daniel J. Dodge, William H. Teeling, Solomon N. Russell, George C. Dunham, S. M. Cooley, S. E. Nichols and Henry W. Chapin. Of these preparation committees it seems hardly possible in 1901 that only Gilbert West and Cebra Quackenbush are now living.

Gilbert West had previously made a careful census of these aged citizens, and at the head of the invitation committee within a few days had completed the roll. It was found that there were 160 men in the town who had passed the 70 year milestone, the

ordinary limit of human life, while 26 had passed their 80th year, or four score. Of the threescore and ten, but 102 responded in person to their invitations, and 16 over 80 years, to whom were added 60 invited guests. The 68 aged gentlemen not present were detained on account of bodily infirmities and absence from town.

The American House was adorned with the national flags and other appropriate patriotic emblems, both inside and out. Early in the forenoon the hotel began to be thronged with white haired guests with furrowed faces, but mostly keen of eye and full of vigor and vitality, while a great assemblage of spectators gathered about the building to take in the novel sight. At one o'clock Merry's Band of martial music from the second story piazza summoned the guests to dinner with the old airs to which so many of them had kept step in the general trainings and gatherings of the earlier days and led by the same musicians. There were the veteran fife majors, Otis Cole, 75, P. VanRensselaer Taylor, 73, and drum major, Nelson Merry, 69, and near them stood Capt. Jared Ingersoll, who led a company in Col. Larned's Bloody Ninth Regiment in 1812, and Nicholas Bailly, a British prisoner in the old Cantonment in 1813, afterwards making Berkshire his home. The dinner given under the personal direction of Cebra Quackenbush was most bountiful, luxurious and appetizing, and was served with an ease and elegance never approached in the county previously, neither pains or expense being for a moment considered.

Probably no post-prandial exercises in the town or city ever approached in genuine enjoyment and breathless interest to these. The flow of wit and soul and reminiscence and the eloquence of the master-spirits of the occasion can no more be reproduced than can the presence of the notable white locks of the fathers of the century which they and the assemblage so notable represented. Added to this was a picked male choir consisting of E. T. Francis, W. A. Osborne, S. E. Nichols, James I. Lalor, John C. West, with George C. Dunham as organist and which between the speeches rendered stirring patriotic songs.

Of this talented list of musicians there only survive Charles E. West of Pittsfield, and James I. Lalor of London, England.

Hon. Thomas F. Plunkett in his address of welcome said: "It is most creditable to our climate and to our habits and our institutions that so many of our inhabitants have reached advanced age. Old age is honorable. That the hoary head is a Crown of Glory is taught in the Bible, and the human heart instinctively assents to the same sentiment. The glory of the children are their fathers. All reverence what is old in nature and in art, but much more so the experience and wisdom which years give to the human mind. After so many changes in their lives these guests can be sure of one certainty therein, and that was that the warm affection of Berkshire citizenship for the old friends of yore will also remain." In reply to this welcome Hon. Thomas Colt read a letter from Solomon L. Russell, in which he wished the generation of the present God-speed in all its endeavors and enterprises, and in which they are promised our warmest sympathies and all such aid that we old men can give.

Prof. W. C. Richards read the "old man's story" in rhyme, which was rich in olden time local facts and allusions. Prof. Charles E. West of Brooklyn, N. Y. read an interesting letter from his father Abel West, who though 90 years of age and resident in Pittsfield for 70 of these, was present. In this letter the debt owed by the town to the pioneers was feelingly touched upon, "men and women who left father and mother, took the Bible and Dilworth's spelling book for a library, a plough, axe and spinning wheel, oxen, cart and pack horse, and cut their way through the wilderness to Pontoosuc township, to build a meeting and school house and their homes, and to rear up families to fill them." In this letter occurs a first prediction, which in but a very few years has been verified: "Pittsfield must and will become a city of no mean dimensions and by prudent economy it will become one of the neatest cities on the Continent." After reading his father's letter Prof. West gave some very interesting reminiscences of old time citizenship and related quite a number of amusing anecdotes of the same.

Interesting letters were read from Orville Dewey of Sheffield and from the United

Society at West Pittsfield, which was represented in person by Simon Mabee and Joseph Patten. This letter gave the reminiscent fact that when this society was formed it had in it William Williams, Nathaniel Deming and son, William Deming, Jonathan Southwick, Daniel Goodrich and son, C. D. Goodrich, Sarah Deming, Jeannette Davis, Rebekah Clark and other Pittsfield citizens. It was also mentioned that when some adjacent towns persecuted this order, that the town of Pittsfield gave it aid and recognition. In addition to its two representatives present this letter was signed by Wellington R. Rose, Joseph Sneider, Lucas Collins, Leverett Auger and Benjamin Whipple. This document in itself accounts for the friendship which has always existed between Pittsfield citizenship and the West Pittsfield and New Lebanon Shaker families, which uninterrupted bond of friendship and good will is still in evidence.

Hon. Ensign H. Kellogg just wanted to stand in his tracks and look these old acquaintances in the face - Pittsfield as it was thirty years ago. What a scene, what a moment, such another we shall never see. All hail to the Pittsfield of other days. What a serene smile would clothe the countenance of Dr. Humphrey were he here; how Capt. Jonathan Allen would choke with enthusiasm over the blessings the revolutionary fathers have left us; how Dr. Harry Childs would exult over this scene; with what gathering gems of eloquence would Henry Hubbard fill the air; how Edward A. Newton would mingle his poetic spirit with ours. How brimful with the spirit of this occasion would have been Samuel Pomeroy, a fountain of inspiration and courage to the whole town - a broad catholic spirit set in a noble and befitting frame, with a hearty greeting, morning noon and evening, for everyone he met. How pleased Josiah Pomeroy, that imperative and defiant, but approachable and enjoyable man, would have been to be in such a gathering, with that solid and substantial business man, General Willis; the courtly and accomplished Sheriff Brown; Samuel D. Colt, the famous farmer and sheep raiser; Thomas B. Strong, the horticultural expert; Calvin Martin, the strictly honest man and lawyer, hale and ruddy and ready to fathom the deepest controversy with any who might

throw down the glove; Theodore Hinsdale, so fond of the humor of his friend Lawyer Rockwell; Phineas Allen, a perfect specimen of the public-spirited citizen; Jabez Colt, the meek, but always observant; Gad Humphrey, snapping jokes off the end of his fingers; Butler Goodrich, the chivalric old federalist, and Orrin Goodrich, quiet and sedate; Capt. Jonathan Allen, reticent and studious; Dick Cogswell, the all-knowing assessor; Capt. 'Lish Allen, the pronounced and frequently belligerent town meeting hero; Jason and Thaddeus Clapp, so distinguished in their life pursuits; Ezekiel R. Colt, the famous cashier of the last Berkshire generation; Capt. Jabez Peck, the every time fair and square man; Levi Goodrich, erect in figure and erect in spirit; the wide awake Lyman Warriner; the quiet and natural town clerk, James Warriner; Robert Colt, the wool fancier; Thomas A. Gold, a gentleman in the social circle; M. R. Lanckton, the busy bachelor lawyer; Dr. Robert Campbell, a favorite of heaven in mental and skillful endowments; the lamented George N. Briggs; the brilliant, bewitching and entrancing conversationalist, Hon. Henry Shaw; James D. Colt, Capt. Joel Dickinson, John B. Root, Hosea Merrill, Noble Strong and others, who seemed to have belonged to the age of Washington, and who certainly sustained its venerable dignity to the letter.

Hon. Thomas Allen, of Pittsfield and St. Louis said: "When I look upon this unique gathering of Gray heads I realize to what generation I belong. This is an unusual sight; I have never seen or expect to see such a one again. I doubt if there is any town of its population in this country which can summon together such a body of men, so long preserving their health and vigor, together. The means and influences which have enabled these to tarry so long, may in a measure have to do with the climate and the healthfulness of mountain air, but much must be due to temperate habits, bodily activity and the regular and quiet enjoyment of the comforts of life. I congratulate them upon their longevity, for the art of living long and well is what all men study, but few obtain.

The following is the list of aged citizens who were present, with their ages attached.

Gardner T. Barker, 91; Edson Bonny, 75; James B. Butler, 71; John Brown, 70; Jabez Bow, 74; J. D. Bates, 70; John M. Barnard, 70;

James Buel, 85; Nicholas Bailey, 73; Prince Bowerman, 80; Ira Burghardt, 70; Patrick Corcoran, 72; Thomas Coleman, 72; H. A. Cooley, 72; W. B. Cooley, 70; Stiles Cady, 80; Levi Castle, 71; Charles Churchill, 77; Otis Cole, 75; Levi Childs, 72; Nathaniel Chapman, 70; Timothy Colton, 72; Patrick Coughlin, 70; Francis Demming, 72; Daniel Davis, 77; Edwin Davis, 72; Simon Emery, 83; C. T. Fenn, 79; Josiah Fuller, 75; James Francis, 2nd, 71; Chauncey Goodrich, 73; Gilbert Griffin, 70; Adam Girst, 74; Eben Holden, 72; James Hager, 75; Timothy Hall, 70; Enoch Holland, 72; Horace Herrick, 73; Jacob Horn, 70; Jared Ingersoll, 84; Godfrey Jacobs, 80; John Kearney, 75; J. R. Lawton, 78; John S. Lawrence, 82; Charles Lynes, 82; Festus Miller, 80; Patrick MacMahan, 74; Zalmon Malcolm, 73; Joel Moulthrop, 73; Justus Merrill, 75; Martin MacMahon, 72; Simon Mabee, 75; Ansel Nichols, 70; Mr. Partridge, 76; Joseph Patton, 76; Elijah Peck, 79; Otis Peck, 74; Linus Parker, 80; Elias Parker, 80; Titus Parker, 77; Jason Parson, 71; Beny Pratt, 83; Oliver Partridge, 80; C. B. Platt, 78; A. Patton, 76; Wellington R. Rose, 74; L. L. Russell, 77; Nathan Reed, 77; Festus Reed, 75; Henry Robbins, 74; William Robbins, 80; Daniel Reed, 72; Christian Roeshler, 74; Thomas Rice, 71; Edward Ryan, 78; Patrick Reardon, 75; I. B. Royce, 75; Edwin Sandys, 71; Thomas W. Sloan, 71; Caleb Stockbridge, 72; Daniel Stearns, 70; William Smith, 72; Charles Schmidt, 74; Michael Solon, 73; John Shaw, 80; George Severt, 74; Joseph Sneider, 77; George A. Schwentz, 74; Thomas Taylor, 77; P. V. R. Taylor, 73; Almon Ticknor, 71; Dr. J. Todd, 70; Kingman Thayer, 82; Joseph H. Wilson, 71; Benjamin Wardwell, 87; F. J. Wylie, 76; Abel West, 90; Eliakim Weller, 73; W. W. Webster, 77; H. H. Wilcox, 73; William Wales, 72.

The following were found and invited but were unable to be present:

Bushrod Buck, 70; Amos Burlington, 78; Noah Clark, 81; Sherman Curtiss, 71; Thomas Conroy, 75; Thomas Clark, 72; Clark Durant, 75; Perry G. Drew, 74; John Dunlap, 70; Herman Eldridge, 70; Lyman Frink, 78; David L. Hobly, 70; Stoddard Hubbell, 73; Marshall Hubbard, 73; Thaddeus Harrington, 70; Samuel Jewell, 71; Milton Kent, 84; Philip Merrill, 74; John McLaughlin, 73; Rufus Merry, 84; Charles McManama, 70; S. W. Newton, 87; Samuel Pool, 77; O. S. Root, 75; Oliver Skinner, 78; Rowley Tracy, 72; Benjamin Whipple, 77. ■■■■

ANCESTOR TABLES

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

CDXVIII. STEVEN DALE STANNARD, submitted by his mother, Joyce Marie Horton, 4730 Auburn Road NE, #151, Salem, OR 97301

I.

1. Steven Dale STANNARD, 1947- ; Los Angeles, California; Detroit, Michigan; Graham, Washington.

II.

2. Charles Robert STANNARD, 1921-1979; Detroit; Los Angeles; Escondido, California.
3. Joyce Marie LAUNDROCHE, 1928- ; Los Angeles, Salem, Oregon.

III.

4. Robert H. STANNARD, 1883-1935; Pennsylvania; Michigan; California.
5. Cecelia Edith GUMBLE, 1896-1959; Michigan, California.

IV.

8. Pliny DeWitt STANNARD, 1845-1899; New York; Pennsylvania.
9. Sara H. FUNK, 1853-1936; Pennsylvania.

V.

16. Edwin Will STANNARD, 1821-1860; Massachusetts; New York.
17. Sarah A. , - ; New York.

* * * * *

MAPS OF CUMMINGTON and PLAINFIELD [Hampshire County] - 1871

Atkins, E.	C-2	Cook, H.	A-2	Kingman, R.	C-5	Parsons, A. C.	E-9	Shaw, H. A.	B-2
Bartlett, C.	C-5	Cowing, A.	B-6	Kinney, J.	C-4	Pettingill, A. F.	F-10	Shaw, Misses	F-2
Benjamin, J. N.	F-2	Damon, H.	F-10	Laversey, M.	B-4	Randall, D. D.	D-8	Smith, C. W.	F-10
Bigelow, L. M.	D-9	Danforth, J. M.	C-5	Lovell, D. W.	B-4	Reed, J.	A-5	Smith, C.	E-2
Bradley, H. F.	A-3	Dill, K.	F-10	McColligan	D-4	Rhodes, A.	B-5	Spearman, E.	E-2
Bradley, Z. H.	C-7	Dolan, J.	B-3	Mitchell, A.	D-4	Richards, F. O.	D-8	Spezman, J.	E-2
	D-7	Dyer, C. N.	F-1		D-5	Richards, G.	B-5	Stevens, N. S.	B-4
Bruce, E. B.	B-4	Gillfillan, Dr.	D-6	Mitchell, W. W.	B-5	Richards, J.	C-2		C-5
Bruer, F. B.	C-5	Hallock, M.	E-2	Naramore, H. L.	F-6		D-2	Thayer, J. C.	C-4
Burt, S.	F-2	Hamlin, P.	E-2	Orcutt, L. J.	F-10	Richards, O.	E-8	Tilson, C. M.	B-4
Campbell, F. E.	D-2	Joy, J.	F-1	Orcutt, N. F.	C-7	Robbins, M.	F-10	Tirrill, D.	A-4
Campbell, L.	C-2	Joy, L.	C-2	Orcutt, W. W.	C-4	Scott, Mrs.	C-7	Warner, O.	C-6
Clark, E. P.	F-2	Joy, L. W.	B-2	Packard, Miss	D-8	Sears, A.	B-1	Whicher, R.	A-3
Clark, S.	F-2	Kingman, A.	B-5	Packard, R. R.	C-6	Shaw, A. M.	E-9	White, W. H.	C-6
Cobb, L. B.	C-8	Kingman, L.	C-5						

Cummington

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 Shaw Wm. H.. Farmer
 Steele Lucius..
 Stevens N. B.. Manufr of all kinds of Penholders, Marking and other Brush Handles. Plaining and Sawing done to order
 Streeter H. A.. Farmer
 Tower L. H.. Librarian of Cummington Library
 Tower L. R.. Farmer
 White Wm. H.. Resident

Cummington

West Village

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 Osborne Wm.. Foreman in L. L. Brown Paper Co., Mills



OLD AND NEW SOUTH WILLIAMSTOWN CHURCHES

From *The Berkshire Hills*, June 1, 1902.

The first meeting house in South Williamstown was erected in 1808. From the early settlement of the town the first Congregational Parish of Williamstown embraced the entire town. The only House for Public Worship was situated on the "Square" in the main street of the town, where a Meeting House had been built in 1768, and after a thirty years' occupancy another had been built on the same site in 1798. These houses were at least six miles from the residence of many members of the parish in the south part of the town. Moreover neither the Green River road from the Sabin house to the Woodcock road at the foot of Scott Hill; nor Hemlock Brook road from the John Sherman house to the Woodcock road at four corners had been made, so that the Stone Hill road was usually taken from the south part of the town to the Meeting House. It is fair to state that the distance and the character of the road had much to do with the plan to build a Meeting House in South Williamstown.

The plot of ground on which the first Meeting House and on which the present Meeting House and Manse now stand, was given as a site for a meeting house by William Young and Dr. Alanson Porter, the owners of the adjacent estates. The funds were obtained by subscription. There were fifty subscribers and these are the names:

Samuel Mills, Lyman Hubbell, Samuel Burbank, Aaron Deming, Henry Green, Ambrose Hall, David Johnson, Charles Sabin, William Young, Daniel Giles, Titus Deming, Ard Roberts, Ebenezer Foster, Andrew Young, Reuben Young, Alanson Porter, Thomas Roe, Elisha Roe, William W. Roe, Richard Lewis, Ebenezer Pratt, Moses Young, Jr., Thomas Bingham, Moses Young, Sr., Dan Foster, Amasa Corbin, Isaac Sherwood, Daniel Galusha, Nathan Rossiter, Hezekiah Sabin, Leveus Eddy, Gershom Buckley, Andrew Beers, John Krigger, William Towner, Zebadiah Sabin, Orange T. Johnson, Artemus Keef, William Young, 2nd, William Potter, Benjamin Brooks, Stephen Bacon, George Sweet, Samuel Wright, Joel Dodge, John Perry, Daniel Fuller, Zebadee Turner, Almeron Manrow, Arden Manrow.

The subscriptions varied in amount from

five dollars to two hundred and fifty dollars, the entire amount being \$2,375. The residence of the subscribers was as follows: On the Sloan Road, Luman Hubbell, William Young, Reuben Young and Daniel Giles. On the Oblong Road, Dan Foster, Samuel Mills, Charles Sabin, Hezekiah Sabin, Zebadiah Sabin, David Johnson, Orange T. Johnson and Artemus Keef, and on his farm west of the Oblong Road, Henry Green. On the Hancock Road, Dr. Alanson Porter, Ebenezer Foster, Amasa Corbin, Isaac Sherwood, Moses Young, Sr., Moses Young, Jr., William Young, 2nd, George Sweet and Samuel Wright. On the Ashford Road, Nathan Rossiter, Samuel Burbank, Thomas Roe, Elisha Roe, William W. Roe, Aaron Deming, Andrew Beers, Titus Deming, Ard Roberts, Joel Dodge, Daniel Fuller and Andrew Young. On the Roaring Brook Road, Ebenezer Pratt and Zebadee Turner. On the Potter Road, William Potter and John Perry. On the Hopper Road, Benjamin Brooks, Stephen Bacon, Almeron Manrow, and Arden Manrow. On the Hemlock Brook Road, Gen. Ambrose Hall and Gershom Buckley. On the Green River Road, Thomas Bingham and John Krigger. Daniel Galusha lived near what is now called Torrey's Woods on the Torrey Road. Leveus Eddy lived on what for half a century has been known as the Townsend farm. William Towner was a physician in Williamstown and of Richard Lewis we will hear later. It is notable that of these fifty, Moses Young, Amasa Corbin, William Young, Ard Roberts, Daniel Galusha and Stephen Bacon are the only original subscribers whose descendants now live in South Williamstown.

Richard Lewis, one of the original subscribers, was the builder, and this is the record in the original book of the proprietors, dated September 21, 1810. "by the contract with the committee to build a Meeting House in the south part of Williamstown, \$1900." This contract did not include the underpinning or trench. A credit is given in the books to William Young (who owned the farm now owned by George W. Smith) for stone for the underpinning and for damage done him in conveying stone through his meadow, and also a credit of \$20 for "His account of 2/3 of a job at digging

and filling trench for underpinning Meeting House." The contract with Richard Lewis did not include the seating on the first floor or in the galleries. Temporary seats were placed against the pillars which supported the galleries and the audience appeared in two long rows facing each other the entire length of the audience room, the men on the right hand of the minister and the women on the left hand. The house in its unfinished condition was occupied fourteen years until 1822.

A meeting of the proprietors was called January 31, 1822, "To adopt some measure necessary for finishing the said house." At the meeting Nathan Rossiter was Moderator and Gideon Tyrrel, Clerk, and this committee was appointed: Dr. Alanson Porter, Dan Foster, John Mills. This committee was instructed to make a draft of a plan for finishing the inside of the house likewise to form an estimate of the probable expense. At an adjourned meeting, held February 14, 1822, it was voted "that the Meeting House shall be owned and occupied by the Congregational and Baptist Societies each one-half of the time, provided the Baptists shall not intrude on any set days that the Congregationalists shall have established for preaching." The significance of the proviso in the foregoing vote is this: From the early settlement of the town till 1836, as before related, the First Congregational Parish included the entire town. After the erection of the Meeting House in South Williamstown in 1808, the arrangement had been that the minister of the entire parish should preach at South Williamstown every third Sabbath, the Faculty of Williams College occupying the pulpit at Williamstown every third Sabbath in the absence of the regular pastor.

At an adjourned meeting, held March 2, 1822, the committee made their report including a plan for seating the house. From this plan the pews were sold and the proceeds of this sale with the balance of the original subscription was to be used to finish the house. An original subscription that had been paid could be deducted from the purchase price of any pew or pews. There were fifty-eight pews - fifty-four were sold at auction, the prices varying from \$5 to \$150. The original subscribers or their families were the original purchasers. The new names that appear as purchasers at this sale are Reuben Eldredge, Spink Comstock, John R. Vincent, David

Torrey, Bartholomew Woodcock, Nathaniel Townsend, Joseph Torrey, John Sweet, Alvert Marsh, Young McMaster and Phelps and Danforth, (Phelps and Danforth are supposed to be Thomas C. Phelps and Keyes Danforth). In its early history the town had been divided for military purposes into two nearly equal parts, by an imaginary east and west line called the military line. It is now indicated by the wall that separates the Williams or Proctor farm from the Lucius Jenks farm. That part of the town south of this line was South Williamstown and with one or two exceptions these purchasers of the pews were residents of South Williamstown and represented nearly its entire area.

The Meeting House was of two stories with two rows of windows on each side. In 1841 the second story was made into a Public Hall by laying a floor above the breastwork of the galleries and substituting a platform for the high pulpit. This pulpit was in form like a box placed against the west end of the audience room and was entered by a door in front and by winding stairs inside so that a strange minister sometimes asked as he walked up the center aisle how he should get up into the pulpit. The town of Williamstown appropriated \$300 towards the expense of these alterations, and for this a perpetual lease for town purposes was given. Town meetings were held in this hall for a number of years until a more rapid increase of population in other parts of the town rendered meeting here inexpedient. This hall was used by the Methodists for watch meetings and Greylock Institute sometimes held its exhibitions here. This house was taken down in 1874.

The project for a New Meeting House in South Williamstown was started in 1871. The old Meeting House, built in 1808, had for years been unsuitable for public worship and the suggestion of a new Meeting House received a favorable response. This was strengthened by the enthusiastic support of all connected with Greylock Institute. For nearly thirty years the pupils at this school had met here for worship in a room unattractive and in winter especially uncomfortable. It was slightly warmed by two wood box-stoves from which pipes extended the entire length of the audience room over the two outside aisles into which the condensed smoke dripped, or was caught by suspended receptacles, the incessant dripping being audi-

ble to the annoyance of the minister and the reverent portion of the audience, and to the apparent amusement of the boys, who were not all saints. These pupils now constituted fully one-half of the congregation and the interests of the Institution, increasing in numbers, demanded a more excellent place for public worship. A liberal subscription had been obtained when the destruction by fire of Greylock Institute on April 14, 1872, after plans for the house had been obtained and the timber purchased, and in which fire the subscriptions were lost, caused a delay of the enterprise until the summer of 1874.

The location of the new Meeting House was the first question to be determined. Two locations were favored, one on the Pittsfield road opposite the residence of Dea. Dickinson, and the other the site of the old Meeting House. A large percent of the parish resided on the Hancock road and their protest against building where it would require on their part a considerable addition to their already long ride to church, was decisive in favor of the old site. The next problem was the old Meeting House itself. The building was owned by two distinct interests: First, when the interior of the house had been finished in 1822, the pews or slips were sold at auction, and deeds were given. The law recognized them as real estate, and in virtue of deeds transfers had been made so that every slip had an owner. Secondly, the town of Williamstown had a deed of the upper hall for its use. When the Second Congregational Parish of Williamstown was organized in 1836, it tacitly succeeded to any rights or privileges that the First Parish held, but this related only to the occupancy of the house. The proprietors and the town owned the property, and it required the relinquishment of their rights on the part of every party before any movement could be made.

The almost unanimous opinion of those interested in the enterprise was that the new Meeting House should be owned by one society, and in harmony with this view the original subscription had been for the Second Congregational Parish at Williamstown. At a regular meeting of the parish a committee was appointed whose duty it was to obtain a release to this parish of all rights of property in the Meeting House. The town readily voted to relinquish its rights as required, also every pew holder except two, who were paid for their

pews. When this had been accomplished a new subscription was started which received a very generous response from the members of the parish and others, and also from the then and former patrons of Greylock Institute, these last names to the extent of 50 percent of the entire subscription at least.

Mr. Cummings of Troy, N. Y., an architect who had visited the village with reference to plans for Greylock Institute buildings, made plans for the new Meeting House. The parish appointed a building committee, consisting of Erastus B. Young, Stephen A. Hickox and Benjamin F. Mills. Henry B. Curtis of Williamstown had the building contract for which he was to receive \$8,500, and the old Meeting House. The amount of the subscription was \$7,300, so that on the completion of the contract \$1,200 was due the contractor. The building committee was authorized to borrow this sum, and a temporary loan was made from Judge John R. Buckley of Williamstown. The dedication of the new Meeting House occurred September 15, 1875, and at the same time a council of Congregational ministers and delegates was held for the ordination of Prof. A. L. Perry as an evangelist. At a parish meeting the building committee were appointed to appraise the rental value of the slips in the meeting house and at the annual meeting of the parish the slips were rented for the ensuing year. During several years the annual rental of the slips was sufficient for the expenses of the parish and also to help pay the \$1,200 loan. The payment of this loan was at last successfully accomplished by the efforts of the treasurer, assisted by members of the parish, by one minister who officiated at various periods from the completion of the Meeting House till the debt was paid, and especially by Rev. John H. Denison, who gave the church his services as minister a full year. The annual rental of the slips was continued till 1897 when the parish voted that the slips should be free. The decorative window, "The Good Shepherd," was put in its place by a member of the church as a thanks offering for the recovery of a child from severe illness. The present excellent equipment of the Meeting House for heat, light and the organ, is due in large measure to the generosity of Mr. Joseph Fiske of New York, a guest for several years at the Idlewild. The Manse was built in 1885.

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VITAL RECORDS OF WEST STOCKBRIDGE - 1944, 1945, 1949, 1955

BIRTHS - 1944

January 10 - George Joseph Wamback, s/o Everett and Mary Wamback
March 8 - Judith Ann Consolini, d/o Julian and Lena Consolini
March 11 - Donald Anthony Pericolosi, s/o Donato and Rose Pericolosi
March 15 - Lenora Edna Zanconato, d/o Vasco and Helen Zanconato
March 28 - William Richard Sinico, s/o Alberto and Angela Sinico
April 3 - Barbara Ann Gordiner, d/o Claude and Angelina Gordiner
June 25 - Douglas Albert McDermott, s/o James and Margie McDermott
August 3 - Ann Lucy MacNamara, d/o Authur and Eda MacNamara
October 21 - Peter Joseph Brogan, s/o Peter and Frances Brogan
December 5 - Gerald Dudley Gennari, s/o Joseph and Clara Gennari
December 21 - Richard Francis Kratt, s/o Frederick and Clara Kratt
December 25 - Carol Gennari, d/o Albert and Agnes Gennari

BIRTHS - 1945

January 3 - Michael William Wheeler, s/o Frederick and Louise Wheeler
January 8 - John Anthony Frana, s/o Joseph and Lena Frana
February 18 - George Edward Ford, Jr., s/o George and Eugenie Ford
March 20 - Wayne Louis Couchevtiz, s/o Peter and Eva Couchevtiz
June 18 - Billy Martin Schilling, s/o David and Vivian Schilling
July 16 - Margaret Ann Losaw, d/o Junius and Beatrice Losaw
July 19 - Arthur Edward Honeysett, s/o Thomas and Erma Honeysett
July 26 - Shirley Ann Clairmont, d/o Clarence and Edith Clairmont
August 4 - Kristin Lee Gennari, d/o Angelo and Mary Gennari
August 29 - Sandra Lee Jennings, d/o Walter and Helena Jennings
September 29 - Lawrence Donald Tonini, s/o Lawrence and Lera Tonini
October 1 - Anne Marie Fruet, d/o Vinicio and Marcella Fruet
October 5 - Dorothy Claire Pratt, d/o Robert and Ruth Pratt

BIRTHS - 1949

January 12 - Marjorie Olcott Baldwin, d/o Arthur, Jr. and Marjorie Baldwin
January 15 - Mary Elizabeth Franz, d/o John and Dorothy Franz
February 16 - Harry VanDeusen, s/o Harry, Jr. and Elinor VanDeusen
February 26 - Lynn Ann Gennari, d/o Vasco and Virginia Gennari
February 26 - Paula Louise Vosburgh, d/o Sherley and Palmira Panzeri
March 1 - Sharman Irene Doyle, d/o Peter and Bertha Doyle
March 7 - Patrick James Brogan, s/o Peter and Fanny Brogan
March 19 - Robert Alex Bierwith, s/o Robert and Alice Bierwith
April 8 - Joseph Francis Gerard, s/o Francis and Lydia Gerard
April 10 - Peter Dus, s/o Angelo and Verona Dus
April 18 - Patricia Ann Langdon, d/o John and Margot Langdon
April 19 - Robert James McDermott, s/o James and Margie McDermott
May 2 - Thomas Daniel Callahan, s/o Joseph and Mary Callahan
June 13 - Gail Marie Girdler, d/o Charles and Rose Girdler
June 17 - Raymond Kellogg Smith, Jr., s/o Raymond and Corrine Smith
July 8 - Michael Elbert Skorput, s/o Paul and Charlotte Skorput
August 7 - Mary Katherine O'Brien, d/o James and Mary O'Brien
September 10 - Susan Elizabeth Roviario, d/o Louis and Elizabeth Roviario
September 18 - John Charles Korte, s/o John and Angelina Korte
October 6 - Santino Arthur Dellea, s/o Santino and Alice Dellea
October 16 - Raymond William Durant, s/o Raymond and Frances Durant

October 21 - John William Springstube, s/o John and Eleanore Springstube
October 21 - Mabel Beth Nourse, d/o Roland and Ruth Nourse
December 2 - John Gennari, s/o Albert and Agnes Gennari
December 9 - William Henry Crawford, Jr., s/o William and Ruth Crawford
December 31 - John Michael D'Aniello, s/o Victor and Armida D'Aniello

BIRTHS - 1955

February 1 - Peter Louis Panzeri, s/o Louis and Mary Panzeri
February 10 - Frances Paula Reddington, d/o Francis and Pauline Reddington
February 19 - Gail Ann Gerdin, d/o George and Margaret Gerdin
February 22 - Roberta Lynn Gaston, d/o Gilbert and Elizabeth Gaston
February 28 - Edward Francis McDonnell, s/o Francis and Mary McDonnell
March 27 - Kathleen Marie Hart, d/o Henry and Edith Hart
April 4 - Keith Joseph Morelli, s/o Joseph & Lillian Morelli
April 6 - Deborah Jean Fletcher, d/o Neil and Barbara Fletcher
April 10 - Francis Valentino Marzotto, Jr., s/o Francis & Mary Marzotto
April 15 - Dennis Stanley Boldyga, s/o Bernard and Anna Boldyga
April 15 - Constance Marie Boldyga, d/o Bernard and Anna Boldyga
May 10 - Ward Stephen Kenyon, s/o Ward and Emma Kenyon
May 11 - Glenn Joseph Girdler, s/o Charles and Rose Girdler
June 11 - Arthur Milton Ostrander, Jr., s/o Arthur and Lena Ostrander
June 28 - Diane Lynn Kilmer, d/o Leonard and Catherine Kilmer
July 1 - Diana Jo Marchetto, d/o Joseph and Dorothy Marchetto
July 16 - Bonita Ann Baldasarre, d/o Joseph and Theresa Baldasarre
August 2 - Thomas Toolin Ingegni, s/o Albert and Constance Ingegni
August 28 - Karen Ann Ryder, d/o John and Lois Ryder
September 2 - Patricia Anne Desaulniers, d/o George and Muriel Desaulniers
September 20 - Mark Steven Schilling, s/o Gene and Elizabeth Schilling
September 26 - Yvonne Jeanne Sartori, d/o Anthony and Jeanne Sartori
October 8 - Dorothy Mary Klein, d/o Alan and Alice Klein
October 17 - Patsy Ann Lockenwitz, d/o James and Constance Lockenwitz
November 21 - Perry Eugene Wagner, s/o Wilfred and Jemma Wagner
December 4 - Frederick Peter Billieux, Jr., s/o Frederick and Jennie Billieux
December 7 - Judith Anne McDermott, d/o James and Marjorie McDermott
December 7 - Kathryn C. Korte, d/o Robert and Mary Korte
December 12 - Carol Christine Mapes, d/o Frank and Ida Mapes
December 14 - Linda Marie Klein, d/o James and Marie Klein
December 16 - Adella Caroline Sobczak, d/o Alphonse and Halina Sobczak
December 17 - Lois Ann Dus, d/o Angelo and Verona Dus
December 24 - Janet Marie Cardillo, d/o Anthony and Janet Cardillo
December 27 - Kyle Pemberton Bradt, s/o Caryl and Angeline Bradt

MARRIAGES - 1944

January 2 - Julius Crawford, Copake, N.Y. to Thelma Hamm, Philmont, N.Y.
January 10 - Angelo J. Eccher, West Stockbridge to Edith Gelpi, Lee
January 12 - Alfred Hoyt to Margaret Fischbach, both of Schenectady, N.Y.
January 16 - William C. Stewart to Julia Vedder, both of Scotia, N.Y.
January 29 - John W. Bradt to Alice R. Painter, both of Scotia, N.Y.
January 30 - George Sinnenberg to Bertha Walkowiak, both of Schenectady, N.Y.
February 6 - Richard R. Furlong to Evelyn I. Weaver, both of Gloversville, N.Y.
May 6 - Kenneth A. Stanley of Lenox Dale to Shirley E. Bailey of West Stockbridge
June 9 - John Alber to Elizabeth Gaffie, both of Albany, N.Y.
October 8 - Matthew LeVeille to Clara V. Wilsey, both of Schenectady, N.Y.
October 19 - Charles E. Alexander of West Stockbridge to June P. Carpino of Belmont, Mass.

October 21 - Raymond Smith to Corinna Consolini, both of West Stockbridge
October 21 - John D. Springstube of West Stockbridge to Eleanore C. Herre of Alford
November 26 - Robert Pixley of West Stockbridge to Dorothy Nourse of Sheffield

MARRIAGES - 1945

April 28 - Vinicio Fruet of Richmond to Marcellina Dellea of West Stockbridge
April 38 - Leroy H. Fiske to Mable Hatch, both of Canaan, N.Y.
June 29 - Edward G. Sorenson to Irma Corwin, both of Troy, N.Y.
September 3 - Anthony Viola to Lucy Pieropan, both of West Stockbridge
September 15 - Ronald E. Scholz of W. Stockbridge to Hope Rose Straleau of Great Barrington
September 30 - Ernest D. Kunz of Ballston Spa, N.Y. to Blanche Moss of Scotia, N.Y.
October 6 - Marcel P. Pautot to Florence A. Smith, both of West Stockbridge

MARRIAGES - 1949

March 31 - Robert B. Love to Katherine C. Finnemore, both of West Stockbridge
June 4 - Everett C. Frederick, Jr. to Dorothy M. Ranzoni, both of Canaan, N.Y.
June 11 - Camillo D'Allesandro of Chester, Mass. to Paolina Fruet of Richmond
June 18 - Joseph Spencer Killridge of Pittsfield to Margaret Rebecca Ryan of Richmond
June 18 - Robert Joseph Toolin of Housatonic to Frances Helen Skorput of West Stockbridge
June 25 - Joseph J. Boison of Pittsfield to Domenica A. Fruet of Richmond
June 25 - Malcolm E. Chapman of Richmond to Jean M. Gaston of West Stockbridge
July 10 - Frank C. Dellea to Adele Mary Peters, both of West Stockbridge
September 1 - Swain VanRensselaer to Emma Hill, both of West Stockbridge
October 11 - Leo Henry Kulinski of Torrington, Conn. to Ines Elizabeth Pellizzari of Richmond
October 29 - Everett E. Drumm of Alford to Marjory A. Scholz of West Stockbridge
November 12 - Archibald C. Beach of West Stockbridge to Sadie T. Volpi of Pittsfield

MARRIAGES- 1955

February 19 - Paul F. Kelleher of Pittsfield to Helen Ann Negrini of West Stockbridge
May 21 - Maurice Harland Foster of West Stockbridge to Nan Jane Angelini of Great Barrington
May 28 - Delore Marshall Clairmont of West Stockbridge to Carolyn Dorothy Plass of Pittsfield
June 11 - Stewart Black of Montreal, Quebec to Nancy Jean Persing of West Stockbridge
June 25 - John Edwin Walters of Upper Middletown, Pa. to Constance Mildred Coleman of West Stockbridge
October 8 - Robert A. Pino of S. Egremont to Elizabeth Marie Woodin of West Stockbridge
November 26 - Coleman Rico Minacci of Great Barrington to Eleanor Bubrzycki of West Stockbridge
December 31 - Lloyd Edward Vosburgh of Richmond to Ruth Bernice Clairmont of West Stockbridge

DEATHS - 1944

January 12 - William Comstock, 73 years. Buried in Great Barrington
February 6 - Thomas E. McCarthy, 62 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
February 22 - Charles E. Blinn, 74 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
March 25 - Frederick H. Stickles, 67 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
June 18 - William J. Keresey, 77 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
July 18 - Martha B. McCarthy, 60 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
September 14 - Joseph A. Balestro, 54 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
October 8 - Joseph J. Libardi, 56 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
November 1 - Garrett F. Troy, 60 years. Buried in West Stockbridge

November 12 - Richard Bossidy, 79 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
December 17 - Mary A. Prendergast, 74 years. Buried in Great Barrington

DEATHS - 1945

January 5 - Frank Leroy Lockwood, 72 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
March 10 - Michael Garvin, 59 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
March 11 - Peter Halstead, 86 years. Buried in Mellenville, N.Y.
April 6 - Asunta Crocini, 61 Years. Buried in West Stockbridge
April 21 - Louise Kinkaid, 73 years. Buried in Cleveland, Ohio
May 10 - John H. McNamara, 62 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
May 26 - Henry M. Warring, 78 years. Buried in Carmel, N.Y.
July 22 - Thomas L. Curran, 83 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
July 27 - Laura Chrimenelli, 73 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
August 29 - Elmer Ellsworth Kragel, 75 years. Buried in Kensico, N.Y.
September 11 - Ellen D. Malumphy, 70 years. Buried in Great Barrington
October 31 - Antonio Roviario, 67 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
November 7 - Isabelle Morandi, 66 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
November 10 - Lillie W. Milligan, 61 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
December 22 - Melville C. Prentiss, 65 years. Buried in West Stockbridge

DEATHS - 1949

January 26 - Jean Beattie McCagg, 19 years. Buried in Austerlitz, N.Y.
February 10 - Fred Chamberlin, 72 years. Buried in Dalton
February 11 - Amy Louise Bradley Doughty, 71 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
February 26 - Mary E. Dean, 67 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
March 2 - John Angelini, 76 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
March 9 - Paul Zampero, 65 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
May 6 - Dominic Simonelli, 66 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
May 13 - Emma Ross Verchaud, 78 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
May 14 - Maude Kragel, 70 years. Buried in Kensico, N.Y.
June 9 - Mary Elizabeth Vaber, 87 years. Buried in Austerlitz, N.Y.
July 26 - John M. Langdon, 29 years. Buried in Pittsfield
August 13 - William Eric Proper, 50 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
October 24 - Alexander Panzeri, 58 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
December 9 - George W. Loomis, 88 years. Buried in West Stockbridge

DEATHS - 1955

March 20 - Ida (Scott) Ring, 74 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
May 8 - Emma (Martin) Soon, 82 years. Buried in Great Barrington
May 11 - Mary Isabel (Reed) Card, 82 years. Buried in Great Barrington
May 15 - Michael Kinnifick, 80 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
June 1 - Giccommo Pieropan, 67 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
June 12 - Grace Bennett Comstock, 74 years. Buried in Housatonic
June 16 - Lula H. Smith, 66 years. Buried in Denmark, Maine
June 22 - David L. Johnston, 65 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
July 6 - Rinaldo Masiero, 82 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
July 14 - Helen G. (Sullivan) Bennett, 70 years. Buried in Springfield, Mass.
July 23 - John Willis Wheeler, 81 years. Buried in Lee
July 25 - Gilda DelGrande, 77 years. Buried in Great Barrington
August 17 - George T. VanDuesen, 83 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
September 28 - Frances A. Eastman, 82 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
November 28 - Thomas F. Shields, 85 years. Buried in West Stockbridge
December 5 - Marion Frances Tracey, 79 years. Buried in Brooklyn, N.Y. ■

VITAL RECORDS OF GREAT BARRINGTON - 1887

Unlike the two years succeeding 1887, published in our last issue, the town did not publish the exact dates of these records.

MARRIAGES

Edwin J. Adams and Anna Seeley
 N. Clark Phelps and Grace M. Smith
 Henry C. Easland and Hattie A. Dewell
 Charles F. Jackson and Ida Carl
 Frank E. Royce and Carrie Rogers
 Clarence H. Suma and Grace Barton
 Thomas Kelly and Julia Talbot
 Daniel Connelly and Nellie Devine
 James Hecock and Jennie Evits
 James Biglier and Rose McGuire
 Thomas Curran and Kitty Manouge
 Charles W. Kilmer and Maggie Collins
 John W. Hatch and Fannie E. Beckwith
 Harvey Smith and Ida Worden
 Herbert W. Weaver and Cora Burghardt
 David S. Dovey and Mary A. Welch
 George Barr and Emma R. Munn
 Edward McGraw and Lizzie Talbot

Edward E. Benjamin and Mary A. Norton
 John Welch and Anna Boyle
 Frederick W. Crocker and Nellie L. Holmes
 James Sheridan and Mary Kennedy
 John L. Pringle and Jessie Culver
 Michael Pendergast and Nellie Lyons
 Edwin E. Merchant and Emma Bentley
 Michael Gleason and Ann Condry
 Simon G. Ruttan and Mary A. Kelly
 Charles H. Hall and Jennie Abel
 Ellery D. Smith and Nellie E. Warner
 Thomas Day and Eliza Wentworth
 Nathan A. Fisk and Eva Beckwith
 Robert Ambach and Anna H. Gunther
 Noah E. Pixley and Clara E. Turner
 Wallace E. Seeley and Mary E. Kilbourn
 Winfield S. Ferguson and Sarah O. Smith
 Clarence Freeman and Mary A. Whiting

BIRTHS

Adams, Frederick G.
 Adams, Parshley
 Altman, Mary L.
 Andrews, Belle E.
 Barry, George A.
 Barry, James W.
 Bauman, James W.
 Baurkard, Abolinair A.
 Bennett, George W.
 Boardman, Sidney H.
 Bosworth, Edward
 Bryan, ----
 Cleary, Hannah
 Cleary, Kate
 Cole, Rosa E.
 Comstock, Frank G.
 Comstock, Helen N.
 Corcoran, Patrick J.
 Cooper, Margaret M.
 Cooper, John P.
 Decker, Robert C.
 Decker, Rupert C.
 Decker, Joseph
 Dewey, Evert S.
 Dewey, Frederick R.

Dorr, Harriet L.
 Elsdon, Edith M.
 Flynn, Margaret
 Foster, Helen
 French, Arthur E.
 Gately, Mary J.
 Gibbs, Hazel T.
 Gibbons, James M.
 Gorham, Alice A.
 Grunwald, Charles
 Haddy, Charles E.
 Harris, Alice Lillian
 Jackson, Florence L.
 Kane, Ethel L.
 Kenne, Horace N.
 Kilbourn, Russell
 LaDuranty, George
 Laird, Charles A.
 Larkin, Catherine
 Lape, Leo W.
 Leavey, Kate
 Maley, John B.
 Maloney, John H.
 McCambridge, Edward
 Meunier, Joseph

Miner, Lizzie A.
 Mullhall, Katie
 Nalty, Julia
 Nodine, William F.
 Ordway, Lloyd W.
 Parrish, Edith
 Pixley, Floyd
 Plumb, Roy
 Pendlebury, Anna
 Rathbun, Harry E.
 Redmond, Robert J.
 Rohan, William
 Seeley, Freda Agnes
 Silvernail, Bridget
 Stanley, William W.
 Stevens, Alice K. T.
 Smith, Morris
 Tansey, Mary
 Ticquer, Josephine
 Thatcher, Charles E.
 Turner, William A.
 VanDeusen, Myrtie C.
 Whalen, Michael C.
 Wolcott, Elsie M.

(Continued on page 93)

THE SHAW FAMILY

From *The Berkshire Hills*, November 1, 1900.

Hon. Henry Shaw was always strenuously opposed to all projects for building railroads and showed his hand quite forcibly in his opposition to the construction of the Western Railroad, afterwards the Boston and Albany and to that of the Pittsfield and North Adams Railroad. On the other hand the Hon. Theodore Sedgwick of Stockbridge was as steadily in favor of connecting Berkshire with Boston and Albany with the iron rails, but though horses instead of steam would have to be used in getting over the high grades, and that ten miles an hour would be the best speed that could thus be obtained. Stockbridge has the honor of being the first town in the county to petition for the Boston and Albany route, and for quite a time it was in dispute whether this road should cross the summit at Otis or Becket.

When the subject of building the Pittsfield and North Adams Railroad began to be agitated in 1843, Henry Shaw ridiculed the undertaking as one which could not fail to prove unremunerative. Coming down from Lanesboro to the old Pittsfield Coffee House one bright morning he met quite a number of the prominent citizens of that day, and informed them that he had a wonderful dream the night previous. Of course, he had the swift attention of all gathered there for the morning's news and gossip and related the following: I dreamed last night, gentlemen, that the Pittsfield and North Adams Railroad had been completed and trains had been running over it a full week. I came down to Pittsfield and bought a ticket for North Adams. I must say I enjoyed the ride down through the Gulf in Lanesboro and Scrabble-town in Cheshire, and then through the rocky ledge at Cheshire Harbor, across the main street in South Adams and down through the grand old valley farm of Col. Isaac Howland, walled in by the steep sides of the Saddleback and the Hoosac Mountain ranges. Arriving at North Adams I proceeded to the law office of Thomas Robinson and transacted the business which had called me hither. After a few other calls on acquaintances I went to the North Adams House and asked Landlord Alpheus Smith what time I

could catch a return train to Pittsfield. Mr. Smith informed me that possibly a train would leave at one o'clock that afternoon, or if not, at five o'clock, but he still would not be certain about that, it all depending as to whether it could get a load of freight and passengers. But at any rate he knew there would be a train up to Pittsfield after breakfast the next morning. It was a witty satire of Mr. Shaw's on the possible business he thought would accrue to the railroad when constructed.

Hon. Henry Shaw was one of the trustees of the old Berkshire Medical College in 1823, and was also one of the incorporators of the Berkshire Fire Insurance Company in 1828, with \$100,000 capital. This company never went into operation, though its immediate successor was the Berkshire Mutual Fire Insurance Company of the present day.

It was soon after the passage of the Henry Clay tariff bill, which gave protection to wool and woolen manufacture, that though a Democrat in politics, Henry Shaw went into the raising of sheep on his farm and persuaded many of his farmer neighbors to do likewise. He also invested a large portion of his capital in founding the Pontoosuc Woolen Mill in 1825, which was incorporated the next year and fully organized in 1827. He was keen and competent in business and was made its first president, with David Campbell, Jr. general agent, Thaddeus Clapp, general superintendent, and George W. Campbell, clerk and treasurer.

Esquire Henry Wheeler was the wealthiest man of his time in Lanesboro, but he was proverbially close-fisted in money matters and didn't care much about the cut or quality of his clothes. In fact, he might be called the home banker of the town, always having money to loan in large or small sums at the legal rate of interest. He was never anxious to have those who borrowed of him pay up, preferring the interest always to the capital, but requiring the latter to be paid in to him on the dot. He had two beautiful and accomplished daughters, one of whom married Judge Savage of New York state and the other Henry Shaw. It was the custom in

Lanesboro and Pittsfield in those days to have the marriage banns or engagements announced from the church pulpits several times before the marriage took place, which notoriety was not always agreeable to the contracting parties. To avoid this it was quite customary for the young people to keep mum about their engagements of this kind, and quite fashionable to slip over the mountain to New Lebanon and be wedded by one of the clergymen of the old town, or a Justice of the Peace always ready to take a fee and unite the couple in the bonds of matrimony at Columbia Hall, at which there was a platform built in between the branches of a huge tree in which to hold these ceremonies. In fact, so many marriages were celebrated here in the olden time, not only to escape "published banns in church," but also to avoid opposing parents, that New Lebanon used to be called the "Gretna Green" of America.

To New Lebanon Henry Shaw repaired with a daughter of Esquire Wheeler and they were married by Parson Churchill. The usual fee for a New Lebanon marriage was one dollar, which the happy swain promptly handed to Parson Churchill, who was amply satisfied. But when afterwards the good parson learned that he had married a daughter of the rich Esquire Wheeler of Lanesboro for such a paltry amount, he was as mad as a March hare.

When Henry Wheeler Shaw, "Josh Billings," was married in 1844 or 1845, he took his bride, Miss Zilpha Bradford, to New Lebanon, and they were married by Rev. Edwin Sandys, once a well known Baptist clergyman in Pittsfield and Williamstown, who was then preaching at New Lebanon.

Mrs. J. M. Cole of Williamstown, a native of Lanesboro, well remembers the day when that eloquent statesman, Henry Clay of Kentucky, visited his friend Henry Shaw at his home in Lanesboro, and when all the townspeople went up on Mr. Shaw's invitation to shake him by the hand. Mr. Clay and his family came by team over the mountain from Northampton to Lanesboro accompanied by Henry Shaw, George N. Briggs and Samuel McKay. He spent the night with Mr. Shaw, with whom he was so intimate that the friendship was only terminated by death. Next morning Mr. Clay was escorted to Pittsfield by a cavalcade of fifty horsemen and

hundreds of citizens in carriages in a pouring rain storm. He was welcomed in a speech by Col. McKay in the town hall, and with his peculiarly fascinating grace, replied in a burst of resistless and incomparable eloquence. After a dinner at the Berkshire House, he visited the Pontoosuc Mill, Lemuel Pomeroy's gun factory and other points of interest. In the evening he was given a reception at the mansion of Ezekiel R. Colt. On this occasion all the citizens of Central Berkshire came out to do him honor.

Henry Shaw was in Congress from 1817 to 1821. In talent and intellectual power he was a giant in his day. Independent and bold, he was no politician, for he never could adopt the tricks of the demagogue. He was a Democrat in name, but was an aristocrat by nature and breeding. When he removed from Lanesboro he settled in Poughkeepsie. His wife outlived him for many years. While on a visit to Lanesboro, on her ninety-first birthday, she danced a jig for the benefit of her grandchildren in the northwest corner room of the house now known in Lanesboro as "Hillcrest."

John Shaw, a brother of Henry W. and Bob, and a resident of Poughkeepsie, before his death frequently visited Lanesboro, and spent several summers with J. A. Royce. For many years he was the purchasing agent of horses for the Third Avenue horse railroad in New York City, and bought many equines in Berkshire County for this service.

Bob's father, Henry Shaw, was so very well-to-do that it used to be facetiously remarked in those days that "Henry Shaw owned all of Lanesboro, a part of Hancock and a farm in Stephentown, N.Y." The Esquire owned a nice span of horses and the finest chaise or carriage in all those parts. After awhile the school of Esquire Talcott, a once famous Lanesboro seminary for young men, grew to be quite prosperous and Mr. Talcott purchased a very fine turnout of this character. It evidently did not suit Bob to have his father's turnout equaled. He therefore took a stone-boat and fastened a huge arm-chair in its center and attached a span of farm horses thereto. Every time that Esquire Talcott's brilliant equipage appeared on the streets he would turn out and drive his novel chariot down Lanesboro street behind it. One day while Sam Dow, the village black-

smith, was at dinner, he heard a strange noise in his back shed. Going out he found Bob rummaging some shelves within and asked him what he wanted. "Where do you keep your hammer?" asked Bob, "I've broken my family carriage and I want to mend it."

It is learned that the night Bob Shaw, with his silent partners, removed the Lanesboro Congregational church bell from its tower, that he made his journey from Troy and returned over the old mountain highway to Hancock and Stephentown, and which connected just beyond the latter town with the toll-gate turnpike running thence to Troy. All the travel in those days was over this route and great quantities of marble and cheese were hauled over it by the old-time teamsters to the Hudson River, and loaded on sloops for New York. A gentleman now living in Lanesboro was confidentially told by the old toll-gate keeper that Bob waked him up twice on the aforesaid night to let him through the gate, and that he seemed to be in a fearful hurry and swore him to secrecy. In its fall the bell was cracked and it was left where it fell. The following morning people flocked to the scene from far and near, and all said that nobody had done this deed but Bob Shaw, or could do it. Previous to this, on several occasions, when the sexton went to ring this bell Sunday mornings, the tongue would be missing and consequently it could not be used until a grand hunt was instituted, and it was generally found secreted in remote localities.

Bob's excuse to the toll-gate keeper for being in such haste to cover the ground from Troy to Lanesboro and return, and to those of whom he secured a relay of horses, was that his father had come off and left his pocket-book at home, and that he had to get it for him so that his father and mother could pursue their journey to Utica, N.Y., to visit his mother's sister, who had married Judge Savage and had moved to that city from Lanesboro, in which latter town he once owned a farm in the vicinity of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. So confident was Bob's father that he had no hand in this bell theft, that when a deputy sheriff appeared to interview Bob in regard to it, he was very indignant, and said, "I am aware that a great many deviltries which have been perpetrated in Lanesboro from time to time have been at-

tributed to my son Robert, and no doubt he has been the cunning instigator of many of these, but that he had no hand in this bell affair I can positively assure you. It was impossible for him to have done it for he was sleeping in the same suite of rooms with myself and his mother in Troy."

On the occasion in which Bob was furiously riding a fleet horse around the Lanesboro church, which animal he had loaded down with many strings of sleighbells, and was being hotly but unsuccessfully pursued by a deputy-sheriff, he drowned out the voice of the pastor to the extent of breaking up his sermon. It was a Rev. Mr. Foote, whose subject on the occasion was "heresy." Finally, when the good man, to whom Bob had taken a strong dislike, could make himself heard no longer, he exclaimed that though there were "dogs and sorcerers without," he hoped that "grace still abounded in the church."

Bob Shaw married Miss Martha Whitney of Pontoosuc, and a most estimable lady. The removed to western New York, where two of their sons became very talented and prosperous and held high business and official positions. But it is doubtful if Bob ever got over his penchant for wild mischief. The last of his pranks, the fame of which has reached his native heath, was that having secretly placed a large amount of powder in a deep seam in a high ledge of rocks near the village in which he was a resident, by an ingenious piece of mechanism he fired it off one very dark night. Of course, the awful explosion and the falling rocks gave the entire village the thought that the day of judgment was at hand and filled the inhabitants with the greatest terror. Of course, the "irrepressible Bob" was at home and in bed at the time of this terrific happening and could prove his usual alibi.

The middle name of "Josh Billings" was "Wheeler" instead of "Wadsworth" and therefore he correct name was Henry Wheeler Shaw. He was named after his mother's father, Henry Wheeler, and in his youthful days was said to be in many particulars a veritable Wheeler in his ways, manners and dress. He used to drive around his father's old white horse, drawing ashes, wood and other truck material in about the same style of garments his grandfather indulged in, and

always a little the worse for wear. Then he was fond of lounging around the old hotel and the village stores, with his hands deep down in his pockets, but genial, pleasant and sociable. He always had two or three dogs following him and thoroughly enjoyed a dog-fight that was simon-pure. It was the general thought that he would never amount to anything and his later development as a humorist and a teacher of wisdom in puns was always a surprise to those who knew him in boyhood, and especially as he seemed to be a dull scholar in school. The wise old men of the day were always shaking their heads and predicting that he would never fill his father's place.

It is related that after he grew to be quite a young man he remarked one day that he thought of matrimony and was going to start out calling on all the marriageable Lanesboro girls, and pick himself out a wife. It is said that he tried this once, but soon got tired of it, the girl having got wind of his remarks about matrimony, and being inclined to make merry over his visits instead of taking them

seriously, if the future humorist so meant them to be. He finally commenced paying attentions to Miss Zilpha Bradford, who made him a charming helpmate and still spends her summers at "Maplewood" and in revisiting her many friends among these Berkshire Hills.

While on his lecturing tours "Josh Billings" frequently visited the towns in Berkshire County, and it is known that quite a number of persons who then listened to his quaint humor have interesting recollections of these visits. Such would confer a great favor to the editor of this Monthly by recollecting and furnishing him with such. It was fully thirty years ago when he gave a humorous lecture in Pittsfield. Invitations were issued and sent to individuals by mail to attend this lecture. The billet was neatly folded and one of the corners turned down. The invitation corner thus covered with a fold had printed beneath it - "Inclosed find \$10, if you can."

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Great Barrington - from page 89

DEATHS

Arnold, Laura B.	79	Gibbons, James	17	Peabody, Delia R.	79
Austin, Clarence H.	28	Hall, Anna M.	62	Pithie, Mary E.	32
Beardsley, Elizabeth	74	Holmes, Louise A.	29	Pixley, Edith	24
Bird, Mary	53	Kipp, Jane	64	Powell, Ann Jane	72
Blake, Lucius	56	Laird, Anna	76	Reed, Rush	74
Bowen, Dreuwod A.	9m	Langsdorff, Frederick	78	Rice, Susan L.	52
Branch, Armenia F.	65	Lewis, Harriet E.	69	Rogers, Edward	15
Chavine, Mary A.	67	Lillie, Charles H.	34	Scanlon, Edward	40
Colbert, Johanna	70	Loftus, James	12	Scott, Frank A.	23
Collins, Francis W.	41	Luddington, Rachel M.	77	Seeley, Julia E.	14
Colman, William	22	Maher, Mary	55	Seeley, Amelia	61
Coon, Mary Ann	65	Maley, John B.	37	Seeley, Edward	63
Curtis, Mary D.	53	McDonald, Catherine	26	Seeley, Harold E.	2
Daily, Thomas	18	McGuire, John	23	Seeley, John M.	73
Damon, Isaac	78	Mead, Katie	3m	Tobey, Anna M.	21
Douglass, Mary	48	Meyers, Katherine H.	38	Tullar, Melinda	60
Dunn, Adam	72	Micue, William H.	23	Warner, Edward F.	46
Duranty, George	11	Murray, Mary A.	4	Warner, Levi	73
Dutcher, Lowella M.	1	(age misprint?)		Warfield, Frederick R.	53
Egner, William	68	Mullaney, James	56	Whalen, Bridget E.	22
Farrell, Thomas	65	(age misprint?)		Whitmore, Mary P.	82
Foster, Sarah E.	44	Murphy, Patrick G.	11	Wilcox, Mary J.	57
Freeman, Lydia P.	5	O'Connell, Mary A.	6m	Wood, Mary Cornelia	55

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STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855 WASHINGTON

[Continued from Volume 34, Number 2, Page 72]

This town must be presented differently, as the enumerator was either unfamiliar with the rules of census taking, or chose to do it his own way. It is obvious that more than one person did the canvassing as there are several different handwritings and overlappings of dwelling and family enumerations.

His second shortcoming was his choice to check the age grouping in which each individual belonged, with no regard for the person's exact age. Regrettably, we can only reproduce his work and extend our apologies.

Date of Enumeration: 10 September 1855

1	1	Charles F. Bebee	30-40 M	Farmer	N.Y.
		Julia Horn? Bebee	30-40 F		N.Y.
		Nancy L. Bebee	15-20 F		Mass.
		Thomas D. Bebee	10-15 M		Mass.
		James H. Bebee	5-10 M		Mass.
		Mary J. Bebee	5-10 F		Mass.
		Charles E. Bebee	0-5 M		Mass.
2	1	Jedadiah Bushnell	60-70 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Lucy Bushnell	50-60 F		Conn.
		Lucy S.? Bushnell	30-40 F		Mass.
		Amelia A.? Bushnell	25-30 F		Mass.
3	1	Thomas A. Gaylord	50-60 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Rufus Smith	15-20 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Almena Burt	40-50 F		Mass.
		Anna M. Spooner	30-40 F		Mass.
4	1	Amasa Clark	60-70 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sophia Clark	60-70 F		Mass.
	2	Rachel Clark	70-80 F		Mass.
5		George Caswell	40-50 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary Caswell	40-50 F		Mass.
		Betsey A. Caswell	20-30 F		Mass.
		Alben L. Caswell	15-20 M		Mass.
		Lydia E. Caswell	10-15 F		Mass.
		William W. Caswell	5-10 M		Mass.
		Charles E. Ostrander	25-30 M	Farmer	N.Y.
6	1	William Congdon	70-80 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Hannah Congdon	60-70 F		Mass.
	2	Richard Congdon	30-40 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Eunice Congdon	20-30 F		Mass.
		William Congdon	0-5 M		Mass.
		Zebadiah Chapel	70-80 M	(Pauper)	Mass.
7	1	Alanson Pomeroy	40-50 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Anna Pomeroy	40-50 F	(Insane)	Mass.
		Miranda Pomeroy	60-70 F		Mass.
		Alanson R. Pomeroy	10-15 M		Mass.
		Edwin S. Pomeroy	5-10 M		Mass.
8	1	Clark Corey	50-60 M	Farmer	Mass.

		Olivet Corey	50-60 F		Mass.
		Ann M. Corey	25-30 F		Mass.
		Ellen O. Corey	10-15 F		Mass.
		Jacob H. Thomas	15-20 M B		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: 11 September 1855					
9	1	Samuel B. Brooker	40-50 M	Farmer	(blot)
		Isaac S. Brooker	40-50 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Lorenzo W.? Brooker	30-40 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Polly Brooker	70-80 F		Mass.
		Amand Smith	20-30 F		Mass.
		George H. Brooker	5-10 M		Mass.
		Charles S. Brooker	0-5		
10	1	Harvey Savery	70-80 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Nancy Savery	40-50 F		Mass.
		Robert M. Savery	10-15 M		Mass.
		Harvey B. Savery	5-10 M		Mass.
		Benjamin Francis	20-30 M B		Mass.
11	1	Amon Abbott	60-70 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah Abbott	60-70 F		Mass.
		Charles Abbott	15-20 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Seymour Deette	15-20 M	Farmer	Canada
12	1	Joseph Deette	20-30 M	Farmer	Canada
		Mary Deette	20-30 F		Canada
		Mary Deette	5-10 F		Mass.
		Sarah A. Deette	5-10 F		Mass.
		Joseph Deette, Jr.	0-5 M		Mass.
13	1	Simpson Bell	40-50 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Mary B. Bell	40-50 F		Mass.
		Homer S. Bell	0-5 M		Mass.
14	1	Benoni Messenger	70-80 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Cyrene Messenger	70-80 F		Mass.
		Albert Messenger	30-40 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Catharine Messenger	20-30 F		Maine
		Frank Messenger	0-5 M		Mass.
15	1	Ransford Beach	60-70 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mercy Beach	40-50 F		Mass.
		Eli P. Carter	15-20 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Charlotte L. Beach	10-15 F		Mass.
		Henry A. Beach	5-10 M		Mass.
		Clayton L. Beach	5-10 M		Mass.
16	1	Arunah Mattoon	60-70 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Docia Mattoon	50-60 F		Mass.
		Lorenzo Mattoon	30-40 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mariah Mattoon	20-30 F		Mass.
		Jane Mattoon	15-20 F		Mass.
		Mary Mattoon	10-15 F		Mass.
17	1	Silas P.? Green	20-30 M	Farmer	N.Y.
		Hannah A. Green	20-30 F		Mass.
		Ferdinand D. Green	5-10 M		N.Y.
		Mary E. Green	0-5 F		N.Y.
		Ella A. Green	0-5 F		Mass.
		Mercy Moon?	20-30 F		Mass.
17?	1	Eber L. Clark	60-70 M	Cong. Minister	Conn.

		Sarah L. Clark	50-60	F		N.Y.
		Elizabeth L. B. Clark	20-30	F		Mass.
18	1	William F. Bell	40-50	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mellissa Bell	40-50	F		Mass.
		William M. Bell	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Frances E. Bell	15-20	F		Mass.
		Albro Miller	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
		William Miller	15-20	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah Quigley	15-20	F		Mass.
19	1	Ebenezer Ballantine	30-40	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah B. Ballantine	20-30	F		Mass.
		Mary A. Stewart	10-15	F		Mass.
20	1	William Dunnovan	40-50	M	Lumberman	Mass.
		Sophia Dunnovan	30-40	F		Mass.
		Samuel Dunnovan	15-20	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Charles E. Dunnovan	10-15	M		Mass.
		George F. Dunnovan	5-10	M		Mass.
		Emily Hills	20-30	F		Mass.
		Irving E. Dunnovan	0-5	M		Mass.
		Albon Dunnovan	0-5	M		Mass.
21	1	Millen Watkins	50-60	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Barbety? Watkins	50-60	F		Scotland
	2	Edwin A. Watkins	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Lydia Watkins	20-30	F		Mass.
		Charles D. Watkins	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Michael Calahan	10-15	M		Ireland
22	1	Michael Dooley	40-50	M	Laborer	Ireland
		Mary Dooley	40-50	F		Ireland
23	1	George Chapel	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary E. Chapel	20-30	F		Mass.
		Frederick B. Chapel	0-5	M		Mass.
		George L. Watkins	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Charles Noble	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
24	1	Jere Collins	40-50	M	Farmer	Ireland
		Joanna Collins	40-50	F		Ireland
		Catharine Collins	10-15	F		Mass.
		John Collins	15-20	M		Mass.
		Dennis Collins	10-15	M		Mass.
		Ellen Collins	5-10	F		Mass.
		Johannah Collins	5-10	F		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: 12 September 1855						
25	1	William Mack	40-50	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mariah C. Mack	40-50	F		Mass.
		Emily M. Mack	20-30	F		Mass.
		George W. Mack	15-20	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary E. Mack	15-20	F		Mass.
		Julia E. Mack	10-15	F		Mass.
		Charles H. Mack	5-10	M		Mass.
		Philander Dunnovan	20-30	M	Farmer	Mass.
26	1	Horace Stocking	30-40	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Jane Stocking	20-30	F		Mass.
		Mary Stocking	10-15	F		Mass.
		Mariah Stocking	10-15	F		Mass.

Washington, 1855 Census

97

		Harriet Stocking	10-15 F		Mass.
		James Stocking	10-15 M		Mass.
		Augusta Stocking	5-10 F		Mass.
		Charles Stocking	5-10 M		Mass.
		Alford Stocking	0-5 M		Mass.
27	1	John Crawford	20-30 M	Farmer	Ireland
		Ann Crawford	20-30 F		Ireland
		William J. Crawford	0-5 M		Mass.
		Ann J. Crawford	0-5 F		Mass.
		Robert Crawford	0-5 M		Mass.
28	1	Charles Hathaway	40-50 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary A. Hathaway	40-50 F		Mass.
		Sarah C. Hathaway	15-20 F		Mass.
		Emiline C. Hathaway	15-20 F		Mass.
		Marie A. Hathaway	5-10 F		Mass.
		William H. Hathaway	10-15 M		Mass.
		George M. Hathaway	5-10 M		Mass.
		Jonathan Hathaway	80-90 M	Cabinetmaker	Mass.
29	1	Orvill M. Collins	40-50 M	Farmer	Vermont
		Elmira E. Collins	40-50 F		Mass.
		Edgar Collins	10-15 M		Mass.
		William S. Collins	5-10 M		Mass.
30	1	Joseph Boudry	20-30 M	Wood Chopper?	Canada
		Adaline Boudry	20-30 F		Canada
		Joseph Bowdry, Jr.	5-10 M		Mass.
		Francis C. Bowdry	0-5 M		Mass.
		Mary S. Bowdry	0-5 F		Mass.
1	1	Oliver Pease	40-50 M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Marcy Pease	30-40 F W		Mass.
		Mary J. Pease	15-20 F W		Ill.
		M. D. Pease	10-15 F W		Mass.
		H. L. Pease	10-15 M W		Mass.
		A. P. Pease	5-10 M W		Mass.
		C. D. Pease	5-10 M W		Mass.
		O. F. Pease	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Simeon Clapp	60-70 M W		Mass.
		Diana Clapp	60-70 F W		Mass.
		M. S.? Barnum	20-30 M W	Laborer	Mass.
2	1	Martin Reagan	30-40 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Margareth Reagan	20-30 F W		Ireland
		M----- Reagan	0-5 M W		Conn.
		James Reagan	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Sary Ann Reagan	0-5 F W		Mass.
		James Denison	50-60 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		James Denison, Jr.	20-30 M W	Laborer	Ireland
3	1	Robert Delany	30-40 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Catharine Delany	30-40 F W		Ireland
		Robert Delany, Jr.	5-10 M W		Mass.
4	1	Jacob Worenes	20-30 M W	Laborer	N.Y.
		Caroline Worenes	20-30 F W		N.Y.
		Jane Worenes	5-10 F W		Mass.
		Peter Worenes	5-10 M W		Mass.
5	1	Joseph Cutting	40-50 M W	Sawmill	Mass.
		Pheby Cutting	40-50 F W		N.Y.

		Hannes Cutting	5-10 F W		Mass.
		Sary L. Cutting	5-10 F W		N.Y.
		Charles Cutting	5-10 M W		N.Y.
		John P. Labrary	30-30 M W	Laborer	Canada
		Nathan Andrus	10-15 M W		N.Y.
6	1	Joseph Shepherd	20-30 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Joana Shepherd	20-30 F W		Ireland
		Martin Shepherd	30-40 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Franklin Shepherd	15-20 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Edward Scooly	15-20 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		James Maloy	15-20 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Peter Scooly	15-20 M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Chapel	15-20 M W	Labor	Mass.
		Miron Chapel	15-20 M W	Labor	Mass.
		Milo Chapel	15-20 M W	Labor	Mass.
		Emeline Miller	5-10 F W		Mass.
8	1	Lewis Gero	20-30 M W	Farmer	Canada
		Jane Gero	20-30 F W		Canada
		Sophy Gero	5-10 F W		Mass.
		July Gero	5-10 F W		Mass.
		Lewis Gero, Jr.	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Frank Gero	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Isaac Furner	40-50 M W	Mechanic	Canada
		Elisabeth Carry	60-70 F		Canada
9	1	Alford Akins	50-60 M W	Farmer	N.H.
		Hannah Akins	40-50 F W		N.Y.
		Eliza A. Akins	10-15 F W		Vermont
		Adelaid Akins	10-15 F W		Vermont
		Charles Akins	5-10 M W		Vermont
10	1	David H. Geer	40-50 M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Emely L. Geer	30-40 F W		Mass.
		Arabile? Geer	5-10 F W		Mass.
		Charles W. Geer	5-10 M W		Mass.
		Charles G. Lesley	20-30 M W		Canada
	2	Nathaniel C. Chapman	50-60 M W	Farmer	Conn.
		Polley E. Chapman	40-50 F W		N.Y.
		Hiram M. Chapman	15-20 M W		N.Y.
		Charles T. Chapman	10-15 M W		Mass.
		Nathaniel Chapman, Jr.	5-10 M W		Mass.
		Harriet A. Chapman	5-10 F W		Mass.
		George E. Chapman	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Mary L. Chapman	15-20 F W		Mass.
11	1	Joseph B.? Comroy	40-50 M W	Mechanic	Mass.
		Mary J.? Comroy	30-40 F W		Mass.
		Fanny Comroy	15-20 F W		Mass.
		Silvenas L. Comroy	10-15 M W		Mass.
		Esther A. Comroy	5-10 F W		Mass.
		Lucy E. Comroy	0-5 F W		Mass.
		Sereno J. Comroy	0-5 M W		Mass.
12	1	Simeon Harwood	40-50 M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Sybbel W. Harwood	40-50 F W		Mass.
		John W. Harwood	15-20 M W		Mass.

(To be continued)

OLD STAGE LINES IN NORTHERN BERKSHIRE

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

The first stage line for the transport of mails and passengers known in Northern Berkshire was run by Beals & Monk about 100 years ago, from North Adams to Windsor, where it connected with a line to Northampton, and thence with other lines for Boston. This route accommodated Adams, New Providence or Stafford's Hill, and also passed through Savoy. The vehicle used was an old-fashioned cumbersome hackney coach, which was drawn by two horses, with very limited accommodations for passengers and for the old hair-covered trunks of the period. The round trip was made three times a week. Elisha Haskins of North Adams was the pioneer driver on this route and one of his horses was a notable black stallion which had been raised by the Guinea fugitive slave family, who for so many years resided in a wild glen on the slope of Greylock mountain. While serving for many years as a driver on this and other home routes, Mr. Haskins, who was the father of Joel and Frank Haskins of North Adams, never lost a horse or injured a passenger. In a terrible snowstorm on the Windsor route he had to shelter both his passengers and horses in a wayside schoolhouse for a day and a night until a road could be broken out from Savoy to Adams.

Previous to 1744, the year in which Fort Massachusetts was constructed, there was an Indian trail leading almost perpendicularly up the sides of the Hoosac Mountain directly to the east of North Adams, and either in summer or in winter presenting a most charming mountain view to be seen from the main street of that city. Even up to the present this old trail can be traced, and up to within a few years has been used by hardy pedestrian tourists ambitious to reach the summit in quicker time than by the now safe, but quite circuitous roadway. In 1746 Samuel Rice was given a land grant of 200 acres of land for opening the first road over this mountain, a two rods road having already been built from the Fort by Captain William Williams towards Albany. In 1814 through a subscription of funds by the people along the line a turnpike was completed from Greenfield to North Adams, Williamstown and

Hancock, to connect with a New York State turnpike leading to Troy, and in this year the first passenger and mail stage, an uncovered two-horse wagon with a body suspended on leather springs, passed through North Adams on a three trips a week schedule, on trip time advertised as forty-eight hours. This line proving successful, Col. William Waterman, James Wilbur and others invested in the section from North Adams to Charlemont, introducing better equipment and accommodations, the two former at different times having owned the old Berkshire House hotel. Elisha Haskins drove four white horses on this line for twenty-five years, and afterwards, when its trips began to be daily, Alvin Nelson and Reuben Harrington were among its celebrated old whips. It is also to be noted that the black Guinea stallion was for several years on an opposition route, which ran from North Adams to Pittstown, N. Y., with a \$1.00 fare.

The highway, in these early days, over the Hoosac Mountain to Charlemont, Shelburne Falls and Greenfield, was a "toll road," as was in fact the whole turnpike from Greenfield to Troy. In the earliest stage days there was a "toll gate" on the summit of the Hoosac Mountain which was kept by an old man named Panel. This "gate" was a long heavy pole turning on a swivel attached to a post which was planted in the center of the turnpike. This was securely fastened at the gate-keeper's end with a huge padlock. This barrier could not be passed going either east or west without the payment of a twenty-five to fifty cents fee. This last keeper of this old toll gate was Pliny Witt, father of the famous old time Union street blacksmiths, Pliny and Ivory Witt, whose popular forge was located a half century ago on the Ingalls & Tyler mill grounds in the Union.

In 1827 Arthur Putney became proprietor of this section of the Troy and Boston Stage route with Jenks Kimball, the pioneer livery man of North Adams, as a partner. Mr. Kimball bought out his partner and for many years ran the line most successfully. He was succeeded by his son, Daniel J. Kimball, who skillfully met all the requirements for in-

creased travel on this route, and the line was not discontinued from North Adams to Greenfield until the opening of the Hoosac Tunnel and all rail connections were completed between Troy and Boston, it having at the death of Mr. Kimball passed into the hands of the late James H. Flagg.

It was as early as 1827 that C. K. Bingham of North Adams ran a stage route from that place to Pittsfield, making the trip three times a week, taking in Adams and Cheshire. For a time Erastus Haskins drove on this line. This line was in operation up to October 6, 1846, when trains commenced running on the Pittsfield and North Adams railroad. A post coach way bill, made out from Pittsfield to Adams, August 12, 1845, notes that two gentlemen and two ladies were carried to North Adams in a four horse covered coach for \$1.00 each, and that there were two fares of fifty cents each to Cheshire. Between 1840 and 1850 the Kimballs also ran a four horse stage three times a week to Bennington, Vt., having for its veteran drivers Orrin Schuyler and Leonard Gore.

After the opening of the Pittsfield and North Adams railroad and early in 1847, the citizens of Williamstown, heretofore dependent on the Troy and Bennington stages, whose runs had been discontinued, were given stage accommodations to North Adams by Blair Kellogg of Williamstown and Daniel J. Kimball of North Adams, who put on a two horse line of stages to run in connection with the railway trains. In 1852 they sold this route to James A. Bridges, whose livery barns and residence were directly opposite the Mansion House in Williamstown. On his removal to Pittsfield in 1859, Mr. Bridges sold his home, stables and this stage route to Thomas A. McMahon, Charles Marsh, the veteran conductor on this railroad being joint partner with McMahon in this stage route. In 1861 conductor Marsh being transferred to the Boston and Albany railroad sold his interest to McMahon, who faithfully and acceptably ran the same for thirty-two years, and until the opening of the trolley line to Williamstown, which made the route no longer lucrative.

Mr. McMahon, the proprietor of the fine livery barns in Williamstown, has been from the outset of his Berkshire residence one of its most industrious, accommodating, honest

and honorable citizens, from small and humble beginnings has acquired comfortable competence, is a most enjoyable friend and acquaintance and is in every respect a self-made man. During the ownership of Mr. Bridges he was the faithful whip on this stage route, as well as during the joint ownership of himself and Mr. Marsh, and for many years after it passed into his full possession. During all these years the mail, freight and passenger service between the two towns was under his personal supervision, all of which duties involved a painstaking care and watchfulness which never failed to satisfy patrons or the public. Under the load of all his cares it was always a mystery how Tom McMahon always kept his temper and greeted man, woman and child, known or unknown, with a merry voice and a genial Celtic twinkle of the eye that was brimming over with good will and good humor. His experience with the great and smaller men annually coming to college commencements and with the traveling public generally would make a racy chapter in old Berkshire history of themselves.

Without doubt one of the most eccentric and witty characters of the past half century in this county was the other whip on this stage route for many of the earlier years of its existence. Jerry Pratt finished up his life labor as a night watchman in the Adams National Bank, but how he could have assimilated himself to solitude and a lack of company could never been understood. One early morning Jerry came whirling up in front of the old Berkshire House with a stage coach that had been purchased second handed from a line in northern New York, which had painted on its body "Glens Falls." This was a surprise to a stranger who stood on the hotel steps, who asked Jerry if his line extended such a distance. "Yes," answered Jerry, as he whipped up and was off, "I left there at three o'clock this morning."

The old Pittsfield and North Adams railroad passenger depot was a long wooden structure, standing near the junction of State and Bank streets. Passenger trains ran into and through the west side while the east was pierced by two doors entering upon a platform which extended the whole length of the

(Continued on page 108)

OLD MEETING HOUSES IN THE TOWN OF ADAMS

From *The Berkshire Hills*, July 1, 1902.

The town of Adams, which was first called East Hoosick, was first explored and surveyed in 1749, by a Committee of the General Court of Massachusetts. Instead of obeying orders to lay out the town six miles square, this committee fixed its boundaries seven miles in length from north to south and five miles wide from east to west. Besides being the largest town in the state, it was the only one of perfectly regular form. Capt. Ephraim Williams, the founder of Williams College, was granted in 1750, two hundred acres of land with an agreement that he should reserve ten acres for Fort Massachusetts and maintain a saw and grist mill continuously for twenty years. The first settlers, Abiel, Gideon and John Smith, John Kilborn and John McNeal of Litchfield, Reuben Hinman and Jonathan Smith of Woodbury, and Messrs. Parker, Cook and Leavenworth of Wallingford, were all from the state of Connecticut. These settlers did not long remain, but sold their holdings mainly to emigrants from Rhode Island. In 1762 East Hoosick was sold at auction of £3,200 to Nathan Jones, who took into partnership Elisha Jones and John Murray. In 1762, forty-eight building lots of 100 acres each were laid out in the heart of the township, which were located mostly on the intervale land along the Hoosac river and its south branch, to which twenty more lots were added in 1776, and in 1778 the remaining lands were apportioned among settlers. The town was incorporated in 1778 and called Adams in honor of Samuel Adams, the famous revolutionary leader, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and afterwards Governor of the state, and from whom all the noted Adams family of Massachusetts descended.

In 1776 there were sixty settlers on as many town lots, when the requirements of the General Court demanding the building of a meeting house were fulfilled. This first Congregational Meeting House was constructed in 1776 of rough logs on a site near the bridge on the two-and-one-half mile cross-roads between the north and south villages, and no trace of it remains but the

old graveyard near by, in which a few of the first pioneers were buried. There was no other church in the town but the log cabin in which the Quakers worshiped in the south village at the foot of Greylock, and which they occupied until 1786, when the old Quaker Meetings House, now standing, was built. Rev. Samuel Todd was the first Congregational pastor, and his ministerial lot, assigned to him by the General Court, was the present Poor Farm of the city of North Adams. He was a graduate of Yale College in 1736, being then but fifteen years of age. The general poverty following the terrible revolutionary struggle for national independence broke up this little church, many of its members pulling up settlement stakes and removing elsewhere, and causing this first minister to soon despair and resign, which resignation was accepted by a town meeting, which also voted to ask him in 1778 to give up his title to the "Minister's lot." This he refused to do, and the General Court confirmed his title to this land in 1796. Thereupon the little log church was closed and went to decay and for thirty years the village of North Adams was without a meeting house or church organization of any kind.

During this time almost a new community of settlers drifted into North Adams, and of all denominations, the majority of whom were of the Baptist faith. It was in 1782, following a short period of religious revival, that a subscription was raised by the remnant of the defunct Congregational church, members of all other religious denominations and by patriotic citizens, and the frame of a Union church was raised and covered on South Church Street on the site of the present palatial residence of Hon. Albert C. Houghton, and formerly the property of William Bradford, Alanson Cady and William S. Blackinton. The Union church was 38 by 50 feet in frame, was without stone underpinning, had a loose board floor, its hard benches were without backs, and for twelve years it stood unfinished and without windows and doors and up to 1795, the settlement being too poor to complete it. After another period of revival, and business becoming more

prosperous, a sufficient subscription was raised to remove this frame to the present site of the First Baptist church and to finish it up for occupancy. The removal of the building was accomplished in three days by Capt. Jeremiah Colegrove with a large force of men and fifty yoke of oxen. Previous to this removal a large number of huge pine stumps on the east side of South Church Street had to be cut off level with the roadbed, so that the rollers could pass over them, which was a work of great labor.

The Union Church, when ready for service faced with a porch to the south, from which two stairways ascended to the galleries. There were fifteen windows, three aisles, the pews were finished off in oblong box form with seats on three sides of the latter, the other side being reserved for the pew door, which swung outward on iron hinges. Almost half of the audience in these pews when the seats were full had their backs to the minister. There were box pews in the galleries, and as these were on a low incline, those in the rear seats could not see the minister without uncomfortably stretching their necks. The cost of removing and finishing off the church was \$1,210, and it would seat 400 people. The sale of 58 pews at auction brought about this sum, and these pews became private property which could be disposed of by their owners by sale or bequest. There were 39 owners of these pews and Capt. Colegrove owned seven of them. Attendance upon service in the colder weather was very tedious, with nothing but heavy clothing and ladies' footstoves to impart heat to the body. For thirteen years the edifice was occasionally used for itinerant preaching by all denominations, and especially by Dyer Stark and Elder Amos Bronson, as shortness of provisions, a scarcity of clothing and very little money would not permit hiring a regular minister, while a little Sabbath School numbered an attendance of about forty children. It is an interesting historic fact that the first public school in North Adams was kept in the year 1800 in the porch of this old primitive meeting house.

Finally as the result of revival preaching by Dyer Stark, a Baptist evangelist, there was a religious awakening, when Elder Calvin Keyes in 1808 organized here a Baptist Church of 22 members, which twenty years

afterwards numbered 178, and which in 1902 is the largest Baptist church in the Commonwealth. From 1808 by general consent the Baptist church came into control of the old Union church property. In 1829 the old meeting house needing repairs, and also being insufficient for the needs of the church, was removed just north thereof, where the second story was used for a wagon and paint shop by several painters, and by John Krigger and C. P. Isbell for a cabinet shop, and the lower portion for a tenement dwelling, and it is still standing. A new brick Baptist Church was constructed on the old site at a cost of \$3,000, which was remodeled inside in 1844, and on which the main structure of the present spacious house of worship now stands with its chapel and other attachments, which cover the entire Church Hill front of the land triangle or wedge running from Church Hill to a narrow point at the junction of Eagle, Center and East Church Streets.

According to an aged citizen the highway from Church Hill to Eagle Street on East Church Street was originally laid out four rods in width and mostly on a side-hill sloping to the west into the present Eagle Street. To this triangular strip of land between the two streets he avers there is no real legal title except by possession, while he asserts that the original East Church Street highway has been wonderfully narrowed up from its original survey. North of the Baptist Church and Old Meeting House on the triangle, as late as 1850, stood the stores of I. W. Decker, George Millard, C. P. Isbell, Joel Bacon and the house and blacksmith shop of Harry Darling at the extreme north point. The declivity from East Church Street to Eagle, before the building of stores from Main to Center Streets, on the East side of Eagle, was marked by a steep bank, having a stone retaining wall for nearly the entire length.

The First Congregational Church of North Adams, which most appropriately and elaborately celebrated its seventy-fifth birthday, or diamond jubilee, in May, was the direct offspring of a Williams College Mission and was faithfully nurtured and ministered to by its old time famous faculty until it grew up from very small beginnings through severe and arduous struggles to youth and thence on to manhood, and this became the prosperous organization of today.

Although the Baptist Church had organized in 1808 and the Methodist Church in 1823, there had been no settled minister in the village all along down these previous years up to the calling of a pastor by this church. It was as early as 1826 that then Tutor John W. Yeomans, a classmate of President Mark Hopkins, began coming over to North Adams from Williams College to preach to the little handful of Congregationalists there, holding services in school houses and in private homes. It was April 19, 1827, when a council was held in the house of Daniel P. Merriam on Marshall Street, when the present Congregational Church was organized with 22 charter members, of whom seven were men and fifteen women, seventeen uniting by letter and five by confession of faith, and among whom was Israel Jones, who was a member of the first cross-roads church, and then 89 years of age. Mr. Yeomans still continued preaching without remuneration, when September 29, 1827 his flock raised \$400 and purchased the church site on Church Hill, which was then twice as large as at present. Later he was called as a pastor at a salary of \$500 a year, and was ordained November 12, 1828, a \$3,000 brick church having been built by its 28 members, it being the infinitesimally smallest church of the denomination in Berkshire in membership and size as well. At this time the church in Williamstown had a membership of 426, Windsor 114, Peru 110, Becket 194, Otis 130, Pittsfield 563. During Mr. Yeomans' pastorate there were 111 members added to the church, and his class of adults for the study of the Bible was succeeded by a Sabbath School of which Dea. Jeremiah Wilbur of North Adams is the only one living who attended its first session. In 1832 Mr. Yeomans resigned and was afterwards for two years the pastor of the First Church in Pittsfield, during which time there were 142 admissions to its membership. He afterwards became President of Lafayette College in Pennsylvania, being one of the five pastors of the latter church who left his pulpit to become college presidents. A daughter of this pioneer pastor was present at the diamond jubilee and presented a fine memorial window to the church in remembrance of her father. But two of the members of the old church in the first six years of its existence

are known to be living, these being Miss Rhoda Streeter of Charlemont and Mrs. Caroline Arnold Lillie of North Adams.

The other ordained pastors in the old church of 1828 were Rev. Caleb B. Tracy, Rev. Alvah Day, Rev. Ezekiel Russell, Rev. Robert Crawford, Rev. Albert Payne and Rev. Henry McGiffert. During the ministry of Dr. Crawford, covering a period of fifteen years from 1840 to 1855, the church was blessed with a grand and saint-like service to which was frequently added powerful discourses by President Mark and Professor Albert Hopkins, Professors Edward Griffin, John Tatlock and Edward Lasselle of Williams College and many other distinguished divines. After a union service in 1850, during Mr. Crawford's ministry, he working hand in hand with his dear friend Rev. John Alden of the Baptist Church, 250 united with his church and the Baptist and Methodist churches both received large accessions to their membership. Under the ministry of Rev. Mr. Payne for six years before the civil war, came a period when himself, Rev. Miles Sanford of the Baptist church and Rev. E. H. Foster of the Methodist church made the pulpits of North Adams eloquent in their denunciations of the crime of American slavery, and with patriotic appeals to the people to rally to the call of Abraham Lincoln for troops to preserve the imperiled Republic, and most grandly and nobly did they accomplish their duty, notwithstanding the murmurings of a few, who were even then afraid of what they called "politics in the pulpits," and who through fear and ignorance were ready to condone personal and national wrongs, and intemperance as well, for the sake of cowardly peace.

Deacon Martin C. Jewett has the record for the longest term of service to the church, reaching now close upon 35 years. It is probable whoever may have acted as sexton, bell ringer and general superintendent of the church building and grounds, John H. Orr, who faithfully attended to these duties from 1834 to the time of his death, was probably the longest in this position, the old and new church having for many years been under his especial care, his residence being just to the west of the same. Besides he was the first superintendent of the North Adams Cemetery and on his decease the position came to his

eldest son, J. Henry Orr, the present efficient incumbent.

Dr. Robert Crawford was born in a humble artisan home in Paisley, Scotland, and afterwards the family removed to Larnark, Canada. He was short in stature, of a firmly knit frame and what might be termed of stout build. In 1826 he appeared at Hoodsick Falls and Bennington, where he faithfully worked for a while as a weaver in a woolen mill, pursuing his studies over his looms and late at night, and hoarding his little wages. His parents were pious folk and on his leaving Canada his mother gave him a Bible for his guide and counsel, which he faithfully preserved. In 1833 he entered Williams College, and during vacations earned what money he could by teaching in families of the well-to-do, and in this pursuit, he, while a freshman, formed a lasting friendship and found employment in the home of Capt. Clement Harrison just to the north of old Fort Massachusetts. He graduated at Williams in 1836. As a wage earner, toiling over machinery over long hours, he displayed a strength of character and persistence at work and study combined, which was sure to bring success. He could have previously taken a position as a clerk on a steamboat at a good salary and with light labor, but rather chose an occupation where he might be free from temptation to his morals and where he could bend his mind and energies toward the attainment of an education, and also put aside his earnings for this purpose. After preparing for the ministry, in 1840 he married Miss Ellen Griffin, and in August of this year was ordained over the North Adams church, Mrs. Crawford being the daughter of President Griffin, the first to preside in that office over Williams College, and to her husband she proved a faithful and noble helpmate. He always held in great remembrance, in this time of great religious depression in the village, his hearty welcome by Rev. John Alden, and the two thereafter worked as brothers together in the very dark days in this field. When he left North Adams he went to a distant charge in Pennsylvania, but soon returned to South Deerfield where he remained as pastor and pastor emeritus of the Congregational Church until incapacitated by his age from all labor. He deceased in 1899, being over 90 years of age, and the

possessor of the old study Bible of his father-in-law, Dr. Griffin. His son, Rev. Dr. Lyndon Crawford, and his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Emerson were present at the jubilee and presented the church with a portrait of their father.

The brick church erected in 1828 was 42 feet wide by 62 feet in length. It was surmounted with a modest brick tower, surrounded by a row of white posts or pillars, in which there was a small bell, and from the roof of which ascended a conical wooden steeple on whose spire rod were two golden gilded wooden globes with a gilded weather vane, the spire being about fifty feet high, and connected with an iron lightning rod ascending from the west side. The entrance was by two main doors leading into a high vestibule, through the center of whose ceiling dangled the rough bell rope. The entrance to the audience room was through two small doors opening upon two main aisles, which led up to a choir gallery at the south end. The high pulpit, which was reached by two flights of straight stairs, was at the north end and facing the choir loft, whose heavy desk has fortunately been preserved. Two stairways ascended from the vestibule to two side galleries containing three rows of high-backed seats, and the choir gallery in the rear of which was the organ, was similarly seated and was reached by stairways from the front. Extending along the choir gallery front was a red curtain connected by rings to an iron rod supported from small metal standards, and the audience had to rise and turn to face the singers. There were two rows of high box pews with doors in the center of the audience room, and single rows of these pews on the sides and directly beneath the side galleries. The church was lighted with dim oil lamps topping out the slim white side gallery posts and by similar lights on the sides and front of the organ. Two large iron wood box stoves, taking in two-foot wood, extended from the two front sides of the vestibule into the audience room, so that there was no disturbance of the exercises when the fires were replenished. The church was exceedingly uncomfortable on cold days, the pulpit being much warmer than the choir end. Later on, through the energy of Dr. Elihu S. Hawkes and a few other earnest members, the church was remodeled as to its body seats with pine

lumber cut on the mountains round about, while excavations were made beneath the edifice wherein to place large iron stoves taking in four-foot wood, from the top of which heat was conducted in tin-pipes or cylinders to two iron sliding grates in the center of the main aisles. In 1847 a wooden addition 18 by 26 feet was built on to the south end of the church to enlarge the choir gallery for the accommodation of the organ and the singers, with a room beneath for vestry meetings, and having an entrance on the west side. Not long afterwards a small building standing on the southwest end side of the present spacious chapel was removed to the south end of the old church, and was used for social and other gatherings, and as Dr. Hawkes was a moving spirit in the matter, it used to be called his "church kitchen," an accommodation now adopted by the churches of all denominations but which this ardent churchman and energetic physician and citizen had the first public conception of a social church necessity.

The old church, as all the others of the village, had its music first pitched with the old steel tuning fork of its choir leader, followed by the introduction of the ponderous bass viol, with an occasional fiddle, after which, down through the years crept in the melodeon, organ, violin and cornet. Previous to 1840 the sum of \$600 was subscribed for a pipe organ, the first brought to the village, which was built by Andrews of Troy. It is related that Charles B. Butler, the first organist, walked to Troy and back, a distance of 100 miles, and accepted the instrument for the church. This organ was in turn played by him, Charles Munn, the old time watchmaker and jeweler, V. A. Whitaker and others. Of the first male singers out of the old Watts Hymn Book without tunes, were Pastor Yeomans, the Merriams, Whites, Stewarts, Goulds, Goodrichs, etc. Among the old choir leaders were Lyman Marsh, Thomas P. Goodrich, etc. W. F. Sherwin led the choir as late as 1852, Edwin Rogers also for many years, who in turn was succeeded in the new church by the late Prof. George A. Mietzche and others. Of the singers in 1845 are remembered the then young ladies Lucy and Mary King, Helen M. Randall, Maria Gleason, Rhoba Holden, Melissa M. Gallup and Carrie Goodrich, while William H. Gallup,

Nahum D. King, John H. Orr and John Chase were among the male voices.

It was early in 1863 that the old church having become too small to accommodate the society, it was resolved to build a new edifice and chapel on the site extending from Church to Summer Streets, and a large number of the needed funds were then raised by subscription. In the late spring of that year the work of tearing down the old structure was commenced on its steeple by Elson Blakeslee, Jr. who having previously been a sailor before the mast, was the only one in the village having the temerity to remove the spire, a feat even more perilous when in after years he dismantled the spire of the old First Baptist Church to make way for the new. Ascending to the weather vane by climbing the lightning rod, an aerial trip he had repeatedly made in his boyhood days, displaying feats of hair-brained daring, one after another he carried these ornaments up on his shoulder to the spire tip, and though the iron rod frightfully bent and swayed with his weight, hurled them to the earth, a great crowd of wondering and highly excited spectators witnessing the feat, which was accomplished without a misstep or sign of fear.

The old brick when the edifice was leveled to the earth, as well as the underpinning, was found in a good state of preservation and was utilized in the interior mason work of the new structure. The work of rebuilding was in charge of a committee consisting of Sylvander Johnson, Joel Bacon, Abial P. Butler, William S. Blackinton and James E. Hunter. The architect was C. E. Parker of Boston, the master-builder and contractor was Capt. Henry Pierce of Troy, and the master mason H. D. Horton of the latter city, who afterwards became a citizen of North Adams. The corner stone was laid on Tuesday afternoon, October 6, 1863, with Dr. E. S. Hawkes as master of ceremonies. Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. A. J. Ballard of Williamstown, the choir was led by Edwin Rogers and addresses were made by Prof. John Tatlock and Revs. McGiffert and Ballard. The tin box being placed containing a copy of the Scriptures, the roll of church membership, the names of the building committee, the subscription roll, the *News* and *Transcript* then published by W. H. Phillips, and business cards of the then lead-

ing manufacturers and merchants, some very interesting and appropriate remarks were made by the master of ceremonies, and the stone was sealed. The society worshiped for little over a year in Harmony Hall in the third story of the North Adams House Block, the present site of the Wilson House, but the present chapel being completed in 1864, services were held therein until the completion of the main edifice. The new church was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies, September 6, 1865, having a seating capacity of 700. Its pews were previously rented for \$3,000 for the year and the \$8,000 remaining debt on the edifice was promptly subscribed on the spot, leaving the society free of debt. Considerable of this extra expense was necessitated by the hard times caused by the civil war, which on account of higher prices for material and labor made it necessary to pay the contractor much more than the original stipulated contract price, which was most willingly and cheerfully done. The entire cost of the new edifice was \$29,000 aside from the furnishings, organ and bell. The cost of the structure and furnishings complete aside from the organ and bell were afterwards estimated at \$33,000, and with the organ and bell \$40,000.

The new organ was built by the Smiths of Westfield and is an exceedingly fine instrument. Its cost was raised by subscription to which its well to do membership most generously responded and one of whose ten donors was Samuel J. Whitton of Coleraine. The elegant rose window on the north front was the gift of Sylvander Johnson. The pulpit and choir chairs were made by Buckley & Bancroft of Boston, the former being of rich and massive black walnut, and were the gift of Mr. & Mrs. William S. Blackinton. The communion table was presented by the daughters of the late Capt. Clement Harrison, and the pulpit Bible and Hymn Book by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Wilmarth of North Adams and New York, the former then being the talented President of the Home Fire Insurance Co. of New York.

The magnificent bell which hangs in the tower of the First Congregational Church did not arrive from the Meneely foundry in West Troy in time for the dedication, but its unusually soft, sweet, melodious and powerful chimes rang in its worshipers to their

devotions on the first Sabbath afterwards. It still remains one of the most beautiful toned church bells in the whole county of Berkshire, if not in Western Massachusetts. When cast in 1865 it was the largest church bell in the United States. It is four and a half feet in height with a diameter of sixty-two and one half inches. Its cost was \$3,000 while it weights 5,128 pounds and with its yoke 6,000 pounds. On its arrival on a platform car from Troy, A. B. Wilson, the famous inventor of the Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine, who on Friday of that week laid the corner stone of the famous Wilson House at North Adams, asked the privilege of striking it with a sledge hammer in honor of its generous donor at one dollar a blow. This was granted, when he proceeded to deliver thirteen blows on its impressionable sides, leaving as many slight dents thereon and remarking that this "was the sweetest melody he had ever made," panting from his great effort handed up a \$20 bill to John H. Orr for the Ladies Aid Society.

What a Christian mother can do in moulding the character of a very wild boy for future usefulness to churches and communities was never more signally illustrated than in the career of Samuel J. Whitton of North Adams, who presented this bell. Mrs. Whitton was in the lowlier walks of life and lived on one of the mill grounds. She was a member of this church and "Sam," who worked long hours early and late in the mill as a boy, used to sing in the choir, was a favorite of the young people of the village, and on account of his active and good natured ways was very popular with everybody. For an offense which in these latter days would have been handled by the Courts of Justice with more wisdom and less severity, he was sent to state's prison at Charlestown. But Dr. E. S. Hawkes and a number of leading church members and citizens felt that he was not a natural criminal, and was worth a heroic attempt to try and save, notwithstanding this first offense, which had left so dark a stain upon his good name. Dr. Hawkes kept up a steady correspondence with the lad while in prison and heading a petition for his release secured so powerful a list of signatures that young Sam was pardoned by the Governor. Returning to North Adams, the past was blotted out from memory, and he

was fully restored to his old place in society and the choir and industriously followed his old calling as a factory boy. He grew so proficient and reliable as a mill hand that he afterwards went to Coleraine as the superintendent of a cotton mill at Shattuckville, where he afterwards as one of the firm of Shattuck & Whitton became prosperous and wealthy, being held in the highest esteem by his employees and the citizenship of Franklin County, while all his after life was marked by cheerful, generous and noble deeds in gifts and kind words to the industrious and deserving. Being written to by North Adams friends whether he would like to contribute towards the new edifice, he promptly sent his check for \$1,000 which to general surprise he soon followed with the gift of this bell, and then with a substantial remittance for the new organ, thus becoming the prominent and largest beneficiary of the old religious organization which so fortunately for itself, as well as for him, came to his rescue in a dark and trying hour. Removing to Perkinsville, Vt., in 1848 he carried on a prosperous manufactory there, but later on with his old partner at Coleraine, had his factory destroyed by a flood. Recuperating however, and building anew, he again made a financial success and familiarly and kindly known as "Uncle Sam" was thought to have been wealthy at the time of his death, while his good deed toward his adopted people and all the deserving enterprises gave his name a sweet savor and made his life a grand success in a myriad of ways.

The old Brick Factory which was torn down soon after the year 1857, stood on a Marshall Street site just north of the present Walker's Phoenix grist and flouring mill. It was built of red brick made in the Baker Jones yard established in 1800 northeast of the present Windsor Print Works. It was erected in 1811 by an incorporated joint stock company of twenty persons each investing \$1,000. It was March 7, 1811 that the water power and six acres of land were purchased of Jere Colgrove. The mill shut down three years after the war of 1812, but in 1819 was run for three years by David Estes and Oliver Parker. It was then closed until 1825, when it was purchased by three Englishmen, Messrs. Higginbotham, Howard and Merriam, as Thomas Higginbotham & Co., who sold it to Joseph and James E. Marshall. In

the time of the Marshalls Lyman Marsh kept the books in a little wooden office without underpinning, just in front of the mill, and Peter McDarby, who died in June, 1902 at the age of 101, was the night watchman. It was Peter who was once very much excited on account of Hon. H. L. Dawes, then a young lawyer, who burnt his after midnight study oil very late in his little room near the Phoenix bridge. It was in this mill at about this time that Sam Whitton worked with a bevy of factory-boy chums. There had been a series of petty larcenies from several small stores, which afterwards proved to have been the work of these wild boys who had Sam for their Buffalo Bill or leader, but which, though it excited the fears of the little village population at that time, would never afterwards have been taken so seriously by the staid fathers of the hamlet. Finally cuts of the coarse cotton cloth began to be missed from the factory, Sam was suspected and watched and was caught by Lyman Marsh in the act. He confessed to the pilfering but refused to name his young accomplices, and taking the owners to the little office revealed the hiding place of the goods beneath it, none of the cloth having been carried off the grounds and disposed of. It was thus that Sam Whitton, a poor lad, without friends to come to his aid, became the scape-goat and was packed off to prison.

Soon after the building of the First Congregational Church structure from brick made in the Union and Willow Dell yards by Evenal Estes and Benjamin F. Hathaway, Pastor Yeomans built a large wooden two-story dwelling with an ell on the west side of the church lot, having some way come into possession of this strip running from Main Street to Summer Street, which latter street had not then been opened. On his removal from the village he sold it to a man named Graves, who in turn sold the same in undivided halves to Gen. Jabez Hall and Mrs. Elizabeth, the mother of John H. Orr. This included the land on which Dea. Henry Chickering afterwards built a house just west of the church, and the John Hanley homestead on Summer Street. Gen. Hall sold his portion of the place to Cooledge Butterfield, after whose decease it passed into the hands of Widow Babson, and then became the homestead of Dr. E. S. Hawkes after he had

sold his estate to Sanford Blackinton, which through the generous gift of Andrew J. Houghton of Boston, became the fine property of the North Adams Public Library Association.

Through some misunderstanding of the boundaries of the home lot owned by him and Mr. Orr in the rear of their dwelling, and the decision of a commission to which the question was left to avoid recourse to the law, Dr. Hawkes was for some years alienated from the church to which he had devoted so much time and energy, and went over to the Baptist church to worship, though he returned to his old church again before his death. Mr. Orr, who was in the same boat, however, remained though at his death his family sold the old homestead. Some other boundary questions on the east side of the church resulted in the end of the society's acquiring a portion of the long brick block to the east of the edifice by purchase.

When the small church bell was being placed in the belfry of the First Congregational Church in 1828, which was the first brought to the village and which served the Baptists and Methodists as well as its owners, the latter had bought a lot on Center Street for \$30.00, moved Daniel Sherman's unfinished glass-house to the same, which they had purchased for a small sum, fitted it up, and with 64 members were holding services therein. It was an old Methodist class leader

who stood by when this hard job was being done, who was brim full of criticisms over what he honestly thought was a piece of folly, and who is remembered by an old resident to have repeated the following: -

"The Presbyterians you know full well,
They have a thing they call a bell,
But if the sound should reach their God,
They'd stand in need of a lightning rod."

It was William Crosier, the first truckman in the village, afterwards running the first hack, which he sold to Martin Adams, and who first wet down Main and Eagle Streets and Church Hill with a street sprinkler, drawing his water supply from the old Eagle Street dam for this and to furnish the hamlet housewives with aqueous supplies for washing and domestic purposes, by the barrel, who with rope and tackles did the entire derrick work in the construction of the new church tower and the entire edifice, whose patience and industry was only equaled by that of his only helper, a most docile and intelligent cream-colored horse. Previous to this, John Atwood, with his never to be forgotten oxen, old "Silver and Golden," had been faithful laborers in displacing the earth for the foundation stone of the new edifice, with a musical "haw and gee" which never failed to be promptly and implicitly obeyed.

* * * * *

Stage Lines - from page 100

structure, with a ticket office in the centre and waiting rooms on each side. A portico entrance led to the waiting rooms, with marble steps, and the two side entrances were adorned with wooden steps. There was a wooden belfry in the centre of the roof in which was a bell which was rung a quarter hour before the departure of trains and just before they pulled out, as also to announce their arrival from Pittsfield. It was the period when conductor Marsh had an interest in the Williamstown stage route, and was consequently anxious that it should make good connections with the trains. It was on a rainy morning after a wonderful fall of August meteors, that this old bell had sounded a warning of departure and still the Williamstown stage had not made its appearance.

Conductor Marsh had been peering out of the door in the deepest anxiety and was just about to cry "All aboard," when Jerry Pratt came whirling into sight around the State street corner with his horses on the keen jump. As the passengers and mails were being hustled into the depot, Mr. Marsh cried out to Jerry "What made you so late?" "I guess you'd been late," yelled Jerry, "if you'd been through what I have. When I reached Foot's Hill in Williamstown there was a drift of them red-hot fallen stars four feet deep, and I had to get out and work half an hour to shovel through them. I've got to get up to Dr. Norman's right away to get some ointment to take the fire out of my hands."

* * * * *

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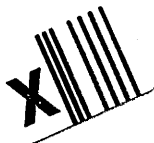
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