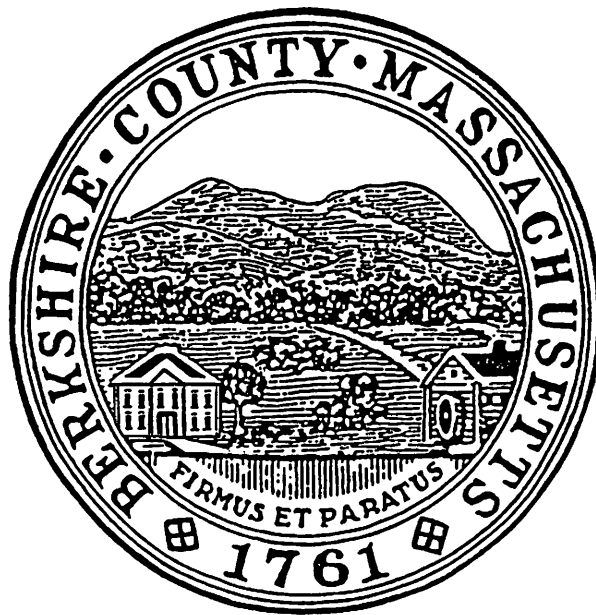


JP
LA

Berkshire Genealogist



BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

* * *

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 and \$14.00 for families. Overseas dues are \$25.00.

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

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

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

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

BACK ISSUES OF Berkshire Genealogist:

Volume 1, Numbers 1 through 4 - \$1.50 per issue (4 issues)

Volume 2, Numbers 1 through 3 - \$1.50 per issue (3 issues only)

Volumes 3 through 34 (4 issues each)

Less than four issues, \$3.00 per issue; 4 or more issues, \$2.50 per issue.

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

Annual INDEXES - Volumes 11 through 34 - less than four indexes, \$2.50 each; four or more indexes, \$2.00 each

(All prices include postage.)

* * * * *

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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

EMAIL: bfhainc@gmail.com

WEBSITE: <http://www.berkshirefamilyhistory.org>

berkshire genealogist

VOLUME 35 NUMBER 2

SPRING 2014

CONTENTS

REVOLUTIONARY REVIEW: A SAMPLING OF SOURCES FOR TRACKING REVOLUTIONARY WAR ANCESTORS AT THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM Kathleen M. Reilly	39
SEMINOLE WAR VETERANS	43
OLD BRASS BAND MEMORY	44
SLOAN POWELL OF LANESBORO	45
MAPS OF CHESTER AND BLANDFORD [Hampden County] - 1870	47
BLOWING UP THE POWDER HOUSE	48
BERKSHIRE WIT	52
ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PITTSFIELD, MASS. - REGISTER OF REV. WILLIAM WILBERFORCE NEWTON, DECEMBER 19, 1883 - JANUARY 16, 1899	57
STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855 WASHINGTON	62
AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MARY ANTOINETTE DOOLITTLE PRIOR TO BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE SHAKER COMMUNITY AT NEW LEBANON	68

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

Copyright 2014 by Berkshire Family History Association, Inc.
ISSN-0887-0713

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Established 1975
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Donald L. Lutes, Jr.

VICE-PRESIDENT
Betty Quadrozzi

TREASURER PRO-TEM
Donald L. Lutes, Jr.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Betty Quadrozzi

RECORDING SECRETARY
Margaret Cranton

PAST PRESIDENTS

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

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

DIRECTORS

Anne Feeley
Betty Ann Hamm
Rose Huban
Barbara A. Kelley
Gail A. Pinna

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Programs - Gail A. Pinna
Publicity - Gail A. Pinna
Computer Operations - Clark W. Nicholls

* * * * *

BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

Donald L. Lutes, Jr.
Managing Editor

REVOLUTIONARY REVIEW: A SAMPLING OF SOURCES FOR TRACKING REVOLUTIONARY WAR ANCESTORS AT THE BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM

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

Reprinted with permission of the former Friends of NARA - Pittsfield, MA
From *Archival Anecdotes*, Volume 10, Number 1, Page 1 [Updated to 2014]

The collections available for research into this period at the Berkshire Athenaeum include sources too numerous to list comprehensively in this publication. The reader should view this article as an outline of the types of materials he/she could expect to find in the Library's collections. Many related Athenaeum resources have been discussed at length in previous issues. The discussion of pre-1800 sources in the Berkshire Genealogist Fall 2012 issue would be particularly relevant for research on Revolutionary ancestors.

A list outlining the most important materials for Revolutionary War research would include:

Pittsfield

The Town of Pittsfield Original Papers: This collection of approximately 1000 manuscript items covers the period 1759-1843. Section XXI includes 37 original documents specifically related to the Revolutionary period. The records are available for use on microfilm and a 63 page guide aids the researcher in accessing pertinent material. A name index to section XXI of the collection is included in the guide.

The History of Pittsfield Volume I, 1734-1800, by J.E.A. Smith

Colonel John Brown, of Pittsfield, MA, the brave accuser of Benedict Arnold, by Archibald Howe. 1908

Berkshire County

Collections Unique to the Berkshire Athenaeum

William Williams Collection: manuscript materials, relating predominantly to the early history of western Massachusetts and the settlement of Pittsfield, available for use on microfilm. Inclusive dates 1734-1869, with the bulk of the material in the 1740s-1780s. Includes numerous documents from the Revolutionary period, including a letter dated May 8, 1775, requesting troops for Ticonderoga and signed by Benedict Arnold.

The Rollin H. Cooke, Berkshire, Browne, Shepard and Knurow Collections discussed in the same issue referenced above, all contain information concerning revolutionary ancestors of Berkshire County.

Other Berkshire County Sources

Histories of Berkshire County: the 1829 History by Field and the 2 volume history of the county published by Beers in 1885 both contain valuable information.

Histories of Berkshire County Towns: Varying widely in scope and content, individual town histories should nevertheless be consulted, and oftentimes produce unique results.

Some veterans of the American Revolution, Berkshire County, Massachusetts: items from newspaper files, 1790-1855. John E. Bowman, compiler. 1929

A list of one hundred twenty three Revolutionary soldier's graves and where located in the Pittsfield, Lanesboro, Dalton and Hinsdale cemeteries by the Peace Party Chapter of the DAR, 193?.

Revolutionary War veterans: graves in Pittsfield, Lanesboro and Richmond.

Mohican Warriors: a documentary history (1747-1813 by Lion G. Miles. 1999

Revolutionary Ancestors of members (DAR): Berkshire County, MA and Lewis County, NY, 1980?.

Massachusetts

State, County & Town Histories

Massachusetts Soldiers & Sailors in the Revolution

Massachusetts DAR Genealogical Records – 39 microfilm reels w/guide

Dwight Collection – 6 microfilm reels with guide: Collection of Richard Henry Winslow Dwight (1859-1920) "Records the lives & times of the early settlers of Western Mass."

Massachusetts Revolutionary War Service Index: Appendix – 17 microfilm reels of records housed at the Massachusetts Archives.

Soldiers and sailors whose graves have been designated by the marker of the Society – Mass. Soc. of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Historical memoranda: with lists of members and their revolutionary ancestors - Mass. Soc. of the Sons of the American Revolution.

New York State

State, County & Town Histories

A guide to the Revolutionary War manuscripts in the New York State Library, ed. by Stefan Bielinski.

History of New York during the Revolutionary War, ed. by Floyd De Lancey.

"Dead of the Several Regiments": a list of Revolutionary War land grants for deceased soldiers in New York's military tract, ed. by Galen R. Wilson.

Patriot-soldiers of 1775-1783: the veterans of the war for American independence of Chataqua County, NY, by Frederick W. Kates.

Stubborn for Liberty: the Dutch in New York, by Alice P. Kenney.

Revolutionary War veterans buried in Columbia County, New York, comp. for Hendrick Hudson Chapter NSDAR.

The Iroquois in the American Revolution, by Barbara Graymont.

Connecticut

State, County & Town Histories

Connecticut Revolutionary pensioners, comp. by the CT DAR.

Register of Revolutionary Soldiers and patriots buried in Litchfield County, comp. by Joyce M. Cropsey.

Connecticut's Black Soldiers, 1775-1783, by David O. White.

Stamford's soldiers: genealogical biographies of Revolutionary War patriots from

Stamford, Connecticut, comp. by E. M. Wicks and V. H. Olson.

The Record of Connecticut men in the military and naval service during the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783 / edited by Henry P. Johnston under the CT Adj. Gen. Office

The Record of Service of Connecticut Men in the: I. War of the Revolution, II. War of 1812, III. Mexican War, comp. by the CT Adj. Gen. Office.

Supplement to the Record of Connecticut men during the war of the Revolution, 1775-1783, CT Historical Society, 2 vols.

A Historical Collection, from official records, files, &c, of the part sustained by Connecticut, during the War of the Revolution, comp. by R. R. Hinman.

Vermont

State, County & Town Histories

Soldiers, sailors and patriots of the Revolutionary War, Vermont, by Carleton E. Fisher

Soldiers of the Revolutionary War buried in Vermont, and anecdotes and incidents relating to some of them. By Walter H. Crockett

Rolls of the soldiers in the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783, comp. by John E. Goodrich

The Vermont Historical Gazetteer edited by Abby Maria Hemenway. 5 volumes

Maine

State, County & Town Histories

Soldiers, sailors and patriots of the Revolutionary War, Maine, by Carleton E. Fisher

Supplement to Soldiers, sailors and patriots of the Revolutionary War, Maine, by Carleton E. Fisher

An alphabetical index of Revolutionary pensioners living in Maine, by Charles A. Flagg.

A record of the services of the commissioned officers and enlisted men of Kittery and Eliot, Maine who served in the American Revolution, by Oliver P. Remick.

Soldiers and sailors of the plantation of lower St. Georges, Maine, who served in the War for American Independence, by Frank B. Miller.

Names of Soldiers of the American Revolution who applied for state bounty under resolves of March 17, 1835, March 24, 1836, and March 20, 1836 as appears of record in land office, comp. by Charles J. House.

Soldiers of the American Revolution of Lebanon, Maine, by George W. Chamberlain.

Miscellaneous Maine Statistics, comp. at the Berkshire Athenaeum – Includes muster rolls, gravestone records, marriage intentions and lists of Rev. War soldiers from the towns of Brunswick, Cushing, Greenwood, Knox County, Newry, Paris and Riley Plantations.

Rhode Island

State, County & Town Histories

Civil and military list of Rhode Island, 1647-1850. A list of all officers elected by the General assembly, comp. from the records by Joseph J. Smith. 3 vols.

The Black Regiment of the American Revolution, comp. by Linda C. Brennan.

The Rhode Island 1777 military census, trans. by Mildred M. Chamberlain.

So few the brave: Rhode Island Continentals, 1775-1783, by Anthony Walker.

New Hampshire

State, County & Town Histories

New Hampshire State Papers, New Hampshire Revolutionary Rolls, comp. by Isaac W. Hammond. Multi-volume set, vols. 1 and 2 contain the Rev. War rolls.

Roll of New Hampshire Soldiers at the Battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777, comp. by George C. Gilmore.

History of the First New Hampshire regiment in the War of the Revolution, by Frederic Kidder.

Miscellaneous Sources

Index of Revolutionary War pension applications in the National Archives, 1976.

Genealogical abstracts of Revolutionary War pension files by Virgil D. White. (4 vols.)

The Pension Rolls of 1835, from the records of the U.S. War Dept., 1968 reprint of the 1835 edition, 4 vols.

Muster and pay rolls of the war of the Revolution, 1775-1783, reprinted from the collections of the NY Hist. Soc. for the years 1914 and 1915.

Men and Times of the Revolution by Elkanah Watson

Arnold's Expedition to Quebec by W.E. Collins, 1894.

Minority Military Service 1775-1783. A collection of pamphlets produced by the NSDAR documenting service of minority groups in the Revolution. The Athenaeum has bound eight pamphlets together into one volume. Records for the following states are included: Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

DAR Patriot Indexes

Miscellaneous Records of the Society of Sons of the American Revolution

Periodical Sources such as those published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society and others.

Microfilm Resources: A number of additional resources, listed below, have been added to the resources in the Athenaeum's collections since this article was originally published.

In 2011, the NARA Pittsfield microfilm reading room located at the Conte Archives was closed due to budgetary considerations. At that time, most of the microfilm resources located there were donated to the Athenaeum. Included in this collection are various Revolutionary War related materials including:

Adjutant General, Pay Accounts re Weapons & Military Stores, 1776-1801

Army, 6th MA Battalion, Personnel Returns, 1779-1782

Army, Compiled Service Records of Volunteers, served from 1784-1811

Army, Soldiers Discharge Certificates & Misc. Records, 1792-1815

Burial Registers for Military Posts, Camps & Stations, 1768-1921

Continental Congress, Misc. Papers 1774-1789

Military, Negro in the United States, 1600s to 1900s
 Revolutionary War, Bounty Land Warrants
 Revolutionary War, General Index to Compiled Service Records
 Revolutionary War, Manuscripts, Post, War Dept.
 Revolutionary War, Muster Rolls
 Revolutionary War, Naval Compiled Service Records
 Revolutionary War, Numbered Records
 Revolutionary War, Pension Applications
 Revolutionary War, Prize Cases
 Revolutionary War, Compiled Service Records
 Revolutionary War, Final Pension Payment Vouchers
 Revolutionary War, Invalid Pension Payments
 Revolutionary War, Land Warrants, OH District, Act of 1788
 Revolutionary War, Ledgers of Pension Payments
 Revolutionary War, Virginia, ½ pay Vouchers

In Summary

The discussion here of Revolutionary period records in the collections at the Berkshire Athenaeum is by no means comprehensive. The volumes and categories listed provide an indication of the types of materials available, most of which can be located via the electronic card catalog by conducting keyword searches. Searching by specific localities or topics will result in the location of other materials. Library staff in the Local History Department are always available to help you locate records applicable to your particular research problem.

Also, as always, keep in mind that through the **LDS microfilm-ordering program**, records from around the country and around the world can be delivered to the Athenaeum for your use, without the expense of traveling!

The Local History & Genealogy Department at the Athenaeum is open Monday & Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, and Saturday from 10:00am to 5:00 pm. [Note: Library closes at 5:00 on Wednesdays during July & August and is closed on most holidays]

* * * * *

SEMINOLE WAR VETERANS

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

There were three Pittsfield men who served in what was known as the Florida war, which was waged by the United States government against the Seminole tribe of Indians, who as hostiles occupied the entire state of Florida. Of these was First Lieutenant Thomas Childs, who served in the heavy artillery of the regular army in the war of 1812, who participated in the battle of Fort Erie, and who remained in service when

peace was declared in 1815. He served as Captain in the Seminole war and was promoted during the Mexican war to the rank of Brigadier General. He was a son of Dr. Timothy Childs and was born in Pittsfield in 1795. G. W. Allen survived the Seminole war and in the following Mexican war rose to the rank of Colonel, dying at its close and being buried at Vera Cruz. J. P. Center was killed in a battle with the Seminoles ■■■

OLD BRASS BAND MEMORY

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

An association of brass band musicians, composed of first family citizens of Pittsfield, which was in organization in 1860 and a few years afterwards. This band was formed more for the pleasure and amusement it might give its members, than for public performance. At that time J. L. Ensign, a talented musician, was the teacher of music in the Maplewood Young Ladies Institute. He resided on the corner of North and Union Streets, and the band room was nearly opposite in Pierce's Block. As far as can be ascertained the band was made up as follows: Leader, J. L. Ensign, William J. Hawkins, Dwight S. Francis, Reuben Goodrich, Fred Churchill, Edward Sedgwick, Z. A. Ward, Edward Joy, of two gentlemen named Cole and Howard, and a German musician connected with the Pontoosuc Factory. Of this membership Z. A. Ward and Fred Churchill are the sole survivors, with Edward Joy of Chicago. This band got together a fund and purchased their own instruments, which several years after it discontinued rehearsals were sold and the fund divided among its members. During its existence it confined itself to serenading prominent citizens, having a good time generally, and asking no odds of the public purse.

Its first, last and only public appearance was at the old Boston & Albany station, when early one evening in September 1860, a train on which was Stephen A. Douglas and his charming wife, came into the same from Albany, the "Little Giant of the West" being met by a large assemblage of citizens, the principals among whom were Phineas Allen at the head of a big committee of town and county democrats. Mr. Douglas stepped out upon the platform, while Mrs. Douglas remained in her car, the train having been held back for the short exercises. After music by Ensign's Band, Mr. Douglas was introduced by Mr. Allen and made a most eloquent speech in that clear, trumpet tone which made everyone wonder how such a wonderful voice could find lodgement in such a body of small physical proportions. After a great deal of hand shaking and greeting, this champion statesman of Lincoln, Douglas, Bell and Everett days, who after his defeat as a candidate for president by Lincoln, came grandly to the front and held the hat of the latter when he made his inaugural address, and nobly held up his administration while he lived in the early days of the civil war, moved away on the east-

ward bound train amid a tumult of noise and cheers. There was a Republican youngster in that crowd who neither then nor since has gone back on his political colors, and who now remembers that Mr. Douglas was very emphatic over what he considered the Republic owed to our common law, and that the latter remarks brought out some very defiant exclamations from one Collins, yet serving a state's prison life sentence in this state for having killed his wife, when a cook in the old United States Hotel, with a bayonet.

The only visit to this county of the "Little Giant of Illinois," as he was called from one end of the Republic to the other, was more completely fixed in the memory of Pittsfield's older citizens from the fact that between the hours of nine and ten o'clock on that evening the greatest meteor ever seen in New England came through the Berkshire skies from the northwest with a roaring of whizzing noise, which with the unearthly brilliance emitted therefrom, caused much wonder and no inconsiderable fright. This giant meteor was first observed in the state of Iowa, passed directly over the center of Pittsfield and whistled off into the Atlantic Ocean. Its body resembled a huge mass of molten iron in a state of great agitation, from which was now and then ejected, as though from inward explosions, weird sheets of flame. To its rear seemed to be attached a long dark iron rod with occasional flame marks thereon, making it resemble in one sense the tail of a kite.

The next morning the late Governor George N. Briggs came over to town from his residence on West Street and astonished his friends with the statement that while standing in his doorway the evening previous, he had distinctly heard every word of the speech of Douglas as made on the depot platform. Of course there was some incredulity over the statement, though there was no thought that the Governor would make a wilful misrepresentation, having for its reason that the home residence was fully a half-mile away from the locality in which this speech was made. But all doubts vanished when the Governor repeated almost verbatim what the eloquent Little Giant had uttered, and all had to admit that the marvelous voice of the orator, aided by the brick wall of Francis & Clary's Machine Shop as a sounding board, and a peculiar clearness and purity of the atmosphere, had made this miracle possible. ■

SLOAN POWELL OF LANESBORO

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

Oldest residents of Lanesboro, we salute you. We congratulate you on having spent your lives in your idyllic town - a town which nature placed so favorably amid the beautiful Berkshire Hills, and which it has now left to you in all its pristine beauty. We congratulate you that the vandalic millionaire has not invaded your restful prescient to erect his pretentious Lenox villa, to break and spoil the charming outline of your beautiful hills, sloping fields and sleeping meadows; to cut away your fine orchards and noble trees; to replace nature's handy work, full of ever interesting vicissitudes, by the work of the landscape gardener. We congratulate you that the obtrusive steam railroad has dared only to skirt the eastern border of your town, where it is mostly out of sight; and especially that no trolley road has stretched its iron tracks and overhead wires through your charming main highway.

You mention with pride the names of many of your fellow citizens recorded on the pages of American history; but there is one of your fellow citizens whose name does not figure in history, whom surely you have not forgotten. We know by the smile which lightens up your face when we speak of him, that you have not forgotten him. We refer to Sloan Powell. Ha! ha! ha! you say. Well! I guess I do remember Sloan Powell, the drum-major; who doesn't remember Sloan Powell - everybody does. Talk of Jonathan Smith and his influential speech before the Massachusetts Convention on the acceptance of the Federal Constitution of the United States; about Dr. Asa M. Burbank; about Henry Shaw, the elder, Henry Shaw, the younger (Josh Billings); about Governor George N. Briggs. Why! we can tell stories all day long about Sloan Powell.

Sloan was undoubtedly a very skillful drummer, and not deficient otherwise, only he had an unusual way of getting at it. Under his nonchalant manner probably there was more cultivation than people thought, but to all appearances his motto was *laissez faire*. It is quite certain that his musical inspiration rested rather upon his intuitive and imitative faculty than upon his scientific knowledge of

music. It is not at all likely that he had studied Bach, but his whole life was arranged upon the plan of the fugue; if there ever was a hiatus in one direction it was completely adjusted in another part.

He always maintained his impassivity. He watched the enormous snow drifts accumulate all along the Main street of his town during the winter time, and in the summer evenings he watched the myriads of fireflies scintillating in the meadows by the side of the same long highway with the utmost imperturbability. If he heard that his colored neighbor, Tite Grant, had perished in a snow drift he simply said to himself, *sic transit gloria mundi*. He always had time to look into Richard Whitney's stone office and watch him recording deeds for the residents of Northern Berkshire; on Saturday evenings to go into the Congregational Church and listen to George Rockwell drilling the choir for the Sunday service; to step into Justin Tower's store and have a talk with the customers coming in from the neighboring farms, and to talk about what success Bushrod Buck was having with his sheep, and about Mrs. Oren Farnum's luck in getting so many premiums at the County Fair for the best home woven flannel and broad cloth; or better yet, to loaf into Joseph Prisky's store and contemplate Joe's methods of doing business. This merchant's physique was made up principally of adipose sustained by a skeleton imperfectly ossified, allowing a gelatinous quiver to his bodily movements. But the remarkable thing about him was his business methods; a method which was calculated to silence the most persistent denunciator of the "bloated capitalist," for he never charged but the smallest percentage of profit upon the sale of his goods. If a customer came in and inquired, for instance, the price of eggs, he pointed with his puffy hand to a basket full of eggs and said, "Them is eleven cents," and pointing to another basket full he said, "Them is twelve cents," notwithstanding that the eggs in one basket were exactly like those in the other. But he had the opportunity to buy those in one of the baskets *a bon marche*, while for the others he had to

pay more, and he desired to give his customers the benefit of his fortunate deal. Now Sloan noticed this unusual practice, but was not disposed to criticize or object to it, especially if he had to buy eggs for himself.

Should a stranger chance to come to town who was curious about its history, Sloan stood ready to tell him many things, among others, that during the War of the American Revolution there were more men enlisted from the town of Lanesboro than from any other town in the county. That previous to the introduction to the sheep industry, brought about by Jonathan Allen of Pittsfield going to Lisbon, Portugal, and bringing home from there a thousand or more Spanish Merino sheep, the distinguishing industry of Lanesboro had been the distillery of mint oils and of cider brandy.

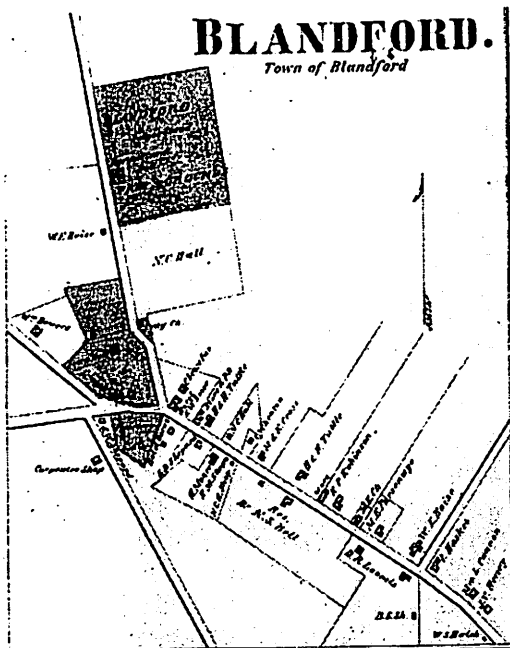
Alas! like many another philosopher, Sloan in time found himself in want of cash and was encouraged to believe he might supply himself by renting to another family a part of the house where he lived and which

he owned, and acting on this suggestion a tenant was soon secured. Now, he soon found that reduced to practice this method of raising the wind was not so handsome as he had anticipated accustomed as he was to the freedom of his house and grounds uninterfered with by other occupants. These burdensome tenants must be gotten rid of somehow; but how? They had a lease for a definite period and did not violate the conditions of the lease. However, Sloan never failed for resources when the occasion required, so he waited one night until the tenant family was in bed and probably asleep. Then he brought into requisition his snare drum and thereupon commenced a medley consisting of snatches from various marches, waltzes, gallops, fantasias, sonatas, requiems, dirges, oratorios, operas, and what not, and he kept this up until dawn. A few nights repetition of this musical entertainment caused the capitulation of the enemy and they vacated the field bag and baggage. ■

* * * * *

MAPS OF CHESTER AND BLANDFORD [Hampden County] - 1870

Abbott, A. K.	A-4	Cheesman, L.	E-8	Hall, J. F.	D-2	Kreft, T.	D-8	Robinson, H.	B-3
Allen, C.	D-8	Childs, E. J.	D-8	Hall, N. C.	B-2	Lazell, William H.	D-5	Sampson, S. N.	F-5
Ayres, George	E-9	Childs, F. J.	A-5		B-3	Lazell, W. H.	B-7	Shepard, L. N.	B-3
Bartlett, A.	E-7	Clark, M.	D-8	Hapgood, George	C-8		C-8	Short, Mrs.	D-8
Bartlett, W.	F-2	Clark, R. C.	A-5		D-5		F-9	Smith, C. D.	F-5
Bates, D.	D-1	Cook, E. L.	D-8	Harnock	D-8	Loring, D. H.	D-3	Smith, D. H.	D-3
Beach, O. W.	A-5	Cooley, H.	E-9	Harper, L.	F-2	Lucas	F-4	Smith, H. M.	D-3
Belden, S. S.	A-5	Cooper, C. C.	A-5	Haskins, J.	D-5	Lucas, H. S.	F-4	Smith, J. W.	F-5
Bell, N. S.	B-3	Cowles, N. W.	A-5		E-8		F-8	Snow, O.	F-5
Bemis	F-3	Crocker, J. C.	F-10	Hatch, W. S.	C-4	Lyman, H. W.	F-4	Squier, W. S.	D-3
Bemis, A. B.	A-4	Crosby, L.	D-2	Hayden, C. B.	D-2	Moore, M.	F-4	Stebbins, Samuel	F-5
Bishop, A.	D-2	Cross, M.	B-3	Healy, D. C.	G-4	Morand	A-4	Stewart, S. J.	D-3
Blair, A. L.	D-1	Cross, N.	B-3	Henry, J. N.	C-4	Morey, William	G-3	Taggart, H.	F-2
Blair, L. H.	D-1	Dandurand, T.	E-6	Higgins, H. I.	E-6	Morse, H.	B-3	Thomas, O. D.	C-8
Boise, R. W.	D-1	Day, A. C.	A-5	Higgins, H. L.	C-7	Nelson	C-8	Tiffaney, L. D.	D-4
Boise, R.	D-2	Dewey, F.	E-9	Higgins, W.	F-2		C-9	Tobin, J.	D-9
Boise, W. E.	A-2	DeWolf, T. K.	A-5	Hinsdale, C. J.	D-2	Norton, F.	G-1	Tuttle, H.	B-3
	C-4	Eastman, B. B.	A-5	Hinsdale, W. E.	D-2	Nye, D.	D-3	Twiss, W.	G-8
Boise, W. E.	D-1	Ely	F-5	Hitchcock, L.	C-7	Nye, L. R.	D-3	Waite, A.	D-4
Bond, I. L.	A-4	Ely, E.	G-1	Holbrooks, S.	D-8	Nye, R.	D-3		F-1
Bowers, William	A-2	Fay, E.	B-7	Holcomb, G. W.	D-5	Nye, William C.	F-5	Waite, C. M.	D-4
Boyle, T.	E-9	Fay, William	D-5	Ingell, Z.	D-5	Nye, W. C.	E-9		F-1
Bromley, E. D.	A-5	Fay, W.	D-8	Judd, D. B.	D-5	Osborn, E. H.	D-3		G-1
Brown, E.	D-2		D-9	Karr, R. A.	D-3	Parker, S. P.	C-7	Wheaton, C.	B-3
Buell	A-5	Fisk	A-5	Keefe, T.	D-5	Pease, E. F.	F-5	White	F-5
Burdick, H. S.	D-2	Gamwell, J.	C-7		D-8	Parkins, L. E.	D-3	Wilcox	F-4
	F-2	Gibbs	G-3		E-6	Powers, H.	F-5	Wilcox, E. G.	D-9
Burdick, R. R.	F-3	Gibbs, J. A.	D-2	Knox, Charles W.	D-5	Prouty, N. B.	F-5		F-5
Cannon, L.	C-4	Gibbs, Mrs.	E-8	Knox, J. C.	D-2	Rice	C-8	Wilcox, H. D.	E-9
Carrington, John	A-5	Goudy, M.	F-10	Knox, J. W.	D-2	Robinson, H. P.	D-3	Wright, George	D-6
Chadwick, J.	E-8	Haley, W. R.	D-2						



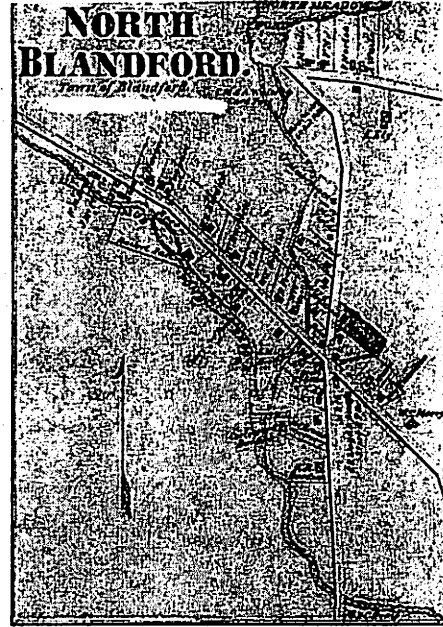
BLANDFORD.

Town of Blandford

Blandford

Subscriber's Business Reference.

Bates W. E. Farmer and Mail Contractor, Blandford
 Bates E. W. Truitt Hotel, Cheese Pack and Farmer
 Blair A. L. Farmer, Dairyman and Stock Raiser
 Bates D. Manufacturer and dealer in Hides and Leather
 Blair L. H. Farmer and Stock Raiser and Manufacturer of Lumber
 Brown E. Farmer and Stock Raiser and Dairyman
 Blakey A. Farmer and Stock Raiser
 Darwick H. S. Manufacturer of Lumber, Hides and Hard Woods, Whip Butts of all sizes from 12 in. to 48 in. Blandford
 Bates R. Farmer
 Crosby J. A. Farmer and Stock Raiser, No. Blandford
 Gibbs J. A. Farmer and Stock Raiser, No. Blandford
 Hinsdale O. J. Retired Clergyman, Blandford
 Hayden C. B. Farmer and Stock Raiser and Manufacturer of Lumber
 Hall J. J. Farmer and Stock Raiser and Dairyman
 Hinsdale W. E. Farmer and Stock Raiser, Blandford
 Haley W. H. Farmer and Stock Raiser, Blandford
 Knox J. O. Farmer and Stock Raiser, Blandford
 Knox J. W. Carpenter and Builder, Blandford
 Kerr E. A. Manufacturer of Lumber, Blandford
 Leung D. H. Farmer and Lumberman, No. Blandford
 Nye D. & R. Farmers and Stock Raisers and Dealers in Cattle, Blandford
 Nye L. E. Carpenter and Builder and Manufacturer of Lumber
 Osborn E. H. Farmer, Dairyman and Stock Raiser, Blandford
 Perkins L. E. Manufacturer of Lumber, Blandford
 Robinson H. P. Dealer in General Merchandise and Farmer Blandford
 Stewart B. J. Butcher and Farmer Blandford
 Sykes W. S. Farmer, Stock Raiser and Manufacturer of Lumber
 Smith D. H. Farmer and Stock Raiser
 Smith E. H. Manufacturer of Wagons, Sleighs, Washing Machines and Whip Butts, No. Blandford
 Tiffney L. D. Farmer
 Wells O. E. & A. Manufacturer of Card Boards of every description, Sutters No. 10, Cutler, Wood, Horse Carriages and Jim Crows, No. Blandford.



NORTH BLANDFORD.

Town of Blandford

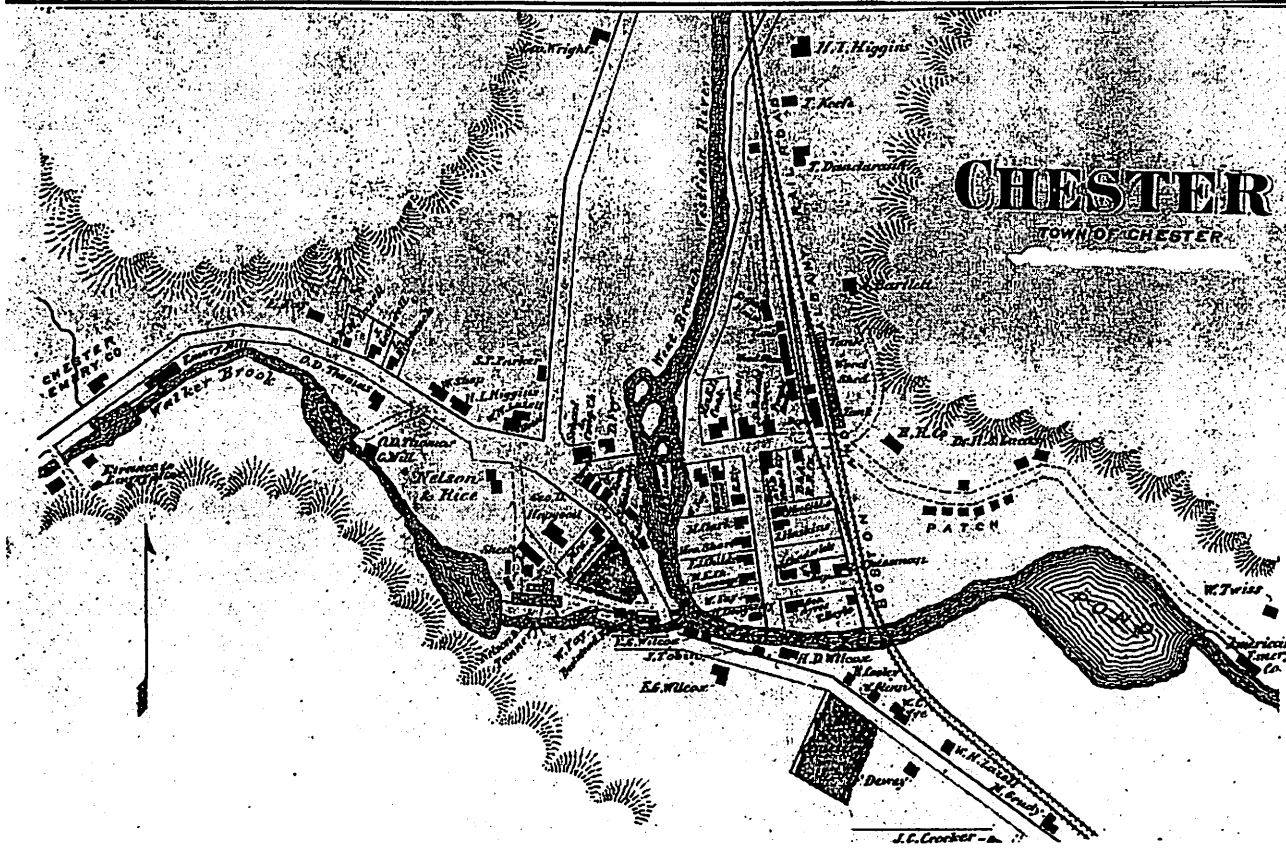
Abbott A. K. Farmer
 Bond L. L. Boot Manufacturer, Littleville
 Bond & Howard Manufacturers and Dealers in Leather, Littleville
 Bonds A. B. Blacksmith
 Bales S. A. Farmer and Manufacturer of Whip Butts, Littleville
 Bond O. W. Carpenter and Joiner
 Bond E. D. Farmer
 Bond & Niek Farmers and Dealers in Stock
 Clark E. O. Farmer
 Corrie H. W. Farmer and Dealer in Stock
 Carlington John Farmer and Manufacturer and Dealer in Cider Brandy
 Cooper J. C. Employee of Chester Emery Co.
 Childs J. J. Farmer of Chester Emery Co.
 De Wolf T. E. Physician
 Day A. G. Farmer and Manufacturer and Dealer in Shoe Parts, Littleville
 Newman E. B. Machine Shop and Card Board, Littleville

Chester

Subscriber's Business Reference.

Fay Wm. Bottled Manufacturer
 Haggard George D. Agent of Watson & Rice, Tanners
 Haskins J. Residence, Chester
 Haskins J. W. Farmer and Dealer in Stock
 Ingall Z. Farmer and Dealer in Stock
 Jones D. B. Dealer in Jewelry, Watches, Notions, Gunsmithery, Papers, Percolators, etc.
 Kead Chester V. Farmer
 Kead T. Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing, Hats and Shoes, Paints, Oils, Drugs, Medicines
 Local William H. Proprietor Hotel, Chester

Lucas & Wilcox, Proprietors American Emery Works
 Lucas H. S. Physician and Surgeon
 Lyman H. W. Farmer and Dealer in Stock
 Moore M. Farmer
 Nye Wm. C. Carpenter and Joiner
 Jones E. F. Farmer and Mechanic
 Prouty & Son H. B. Manufacturers and Dealers in Fine Yarns of all Kinds
 Powers H. Country Store and Saw Mill, North Chester
 Robbins Samuel Farmer
 Ross O. Carpenter and Joiner
 Sampson E. H. Farmer, Littleville
 Smith J. W. Farmer and Mechanic
 Smith O. D. Employee of Chester Emery Co.
 White & Nye Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Crochery, Yarns, Notions, etc. also Agents American M. V. Express Co.
 Wilcox E. G. Farmer, Residence Chester



CHESTER

Town of Chester

BLOWING UP THE POWDER HOUSE

From *The Berkshire Hills*, May 1, and June 1, 1901.

THE STEVENS DRUMS

Abner Stevens was the pioneer drum manufacturer in Berkshire County in 1800 and from his works in Hancock sold bass and snare drums all over the northern states. He removed to Pittsfield in 1809, built a shop on North Street, east of Fenn, and by industry and economy made a moderate fortune. Not only was the general government a heavy patron, but nearly every town under the old laws having its militia company, with fifers and drummers, his trade was very considerable, and wood and sheep skins being plentiful and reasonable in price, quite profitable. It is possible that a few of the Stevens drums may still be preserved as heirlooms.

THE POMEROY MUSKET WORKS

In 1806 Jason Mills of Springfield purchased the old Capt. Charles Goodrich and Capt. George Whitney forge, built in 1767, which stood in Taconic Village, where he manufactured fowling pieces, and at which there had been a small musket factory in the earlier days which had supplied several of the states with this arm. In 1808 Lemuel Pomeroy purchased this plant and commenced the manufacture of 2000 muskets annually. From 1816 to 1846 he furnished 2000 to the government annually under contract, and for some time afterwards 1500 of a finer make, still continuing a large outside trade. In 1846, the percussion cap coming into vogue, and the Springfield armory having been placed by the government under military rule, he gave up this business, although he was offered large government contracts if he would expend \$25,000 necessary to equip his works for the manufacture of the new style weapon. He then engaged in the manufacture of forged iron axles at the Taconic works, where in 1823 he had built a brick building for what was called his "water-shop," and where he laid the foundation for his subsequent enterprise in woolen manufacture.

THE EAST STREET ARMORY

While his famous muskets were forged at Taconic, they were finished in a two-story

wooden shop on the corner of East Street and Pomeroy Avenue. Here he employed thirty skillful gunsmiths and the Pomeroy Avenue was a very busy place. The trade of gunsmith was hereditary to the Pomeroy family. Gen. Seth Pomeroy, who served as armorer in the revolutionary army, was a noted musket manufacturer previously, his musket being a famous weapon in New England and the Canadas during the old French and Indian wars and afterwards in all the original thirteen states. One of these old weapons was picked up during the late civil war on the North Carolina Newbern battlefield and sent to Rev. Dr. Todd, and is now preserved in the Athenaeum.

WILD YOUNG MEN

In 1812 a brick public powder house was built on the north-east corner of the old cemetery, and about where the police station now stands. It was a very dangerous location, in the very center of the settlement, but it was amazingly handy for the Pomeroy armory and the village merchants, by whom it was used in common. From 1835 to 1838 the town was kept in an uproar by a number of wild young bloods, many of whom were connected with prominent families. These, after nightfall, would remove fences and gates, dislodge signs and place them in ludicrous places, fire guns in front of residences, build huge bonfires, etc. Finally they got to tampering with two pieces of artillery owned by the state, one of which they ruined by loading it to the muzzle and firing it off at midnight in front of the Lemuel Pomeroy house. At length by the means of false keys they entered the powder house and stole large quantities of gunpowder and secreted it with the cannon in a locality known only to themselves. Patience finally ceased to be a virtue with the town authorities, who wrote to the adjutant-general of the state to remove the cannon to Boston, which was accordingly done.

A FRIGHTFUL NIGHT EXPLOSION

Upon this interference the blowing up of the powder magazine was threatened, but no

notice was taken of this, and consequently no watch was placed about the building. At this time the powder house contained 700 pounds of gunpowder, 400 of which belonged to the United States government and was used in testing the Pomeroy muskets, and 300 was the property of the village merchants. On the night of July 12, 1828, this power magazine was fired with a slow match, the terrific explosion occurring at half-past eleven o'clock. Citizens had retired to their beds and were for the most part soundly asleep when they were awakened by the awful report, while the nearest houses by the blowing in of windows and doors were completely wrecked inwardly, the rubbish falling upon the terror stricken inmates, while the glass in the Congregational and Baptist churches, the Town Hall, and at least twenty residences was thoroughly shattered. The houses of Nelson Strong and Henry Callender on Fenn Street, James Warriner on East and J. H. Dunham on North Streets, suffered most severely, but strange to relate no one was killed or injured. The brick debris of the powder house was hurled long distances in all directions, and a piece of brick was afterwards found embedded in the Shearer town clock on the Congregational church, but without having disturbed the workings of the first village public time-piece.

NOBODY FOUND OUT

There was the greatest excitement over this outrage ever known in the early history of the town, and a few citizens are now living at advanced age who remember the explosion and consequent anger of the steady-going but sparse population of that day. A vigilance committee was at one appointed to make search for the perpetrators, while the selectmen offered \$200 reward for their apprehension and conviction. A good many of the prominent young men, with several rather lawless ones, were almost known to have been concerned in this happening, as well as in previous deviltries, but not enough in evidence to warrant their arrest. In fact the names of a number of these suspects have been traditionally handed down to the present generation. The vigilance committee, however, started in very determinedly to bring the culprits to justice, but which for some reason or other never amounted to

much. It was always the popular belief that these wild young men entrusted the firing of the slow match to one of the most desperate of their band, and that after touching it off he made good his escape on horseback, as in after years such an individual, when mellowed by his cups, used to brag that he was that individual. Whoever committed the deed, his companions of Jehu were certainly his fellow conspirators, and stood back in the darkness. That the vigilance committee in their investigations tracked the culprits very uncomfortably near their own homes and blood relationship, before it discontinued its research, was evident from the fact that from that time forward the young night-hawks of Pittsfield troubled the town no more.

ADDENDA - MORE EXPLOSIONS

In all the larger and in many of the smaller towns in Berkshire County from 1820 up to 1840 and 1850 there were a good many struggles between the younger men and some of the older citizenship over the firing of large cannon and old anvils bored out for ushering in the Fourth of July, and in some localities great efforts, never successful to cope with the smart boys of that day, were made to prevent the ringing of the church bells at midnight. The myriad of explosives for producing the big racket of the present day were then undreamed of, and old field pieces, home made ordinance of the loudest character, raw gum and blasting powder, and the town and village church bells were all the means to be had by the boys for ushering in their national independence day at midnight and bidding that most dutifully observed occasion goodbye at set of sun with bonfires for evening fireworks.

HIDING THE BIGGEST CANNON

In all the towns it was the custom of the boys with their skillful cannoneers to place their ordinance as near the residences of more prominent citizens as possible and with heavy charges therein tamped down with paper, grass and bricks up to the muzzles, proceed to keep themselves and families awake, and often in terror from midnight to sunrise. This, with the clangor of the bells, the yelling of the operators and a great crowd of masculine spectators, created a pandemonium of noise, accompanied as it was by the

jarring of houses and the shivering of window glass, most unpleasant to the sick and also to the well. Often mixed into these night hubbubs would be free fights between hostile town boy factions over the possession of a cannon, and feudal misunderstandings among boys of certain hostile town localities in which bitterness some town bullies grown to manhood would often take part. Sometimes, as a result of these factional fights, and old "Long Tom" cannon or a very loud-speaking old blacksmith's anvil would disappear for years to be finally fished out of a river or pond, as at Pittsfield, North Adams, Adams, Great Barrington, Lee and Williamstown, after a disappearance of very many moons, while some of this "renowned old artillery" was buried so secretly as never to be resurrected except by accident.

There are many traditions of fatal accidents in Berkshire in these earlier days by the overloading and bursting of these home-made cannon. Quite a number of boys were killed in these accidents, and many were crippled by the loss of legs, arms and eyes. It was on such an occasion that the boys in Lanesboro placed a small cannon on the steps of the country store of George Presby to wake up "Uncle George," who was somewhat hard of hearing. The cannon exploded and instantly killed a promising son of Priest Shaw, the rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the latter being a brother of Hon. Henry Shaw, the father of Josh Billings. In fact there is hardly a village in all the county where some sad accident of this character did not cause great mourning in the early days, and in which the sons of prominent pioneer people if not killed outright, were injured beyond recover or maimed for life.

While it was impossible to persuade the old time boys to fire their cannon elsewhere except on the most prominent streets and fronting the residences of the big men of the towns, the leading men of these towns took sides in the matter. Many quietly endured the nuisance on the score that they were once boys themselves, and thus liked to celebrate, while others openly kicked against the custom, and did all they could to prevent its continuance, only in every instance to be outwitted, outgeneraled and more spitefully annoyed by the lads of the past, as they certainly would be by the boys of the present

generation. Finally, those who were prominent in their opposition to this custom of celebrating the great event, came in for unusual attention in these noisy demonstrations in all the towns, and most prominently in Pittsfield.

HOSTILE JUVENILE FACTIONS

Since the issue of the May number of this monthly it has been learned that the blowing up of the Pittsfield Powder House in July 1838, was the result of the attempt of Lemuel Pomeroy, the then prominent musket manufacturer, to prevent the boys celebrating the Fourth that month and year in the old-fashioned manner. There were at this time three boy factions in Pittsfield, whose battles or skirmishes used to take place at the head of East Street. Frequently the west part boys came over and fought the center Pittsfield boys with cat-tails, the latter arming themselves with these weapons from Silver Lake, and being generally driven from the field. But the most hostile and dominant faction to the center boys was that of Elm Street, and in their mischief they were so backed up by the men of that street that it used to be a saying, "that in order to whip a man or boy on Elm Street the whole street had to be whipped," and that "every dollar on the street would be spent for the defense of a man or boy citizen of Elm Street, whatever his offense." Thus the main actors for maintaining the celebration of an old-style Fourth in opposition to Mr. Pomeroy, who had been nicknamed "The Dragon" by these boys, from his emphatic and frequent vocal use of that term when excited, was this juvenile Elm Street faction secretly pushed on by their local seniors and also sympathized with by many prominent citizens of the center of the town.

THE MIDNIGHT STRUGGLE

There were five pieces of cannon in a little engine house which stood in the rear of the present St. Stephens church lot, which Mr. Pomeroy was in charge of and refused the use, having put them under lock and key. The Elm Street boys broke in these doors and secured the ordinance and sufficient ammunition from the powder house. Constables Hall and Fairfield, (the former being in after years Dep. Sheriff Tim Hall,) securely locked the doors of the First Church (now standing on

the Maplewood grounds,) and were set to watch the structure. The cannon was removed from the engine house by breaking in the doors, while Grove Hurlburt and William Bement climbed the lightning rod to the belfry, and descending blocked the church doors on the inside so effectually that the officers could not gain an entrance, and who finally gave up the attempt. While the bell was rung with unusual clamor, one of the cannon was loaded to the muzzle and taken to the front of Mr. Pomeroy's house on East Street, lately owned by Hon. Henry W. Bishop, and sold by him last year to Bishop Worthington of Nebraska, and which is now known as the "Bishop's House." John and James Osborn were the cannoneers, the piece was touched off by John, and a terrific report resulted, followed by deafening cheers from the boys and a great crowd of assembled spectators. Mr. Pomeroy appeared in his door and called on the crowd to disperse, and quite a body of his hired men led by a stalwart colored man named Fletcher attacked the cannonaders. He was promptly knocked down by Grove Hurlburt with the cannon swab stick and belabored with it most vigorously, while the Elm Street boys soon put their opponents to flight, and Mr. Pomeroy precipitately retreated into his residence, thoroughly chagrined over the affair.

In retaliation for what he considered this grievous insult, Lemuel Pomeroy soon after had these five cannon drawn down in the night and thrown into Silver Lake, where tradition has it that they remain to the present day. The Elm Street boys were informed of this by Matthias Lanckton and made many attempts to fish them out, but all their efforts proved unsuccessful. Then followed the blowing up of the Powder House in which Mr. Pomeroy had a large amount of government powder used in testing the muskets which he annually furnished the same. In addition to the damages previously mentioned, the roof of the powder house was landed near the tannery bridge on lower East Street, the little engine house doors were blown in and its windows demolished, while there was not a pane of glass left in the old Town Hall. The front windows were also shattered in the Lemuel Pomeroy mansion and in the front part of the country store building of Buel and Ezekiel Colt, on the

present site of the Athenaeum.

THE HEARING, ALIBI AND CULPRITS

Constable Tim Hall went over Elm Street the next morning and notified 25 of its suspected boys to appear that forenoon before Matthias Lanckton and Parker L. Hall for examination. Of these were Grove Hurlburt, Bill Jones, Bill Bement, Jim Sears, Frank Brown, Ira Platt, Jr., Dave Platt, Jim Congdon, Amos Sikes, Henry Crandall, Potter and Rans Shearer, Seth Cole, Jabez Bow, Andrew and Henry Clark. They were all rigidly examined and all proved an alibi, the hardest one to account for himself being Bill Bement. The old town hall had not a whole window light in it, but was crowded with spectators, the most of whom were friendly to the arraigned juveniles. Among those present were Simeon Brown, James Francis, John White, Oscar Curtis, Ed. Cogswell, Levi Beebe, Oliver Brown, William Fairfield, Ira and Comfort Platt, Capt. Jonathan Allen, Edward A. Newton, Augustus Gold, John Osborn, Nathaniel Fairfield, George Newell, and Enoch White. Of course the real perpetrators of the explosion were never found out, but the Elm Street boys always seemed to know that Abe Schofield, a carriage maker, and George Mead, a blacksmith and general mechanic, two shy and mischievous town characters, and both having the reputation of being smarter than "steel traps," knew a good deal about it.

* * *

SILVER LAKE IN 2014. Editorial Comment

The reader of the 1901 article has just learned that Lemuel Pomeroy, precipitating the blowing up of the powder house, had drawn five cannon to Silver Lake, and thrown them in. Well, Silver Lake is still there and is nearing a clean up restoration effort to cap the polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) dumped by General Electric Co. during a long period of transformer manufacture. It's not a large lake, only a few acres, not very deep, if memory serves correctly, under 30 feet maximum. Because a capping of the bottom rather than dredging has probably left it relatively undisturbed, we wonder if modern metal detection devices might locate the missing artillery. ■

BERKSHIRE WIT

From *The Berkshire Hills*, October 1 and November 1, 1901.

Dr. Henry L. Sabin of Williamstown continued his extensive medical practice down into ripe old age. In the latter years it was with great difficulty that he could get into a carriage and the coming of winter and snow was always welcome to him. It was without difficulty that he could climb into his old style, low built "cutter," and he always welcomed the change from wheels to runners. When, however, he made the change to wheels, it could be banked upon that there was not a particle of snow in sight even on the highest hills, not even on the summit of Old Greylock.

Henry W. Kingsley of North Adams once owned a fine farm not far from the western portal of the Hoosac Tunnel. He was a prosperous agriculturist and the youngest son of an old and pioneer family. One day a man came to him to hire out. The fellow was stoutly built, politely spoken and answered several questions propounded to him very satisfactorily. Mr. Kingsley had about made up his mind to engage him at gilt-edged wages, and in order to appear quite friendly asked him if he was particular about having meat cooked for suppers. "Oh, no, Mr. Kingsley, not all particular, if I can have plenty of ham and eggs."

Billy Kennelly, for many years a skillful moulder at the flourishing furnace and machine shops of James Hunter & Co., at North Adams, was once asked if he could have three wishes what would be his choice. He studied sometime over the matter and finally replied, "Some pigtail tobacco, a hogshead of rum, and ----." The third wish was a poser and he struggled away for some time to name it. Finally in despair he yelled out "and a little more pigtail tobacco."

Jerry Pratt, the witty Williamstown stage driver, once attempted to describe a dense fog which for several hours shut down with remarkable thickness over the Hoosac Valley. "Why," said Jerry, "I was shingling a shed that morning, and I shingled right over three feet of that fog before I knew it."

While Horace Taylor lived in Pittsfield, a young commercial traveler who had the town down in his route was a frequent guest at the

American House. He had heard much about Horace Taylor and one Sabbath afternoon, learning that the wit was sitting in an easy-chair out on the front piazza of the hotel, he induced Landlord Quackenbush to take him out there and introduce him, no doubt imagining he was going to have a very enjoyable time with this notable Berkshire joker. Horace was pretty near asleep when the sudden introduction to the stranger took place, but rose from his chair dreamily and with his peculiar smile shook hands. The stranger wishing to open a familiar conversation said, "Glad to meet you Mr. Taylor. I go to Lee quite often and I am well acquainted with your brother William." Dropping back into his chair and closing his eyes Horace murmured, "Brother William always was a lucky fellow," and to all appearances went off into sound sleep.

It is related that while on a visit to Springfield, the well known Deacon Taylor of that city, who was a relative, presented Horace with a sample bottle of indelible black writing fluid which he had just commenced to manufacture, and asked him to give it a fair trial and write him concerning its merits. On the way home to Pittsfield that evening, Horace fell asleep as the train was slowly crawling up the mountain grade to Becket, the ink bottle fell to the floor from his pocket and thoroughly bespattered not only his light colored pants, but everything in the near vicinity. The letter or recommendation which Horace wrote to the Deacon vouching for the unfading indelibility of that brand of ink and its power of resistance to water, soap and sand, was so singularly droll and witty that it was published in the Springfield Republican by the Deacon and caused much merriment. Besides it established a big reputation for the Taylor ink.

Simon Cotton, another North Adams old time humorous character, was for many years a journeyman tinsmith in the employ of Isaac W. Decker, whose shop was on Eagle Street, just north of the Baptist Chapel. This incorrigible wag suddenly and to the surprise of the village, dropped his tools and enlisted in Co. B., Tenth Mass. Regiment at the

commencement of the war. Northern Berkshire folks have never tired of relating his queer doings and sayings while in the army and previous to his enlistment. It having been made a punishable offense for the soldiers to make raids upon the southerners outside the army camps, great was the surprise of the regiment one day to have Private Cotton come inside the lines with a dead rooster, unconcernedly dangling the bird by the legs. The officer of the day promptly took the offender to Col. Henry S. Briggs, who called upon the culprit for an explanation. "Your honor," said Cotton, "I went out in the field to get a good breath of fresh air, when I came across this rebel rooster and I commanded him to crow for the Union. Refusing to take this allegiance to the old stars and stripes, and showing all the obstinacy of a dangerous character, I shot him dead and have brought him in for interment in the camp fire kettle." The very innocent manner in which this joker told his story was too much for the Colonel, who while trying to hide his laughter, promptly dismissed him.

A very ragged specimen of the genus tramp was, years ago, arraigned one morning in the Pittsfield police court on a charge of drunkenness. Being given the opportunity, after the charges were preferred, of pleading his own case, he stated that he was not guilty, as when he arrived in the town the previous evening he hadn't but two cents in his pocket and consequently hadn't the means to indulge in intoxicants. This argument has no weight in Pittsfield, said the judge, and thirty days in the house of correction is a light sentence for your combined offense and prevarication regarding it. There never was any necessity for a person either of high or low estate having to possess money to get drunk with in Pittsfield. Anybody can get full here in an hour and not have a five cent shinplaster in his pocket. The people are too hospitable to the hungry and thirsty for such a happening, especially as regards the latter condition. In those days at least, there was more truth than poetry embodied in these pertinent remarks, whatever be the strata in society of the guest who could get full for nothing.

After the building of the famous Cheshire cheese and it had been sent to Thomas Jefferson, Captain Brown of that town with a man who was in his employ, were out buying

cattle in the Mohawk river valley in New York. Capt. Brown was not given much to conversation at the hotels where they put out, but his companion was very loquacious and inclined to tell big yarns. The Cheshire people always enjoyed the story this fellow told of the Cheshire cheese in the Mohawk valley. "Why," said he "Capt. Brown and I put the milk of fifty cows into that 'ere cheese." Where the joke came in was that of these fifty cows, Captain Brown owned forty-nine and the narrator but one, and that Captain Brown sat and listened to the yarn without attempting to take the wind out of his companion's bombast.

William, son of Elisha and nephew of Captain Daniel Brown, was the village wit and joker of Cheshire in the early days, did up the old town and its inhabitants in funny rhyme and was known as "Sweet Billy." Many of his jokes have been handed down through the years as rare bits of humor. Levi Mason was quite a crusty old pioneer and one fall had a large field of corn close to his farm house. Just as he had shed his coat and boots and was about to retire to bed on a very dark night, to his astonishment he heard a cow bell in his corn field ringing out the presence of a stray member of the bovine family. Without reattiring himself, he lighted his lantern and stole out without his coat and in his stockings to drive off the intruder. Just as he seemed to be coming upon the animal in one spot, the bell would be mysteriously heard tinkling in another part of the field. For a half hour he raced over the field almost chilled to the bone, yelling at the supposed animal, but without discovering her until he was quite frantic. Just then "Sweet Billy," who was manipulating this cow bell, stifled its tongue and stole away. Next morning he was at Moses Wolcott's store listening with great innocence to Uncle Levi's story of this "pesky cow," her strange maneuvers and sudden disappearance, and wondering where she could have come from.

It was a beautiful moonlight night just before a Thanksgiving day that "Sweet Billy" was plodding along home from Cheshire Corners, when the sight of a low branched apple tree on Capt. Daniel Brown's place reminded him that he had procured no turkey for the coming day of feasting, and especially on observing that the tree was full of young

and fat birds of this character. Stealing up to the tree he picked out the plumpest turkey and tied a piece of stout red string around one of its legs. Then, loudly knocking at Captain Brown's kitchen door, that gentleman appeared with a flickering tallow candle, and seeing his nephew, hospitably invited him to come in. Billy said he had no time as he was looking for a turkey which he had tied up with a red string and which was at large. He asked the captain if he had noticed such a bird in his brood, but the farmer was very sure that no such fowl was on his premises. To make certain the lantern was lighted, the apple tree inspected and there sure enough was a handsome fowl with a red string, which had evidently been broken, tied around the left leg. Billy triumphantly shouldered the turkey and marched off, the Captain remarking that the bird was finer than any specimen in his own flock. Billy made a big Thanksgiving and invited all his relatives, including Captain Brown and his wife, to his sumptuous dinner. At its close great was the merriment when Billy related his escapade of the night previous.

It is related that a pioneer citizen named Hathaway built a house which originally stood on the side of the L. Brown Renfrew residence in Adams. It was 12 X 14 feet in size, and he hired a man for ten Yankee shillings a day and his dinners to excavate the cellar. The soil proved to be very light and sandy and to Hathaway's astonishment the workman dug out the cellar in a single day. Hathaway felt that he had been euchred and refused to pay the laborer the amount stipulated, and the dispute over the matter waxed into considerable strength and engendered a good deal of hard feeling, but a compromise was finally effected by the payment of nine shillings.

One of the most thoroughly beloved of the old time pastors of the Congregational church in North Adams was Rev. Dr. Robert Crawford, who deceased not many years ago at advanced old age at Deerfield. A half century ago Crazy Sue flaunted into the old Congregational church one Sunday morning on which communion service was being held, and taking her stand on the broad aisle, cried out, "He that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation unto his soul." Sue then took her seat in one of the old fash-

ioned side box pews, the communicants being assembled in the middle pews of the church. Good Elder Crawford took up the theme as introduced by Sue, and so talked upon and explained it that she became so quieted and humbled that at the close of the service she left the church with downcast head.

Obediah Harrington, a queer and eccentric old man who for many years, or until he became almost helpless from old age and was taken to the town farm, lived a hermit's life in a cave on the west side of the Hoosac mountain, used to be seen every Sunday in attendance upon the Baptist, Congregational or Methodist churches, the members of which would feed him and fill up his old oat bags with a week's necessities. One warm Sunday morning Obediah was in his usual seat in the men's gallery in the old Congregational church, when Dr. Crawford, after a fervent invocation to the throne of divine grace, slowly turned the leaves of the pulpit Bible and took his text from Obediah. The eccentric hermit was evidently in a doze, while his bearing has already become somewhat impaired. Hearing, however, the name of "Obediah," as pronounced by Dr. Crawford, he slowly arose from his seat and said: "Did you speak to me, sir?"

It is related of Johnny O'Boil of Pittsfield, that after the great Wideawake Gathering of all Berkshire County in this town in 1860, that the Democrats felt the necessity of following up this grand Republican demonstration with a big torchlight turnout. Some 400 men responded and the battalions were formed on North Street. Johnny was in command of the men who had been drawn up in line in front of the Baptist Church. The Chief Marshal came galloping down the street giving the order to the several Captains, "form by two!" Then cried out Johnny in a stentorian voice, "Byes, attention all of yees. Form by two and threes as long as ye lasts, and one by one the rest of yees, begorra."

At the dedication of the First Baptist church in North Adams, the largest of that denomination in Berkshire County, and in Western Massachusetts as well, Crazy Sue was an attendant. A young lady coming down from the choir seats attracted Sue's attention because of wearing a fine new bonnet which was profusely decorated with

bright colored artificial flowers. This lady still lives to remember with what seeming holy horror Sue held up her hands and loudly cried, "Oh! do you ever expect to reach Heaven with that ungodly thing upon your head?"

Samuel Chapman, an old time Cheshire wag, used to tell the story than when he was a young man and was running a sawmill, a large treetop floated down the stream and so blocked up the water gate that it was impossible to stop the water wheel. That he ran this mill night and day for six weeks until the stream fell and the obstruction could be removed. The only trouble encountered was to file the saw, but that he managed to keep it in good order.

The late Gov. George N. Briggs used to be fond of telling a story of the old time village country store keeper, George Presby of Lanesboro. This store was on the main street just north of the old hotel and the Congregational church faced it on the east. George was thoroughly lazy, a poor conversationalist, and had acquired a stoop in his tall shoulders from constantly bending down to pass through a door in the basement of his store and dwelling. He was so indolent that when a customer came into his place and asked for anything on the shelves, he wouldn't take the article down until the customer informed him that he wished to buy it. He had been married to a Lenox woman who had deceased, and his sister Abby kept house for him. He used to sort the eggs brought in in trade by the farmers by passing through a hole in a board. The larger he sold at a higher price than the smaller, all being re-tailed by the dozen. He had a very feeble voice, lisped in his speech and besides was always terribly sleepy. Once having a run of fever his night watchers were often unable to waken him up to take his medicine. Gov. Briggs' story of George ran thus: One day the roof of his house and store caught fire from a chimney spark, the weather being very dry, when George being wakened up from a sound sleep in his store chair, was informed of the fact by Abby. He was so terribly scared that he could not find his voice to give the alarm, but feebly and excitedly whispered to his sister -- "Abby, Abby, say fire!"

There have been a good many damaging

freshets in North Adams and Adams down through the years, and the past summer has proved to be no exceptional one as the destruction and damage wrought by floods in that locality has shown. Many years ago, and while the railroad was being constructed between North Adams and Troy, a rise in the south branch of the Hoosic river badly washed out and undermined the embankments and culverts on the Pittsfield and North Adams railroad. The next morning Henry L. Dawes, William E. Brayton and W. W. Freeman stood in front of the Dawes stone law office, which occupied the site of the present P. J. Boland fine business block on Main Street, talking about the reports which had reached the village of the damage wrought by the big night's storm, and of the havoc which the railroad had met with between the two Adams villages. The morning was bright and sunshiny and the atmosphere full of refreshment, when Mike Flood approached them and said: "Lord Almighty, what a wash. Have you heard from the Troy and Boston railroad? It must have caught it square in the neck last night. By thunder, I'll bet North Adams against a cent that there's nothing left of that ere railroad but the original survey." This occurrence was most laughable and the utterance of Mike exceedingly witty, as the Troy and Boston railroad had been most hurriedly and shabbily built.

Everyone in North Adams previous to the war knew that Simon Cotton was constitutionally inclined at periods to quaff at the cup which intoxicates. He would labor hard for many weeks in the old tin shop of Isaac W. Decker, then standing just to the northwest of the Baptist church, when suddenly his appetite would crave the critter to an extent that he would drop his tools and go out on a full fortnight's debauch. It is told that as he was rounding up one of these periodical sprees, he lost his way home on a certain night and climbing into a neighbor's hog pen mistook it for his sleeping apartment, and lay down in the filth. Pretty soon a big hog nosed up to him, and loudly grunting began to root into his side. "Who in thunder be you?" muttered Cotton. There was no reply, but the hog somewhat startled by the voice continued to grunt. "I'm as good a fellow as you be anytime," muttered Simon, and just then

friends came to his rescue.

At the time "Sime," as he was always called, was working at Dexter's tin shop, the wage working boys in that locality had a big partnership earthen jug and had a habit of "chipping in" the funds and drawing lots to see who would go out and get it filled with beer. On one occasion "Sime" drew the short broom straw and went out on his errand. Through mistake or mischievousness the bartender overcharged "Sime" for the beverage, whereupon he commenced first to mysteriously gaze at the jug and then at the bartender. The latter began to grow uneasy over these singular actions and finally asked "Sime" what on earth was the matter. Whereupon the incorrigible wag replied, "I don't mind the over charge at all, but I think a great deal of that jug, and I don't want it strained.

Simon Cotton, to the astonishment of the citizens of North Adams, was among the very first to enlist in Capt. Elisha Smart's Co. B. Tenth Mass. Regiment of the war of the rebellion. Whatever may have been his record as a soldier, he came out of this war both well and unwounded, and after his return being offered the position of sexton at the village cemetery, declined the place, giving the very laconic reason that there were "too many dead heads already in it." But it is certain that in his regiment, by his odd pranks and odd sayings, and strange absences from battle and camp, he afforded his comrades an infinite amount of amusement and thus lightened their toil and hardship. Many times he escaped severe and merited punishment for his peculiar pranks by a keen wit which disarmed superior officers, but occasionally he was set upon an empty flour barrel and labels hung about his neck calculated to shame and ridicule him. But this did no good as a reformatory measure, for he still made things merry whatever be the situation, and the sight of even his attempts to look sad and uncomfortable would draw a peal of laughter from the sternest disciplinarian, or the most disconsolate and homesick of the rank and file.

At the time of Cotton's enlistment he was indebted to a then prominent North Adams merchant in the sum of \$40 for clothing,

which the dealer had failed to collect. It was known that with his comrades he had received a \$300 bounty, and as Co. B was marching from its camp, which was located on the site of the present mammoth Arnold Print Works, and was pointed for the the village depot to take the train for the front, this merchant walked along beside Sime. After praising Cotton for the noble and manly stand he had taken in enlisting to fight his country's battles, the merchant concluded: "Sime, you know that you owe me a small bill; as you have plenty of money, and as you have shown yourself so patriotic, I will throw off half of the bill, making it only \$20." To this Sime naively replied: "It is most generous in you to throw off half of this account, and not wishing to be out-done in kindness by you, I will throw off the other half, and that will settle it." "Oh, no, Sime," said the amazed merchant, "that won't settle it." "If that won't settle it," replied Sime, "just break an egg in it and that will settle it."

On a certain occasion a small river ran between the camps of the boys in blue and the boys in gray, and the pickets of the opposing forces lined both sides of the stream. Sime being placed on picket duty by some means entered into conversation with a Johnny picket across the stream. The result of the conversation was an acquaintance with whom Sime desired to become more intimate, and consequently he waded over into the Confederate camp. He was absent for several days, and when he returned was a tough looking object, being minus his gun, overcoat, knapsack and some of his uniform. He was taken to the Colonel's tent and asked to give an account of himself and of his condition. "Oh, I've been over visiting the Johnnies to see how they were getting along, and found 'em pretty hard up for food and clothes." When asked what had become of his gun, it being a great offence to lose this weapon, he was ready with the explanation "that he had traded it off for a cannon and a mighty likely one too. When further asked what he had done with this cannon, he replied without a change of muscle in his face, "that he had brought it as far as the river, and had to leave it on the bank, as he could not bring it into camp alone." ■

**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, PITTSFIELD, MASS.
REGISTER OF REV. WILLIAM WILBERFORCE NEWTON
DECEMBER 19, 1883 - JANUARY 16, 1899**

BAPTISMS

Location of baptism noted if other than St. Stephen's Church, Chapel or Oratory.

- April 15, 1895 Ruth J. Earnshawe (born Dec. 29, 1894), d/o Wm. G. and Anne E. Sponsors: Parents and Mary Stafford Evelyn Elizabeth Prout (born in 1894) d/o George W. and Ellen R. Sponsors: Ellen R. Prout and Mary C. Bly
Frederick Ransehausen (born Sept. 7, 1876, s/o Fred and Winifred,
Anna Gertrude Ransehausen, d/o Fred and Winifred, and
Clayton Augustus Ransehausen, s/o Fred and Winifred. Sponsors: Ida Louise Ransehausen, Bertha Fabian and Harriet Louise Ransehausen
Leonora Garfield (born April 1). d/o Wm. D. and Winnie? L. Sponsors: Parents, at House of Mercy, Pittsfield, Mass.
- Apr. 21, 1895 Mildred Mary Bemis, an adult, d/o W. D. and Emma C. Sponsor: Louise Huntington Walter and Mary Lee Adams
Adalene Marguerite Brooks, an adult, d/o W. E. and Rosalie D. Sponsors: Mary Lee Adams and Louise Huntington Walter
- May 5, 1895 Simon Lewis Mellen, an adult, s/o Nathan and Mary E.
- Aug. 24, 1895 Francis Willard Nesbit (born Apr. 15, 1895), s/o Edward Albert and Sarah Virginia Gage. Sponsor: Kate S. Bailey
- Sept. 1, 1895 Florence Gertrude Van Zile (born Sept. 1, 1894), d/o Lester? G. and Katherine M. Sponsors: Florence J. Learned and Gertrude ?
- Sept. 14, 1895 Victoria May Waddell? (born April 17, 1895), d/o Alexander H. and Catherine ?
- Sept. 8, 1895 Harvey Van Rensaler Crowell (born May 6, 1895) s/o Charles H. and Julia V. R.
Helen Barnum Humphrey (born March 15, 1895) d/o Edwin L. and Anne B.
Angie May Richmond (born June 17, 1895), d/o H. C. and Emma E.
- Sept. 22, 1895 Mary Cutting Cumnock (born July 11, 1894), d/o Arthur J. and Mary P. Sponsors: M. C. Cutting, Frances Cumnock and Walter Cutting
- Sept. 27, 1895 Richard Woodworth Smith (born Jan. 19, 1895) s/o Harry C. and Alice H. Sponsors: Parents and Frank? D. Pierce

- Sept. 29, 1895 Harvey James Petithory (born Aug. 11, 1895), s/o James L. and Louise C. Sponsor: Father
- Oct. 6, 1895 Ada Maude Roberts, an adult, d/o Thomas and Lucy E. Cooper. Sponsors: Louis Darey, Louise M. Darey and T. H. Roberts
Thomas Edwin Roberts (born July 22, 1895), s/o T. H. and Ada M. Sponsor: T. H. Roberts
- Oct. 25, 1895 Charles Wright Kinsley (born Nov. 15, 1894) s/o F. W. and H. E. Sponsors: Father and H. Edna Kinsley
Thomas Pinney (born Jan. 1, 1863), s/o William and Katherine
- Oct. 27, 1895 Grace Emily Gerst, an adult, d/o Truman G. and Mary A. Philips
William Wilber Pitcher, an adult, s/o William L. and Phoebe P. Sponsor: Winifred Pitcher
- Oct. 31, 1895 Joseph Hamilton Lewis (born Feb. 1, 1894), s/o Joseph Ward and Zillah Ronald, at 76 Henry St., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Nov. 10, 1895 Margery Kenton Barnes (born Apr. 30, 1887, d/o Horace J. and Florence A. Sponsors: D? Leavitt and Miss Wells
Charles Harold ?liffe Read (born July 6, 1892), s/o Charles H. and Margaret Y. Sponsors: ? Adams and Miss Clark
- Nov. 28, 1895 Clarence Walter Rhodes (born Sept. 7, 1895), s/o Arthur and Hannah. Sponsors: George J. Burns and Mary A. Bohlman
Frederick Cornwell Tanner (born July 30, 1891), s/o Fred W. and Lizzie G. Sponsors: Mother and Daisy Tanner
- Nov. 30, 1895 Laura West Backus (born June 23, 1894), d/o Frank Clinton and Grace West. Sponsors: Father and Grace V. Bliss, Harriet A. Bliss and Charlotte Bliss, at 138 South St., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Jan. 6, 1896 Richard Chew Powell (born July 17, 1895 at 518 Cooper St., Camden, N.J.), s/o G. W., Jr. and M. A. G. Sponsors: Parents
- Apr. 6, 1896 Martha Florence Barton (born Jan. 22, 1896), d/o Thomas and Annie. Sponsors: William H. and Martha Barton
Charles Drake Mills (born Sept. 17, 1894), s/o Francis D. and Rose Bowers. Sponsors: H. H. Schuff? and F. D. Mills
- July 8, 1896 Gladys Edna Wood (born Oct. 24, 1875?), d/o Edgar P. and Grace M.
- July 19, 1896 Ivy May O'Connell (born Sept. 24, 1894), d/o Batholomew and Mary. Sponsors: Mother, Elizabeth M. Wood and Valentina G.
- July 19, 1896 Elizabeth Henrietta Phillips (born July 12, 1896), d/o William and Jemima Elizabeth. Sponsors: Lillie Amy Brown and Lucy Cordelia Williams
- Aug. 11, 1896 Claire Elizabeth Ogden (born July 21, 1896?) d/o Levi P. and Sarah L., at 148 Appleton Ave.,

- Pittsfield, Mass.
- Aug. 23, 1896 Richard Andrew Phair (born May 23, 1896), s/o Richard A. and Adeline Brooks
- Aug. 29, 1896 John Henry Hadsell (born Nov. 3, 1836?), s/o Morris Kent and Laura, at 290 First St., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Sept. 7, 1896 Woolsey McAlpine Pollock (born June 8, 1896), s/o Edward and Katherine McAlpine. Sponsors: Edwin Bartlett, Woolsey McAlpine ?, and Mary McAlpine, at Grey Tower, Pittsfield, Mass.
- Sept. 9, 1896 Alexander Melrose Treat (born Mar. 11, 1893), s/o Fred and Sarah. Sponsors: Jesse and Selina Bush?
- Sept. 12, 1896 Elizabeth ? , an adult, d/o Richard and Elizabeth Drew Abraham
- Sept. 23, 1896 Gertrude Elizabeth Linn, an adult, d/o W. D. B. and Melinda
- Oct. 18, 1896 Lawrence Newton Durgin (born May 17, 1896), s/o Herbert Hiram and Kate Elizabeth. Sponsors: Parents and Clara Page Mills
- Dec. 2, 1896 Gertrude Williams Lewis (born May 11, 1896), d/o Joseph Ward and Zellah R., at 76 Henry St., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Dec. 9, 1896 Carolyn Pomeroy Kidd (born Sept. 28, 1896) d/o James Howard and Carolyn Bartlett. Sponsors: R. P. Bartlett, Mary Agnes Bartlett, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Kidd (by Alice Ashley Kidd, proxy), at 64 Bartlett Ave., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Dec. 26, 1896 Clinton Fields Reed (born May 11, 1896), s/o F. F., Jr. and Mary Emma. Sponsors: Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Burke
- Mildred Fuller Watson (born Sept. 30, 1896), d/o George H. and Helen. Sponsors: F. F. Reed, Jr. and Mary Emma Reed
- Jan. 10, 1897 Helen Naughton? Pitcher (born Nov. 8, 1896), d/o W. Wilber and Helen Naughton? Sponsors: Mrs. J. Flinn, Martin C. and Mary C. Bly, at 85 Elm St., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Apr. 4, 1897 Dorothy Dudley Leavitt (born Mar. 29, 1897), d/o Dr. Dudley Leavitt and Lura? Redfield Smith. Sponsors: Dr. Delany and Dr. Leavitt, at 187 South St., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Apr. 17, 1897 Irene Kellogg Brown (born Dec. 7, 1894), d/o Charles L. and Clara. Sponsor: Mrs. Brown
- Aileen? Florence Cornell (born June 29, 1888), d/o Chauncey Allen and Abbey Helena. Sponsors: Parents
- George Underhill Young (born Oct. 22, 1896), s/o George P. and Mary E. Sponsors: Mrs. Harvey Clark and Maude D. Robbins
- Allen Harvey Clark (born Dec. 3, 1896), s/o Harvey S. and Grace Brown. Sponsors: Maude D. Robbins and Ella? Kelsey
- Apr. 19, 1897 James Dwight Francis (born Jan. 13, 1897), s/o

- Henry A. and Agnes Bartlett. Sponsors: William Plunkett, Robert T. Francis and Mary Agnes Francis, on Bartlett Ave., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Apr. 25, 1897 Margaret Curtis Ames (born Jan. 14, 1897), d/o Harland E. and Carrie D. Sponsors: Mary E. Dean and Agnes C. Rathbun
- May 15, 1897 Frank Waite Rice (born Feb. 22, 1867), s/o Waitstill H. and Ruth Amelia ? Sponsor: Blanche Nourse? Rice
- June 14, 1897 Libbie Maria Stickles (born Apr. 10, 1864), d/o Oren and Isabella M. Pleu. At East Part
- June 20, 1897 Schuyler VanHoevenberg Crowell (born Feb. 27, 1897), s/o Charles Harvey and Julia Van Rennsalaer. Sponsor: Mrs. Elizabeth Munn
- July 19, 1897 Harold Axtell Burns (born Apr. 17, 1897), s/o George and Helen. Sponsors: Isaac E. Wittan and Elizabeth Root Axtell
- July 23, 1897 William? Gordon Cox (born July 15, 1896), s/o J. Harvey and R. Zipporah. Sponsors: Mrs. Sam J. Tilden and Dr. Julian Clelland
- Aug. 22, 1897 Thaddeus Clapp Berger (born Dec. 6, 1896), s/o Louis Emil and Agnes M. C. Sponsors: Parents and Stuart Harold Clapp
- Sept. 1, 1897 Margaret Way (born Aug. 4, 1893), d/o Walter H. and Helen Cadwell. Sponsors: Parents and Ruth Mills
- Sept. 7, 1897 Caroline Elizabeth Richards, an adult, at 239 Robbins Ave., Pittsfield, Mass.
- Sept. 26, 1897 Faith Elizabeth Young (born Sept. 8, 1896), d/o James H. and Elizabeth. Sponsors: Mother, Charles Smith and Agnes O. Bateman
- Oct. 3, 1897 Frederick James Kelley (born Nov. 20, 1896), s/o Charles James and Margaret Mary. Sponsors: Mother and Charlotte Brown
- Oct. 8, 1897 John Franklin Noxon (born Oct. 8, 1896) s/o John F. and Mary S. Sponsors: Parents and Mrs. W. G. Backus
- Oct. 10, 1897 Levi Porter Ogden, an adult, s/o Benjamin J.? and Augusta E.
 Benona Romain Powel, an adult, c/o Daniel S. V. and Susan B.
 Maria Elizabeth Powell, an adult, d/o Horace and Anna E. Prentice
 Fanny Abigail Parsons, an adult, d/o William and Abigail Blake
 Bessie Abigail Parsons (age 17), d/o David Henry and Fanny Abigail
 Ida May Parsons (age 13), d/o David Henry and Fanny Abigail
 Clara Louisa Parsons (age 9), d/o David Henry and Fanny Abigail
- Nov. 14, 1897 Mary Van Deusen (age 9), d/o John F. and Bella E. John Francis Van Deusen (age 6), s/o John F. and Bella E.

Jan. 16, 1898 Mary Jane Burghardt, an adult, at 81 First St.,
Pittsfield, Mass.

Apr. 9, 1898 Marion Covert Clifford (age 6 months), d/o Charles
Henry and Clara L. Sponsors: William Clifford
and Mary E. Moulton
Margaret Annie O'Connel (age 4 months), d/o Bar-
tholomew and Mercy. Sponsors: Mother and Annie
L. Ayers
Arthur Ashton Richardson (age 3), s/o Charles and
Clara. Sponsors: Mother and Maude Robinson

May 29, 1898 Charles Edward Laschky (born Mar. 4, 1888), s/o
Fred and Elizabeth
Robert Laschky (born Sept. 9, 1890). Sponsors
?land and Augusta Hoffman
Herbert George Mapletoft (born Sept. 3, 1897), s/o
George and Isabel
Hazel Estelle Harman (born Oct. 9, 1897), d/o
Frank G. and Laura S. Sponsors: Julius A.
Porter and Annie Powers
Elizabeth Milne (born Jan. 1, 1898), d/o George
and Margaret Porter. Sponsors: Parents and Jane
Milne

June 29, 1898 George Frederick Cheney (born Dec. 6, 1897), s/o
Fred Louis and Bessie G. Sponsors: H. Neill
Wilson and Mrs. Annie Lee

Aug. 12, 1898 Alfred Tennyson Sharp (born Mar. 15, 1898), s/o
Fred and Bertha. Sponsors: Parents, Joseph H.
Tetley and Ingrid C. Lundquist

Aug. 14, 1898 Alexander Smith (born Feb. 16, 1898), s/o Frank H.
and Jean Elizabeth Alexander. Sponsors: Par-
ents, Mary F. Sprague and Bessie Sprague

Sept. 11, 1898 Hazael Marie Attenborough (born Jan. 28, 1895),
d/o George S. and Hattie G. Sponsor: Mother

Sept. 16, 1898 Margaret Elizabeth Kimple (born Feb. 29, 1884),
d/o John and Elizabeth. Sponsor: Mother
Ethel Gertrude Wallis (born Oct. 10, 1885), d/o
Francis Eugene and Frances Adela. Sponsor:
Mother

Sept. 21, 1898 Isabelle Merrill (born May 15, 1898), d/o John P.
and Caroline. Sponsor: Parents, Mrs. John D.
Merrill and Ruth Elizabeth Merrill
Harold Maury? Coleman (born Nov. 12, 1892), s/o
George S. and Olive L. Sponsors: Mother and
Mrs. Mary D. Mellin
Gerald Wright Coleman (born July 17, 1896), s/o
George S. and Olive L. Sponsors: Mother and
Marea? F. Black?

Sept. 22, 1898 Mildred Florence Forbes (born June 5, 1898), d/o
Charles L., Jr. and Sadie M. Sponsors: Parents,
Charles R. Forbes and Jennie Northam?, at 29
Kellogg St., Pittsfield, Mass.

[To be continued]

STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855 WASHINGTON

[Continued from Volume 35, Number 1, Page 30]

84	1	D. B. Wright	0-5	M		Mass.
		Peter Ayres	30-40	M	Labor	Canada
		Anna Ayres	30-40	F		Mass.
		Mandy Bossey	10-15	F		Mass.
		Edward Bossey	10-15	M		Mass.
		Julia Bossey	5-10	F		Mass.
		Oakes? Bossey	0-5	M		Mass.
85	1	Elie Barnum	50-60	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Lizabeth Barnum	50-60	F		Mass.
		Milton Barnum	20-30	M		Mass.
		A. R. Barnum	15-20	F		Mass.
		H. L. Barnum	10-15	F		Mass.
		Mary P. Barnum	10-15	F		Mass.
		P. H. Chapel	5-10	M		Mass.
		Ann L. Chapel	5-10	F		Mass.
		E. A. Chapel	0-5	F		Mass.
86	1	Nelson Barnum	40-50	M	Laborer	Mass.
		H. E. Barnum	30-40	F		Mass.
		Mary E. Barnum	15-20	F		Mass.
		Paty A. Barnum	10-15	F		Mass.
		James H. Barnum	10-15	M		Mass.
87	1	Paterick Carty	40-50	M	Coalyear	Ireland
		Bridget Carty	40-50	F		Ireland
		Martin Carty	10-15	M		Ireland
		Mary Carty	5-10	F		Ireland
		Martin Carty	40-50	M		Ireland
		Paterick Ford	20-30	M		Ireland
		Paterick Conry	20-30	M		Ireland
		Tomus? Conall	20-30	M	Coalyear	Ireland
		John Martin	20-30	M	Coalyear	Ireland
		Tomus? Branley	30-40	M	Coalyear	Ireland
		Mary Branley	30-40	F		Ireland
		Mikiel? Branley	5-10	M		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: 17 September 1855						
88	1	Tomus? Branley	0-5	M		Mass.
		Mary Branley	40-50	F		Ireland
		Paterick Dealy	30-40	M	Coalyear	Ireland
		Ann Dealy	30-40	F		Ireland
		Lawrence Dealy	15-20	M		Ireland
		Winford? Foard?	5-10	M		Ireland
89	1	Mallett	40-50	M	Laborer	Canady
		Delory Mallett	40-50	F		Canady
		Tomus Mallett	20-30	M		Canady
		Mallett	5-10	F		Canady
		Mallett	0-5	M		Mass.
		Mallett	0-5	F		Mass.
		Julius? Mallett	15-20	M		Canady
		Joseph Mallett	10-15	M		Canady
		Luis Mallett	5-10	M		Canady

Washington, 1855 Census

63

		Oliver Mallett	5-10	M		Canady
		Dilean Mallett	40-50	F		Canady
		Mallett	0-5	M		Mass.
90	1	Francis Mallett	20-30	M		Canady
		Mary Mallett	20-30	F		Canady
		Mallett	0-5	F		Mass.
		Danity Mallett	5-10	F		Mass.
91	1	Eli Chapel	40-50	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Dory Chapel	30-40	F		Mass.
		Mary C. Chapel	15-20	F		Mass.
		Chapel	10-15	M		Mass.
		Albert? Chapel	10-15	M		Mass.
		Edward Chapel	30-40	M	Farmer	Mass.
		Demazy	20-30	M	Laborer	France
		Gorges Mealy	40-50	M	Laborer	France
		Francis Montand	50-60	M	Laborer	France
		Baney Marshan	20-30	M	Laborer	France
		James Martin	20-30	M	Laborer	France
		Joseph Martin	20-30	M	Laborer	France
		Grashius Canes	20-30	M	Laborer	France
		Canes	20-30	F	Laborer	France
92	1	James Phinity	30-40	M	Farm	Ireland
		Sary Phinity	30-40	F		Ireland
		Mary Ann Phinity	5-10	F		Mass.
		John Phinity	5-10	M		Mass.
		Margaret Phinity	0-5	F		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: September 13, 1855						
93	1	A. C. French	30-40	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Nancy French	30-40	F W		Mass.
		A. P. French	10-15	M W		Mass.
		D. P. French	5-10	M W		Mass.
		R. M. French	5-10	M W		Mass.
		M. E. French	0-5	M W		Mass.
		Edgar Swan	20-30	M W	Labor	Mass.
94	1	Ransom Wright	20-30	M W	Labor	Mass.
		Nancy Wright	20-30	F W		Mass.
		D. R. Wright	0-5	M W		Mass.
95	1	Peter Ayres	30-40	M W	Labor	Canady
		Anna Ayres	30-40	F W		Mass.
		Mandy Bossey	10-15	F W		Mass.
		Edward Bossey	10-15	M W		Mass.
		Julia Bossey	5-10	F W		Mass.
		Osker? Bossey	0-5	M W		Mass.
96	1	Eli T. Barnum	50-60	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Lizabeth Barnum	50-60	F W		Mass.
		Milton Barnum	20-30	M W		Mass.
		A. R. Barnum	10-20	F W		Mass.
		H. L. Barnum	10-15	F W		Mass.
		Mary S. Barnum	10-15	F W		Mass.
		I. H. Chapel	5-10	M W		Mass.
		Ann S. Chapel	5-10	F		Mass.
		E. Chapel	0-5	F W		Mass.
97	1	Nelson Barnum	40-50	M W	Laborer	Mass.

		M. E. Barnum	30-40 F W		Mass.
		Mary E. Barnum	15-20 F W		Mass.
		Paty A. Barnum	10-15 F W		Mass.
		James H. Barnum	10-15 M W		Mass.
98	1	Patrick Carty	40-50 M W	Coalyear	Ireland
		Bridget Carty	40-50 F W		Ireland
		Martin Carty	10-15 M W		Ireland
		Mary Carty	5-10 F W		Ireland
		Martin Carty	40-50 M W		Ireland
		Patrick Ford	20-30 M W		Ireland
		Patrick Cory?	20-30 M W		Ireland
		Temus Conall	20-30 M W	Coalyear	Ireland
		John Martin	20-30 M W	Coalywar	Ireland
		Temus Branley	30-40 M W	Coalyear	Ireland
		Mary Branley	30-40 F W		Ireland
		? Branley	5-10 M W		Mass.
Date of Enumeration: September 17, 1855					
99	1	Temus Branley	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Mary Branley	40-50 F W		Ireland
		Patrick Dealy	30-40 M W	Coalyear	Ireland
		Ann Dealy	30-40 F W		Ireland
		Lawrence Dealy	15-20 M W		Mass.
		Winford Foard	5-10 M W		Ireland
		Kana? Mallett	40-50 M W	Laborer	Canady
		Delory Mallett	40-50 F W		Canady
		Temus Mallett	20-30 M W		Canady
		Millian? Mallett	5-10 F W		Canady
		-lea Mallett	0-5 M W		Mass.
		Anna? Mallett	0-5 F W		Mass.
		Julius Mallett	15-20 M W		Canady
		Joseph Mallett	10-15 M W		Canady
		Luis Mallett	5-10 M W		Canady
		Oliver Mallett	5-10 M W		Canady
		Dilean Mallett	40-50 F W		Canady
		Orgil? Mallett	0-5 M W		Mass.
100	1	Francis Mallett	20-30 M W		Canady
		May Mallett	20-30 F W		Canady
		--eah Mallett	0-5 F W		Mass.
		Danity Mallett	5-10 F W		Mass.
101	1	Eli Chapel	40-50 M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary Chapel	30-40 F W		Mass.
		Mary E. Chapel	15-20 F W		Mass.
		Albert? Chapel	10-15 M W		Mass.
102	1	Edward Chapel	30-40 M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Ozem Demezy	20-30 M W	Laborer	France
		Gorges Mealy	40-50 M W	Laborer	France
		Frances Montand	50-60 M W	Laborer	France
		Baney Marshan	20-30 M W	Laborer	France
		Francis Marshan	20-30 M W	Laborer	France
		James Martin	20-30 M W	Laborer	France
		Joseph Martin	20-30 M W	Laborer	France
		Grashus Canes	20-30 M W	Laborer	France
		Ann Canes	20-30 F W		France

Washington, 1855 Census

65

103	1	James Phinity	30-40	M W	Farm	Ireland
		Sary Phinity	30-40	F W		Ireland
		Mary Ann Phinity	5-10	F W		Mass.
		John Phinity	5-10	M W		Mass.
		Margaret Phinity	0-5	F W		Mass.
		Brigit Phinity	0-5	F W		Mass.
		Mikial Phinity	0-5	M W		Mass.
104	1	William B. Church	30-40	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary E. Church	20-30	F W		Mass.
		William H. Church	0-5	M W		Mass.
		George A. Allen	10-15	M W		Mass.
105	1	Jonathan Searles	20-30	M W	Laborer	Mass.
		Marthey Searles	15-20	F W		Mass.
106	1	James Miller	20-30	M W	Sowing	Mass.
		Henryetta Miller	15-20	F W		Mass.
		Isaire Rivers	20-30	M W		Canady
		Victora Rivers	20-30	F W		Canady
		Victora Rivers	0-5	F W		Mass.
		Leo--? Rivers	0-5	F W		Mass.
107	1	Marshal King	20-30	M W		Canady
		Lucy King	20-30	F W		Canady
		Peter King	0-5	M W		Mass.
108	1	--zaire Tomus	40-50	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Idaline Tomus	30-40	F W		Mass.
		Maaryett Tomus	5-10	F W		Mass.
		Gorge Tomus	5-10	M W		Mass.
		Emerath Tomus	0-5	F W		Mass.
		Charles Tomus	0-5	M W		Mass.
109	1	Calvin Peasly	30-40	M W	Labor	Mass.
		Elizabeth Peasly	20-30	F W		Mass.
		William Peasly	0-5	M W		Mass.
		Edwin Peasly	0-5	M W		Mass.
110	1	David Putman	40-50	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Betsey Putman	30-40	F W		Mass.
		L. Putman	20-30	F W		Mass.
		E. L. Putman	15-20	F W		Mass.
		E. H. Putman	0-5	F W		Mass.
111	1	Francis Pateridge	30-40	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary Pateridge	20-30	F W		Mass.
		C. T. Pateridge	5-10	M W		Mass.
		Saryann Pateridge	0-5	F W		Mass.
		A. D. F. Pateridge	0-5	M W		Mass.
		Mary S. Pateridge	0-5	F W		Mass.
112	1	Sinthy Cook?	20-30	F W		Canada?
		Catharine E. Cook	10-15	F W		Conn.
		Eunis S. Cook	5-10	F W		N.Y.
		William F. Cook	5-10	M W		N.Y.
Date of Enumeration: 15 September 1855						
113	1	Henry Pateridge	60-70	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary Pateridge	60-70	F W		Mass.
		Sophy Pateridge	10-15	F W		Mass.
		Henry Randle?	15-10	M W	Laborer	Ohio
113	1	Benjamin Porter	50-60	M W	Farmer	Mass.

		Ebenezer Porter	20-30	M W	Laborer	Mass.
		Silence Porter	70-80	F W		Conn.
		Polly Porter	50-60	F W		Mass.
114	1	Gorge Demass	20-30	M W	Brickmaker	Canady
		Dealy Demass	15-20	F W		N.Y.
		Mary Demass	0-5	F W		Mass.
		Julius Demass	0-5	M W		Mass.
115	1	Julius Demass	20-30	M W	Brick	Canady
		Catherine Demass	20-30	M W		Ireland
		Francis Welles	20-30	M W	Brick	Canady
		Margaret Welles	10-15	F W		N.Y.
		John ?	15-20	M W	Brick	Canady
116	1	Spencer Pease	40-50	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Lepha Pease	40-50	F W		Conn.
		Anna Pease	10-15	F W		Mass.
		William Pease	5-10	M W		Mass.
		Sally Barnum	40-50	F W		Mass.
		Zira? Barnum	15-10	M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Mikiel Lahea	50-60	M W	Laborer	Ireland
		S. H. Church	30-40	M W	Laborer	Mass.
117	1	Isaac Homes	40-50	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Manda Homes	40-50	F W		Mass.
		Edwin Homes	10-15	M W		Mass.
		Loisea Homes	10-15	F W		Mass.
118	1	William Durham	20-30	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary S. Durham	20-30	F W		Mass.
119	1	Isaac Pease	30-40	M W	Farmer	Mass.
		Lucinda Pease	40-50	F W		Mass.
		Susan Pease	30-40	F W		Mass.
120	1	John Calahan	50-60	M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Mary Calahan	30-40	F W		Ireland
		Paterick Calahan	20-30	M W	Laborer	Ireland
		Matty Calahan	15-20	F W		Ireland
		Malica? Calahan	10-15	M W		Ireland
		Catharine Calahan	10-15	F W		Ireland
		Mary Ann Calahan	5-10	F W		Ireland
		John Calahan	0-5	M W		Mass.
	2	John Canady	40-50	M W	Farmer	Ireland
		Mary Canady	30-40	F W		Ireland
		Mikiel Canady	10-15	M W		Ireland
		Catharine Canady	5-10	F W		Ireland
		Alis L. Canady	0-5	F W		Mass.
		John Canady	0-5	M W		Mass.
121	1	Mikiel Kern	40-50	M W	Farmer	Ireland
		Mary Kern	30-40	F W		Ireland
		Julia? Kern	5-10	F W		Mass.
		Tomus Kern	0-5	M W		Mass.
		Mary Ann Kern	0-5	F W		Mass.
		-eaner Kern	0-5	F W		Mass.
		Anson Chapel	30-40	M W	Laborer	Mass.
		Lorenzo Putman	20-30	M W	Laborer	Mass.
		Mary Putman	20-30	F W		Mass.
122	1	Lorenzo S. Putman	0-5	M W		Mass.
		Tebe? Bobin	50-60	M W	Farmer	Canady

		Mary Ann Bobin	50-60	F	W		Canady
		Theadore Bobin	15-20	M	W	Laborer	Canady
123	1	Paterick Macclaflin	40-50	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Margarite Macklaflin	30-40	F	W		Ireland
		Mary Macclaflin	10-15	F	W		Ireland
		Mikiel Macclaflin	5-10	M	W		Ireland
		Paterick Macclaflin	5-10	M	W		Ireland
		Bridget Macklaflin	5-10	F	W		Mass.
		Margaret Macklaflin	5-10	F	W		Mass.
		Catharine Macklaflin	5-10	F	W		Mass.
124	1	Paterick Macclaflin	30-40	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Margaret Mackalflin	20-30	F	W		Ireland
		Mikiele Macclaflin	5-10	F	W		Mass.
		Tomus Coallman	30-40	M	W	Laborer	Ireland
		Peter Porton	20-30	M	W	Laborer	Ireland
		Mikiel Macklaflin	20-30	M	W	Laborer	Ireland
125	1	Hary Hubbard	50-60	M	W	Farmer	Mass.
		Eleanor Hubbard	60-70	F	W		Mass.
		James G. Hubbard	30-40	M	W	Farmer	Mass.
		S. S. Hubbard	20-30	F	W		Mass.
		M. A. Hubbard	15-20	F	W		Mass.
126	1	Eliger Hall	30-40	M	W	Choping	N.Y.
		Hanah Hall	20-30	F	W		N.Y.
		John Hall	15-20	M	W		N.Y.
		Mary Hall	5-10	F	W		N.Y.
		James Hall	30-40	M	W	Choping	N.Y.
		Gorge Hall	20-30	M	W	Choping	N.Y.
		Jane Hall	20-30	F	W		Conn.
		Robert Hall	0-5	M	W		Conn
		William Hall	0-5	M	W		Mass.
127	1	Tomus Carty	40-50	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Bridget Carty	40-50	F	W		Ireland
		Mary Carty	10-15	F	W		Ireland
		Mikiel Carty	5-10	M	W		Mass.
128	1	Mikiel Berk	30-40	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Jane Berk	20-30	F	W		Ireland
		Margaret Berk	0-5	F	W		Ireland
		Johnny Berk	0-5	M	W		Mass.
		Edwin? Berk	20-30	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		John Martin	20-30	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
129	1	Edwin Flin	20-30	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		James Kingston	30-40	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Martin Farling	40-50	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		John Carty	30-40	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Catharine Carty	30-40	F	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Paterick Miscut?	20-30	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Paterick Cane	30-40	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Tomus Obrine	30-40	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Paterick Navin	20-30	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Tomus Dealy	20-30	M	W	Coaling	Ireland
		Mary Dealy	15-20	F	W	Coaling	Ireland
		William Dealey	0-5	M	W		Mass.

[To be continued]

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MARY ANTOINETTE DOOLITTLE

PRIOR TO BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE SHAKER COMMUNITY AT NEW LEBANON, NEW YORK, IN THE YEAR 1824

[Continued from Volume 35, Number 1, Page 11]

Whoever named me, was liberal, so far as length was concerned. My full name was Mary Antoinette Doolittle, which made twenty three letters in all; quite enough for one child. In childhood and youth I was called Mary.

Days passed on, and my father said to me: "Mary, I thought you were going to the Shakers; what are you waiting for?" I took him at his word, and I thought I would spend a week with Polly and the sisters. When I left the house, they did not think for a moment that I purposed going to the Sisters, but thought I would call upon an aunt living near by and return to them the next day. They waited four days and I did not return and then became alarmed, and began to think there was something more earnest and serious than they had previously thought. On the fifth day, I returned home; then came the tug of war. They laughed at me, argued with me and tried to reason with me; and at last gathered up all the absurd stories they had ever heard about the Shakers, and repeated them; but all to no purpose.

My eldest brothers came home from Albany; they tried to persuade me, and wanted that I should agree to wait until Spring, and go with them to Albany and attend school during the winter term, then - if I still kept the same mind - they would consent to my going with the Shakers. I knew I was young to take such a step contrary to the wishes of all of my friends - I was then fourteen years of age - and I agreed to do as they requested. I had previously told Polly and the sisters that I would surely be with them in the course of a few weeks; and I thought it would not be honorable for me not to let them know of my decision to wait a few months; and one Saturday afternoon I asked my mother's permission to take my little sister, and go to the village and spend the night, and take leave of my Shaker friends; and I would return home immediately after attending their meeting on the Sabbath. She kindly gave consent.

I had previously read considerable in a book published by the "United Society of Shakers" called the "Millennial Church." I was deeply interested in it, and had a strong desire that my friends also should have an opportunity to read it, for I thought it would be a means of removing erroneous opinions from their minds regarding the Shakers. I asked Polly if she would allow me to take it home for a time. She said: "I was welcome to do so." It was my purpose to call after meetings, get the book and return home immediately. When we came out from church, I was somewhat surprised at finding my two eldest brothers in waiting for us. They said our parents wished us to home at once as there was a friend waiting to see us. I thought it would not be best, under the circumstances, to take the book at that time, and we said a hasty farewell to the Shaker Sisters, and went with our brothers.

When we reached home, we found an old friend and neighbor (George Langdon), to whom in early childhood I was strongly attached; he then lived some three or four miles distant from us. He kindly invited me to go with him and spend a few weeks in his family, until my brothers were ready to take me to Albany. I accepted the invitation, and spent about three weeks with them; but was not happy. They were kind, and took pains to interest and make me feel at home. I recollect that one Sabbath while I was at their home, G. L., and some of his family went to Shaker meeting; and how intensely I listened to all that had to say about the meeting, after they returned home. I said nothing to them of the workings of my own mind but felt that my body was in one place, and my heart in another; and I concluded not to tarry longer with them, and soon returned home.

One evening, as I stood looking out of the window, I saw many bright lights in Shaker village, and my heart almost leaped within me. I drew my mother's attention, and said: "I feel like flying up that hill; I wish I could be there!" She replied "Mary, my child,

what does ail you?" I said: "I do not know, but that is the way I feel."

One morning, while seated at the breakfast table, my eldest sister - who had been more like a tender watchful mother to me than a mere sister - tried to reason with, and persuade me to give up my foolish notions about the Shakers, and accept the advice of my best friends. I said to her, "Harriet, I realize how intensely you are interested in my welfare; but what can I do?" It seems to me that the way of life and of death are opened before me; and it is for me to decide which path I will walk in." There was a constant conflict in my mind, whether it were better for me to seek some way to drown my feelings, and accept the advice of those who had nurtured me in infancy, provided for me in childhood and youth, and who still had strong moral and legal claims upon me, or to yield to and strive to carry out my strong convictions of duty in the other direction; which conviction seemed impossible for me to divest myself of. However, I resolved to fulfill the promise I had made to my brothers, which was that I would wait until Spring.

MORE ABOUT THAT "SHAKER BOOK."

I did not forget the book and wished I had it in my possession; but how could I obtain it, was a query in my mind. I knew I could not gain consent, if I should ask, to go to the village and get it. I did not want to be deceitful, nor disobedient; for we were early taught obedience to our parents and teachers; but I think it was more from feelings of love to our parents than fear of punishment that prompted us to obey them. I thought the matter over and was puzzled to know how to act, or what to do. I wanted the book, and felt that I must have it. It occurred to me how I could get it, in what appeared to me to be a reasonable way.

My grandmother - on my father's side - married the second time and lived with her husband (Amos Broad) on the summit of the mountain, between New Lebanon Springs and Pittsfield, on the old stage road, and kept what was called the "Stage House." The children of our family often went and spent some time with our grandmother, who seemed to be fond of us. I formed what I

deemed a feasible and legitimate plan, which was to get permission to visit my grandmother for a few days, and on my way thither to call at the Shakers, and get the book. I did not intend to tarry there an hour.

Accordingly, on the morning of the second day of November, 1824, I said: "Mother, are you willing for me to go and spend a week with grandmother?" She replied, "Yes, my child, willing for you to go anywhere except the Shakers." I made no reply; but while in another room, I heard my eldest sister say: "Mother, I believe Mary will go to the Shakers." When I returned, mother said to me, "Now, Mary, do not go to the Shakers." I replied, "Do you think I would ask to go to see grandmother, and go to the Shakers instead?" She said, "No, I do not think you would." This occurrence gave me some uneasiness; but I reasoned that there could be no harm in calling at the door to get the "book."

A neighbor of ours was going in a carriage, about half way to my grandmother's, and he agreed to give me a ride as far as he went. I started out in good spirits, and thought all would be well. The road was rough, and for two reasons I preferred walking. I gave the neighbor but one reason, that of the roughness of the road; but I knew if I continued to ride with him, I must go a different road from the one that led to where the desired "book" was. So I concluded to take my time and walk. It took me longer to climb the hill than I anticipated, and when I called, I learned by inquiry that the way which lay across the mountain, and led to my grandmother's house, was long, lonely and dreary.

Sister Polly thought it would be quite imprudent for me to attempt the journey that day, but of course left me to choose my own course of action. I did not wish to risk the danger of being overtaken by night-fall on a lone mountain, and I concluded to stay until morning.

AN UNWELCOME SNOW STORM.

When I awoke in the morning, judge of my surprise at finding the ground covered with snow, twelve inches deep. What could I

do under the circumstances? I felt that I had committed a wrong, but where was the remedy? I knew I did not intend it, and thought I could do no better - under the circumstances - than to bide the time for the snow to melt away, so that I could pursue my journey without danger.

I waited until Thursday morning, November 5th, and then started to cross the mountain. After leaving the main road, for two miles I followed a path, seldom traveled except by woodmen. It was a lovely morning and there was nothing to impede my course as I slowly threaded my way through the woodland, as the path opened before me a little at a time. I was eager to devour some of the contents of the book that I had taken so much pains to get into my hands, and I walked and read. Occasionally a little squirrel would run across the path before me and arrest my attention, or a singing bird would chirp a few notes in my ears as if to let me know there was some living thing in being beside myself.

I reached my grandmother's dwelling about noon-day. I told her about my book, and she wished me to read to her. She felt friendly toward the Shakers, and became quite interested; but my grandfather, by marriage, was bitter in his feelings toward them. I will not say that he hated them, but he so disliked them, that if the earth had opened its mouth and swallowed them up, I do not think he would have mourned over the event more than forty days and nights. He did not like to have me read the "Shaker book," and he watched for an opportunity to get it into his own hands and hide it from me; and then tried to make me think he had destroyed it.

The Sabbath following, his daughter Lucy - who married Allen Spencer, and lived in the valley below - came to visit her parents. They were my friends and had influence over him. Allen told him he had better give it back to me for it was borrowed, and if he kept it, he would have to be responsible for it. He returned it to me, and on Sabbath evening I went home with Allen and Lucy, and stayed with them over night and went in

the morning to my father's house having been absent eight days. While at my uncle's in the evening, he said to me, "Mary, if I wanted to be a Shaker, I would be one regardless of opposition." His father (Squire Spencer) also told my father that if any of his children should choose to cast their lot with the Shakers, he would not place any obstacles in their way. I afterward learned that Priest Churchill - the settled Presbyterian minister of New Lebanon - said if I were his daughter, he would head me up in a hogshead sooner than let me go to the Shakers. I gave thanks that I was not a creed-bound minister's daughter.

MY SEVEREST STRUGGLE

Again I found myself in my humble home. My father was away, but I found they had anticipated my wanderings and had given the subject much serious thought in my absence. I did not try to conceal anything from them, but gave a strict account of my doings from the time I left them. One of my youngest sisters said to me, "Father is going to have a serious talk with you when he gets home. He says he cannot have you so unsettled in your mind, for it will ruin you, and he is going to give you your choice to be a Shaker, or to break off from them entirely." This gave me opportunity for reflection; and I said to myself, "Shall I, can I, turn from those who have always been my true friends and guardians - as best they knew - and cast my lot among strangers? How to you know but this is obstinacy on your part that may prove your ruin?" My heart was heavy, but I kept quiet and awaited the result.

In the evening, my father, in the presence of the rest of the family, commenced a conversation that continued nearly two hours. If he had been severe with me, I would have borne it better, As it was it seemed as if it would break my heart. He reasoned, but did not chide, and tried to make me understand what an important step I was about to take, and he feared that I did not realize what the consequences might be; but said, "He would not force me, one way, or the other; said he was not willing to take the responsibility after

GUIDE TO INTERPRETATION OF THE 1855 MASSACHUSETTS CENSUS

The taking of a census in 1855 was mandated by an act of the General Court of Massachusetts, 21 May 1855. The act provided that a census of each city and town be taken between 1 June and 1 October 1855. The census was to be "as of" the first day of June of the census year.

Reports on the taking of the census stated that the instructions were generally "well observed". Some enumerators, however, were so negligent or heedless that their reports were "scarcely fit to be received". Cautions, still appropriate, were given against relying too absolutely on the census because of "the great liability to error", and the "usual difficulty of arriving at the truth" arising from ignorance and prejudice.

To secure uniform reporting, blank forms were provided and the following data were to be recorded:

1. Dwelling houses numbered in the order of their visitation.
2. Families numbered in the order of visitation, ("family" being all those living in one house, public house or institution.)
3. Name of every person whose usual place of residence was in this family 1 June 1855. Note: Excluded were those born after 1 June. Included were those who had died after 1 June and those temporarily absent. Relationship of household members to the head of the household was not recorded. An aid in establishing relationships exists, nevertheless, in the requirement that the enumerator arrange names in a given order:
 - (1) Master
 - (2) Mistress
 - (3) Children in order of age
 - (4) Male domestics, etc.
 - (5) Female domestics, etc.
 - (6) Boarders, etc.
4. Age. To be given as of last birthday unless next birthday would be within four months, then age at next birthday.
5. Sex.
6. Color. B for Blacks, M for Mulatto, no entry for Whites.
7. Profession, occupation or trade for each male over fifteen. For clergymen, initial letters of denomination.
8. Place of birth. State or territory if native born; country if foreign born.
9. Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper or convict.

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. BOX 1437

PITTSFIELD, MA 01202-1437

Change Service Requested

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

07

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

