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Berkshire Genealogist

Volume 38 Number 2 Spring 2017

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in family history and genealogy. Annual dues are $12.00 for individuals and $14.00 for families. Overseas dues are $25.00.

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berkshire genealogist

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BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

Donald L. Lutes, Jr.
Managing Editor

WORLD WAR I VETERANS - ROBERT PARSONS CANDE

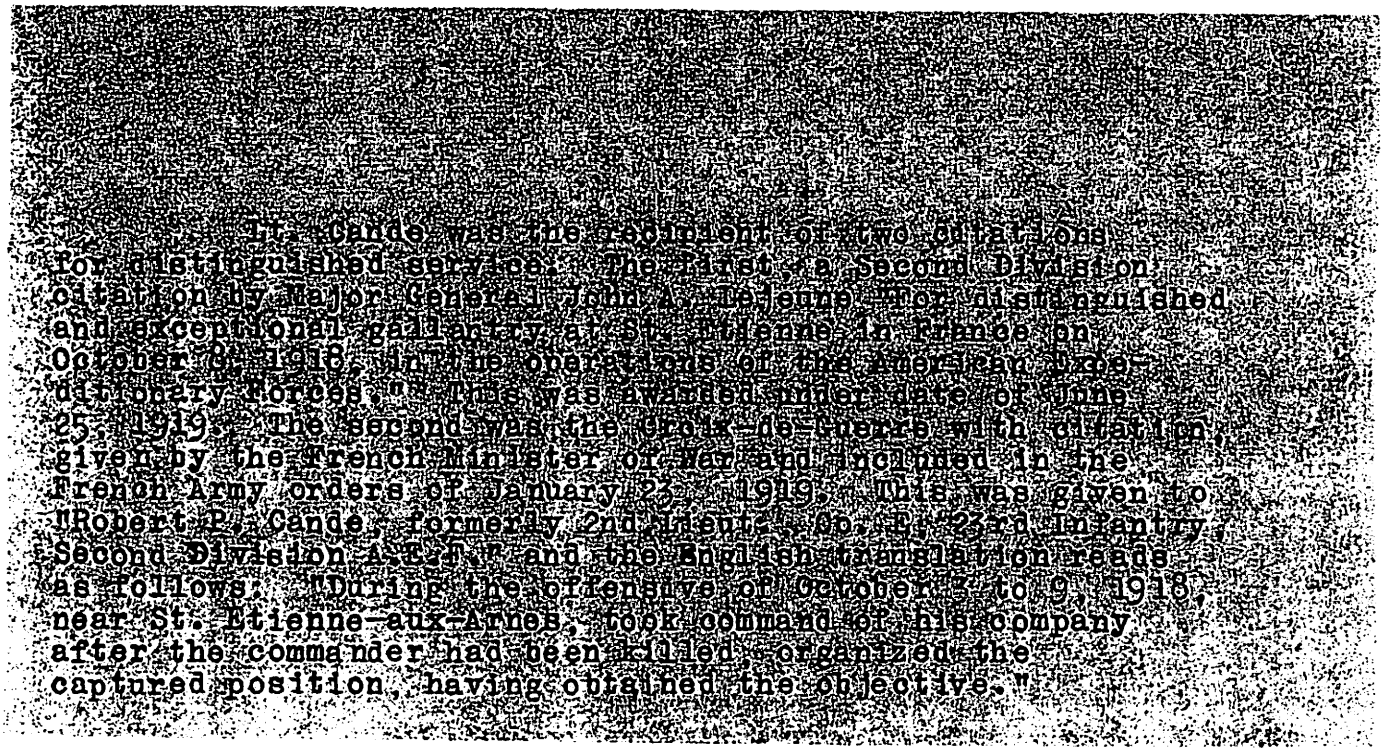
"Bob" Cande was born in Pittsfield June 22, 1896, son of Frank H. and Carrie J. Cande, both of whom now reside at 541 South St., Pittsfield. Bob was educated in the grammar schools and high school of his native city, and then attended Monson Academy from which he graduated in 1915. He then went to Massachusetts Agricultural for two years.

While still a student at M.A.C. and legally a resident of Pittsfield, he enlisted and was sworn in at Camp Upton, Mass. on January 5, 1918. He was assigned to the 3rd Officers Training School at Camp Upton and remained here for about two months. He was then assigned to Co. A of the 308th Infantry stationed at Camp Upton while awaiting his commission. He received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Infantry on June 1, 1918, but was not sworn in until July, 1918. He was at that time in France, having sailed on April 1 from Hoboken, N.J. on the steamer "Lapland". At the time of being commissioned he was assigned to Co. E of the 23rd Infantry of the 2nd Div. While an officer of this organization he took part in the St. Mihiel Offensive Sept. 12 to 15, 1918; Champagne offensive Oct. 2 to 10; and the Meuse Argonne Nov. 1 to 11, 1918. On May 1, 1919 he was transferred to Co. A of the 316th Infantry, 79th Division and remained with this organization until discharged. He set foot in the United States again on June 11, 1919, landing at Hoboken, N. J., having made the return trip from France on the "Cape Finis Terre". He was discharged June 13, 1919, holding at that time the rank of First Lieutenant.

Lt. Cande was the recipient of two citations for distinguished service. The first, a 2nd Division citation by Major General John A. Lejeune "For distinguished and exceptional gallantry at St. Etienne in France on October 8, 1918, in the

the operations of the American Expeditionary Forces." This was awarded under date of June 25, 1919. The second was the Croix-de-Guerre with citation, given by the French Minister of War and included in the French Army orders of January 23, 1919. This was given to "Robert P. Cande, formerly 2nd Lieut., Co. E, 23rd Infantry, Second Division A.E.F." and the English translation reads as follows: "During the offensive of October 3 to 9, 1918, near St. Etienne-aux-Arnes, took command of his company after the commander had been killed, organized the captured position, having obtained the objective."

In 1921 he married Miss Hazel M. Runnells in Springfield. They are now the parents of one child, Frederick, age 5 years, and live at 10 Bay State Rd., Pittsfield. Mr. Cande is engaged in the Insurance business in Pittsfield.


Lt. Cande was the recipient of two citations for distinguished service. The first, a Second Division citation by Major General John A. Lejeune "for distinguished and exceptional gallantry at St. Etienne in France on October 8, 1918, in the operations of the American Expeditionary Forces." This was awarded under date of June 25, 1919. The second was the Croix-de-Guerre with citation, given by the French Minister of War and included in the French Army orders of January 23, 1919. This was given to "Robert P. Cande, formerly 2nd Lieut., Co. E, 23rd Infantry, Second Division A.E.F." and the English translation reads as follows: "During the offensive of October 3 to 9, 1918, near St. Etienne-aux-Arnes, took command of his company after the commander had been killed, organized the captured position, having obtained the objective."

Pittsfield **Massachusetts**

WORLD WAR VETERAN'S SERVICE RECORD

Name in Full: Robert Parsons Cande
Present Address: 10 Bay State Rd.
Date and Place of Birth: June 24, 1896 Pitts.

Parents' Names and Address
Father: Mr. Frank H. 541 North
Mother: Mrs. Carrie J.
Education: Pittsfield Grammar P. H. S.
~~Wallaston~~ Monson Academy, 1915. Mass Agr. ...
Place of Employment at Date of Enlistment: Student, Mass Agr. ... 4 yrs

Residence at Date of Enlistment: 541
Marriage Date, Place and to Whom: 1921, Springfield Hazel M. Russell.
Children: Frederick (5)
Citizenship: native born.
Previous Service: none

WORLD WAR RECORD

Date and Place of Enlistment: Jan. 5, 1918, Camp Upton, ~~[illegible]~~ N.Y.
Rank or Grade at Enlistment: Private.
Organizations or Stations and Date: 3rd O.T.S. at Camp Upton, about 2 mos; until commission
Then Co. A 308th Inf. until sworn in on commission
Assigned Co. E, 23rd, 2nd Div. until May 1, 1919.
Co. A 316th Inf. 79th Div. until disch.
Overseas Service
Sailed: April 1, 1918 From: Hoboken, N.J. on S. S. Lapland.
Arrived U. S. A.: June 11, 1919 At: Hoboken, N.J. on S. S. Cape Finisterre
Citations or Medals: 2nd Divisional Citation. Croix de Guerre
Wounds
Date and place of Discharge
Rank or Grade at Discharge
Remarks

Commissioned ~~July~~ June 1, 1918.
Sworn in July, 1918.

St. Mihiel, Sept. 12-15, 1918.
Champagne, Oct. 8-10, 1918.
Meuse-Argonne, Nov. 1-11, 1918.

(Photo)

I certify that I have — seen this person's discharge papers or equivalent.

Signed: L. H. Lionel [illegible]
11-26-20

Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Thursday, August 7, 1947.

R. P. Cande Dies at 51

World War I Veteran Served As Hotel Clerk

Robert P. Cande, 51, of 17 Buel Street, died at his home last night after a short illness. Born in Pittsfield, June 22, 1896, he was the son of Mrs. Carrie Rice Cande and the late Attorney Frank H. Cande, who was clerk of Berkshire County Court for many years.

A 1913 graduate of Pittsfield High School, he studied at Monson Academy for one year. His education was interrupted by World War I and he went overseas with the 23d Infantry of the Second Division, being discharged as a first lieutenant.

After the war he conducted an insurance company at 42 North Street, and at one time was census supervisor of Berkshire County. Later he was employed by the U.S. Engineers with headquarters at Detroit, Mich. He returned to Pittsfield two years ago, and recently was night clerk at the Sheraton Hotel.

A communicant of the South Congregational Church, he also was a member of the Mystic Lodge of Masons, and the Collins Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. He is survived by his mother, two sons, Frederick R. of Pittsfield and Donald P. of Lenox, two sisters, Mrs. Carolyn C. Hopkins of Pittsfield and Miss Esther Cande of New York City, and one brother, Donald H. of Dalton.

The funeral will be Saturday afternoon at 2, in the Wellington Funeral Home, followed by burial in Sheffield. The family will meet friends tomorrow from 7 to 9 at the funeral home.

Friday, August 8, 1947.

Robert P. Cande

Funeral services for Robert P. Cande, World War I veteran, will be tomorrow afternoon at 2 at the Wellington Funeral Home. Rev. George Tuttle, former pastor of the South Congregational Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Sheffield Cemetery.

The family will meet friends at the funeral home tonight from 7 to 9.

Robert P. Cande

Funeral services for Robert P. Cande were at 2 this afternoon at the Wellington Funeral Home. Rev. George Tuttle, former pastor of South Congregational Church, officiated. Burial was in Sheffield Cemetery.

BERKSHIRE MEN OF WORTH

From *The Berkshire Evening Eagle*, Joseph Ward Lewis' Columns, 1933-35.

HIRAM SIBLEY
May 2, 1934
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE

Hiram Sibley who was born in North Adams in 1807, was not only a business man of varied and exceedingly successful activities, but he was greatly interested in the development of his adopted city of Rochester along lines calculated to enhance its attractiveness of residence. The buildings which he erected were architecturally creditable and were designed to afford accommodation for important public institutions.

He was a staunch friend of education; very likely this interest arose from a feeling that he was able to give to the young opportunities for helping those in search of educational advantages and generous in proving amply for their realization.

He was a pioneer in providing for the teaching of the mechanic arts. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology was incorporated April 10, 1861 and Worcester Polytechnic Institute May 10, 1865. Sibley was a trustee of Cornell University and erected on this campus and endowed a beautiful building for teaching the mechanic arts shortly after the New England institutions were ready for students. On June 17, 1885 a gathering of distinguished educators and other friends of Cornell, was held on the campus at Ithaca to celebrate the opening of the Sibley College Extension. On that occasion a portrait of the donor was unveiled and a tablet was dedicated to the memory of Louis Agassiz. I quote from one of the addresses referring to Sibley: "No man of the present time has contributed more in a practical way and for a practical purpose to the present necessities of the country in the promotion of the mechanic arts, 'the blacksmith's hammer and the woodsmen's axe' and no man is doing more in the saving of time - time being money, time being prosperity, and time in this rapid age of ours means that men seem to live longer in results in a year that they lived in a score of years that are past."

Sibley was also for many years a trustee of Rochester University and there he built a Sibley library on what is now the women's campus. These gifts for education are outstanding illustrations of his benefactions; many others, less important in character, are to his credit.

He was one of the organizers of the Rochester Historical Society and a member of its board of managers from the beginning until his death. He had many other connections with the social, cultural, civic and business life of the community.

He did not forget the town of his birth. In 1869 he gave the land and furnished the money for the construction of St. John's Episcopal Church in North Adams. Mrs. Sibley continued the Sibley interest in the church and furnished funds for an addition and for a parish house. Mrs. Sibley died in 1903.

The Rochester Municipal Museum has a room devoted to a display of documents, apparatus equipment and furniture relating to the Western Union. It has all the furniture used by the company at the time of its organization. Among the documents is a certificate of stock of the company signed by Hiram Sibley as president.

A son, Hiram W. Sibley, who died in 1932, was a trustee and a generous friend of Rochester University. Among his gifts was a collection of music literature and music scores to be available to all Rochester citizens as a circulating music library. The collection which bears the name of the younger Sibley is now in the Eastman School of Music, one of the departments of the university, and is probably the largest music library in any university or school of music in this country.

Hiram Sibley was of course acquainted with Chester Dewey, Sheffield native, 1781, Williams graduate and teacher in Williamstown and Pittsfield, and from 1836 to his death in 1867, in Rochester.

MAY 9, 1934

Mrs. Alexander Sedgwick was buried the other day in a circular lot in the Stockbridge Cemetery where are buried five generations of Sedgwicks and also Elizabeth Freeman, known in literature and history as Mumbet. In early life a slave, Mumbet in 1780 ran away from her master, Colonel John Ashley of Sheffield, and found refuge in Stockbridge. There Theodore Sedgwick successfully prosecuted an action to establish her freedom. For nearly a half century Mumbet made her home with the Sedgwicks, - "She neither wasted time nor property. She never violated a trust nor failed to perform a duty," are among the words on the stone at the head of her grave.

Winning Mumbet's case is regarded as the greatest public service Theodore Sedgwick, born in Connecticut, rendered his adopted State. Most authorities claim that he based his argument on the proposition that the bill of rights of the Constitution of the State, declared that "all men are born free and equal," and that the practical application of the rule in this case, in effect abolished slavery in Massachusetts.

Theodore Sedgwick was born in Hartford in May 1746. He entered Yale in the class of 1765 but did not graduate, having been suspended for some boyish prank, and not thereafter resuming his studies at New Haven. He began the study of divinity but finally decided on the law for a profession and was admitted to the bar in April 1766. He hung out his shingle as a lawyer in Great Barrington but soon removed to Sheffield and in 1785 to Stockbridge, where the historic mansion erected by him in that year is still standing. He professional attainments were marked. He acquired an extensive practice and became prominent in the civil affairs of the south part of the county. He was often sent to the Legislature both in the province days and afterwards under the Constitution. One of his law students in Stockbridge was Daniel Dewey, a native of Sheffield and in after life a justice of the Supreme Judicial Court.

On the outbreak of the Revolution he took an active part on the side of the Americans. He served on the staff of General John Thomas in the expedition to Canada in 1776, and afterwards in an unofficial capacity procured supplies for the army. He was a delegate from Massachusetts to the Continental Congress in 1785-86. He was so active in putting down Shays' rebellion that his life was threatened. His house in Stockbridge was attacked by the enraged insurgents who were finally driven off. Mumbet saved the family silver by a clever ruse.

In 1788 Sedgwick was speaker of the House of Representatives in Massachusetts and a member of the State Convention called to ratify the Constitution of the United States. He was an ardent and influential advocate of ratification. He represented this Congressional district in the first four Congresses, 1789 to 1797. Elected to the Senate of the United States, to succeed Caleb Strong of Northampton, he was president pro tempore in 1797. His term of service expired in 1799 and he went back to the House of Representatives for two years, being speaker during the term.

His intense partisanship in political life was disclosed in 1800 when it was announced that there was a tied vote for President between Jefferson and Burr. The Massachusetts delegation which was Federalist, led by Sedgwick and Harrison Grey Otis voted for Burr when the election was thrown into the House of Representatives. Alexander Hamilton and other leading Federalists stoutly opposed the scheme although Jefferson and he had never agreed in Washington's administration. He felt that Jefferson was a safer man for the country than Burr. Federalists from other sections declined to vote, thus giving majorities in their States for Jefferson. Sedgwick was angry at the outcome and it was with bad grace that as Speaker of the House he announced the election of Jefferson. Like President John Adams he would not attend the inauguration.

MAY 16, 1934

Last week I wrote of the long political career of Theodore Sedgwick, a resident of Stockbridge. In 1802, Governor Caleb Strong appointed him an associate justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth. He remained on the bench until his death at Boston, January 24, 1813. At the time of Sedgwick's appointment, he was a

national figure and the court then consisting of five members at once began to feel and show effects of his personality and outstanding ability. Chief Justice Francis Dana and Judge Robert Treat Paine were well along in years and Judge Bradbury was soon stricken with the illness which caused his removal. The result was that the new member at once took a commanding position in the judiciary. His opinions were characterized by clearness and strong logic. Judge Sedgwick was a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Yale gave him the honorary degree of A.M. in 1772 and in 1799 the College of Nassau, afterwards Princeton, gave him an LL.D.

Judge Sedgwick was a descendant of Robert Sedgwick of Charlestown, a successful merchant who was one of the founders of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in 1638.

Theodore Sedgwick, oldest son of the judge and his second wife Pamela Wright was born in Sheffield in December, 1780; graduated from Yale in 1798; studied law with his father; admitted to the bar in 1801, he practiced his profession in Albany for twenty years. In 1821 he returned to this county with impaired health and engaged in farming at Stockbridge. He was a member of the State House of Representatives in 1824, 1835 and 1827. He introduced a bill for the construction of the Western Railroad from Boston to Albany and powerfully aided in its enactment. He ran for Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket for several successive years, but failed to be elected. He was repeatedly president of the Berkshire Agricultural Society which was founded by Elkanah Watson of Pittsfield. He was the author of several works on political and economic questions and his addresses at the annual meetings of the Agricultural Society in 1823 and 1830 were also published. He was an earnest advocate of free trade and temperance, and an opponent of slavery.

He died in Pittsfield November 7, 1829. Death occurred from a stroke of apoplexy at the close of an address to the Democrats of Pittsfield.

In the third generation of direct descent was another Theodore who was born January 27, 1811 during the second Theodore's residence in Albany. He had a very distinguished career in law and in State and Federal offices and wrote many books on the law and on public questions. Lawyers will recall that he was the author of "Sedgwick on the Measure of Damages," 1847, a legal classic which has passed through many revisions. If my memory serves me, they were all edited by members of the Sedgwick family. This Theodore was one of the New York committee for the Berkshire Jubilee in 1844 and he made a very witty after dinner speech on that occasion.

I think this Theodore never established a residence in Stockbridge but he died there December 9, 1859, doubtless at the home of his widowed mother, who was of the famous Livingston family.

There were other distinguished members of the Sedgwick family, among them Henry Sedgwick, born in Sheffield September 22, 1785, a son of the first Theodore. He was graduated from Williams in 1804 and was an eminent member of the bar of New York City. He was a prolific writer on legal subjects. David Dudley Field was a law student in his office. His health failing, he went to Stockbridge where he died December 23, 1831. It was this Theodore who, attracted by the beauty of (William Cullen) Bryant's poems, urged him to abandon Great Barrington and the law and in 1825 found work in New York City which ultimately led to Bryant's great editorial career on the New York Evening Post.

MAY 23, 1934

Joseph E. A. Smith in his History of Pittsfield, refers to one of Herman Melville's works written at Arrow Head as "October Mountain, a sketch of mingled philosophy and word-painted landscape, which found its inspiration in the mossy and brilliant autumnal tints presented by a prominent and thickly-wooded spur of the Hoosac Mountains, as seen from the south-eastern windows, at Arrow Head, on a fine day after the early frosts."

I have been trying to locate this work, but without success. Librarians in many institutions have been unable to furnish any

clue. The librarian of one of the leading colleges writes that no complete biography of Melville's works has as yet been made. Private libraries where it was thought the missing work might be found have been searched. Descendants of Melville have been interviewed.

I am confident that Melville wrote a work thus entitled which had for its theme, a blending of the quiet and characteristic philosophy of the writer and the brilliant tints of the fall, with their daily changes. Joe Smith was a personal friend of Melville. The shyness and the scholarly quality so characteristic of the two men brought them into close intellectual communion. Moreover Mr. Smith was a careful writer and an honest chronicler of facts. I shall be grateful for any information leading to the discovery of "October Mountain." (Is there any 2017 reader who can belatedly answer Mr. Lewis' query? Ed.)

* * *

George Champlain Sibley was born in Great Barrington in 1782. His father was Dr. John C. Sibley who had been a surgeon in the Continental Army; his mother was Elizabeth, the daughter of the celebrated theologian, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, for many years pastor at Great Barrington. Dr. Hopkins and the woman who later became his wife, are the leading characters in Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, "The Minister's Wooing," published in 1859.

After a few years as a country doctor in the down-county town, Dr. Sibley and his family moved to Fayette, N.C., where George spent his youth until he emigrated to St. Louis, Mo., in the early years of the last century. During Jefferson's term as President, he was an Indian agent. He became a major in the United States Army and with a band of 100 Osage Indians made explorations in the Grand Saline and Salt Mountains. Major Sibley published a report of this expedition.

In later years he was a commissioner to lay out a trading route from Western Missouri to New Mexico, and negotiated several treaties with the Indians.

He and his wife gave the land for Lindenwood Cottage for young ladies, founded at St. Charles, Mo., in 1830. He was for many years one of its trustees and was also president of the St. Charles County Bible Society. He was a strong anti-slavery man, a friend of African colonization and active in works of benevolence and in the public affairs of his county. He died at Elma, St. Charles County, Mo.

* * *

Mark Hopkins Sibley, jurist, was born in Great Barrington in 1796 and died in Canandaigua, N.Y., Sept. 8, 1852. He received a classical education and removed to Canandaigua in 1814. There he was admitted to the bar, and gained a wide reputation as a powerful advocate. He was a member of the State Legislature in both branches and a Representative in Congress. In 1844 Mr. Sibley attended the Berkshire Jubilee in Pittsfield. In 1846 he was elected a county judge.

Judge Sibley was a cousin of George C. Sibley, and also of Hiram Sibley (both previously referred to) who was born in North Adams.

* * *

Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, (not to be mistaken for the historian) is said to have started a church in that part of Savoy called New State in 1810. But he soon gave up the venture and departed for other and more promising fields.

MAY 31, 1934

When in 1849 an application was made to the New York Legislature for a charter for Rochester University it was stated that it was intended that the University should be "fully organized without delay, by the appointment of a president and suitable professors." The promoters of the new educational venture readily secured a faculty, one member of which was Dr. Chester Dewey, a native of Berkshire County of whose connections with the university I have recently given some account. But they were unable to secure their selection for the presidency of the institution, Barnas Sears, who was then and for some years following, secretary of the Massachu-

setts State Board of Education, the immediate successor of the organizer and first secretary of the board, Horace Mann. On November 28, 1850, the Rochester authorities voted that the election of the president should be left open for the year, "provided there were intimations from Dr. Sears warranting a belief that he would then accept." Again, in May, 1851 the board voted further "to guarantee to the president a salary of $1800," having "special reference to Dr. Sears." It is evident that the Rochester trustees continued to be hopeful of securing Dr. Sears and that they strained every point to get him, for it was not until July 14, 1852 that they elected their first president and his compensation was fixed at only $1200 per year.

Dr. Sears remained secretary of our State board until 1855 when he was elected to the presidency of Brown University, a position he held until 1867.

It will be remembered that Dr. Dewey was born in Sheffield and had studied and taught in Williamstown and Pittsfield until 1836 when he removed to Rochester. Barnas Sears was born in Sandisfield in 1802 and it is a safe guess that Dr. Dewey had a hand in suggesting his young friend from Sandisfield for the Rochester presidency and in urging his acceptance of the call.

* * *

John Allen was born in Great Barrington in 1763, the son of Daniel Allen, whose residence was on the site of the southern portion of what is now the Berkshire Inn. John removed to Litchfield, Conn., where he practiced law, and was for several years a member of the State council. He was a member of Congress from Connecticut in the last Congress that was held in Philadelphia from 1797 to 1799. He died in Litchfield, Conn., July 18, 1812.

He had a sister born in Great Barrington, Anna Willard Allen, who married Elizur Goodrich of New Haven, a distinguished lawyer, politician and educator. It was said of him that "office holding was a steady habit of his own," a very neat way of stating the fact concerning a resident of the land of steady habits.

John Allen had a son John W. Allen born in Litchfield at the turn of the century in 1802, who had a public career of great distinction in Cleveland, Ohio.

* * *

Last summer I called attention to an invaluable reference book for Berkshire towns and their people. The Book of Berkshire, published by Clark W. Bryan of Great Barrington nearly fifty years ago. Upon looking over the long list of contributors, I found that only two were then living. Harlan H. Ballard (Williams, 1874) in 1876 principal of the Lenox Academy, and Clinton Q. Richmond of North Adams, then a newspaper man. This year both of these gentlemen made interesting and important contributions of enduring value to the history and biography of the county of their adoption. Their works will furnish material of unique and varied character for future students.

JUNE 20, 1934

In the great coastal storm the first of this month, one of the French cables off our coast was parted by the violence of the waters. A repair ship from the northern waters was promptly dispatched to the scene to locate, bring to the surface and splice the two ends of the cable. The ship bears the name "Cyrus Field." That name commemorates the useful services to the world of Cyrus West Field, LL.D., capitalist and projector of the first Atlantic cable, son of the Congregational minister at Stockbridge.

Cyrus was born on November 30, 1819. He was one of a large family; three at least of the family graduated at Williams College, and achieved great distinction in their several professions; David Dudley, lawyer, class of 1825; Stephen J., jurist, class of 1837, and Henry M., clergyman and editor, class of 1838. Only two of this quartet were born in Stockbridge, Cyrus and Henry.

Cyrus obtained what little schooling he ever had at stockbridge. At the age of 15 he became a clerk in the store of A. T. Stewart & Co., in New York and remained there three years. Then he went to work for Phelps and Field, paper makers, at Lee, the Field being his brother, Matthew D. Field. This mill was that afterwards known as the Columbia, on the Housatonic River about a

mile above the center of the village. In 1840 Cyrus went into the paper business for himself in Westfield, but almost immediately became a partner in E. Root & Co., wholesale paper dealers in New York City. That venture was of short duration, the firm failing within a year. He then formed the firm of Cyrus W. Field & Co. This firm dealt in paper, trading extensively with the Berkshire paper makers. The firm was interested in a mill at Russell, with Elizur Smith of Lee and his brother, John R. Smith. (Incidentally it is said that in 1840 one-fifth of all the paper made in the United States was manufactured in Lee.) In 1853 Cyrus had accumulated a quarter of a million dollars, paid off the debts of the Root company and retired from active business. He left his name and $100,000 with the Field company, and went to South America to see the country in company with Frederick E. Church, the landscape painter.

Everyone knows that Cyrus Field laid the Atlantic cable. Few know that the gentleman who came down from Newfoundland in 1854 wished to enlist the interest of Matthew D. Field, the former paper maker, then a civil engineer of note, in a telegraph line across Newfoundland. But Matthew saw that engineering must be backed by money, and naturally he introduced Frederick Newton Gisborne, who had a vision and a charter but no money, to Cyrus, who had acquaintance with the capitalists of New York and their full confidence in his integrity and business judgment. The project grew, and resulted in the laying of the first Atlantic cable from the west coast of Ireland to Newfoundland. I shall not go into the details. But there were many failures and large amounts of money were expended before the Great Eastern accomplished the feat in July 1866. Congress gave Cyrus a vote of thanks and a gold medal and he received many other honors both at home and abroad.

Cyrus was afterwards interested in establishing telegraphic communication between Europe, India, China and Australia, and with the West Indies and South America.

In 1877 Cyrus bought a controlling interest in the New York Elevated Railroad Company and was its president for three years. He worked with Jay Gould for the completion of the Wabash Railroad. He bought the New York Evening Express and The Mail and combined them as the Mail and Express which he controlled for six years. He suffered financially in 1879 through the forcing down of Elevated stock while he was absent in Europe. He suffered a heavier loss in 1887 when Jay Gould and Russell Sage, who had been supposed to be his backer in an attempt to bring the Elevated stock to 200, forsook him, and the price fell from 156½ to 114 in half an hour. This was the great "Manhattan Squeeze" of June 24, 1887.

Cyrus Field died in New York on July 12, 1892.

JUNE 27, 1934

Daniel Dewey Barnard, LL.D. was a lawyer and a Whig, born in Sheffield in 1797, graduated at Williams in 1818, was admitted to the bar at Rochester, N.Y. in 1821; and went in for politics. He was county attorney for Monroe County in 1826 and a member of Congress in 18828-30 and 1839-45. After his first term in the House of Representatives at Washington he traveled to Europe and on his return to America established his residence in Albany in 1832. He acquired great prominence in the Whig party. He was elected to the State Assembly. His three terms in Congress beginning in 1839 were from the capital district. He was United States Minister to Prussia in 1849-53, the representative of President Zachary Taylor to the court of Frederick William IV.

Dr. Barnard was the author of many published reviews and speeches and wrote "An Historical Sketch of the Colony of Rensselaerwyck." He died April 24, 1861.

In the summer of 1844 Congressman Barnard had planned to attend the Berkshire Jubilee, "an occasion which had been long anticipated by m, and impatiently waited for." Three days before the Jubilee's opening exercises however he found it impossible to come to Pittsfield and wrote a letter from Albany to Judge Betts of New York, one of the most active organizers of the celebration, expressing his regret at being deprived of the happiness he had expected to enjoy in meeting with the sons of Berkshire. It was a long letter, most appropriate for the occasion. I quote some interesting passages in which he gives an account of his early years. "I was born in Berkshire County, and I am proud of

the place of my birth." He alludes to the fact that his father, who was not a native of Berkshire, had married in Berkshire and resided there a few years; and then "when I was a very young gentleman, not yet out of the cradle, (he) returned to his father's home and the place of his nativity in Connecticut. When I was of age to begin my classical studies he found himself an inhabitant of Western New York, long before the wilderness there had blossomed into a garden as it has since done, with reduced and limited means. But what then? There was Berkshire; and Lenox Academy and Williams College were there was much good Greek and Latin; and mathematics, and natural philosophy could be had, as might suffice a young man of humble pretensions, and at a very moderate cost, as those institutions were among people of simple unostentatious and inexpensive habits. This I became indebted to Berkshire for my academic and collegiate education." This is an interesting account of what a man 26 years out of college, regarded as a debt to the county of his birth; interesting also as showing that 90 years ago the foundation of what was called a liberal education was Greek and Latin and Mathematics and natural philosophy. That conception of a cultural education persisted nearly to the end of the last century. Of course it is now out of date utterly discredited by modern educators. But the men who followed those studies made their mark in the world after all, as witness the subject of today's writing Dr. Barnard. I must quote the last paragraph of Congressman Barnard's letter, a delightful and filial recognition of his further debt to the county of his birth. "And I have one thing more to thank Berkshire for - the chief thing of all - the blessing of all blessings - for my mother. She was a native of that county, of a family not unknown or undistinguished among those who may meet at this Jubilee, and she is still living at a very advanced age. May God bless Berkshire forever, for my mother."

Barnard received the degree of LL.D. from Colombia in 1845 and from Hobart and Brown in 1853.

JULY 11, 1934

In 1933 the treasurer of Rochester University reported among endowment funds for the School of Medicine and Dentistry, "Charles A. Dewey legacy $323,887.87."

This gift was made by Charles Ayrault Dewey, M.D., a son of Professor Chester Dewey of whose services in the cause of education at Williams College, the Berkshire Medical College,m the Berkshire Gymnasium and Rochester University recently wrote. The younger Dewey was a lawyer, a newspaper man, a manufacturer and a physician. He was born in Rochester July 21, 1842 and died there June 13, 1927. He was graduated from Rochester University in the class of 1861 while his father was a member of the faculty. He studied law for the next three years and was admitted to the bar in 1864, but never practiced. Meanwhile for several years he engaged in newspaper work. From 1864 too 1876 he engaged in manufacturing in his native city and in Pittsfield. In this city he was with L. Pomeroy & Sons, woolen manufacturers. Lemuel Pomeroy, it will be recalled, was his mother's father. In Pittsfield he lived for a while at the old Pomeroy homestead on East Street, at that time occupied by his uncle, Robert Pomeroy. That homestead stood where the residence of President D. T. Noonan of the City Council is now located.

The young man decided to study medicine and was graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1880, one of his classmates being Dr. Henry Colt of this city. He practiced as a physician in Rochester for the rest of his days. His partner was Dr. Joseph Ely, the first husband of Mrs. Colonel Arthur D. Budd of Windsor in this county.

Dr. Dewey was a member of the New York State and many other medical societies. He was attending physician at the Rochester City Hospital from 1883 to 1914; consulting physician at the Rochester General Hospital from1914 t0 19271 and secretary of staff from 1898 to 1917. He was chairman of the Library committee of the Reynolds Public Library at Rochester from 1903 to 1927. Dr. Dewey was active in literary circles in Rochester.

In addition to the legacy given to Rochester University Dr. Dewey made a substantial bequest to Harvard. ■

BERKSHIRE TELEGRAPHIC SKETCH

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

The history of telegraphy in northern and central Berkshire has some interest now that fifty-four years have elapsed since the first line was built up from Bridgeport, Conn., through Berkshire County to Great Barrington, Pittsfield and North Adams, and had its termini at Bennington, Vermont, through which this very lively manufacturing town ran a continuous line from New York to Montreal, by which connection at Bridgeport and Bennington the first Berkshire service was obtained with New York and Boston and other localities then having such conveniences. It is remembered that many Berkshire and Connecticut towns had offices on this line between Bennington and Bridgeport, but any information as to the localities where these offices were located or who were the operators, has been lost except for a few instances.

This line was built by what was called the Vermont and Connecticut Telegraph Company, and this company was aided in its construction by local capitalists along the route, who took stock therein at the figure of $100 per share. The first telegraph office in North Adams in 1848 was located over the post-office in the old William E. Brayton store on the present site of the new Kimbal Block. It was in the southeast corner front of the second story of this wooden structure and was reached by a rough outside and uncovered flight of stairs between it and the story-and-a-half little bookstore and office of Ezra D. Whitaker, the birthplace of the North Adams Savings Bank and the first location of the American Express Co. Its first operator was William P. Brayton. When a lad, this eldest son of William E. Brayton, the first Adams Bank Cashier, ran away and joined the United States Navy, but through the influence of his father was discharged therefrom, much to his regret, and for 30 years filled the position of book-keeper in the old Adams Bank, and as town clerk and telegraph operator. He was succeeded as an operator by Joel E. Bacon, originally a tinsmith on Eagle street and afterwards for many years connected with the telegraph lines and the second judge of the North Adams Police Court. Mr. Brayton married a Bennington lady, with whom he lived most happily, and died without issue September 5, 1861.

The second person in North Adams to acquire the art of telegraphy on the Morse instruments was W. H. Phillips. After graduating at Drury Academy at an early age he repaired to Northampton where he learned the printer's trade under "Bishop" Tyler and Henry S. Gere in the old Courier office, the latter gentleman now being the principal owner and veteran editor of the Hampshire Gazette in that city, the oldest newspaper in the state of Massachusetts. In the winter of 1848, while Phillips was reviewing his former studies under Lyman Thompson at old Drury Academy, his father, Dr. H. P. Phillips, insisted that he should learn telegraphy and paid Mr. Brayton $5 to give him evening instructions. By spring the pupil became so interested that he had a good knowledge of the Morse instrument and its practical workings, as also of the rude electric batteries used to charge the wires in those days. He then took charge of the North Adams office for three months and gave his teacher a longed for vacation. During this time he attracted by his skill the attention of Supt. Dodge of the Troy and Montreal telegraphic division and in the early fall was sent to Bennington at a good salary to take charge of the station there, having two instruments in his care and two large batteries of 100 cups each.

This Bennington office was in a story and a half building opposite to the old Franklin Hotel at East Bennington and facing it to the north. It was in the east end of this building that the two machines were placed on a long oaken table extending, with the battery closet, the whole width of the structure. In the same room was the Bennington post office in charge of Horace T. White, who afterward became a prominent government official at Washington. There were no railroads at this time and stage lines entered the town from Rutland, Brattleboro, North Adams and Troy, and this was the mail distributing office of southern Vermont. Necessarily Phillips became the assistant of Mr. White and besides his telegraphic duties led a very busy life, these two doing the entire work in the office, which

often taxed them to their utmost strength and speed.

Bennington in those old days was often the scene of the most violent thunderstorms, and when young Phillips arrived he found that the instruments, relays and magnets had been so demoralized by a bolt of lightning which had entered the office, that they had been sent off to be repaired. The prominent people were much astonished to have a seventeen year old boy sent to run that office, restore it to working order, and predicted that he could never do it. They began to show a little faith when he prepared the big batteries, cleaned the 200 zinc cups, coated them with quicksilver and placed them in splendid order. But when the machines arrived which he had never handled, and without any seeming difficulty, he set them in proper place, making quick and sure connections of a network of wires and began to work them, a big crowd of the curious, looking upon him through two post office windows, went off proclaiming their astonishment.

Of course this proved to be a very favorable card for the young operator, who so perfected himself in his three years stay at Bennington, and invented safety appliances to guard his instruments from lightning, that when he resigned he was pronounced an expert at the business and offered a fine position as manager of an office in St. Louis. Bennington at this time, with its great potteries and other industries, was a very busy place, besides it was a prominent financial and political center. The young operator had but few leisure hours outside of his duties, and oftentimes, through the necessary absence of the postmaster, had all the business of the combined offices on his shoulders. For a few outside friends he had Henry Sanford, Elijah Dewey, John Pratt, George Evans, William E. Hawkes and H. D. Ward, and the brothers Cook of the Bennington Banner. Consequently the spare time in the office was devoted to conversations over the wires when business was dull thereon, with acquaintances he never had met and never did meet face to face.

There was no office between Troy and Bennington, and the operator at Troy was one George Harrington. The report of each day's business at all the offices on the lines from Troy to Montreal, were wired to Supt. Dodge at Burlington, Vt., in the early mornings before any other business was transacted. Troy sent in first, Bennington second, and so on, until the reports ended with that of Montreal. There was a ground wire at Bennington which being thrown on made a through circuit between the two localities, leaving the northern circuit to itself, without perceptible alteration of the electric current. Phillips and Harrington had grown to have a visit with each other on this circuit while the northern offices were sending in their reports. In order to avoid detection the line was occasionally opened by the removal of the Bennington ground wire to see if all was going smoothly north. In these conversations the paper was allowed to pass under the metallic pen, and of course considerable stock was used. Harrington, remembering that after being covered with dots and dashes these rolls were carefully preserved by the company, one morning said to Phillips that if Father Dodge, who was a martinet, should happen to discover the use of his paper for personal conversations, that we might catch it hard, as he was apt to punish minor offenses with ever greater vigor than the more overt.

The conversation then took a new turn. Descriptions of the two offices were passed from one to the other. The number of telegraphic signals read by sound were reported and the distances were given from which they could be recognized, when Phillips asked Harrington "why, if so many of these signals and calls were familiar to both of them, they could not commit to memory the entire code of telegraphic writing." It was an idea which met with the quick response, "how shall we go to work to acquire it?" An old Webster Spelling Book, which had strayed into the post office, gave Phillips the thought that the commencement of sound reading should be of an elementary character, and he suggested that Harrington obtain a copy of this book, and that they commence with the two syllable lesson headed by the word "B-a-k-e-r." This was acted upon once and the two commenced writing two-syllable words alternately, which when understood would be repeated back. The lessons went on swimmingly, with the addition of more syllables, until the lesson commencing "An-te-de-lu-vi-an" was reached. This proved to be the first tough spot in the acquirement of sound language, and at times the two were much discouraged, though they

persevered until they could finally converse with each other with ease and without the use of paper.

Though there was no thought that messages and telegraphic reports would ever be received over the wires by sound, the young Bennington operator in his leisure hours devoted himself to reading everything that come over the lines, but for a time failed to fully decipher the associated press or commercial reports passing between New York and Montreal twice a day, on account of the rapidity of the operators and the abbreviation of words therein, and the leaving of such words as "the," "and," "be," and other smaller words to be supplied by the operators in receipt of these despatches. Determined to overcome these difficulties, the young operator finally succeeded and was rewarded by being posted on the markets and the news of the day long before others could obtain this news in print. In this sound reading he finally became so proficient that he unwittingly became possessed of many telegraphic, political, financial and personal secrets, and therefore wisely kept such knowledge entirely to himself, as well as his sound reading accomplishments.

In the earlier days it was a frequent occurrence to have what was called "a run" on the old state banks. Capitalistic parties who were generally large loaners of money on mortgage to farmers and others, for some reason would accumulate large quantities of bank bills and suddenly swoop down on one of these banks to force their redemption in gold and silver, as they were obliged by the state law to do when their own paper was presented with such a demand. One of the favorite banks upon which to make this descent was the old Stark Bank of East Bennington. Such a "run" had been in progress on the old Stark Bank for nearly a week, and its officers and directors were under a great strain in procuring specie from other banks, through special horseback messengers from such institutions in Troy and Albany, and from Vermont and Massachusetts financial centers.

Late in the afternoon on the day preceding that in which the Stark Bank showed that all efforts to make it close its doors were futile, large sums of money borrowed to sustain its credit had arrived. All through the night its officers and directors had been counting this money and doing other necessary business in preparation for the demands of the coming struggle. It was on the morning of July 9, 1850, that Hon. A. P. Lyman, the Congressman elect from southern Vermont, Reuben Fenton, the owner of the great Bennington Potteries, and H. T. White, the postmaster, all directors of the Stark Bank, were consulting in the inner post office over these bank matters. Finally, White left Phillips in charge of the office and mails and repaired to the bank, while Lyman and Fenton still remained in consultation. The former, while busily engaged in making out the old letter way-bills and doing up letters in brown wrapping paper, addressing the wrappers to their different destinations, and tying them up with white twine, caught on that a press dispatch was coming over the wires from New York to Montreal. It being eight o'clock in the morning, and consequently a special dispatch, his ears caught the few market quotations which preceded the main matter of the dispatch, and anxiously awaited the body of the message. It was that President and General Zachary Taylor had suddenly expired at Washington a few hours previously, exhibiting symptoms of cholera, while there were some suspicions of foul play.

With a swift bound the young operator left his chair and work and thoroughly startles by his news, cried out "General Taylor is dead!" Congressman Lyman, who was a great friend of President Taylor, and who knew the young man was somewhat given to mischief, at once had him by the collar, saying, "I'll learn you young man to make sport of my friend, the President," and was proceeding to give him a good shaking up, when Mr. Fenton interfered by saying, "stop, Lyman, there's something the matter with the lad." Lyman reluctantly let go his hold and then asked the supposed culprit what he meant?" Thereupon Phillips asserted that the President was dead, and being asked by Fenton how he knew, as he had not been near his instruments, was answered "that he *read it from the wires by sound.*" Both were full of astonishment and doubt, when Phillips approached his instrument, threw on the ground wire, and calling the letter Z for Troy, had the news repeated to him by Harrington, having the telegraphic pen puncture out the words on paper, which had previously been read by him by sound.

Of course there was a great commotion in the little village and hundreds congregated about the office in the wildest excitement. The news was placed on a bulletin board outside the office, while Phillips called all hands to their instruments on the Bennington and Bridgeport line by sounding a signal for that purpose, and it was thus that this startling news first reached Berkshire County. The news on this line proved to be so sudden and startling that different operators called for its repeating, which was done. It was many years after that Phillips met on Mount Washington, New Hampshire, one of these old Connecticut operators, who had asked him to repeat this message, and who remembered him as the telegrapher at Bennington at that time, and his sending of this intelligence, which he could not believe himself until it was repeated.

In 1885 an article appeared in the Boston Herald claiming that Phillips was in 1850, the first telegrapher to acquire the gift of reading telegraphic messages by sound, which was followed by a similar assertion in a volume published at about that time in Massachusetts. Since then many researches into the history of telegraphy have been made and the progress of those connected with it, and in every instance the accidental development that he could read messages by sound at Bennington in 1850, has antedated by a number of years the dates of those who had previously claimed to be first in this accomplishment. For a long period after leaving the business he could easily read direct from the instrument, and though now after a half a century can manipulate the Morse key with rapidity and readily catch, by paying strict attention, much of what may be passing over the wires.

After leaving college and while connected with the Transcript office when it was located in the south end of the two story wooden Burlingame Block on Main St., in North Adams, Phillips had charge of the printing telegraph under the management of Supt. Hood, who had previously been on the editorial staff of the Springfield Republican. This line ran from Boston to Troy, and the office was located in the sanctum of Henry Chickering. Phillips was most successful in the management of this office for several years, and until the line was given up, at which time he received flattering inducements to take charge of an office in Hartford, Conn. It is remembered that one July afternoon a fearful thunder cloud approached North Adams from the west. The operator had disconnected his machine from his batteries and had thrown on several ground wires running from the mains outside the building, and attached to pieces of metal buried in the Kimball livery stable yard. Mr. Chickering was writing at his table, and the operator stood watching the antics of the small amount of electricity which during the fearful flashes jumped his ground wires. All at once a ball of electricity as large as a football and of peculiar brightness flew on the wires through the room into the battery closet and out again, and in passing outside the building seemed to shiver into pieces, emitting the sound of a heavily charged rifle report. Editor Chickering jumped from his table in great affright, overturned his ink stand and was preparing to run, when to his astonishment the operator laughed. However, he was not going to risk such dangers any more and would have that instrument moved right out of the room. He was shown that nothing had been harmed, that the machine and battery room were intact, and that there was not a mark of lightning on the premises. Besides, he was shown the extra safeguards that had been applied, admired the ingenuity of the same, and though he found out afterwards that a telegraph pole had been split into kindling wood a quarter of a mile west of the office, he never minded that instrument either in storm or calm afterwards.

It was in this office that much secret telegraphing was done in matters relating to the early history of the Hoosac Tunnel, but there was no leak between the wires and the public, although every effort was made by the latter to obtain news whose publicity would have greatly hindered the progress of that great enterprise. Once in the delivery of a message to Henry L. Dawes from the authorities at Boston, the operator was pursued over garden fences in a dark night, but misled his pursuers and escaped being overhauled. It was also in this office that an important tunnel message was once sent to Boston between the lightning flashes in one of the hardest thunderstorms that ever visited northern Berkshire.

There was also another telegraph office at North Adams somewhere between 1852 and 1860, which was called the Baine line. This

was conducted on the old Bridgeport and Bennington wires and the office was on the west side of the William E. Brayton store and post office and was during its short life in charge of Charles Sumner, the youngest son of Hon. Increase Sumner of Great Barrington and brother of Major S. B. Sumner of the 49th Mass. Regiment. This was an infringement on the Morse system and the line was run but a short time after Mr. Sumner left, by Mr. Phillips. Charles Sumner afterwards emigrated to California where he became distinguished as a newspaper editor and as a politician, and is supposed to be now living in that state.

In 1863 the Western Union Telegraph Company connected northern Berkshire by wire with the trade centers, the first North Adams office being located in the old Main street post office, with Judge Joel Bacon as operator. Mr. Bacon resigned in favor of William F. Orr, and since then under different managers it has been located on Holden and Main Streets. Lucius F. Hurd of Lee, was the first operator of this line at Adams, the office being located in his Park street block, near the bridge. From thence it was removed to the depot. The first office on this line in Cheshire was in the Bowen & Son's store, and Miss Julia C. Bowen was the first operator. A subscription of $100 was raised by the citizens of the town to purchase the instrument, and it remained in this store in charge of Miss Bowen and her brother for three years, when it was removed to the depot, and run by Marshall Jenks, where it has since remained. The principal customer of the Cheshire office was the P. & N. A. railroad, whose business was dead-headed because the poles were erected on this line of road, and transient business did not afford sufficient revenue to pay for its operation outside the depot. The line running from Springfield to Albany on the Boston and Albany railroad was built by Supt. O. A. Dodge in 1863, from whence the extension was run up to North Adams. The Pittsfield office was for many years under the management of F. G. Robinson, now a prominent electrician of Albany, and by him many of the old time operators in the county were instructed in the art.

Operators in the early days were required to ascertain from their offices in what direction breaks or escapes might be found by experiments and testings, the most delicate of which latter were made with the tongue. When breaks were manifest by no current at all, they took a tinsmith with them with his soldering pot and irons and driving rapidly espionaged the lines until the trouble was found and remedied. Any break in the lines had to be united with not only twists of the wire but with soldeing. On one of these occasions, near the resort of Mother Shaw on the old Troy and Bennington turnpike, the Bennington operator in trying to bring together the wires which had been stripped from a number of poles by a hurricane and broken, carelessly seized the two ends with his bare hands. He could not let go, the electricity went through his body in great volume to the earth; he was pulled from his perilous position just in time and in a very weakened condition by his companion tinker. On his return to Bennington the operator sent off his delayed messages in the evening, and was called to account by Supt. Dodge for having brought the wires together for a few minutes before their final connection had been made, which was contrary to the rules of the line. He asked the Superintendent how many words he had sent over the wires while this temporary connection had been made. He replied that he had sent ten words, whereupon the operator claimed a fee of $10, or one dollar for each word which had been sent to Troy from Burlington through his body. This explanation so alarmed Supt. Dodge he made an abject apology to his employee, warning him as he valued his life never to get into such haste as to repeat this dangerous act, and stating that he was greatly rejoiced over his miraculous escape.

There had been a fearful electrical afternoon and evening at Bennington. All connecting wires at the office had been thrown off and many ground wires laid outside the building, but one little zinc and porous earthen cup charging a single pen had been left on in the batteries. Business was at a standstill, and there were many harmless balls of fire jumping from instruments to relays and along the battery wires. Ten o'clock arrived and it was decided to get home between the show ers. All was found to be in order but the single cup in the battery room having no

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RANDOM HEARTHSTONE REMEMBRANCES AND GLEANINGS

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

It was sometime in the sixties that the then young humorist, Brown, or "Artemus Ward," paid his first visit to North Adams to deliver his famous lecture on "The Babes in the Woods" in the old Baptist church, under call from President E. S. Wilkinson of the Library Association. He was a daintily dressed, dapper little gentleman, carried a tiny cane, and being a printer by trade, made his first call upon the then editor of the "News and Transcript." He was right up to date as a conversationalist, was thoroughly informed on all the topics of the day, was very courteous, and made not the slightest allusion to his humorous abilities. He was taken out on the spacious second story veranda of the old North Adams House, in which the newspaper office was located, and the Adams Bank was pointed out to him as the locality in which he could find Mr. Wilkinson, to whom he wished to pay his immediate respects. He descended to the street, but in a very few minutes returned, the picture of the most excited and disgusted man who had ever previously appeared in the village. "Mr. Editor," he fairly gasped, "what kind of a gentlemen is your friend Mr. Wilkinson, of whom just a few moments ago you gave me such a favorable impression?" "I take back nothing I said to you in reply to your inquiries, as Mr. Wilkinson is one of our first and most respected young men. It cannot be possible that you have had time to call on him, and I cannot understand your sudden return to my office and your evident great chagrin and agitation, there must therefore be some serious mistake on your part." Mr. Brown replied: "When I agreed with Mr. Wilson to speak here, I requested that he should simply announce me and my subject in his customary handbills and press notices. Judge of my horror, when starting for the Adams Bank, that I found the side of a small corner building above your office, covered with flaming posters announcing the appearance here of that "Comical Brown," that "Side-Splitting Brown," "that Wonderful Brown," and a host of such other nonsense." "You are decidedly off your base, Mr. Brown," replied the editor, who could hardly repress his laughter. "The Brown who is so fearfully advertised on the bill boards, is a famous ballad singer and facial and character contortionist who has visited this village on his own account many times, and is very popular with the amusement going public. He paddles his own canoe and Mr. Wilkinson and the Association fail to have him in hand either on this or any other evening, but this does not let the humor of the mistake die by a long shot, as I so relish it that I shall have to dish it up in print for my readers." "All right, Mr. Editor, I acknowledge that I am sold worse than ever before in my life. For Heaven's sake come up to the church tonight, lunch with me on the best at the hotel afterwards, and let your knowledge of my foolishness rest until I get fifty miles away from North Adams. Then plaster me as I would you under similar circumstances." The account of the happening was published the next week and it was copied on the posters of that "Comical Brown" for fully 20 years afterwards.

* * *

There are but a few living in the county who remember what a hardship it used to be to attend the sessions of the old Court of Common Pleas when the court house and jail were way up on Lenox hill. Now that the electric street railways have banished time and distance between all the principal county localities, the difficulties of attending court in this historic old town as they are called to mind seem like a dream. Of course, there is nobody left now to tell how these county distances from Lenox were covered by stages, wagons and on horseback, but a very few who realized the discomforts of the visit after the building of the Boston and Albany, the Pittsfield and North Adams and Housatonic railways are still above ground, though retired from judicial , legal and reportorial service. It was back in the sixties, when awful early breakfasts had to be had in North Adams, Pittsfield, Dalton and Hinsdale, while attendants from the remoter towns had to sit up all night to be able to cover the ground, that all the big wagons in Lenox had to be dispatched

two-and-one-half miles to the Lenox Station by that prince of old-time landlords, William O. Curtis, to drag the crowds up the long hill to the halls of justice. It was a July term of the criminal court that was to open for trial on a particular morning, and there was quite a crowd of lawyers and witnesses from North Adams on hand, as it was supposed the Waggoner vs. Whipple libel case was to be taken up early. Among the crowd who rushed into the Housatonic cars at the Pittsfield depot was a lively North Adams delegation composed of many of its prominent citizens and lawyers. Of these was that hearty old farmer Reuben Whitman, who had been drawn as a juryman, and the editor of the village paper, the two being very great friends and both fond of humor. The local car being crowded, the editor, who had a pass on the railroad, smuggled his friend into the coach labeled "for New York passengers only." Both felt very jolly over their snug and comfortable seats, while their fellow-citizens were being crowded, jostled and sandwiched up in the hot front car. The two becoming interested in story telling, the last the editor remembered of the trip was the New Lenox flag station, when to his horror he discovered the train was leaving the Lenox depot at which the occupants of the front car had all alighted. Being encumbered with no baggage he warned Uncle Reuben of the mistake, and running to the rear of the car, made a jump, performing a minuet of the most lively character all over a small pasture, but luckily maintaining his equilibrium. The last he saw of Uncle Reuben was that gentleman clinging to the car irons with his big carpet bag in hand "wanting to jump, but being a heavy weight, not daring to do it." The editor had just time enough to reach a crowded omnibus, where Abel Wetherbee and Evenal Estes made room for him. When he recovered his breath and his story was told, the crowd exploded with mirth. It so happened that Uncle Reuben was placed on the supernumerary jury, and even that vigilant old Deputy Sheriff Kellogg of Williamstown did not mark his forenoon's absence. He alighted at Lenox Furnace, walked up the mountain in the hot sun, burdened with his old fashioned carpet bag, and was nearly melted. That evening the merry crowd at Curtis Hotel were regaled with Uncle Reuben's story of "being kidnapped by an editor," that would have coined money for a dime novel, his face still ablaze with redness from his great exertions and the perspiration flowing from it in streams. And the unfortunate editor had to pay the cigars, unable to deny that Uncle Reuben was not his preconcerted victim, then or thereafter.

* * *

There used to be a heap of interest and amusement in the old-time district school spelling matches in Berkshire County. These were generally held in the evening, the general public were admitted as spectators, sides were chosen by the two best spellers in the locality, and as fast as a competitor misses a word, he or she had to retire from the contest, and the side which came off victorious was that which had a single "speller" on his or her feet, or had not been spelled down. On one of these occasions in Dalton it was agreed that anyone present might give out a word to be spelled, and whoever failed to spell it as well as to give its proper definition should retire from the spelling ranks. Joe Higgins gave out the word "Aceph," every one spelled it correctly, but no one could give out its true meaning and consequently only Joe retained the floor, being the proud master of the situation. Of course all waited with almost breathless expectancy for Joe to give the true meaning of this word. It was finally announced with great pride and gusto and to the utter surprise of Joe was welcomed by a shout of laughter which shook the moss-covered shingles on that ancient school house.. "Ahem, ahem," coughed Joe, after spelling the word "A-c-e-p-h" in a loud tone when he gave the definition thus "Aceph-a-lous without a head."

* * *

It will be remembered by quite a number of Berkshire County people, but more especially in the northern portion, that Hon. Sylvander Johnson of Adams and North Adams, the old time successful manufacturer and prominent politician and office holder, always conversed in such a low tone of voice, that when vary rarely he became excited and pitched his voice high up in the tenor scale for a brief moment, nobody could realize just who

was displaying such remarkable vocal gifts unless they had their eyes fixed right upon him. Nothing could bring this genial and kind-hearted man to get a great ways above this certain low tone, but a hot attack of Alanson Cady or Humphrey Anthony in a local town meeting, and both were always bound to wax loud and critical when after the voting had been done, town matters came up for consideration in a committee of the whole of the voters present, in which every man had a right to the floor when he could get the moderator to recognize him. In fact, Mr. Johnson used to be called "the whisperer," but he had a reserved vocal force hidden away, which would have brought a whole regiment to a halt when exercised. It was in a March town meeting in the old Universalist Church vestry on State street in North Adams that Mr. Cady, getting excited over some measure that Mr. Johnson was championing, gave the latter a severe personal raking down, and having wandered way off of the question refused to obey the moderator and to subside. Suddenly a loud, strange voice in the assembly, which no one recognized cried out, "Sit Down, Alanson!! and swallow your growling." Such was Mr. Cady's surprise that he plumped right down into his chair as dumb as an oyster, totally failing to recognize the orders he so promptly obeyed, had been uttered by his whilom antagonist. The joke was one which was not speedily forgotten by those who happened to know that he had been silenced by Sylvander's reserve megaphone forces.

Waterman M. Brown was a direct descendant of one of the Quaker families in Adams. For many years he tilled a small farm in the eastern portion of Clarksburg, just at the foot of the Hoosac range of mountains, which are quite abrupt as they stretch away northward into Stamford, Vermont. For a long time he filled the office of Chaplain for Lafayette Lodge of Free Masons in North Adams and between 1840 and 1866 was most familiarly known and highly respected in northern Berkshire. During all these years he was the head and chief of all the business of the town of Clarksburg, and it was conducted on a much higher plane of merit than in many of the later years. When the ticket for the Clarksburg town election was printed at the North Adams newspaper offices, that ticket was a curiosity, and it is a pity that a copy of one of these has not been preserved. It used to read: "For moderator, Waterman M. Brown; for first selectman, Waterman M. Brown; for first assessor, Waterman M. Brown; for first school committeeman, Waterman M. Brown, for first constable, Waterman M. Brown; for first tax collector, Waterman M. Brown. And these offices in their rotation were held by him as a whig and republican without a break for such a length of time, that it is no wonder that since his death a good many things have gone quite slipshod in many ways in regard to its government in that thrifty little extreme northern town of the county, which is now about to be reached by the electric railway.

In 1820, a mineral spring strongly impregnated with iron, and whose waters had proved very efficacious in building up the strength of quite a number of the earlier inhabitants, was boiling up out of the ground on a plot of land in Adams owned by Rufus Brown, the father of the late lamented Levi L. Brown. Several of the then inhabitants began to have visions of another Saratoga Springs Mecca and a lucrative result as well as a healthful one from such a popular resort. Accordingly several of the fathers procured a half dozen brown stone jugs, filled them with these mineral waters, labeled the receptacles "Prof. Dewey, Chemist of Williams College," placing them inn a wood-shed to be shipped to this gentleman at Williamstown the next morning. Now there were some proverbially mischievous lads in the village in the earlier days and they were up to all kinds and manner of pranks that had a particle of fun in them. These lads took the jugs down to the Hoosac river and emptied them of their precious mineral contents. They then refilled them with water from that stream and carefully replaced them in the shed. They were sent to Williamstown next day and were not returned until a month afterwards. Their contents having been daily analyzed by Prof. Dewey, of course he labeled them "Common Water." The senders were greatly disappointed, the curative properties of the supposed mineral spring were voted to have been imaginative, and of course the wicked boys kept their secret closely. This the town of Adams escaped being a great summer resort for the afflicted and the pleasure seeker, to become in time one of the most important manufacturing

centers in the state.

Not withstanding frequent spelling schools in the Berkshire towns in the past century, it was a strange freak that most people had an orthographical defect in their make up, no matter how little or how great have been their chances for an education. These were sure to be repeated when recourse was had to the pen or pencil to transcribe their thoughts or to charge up to customers goods for which they were given credit. It would not be a fair shake to give the name of the prominent owner of an old grocer's account book where "shuggar" is to be found charged up in various weights for a long period of time. Neither would it be good taste to expose the manuscript of a prominent citizen who always had a wrestle with "daggertype," "philosophical" and "ekomical." Spelling correctly, not only was a rare accomplishment then, but judging from complaints of those today who employ type-writers, it is full as rare now. Really, a good old fashioned spelling school would be an enjoyable feature of winter life now and then, as well as the coming of a one-ringed circus with but a single clown and elephant in summer time.

It was way back in the "forties" when Major Goodrich, who had his residence in Pownal, and who happened to be looking around in Williamstown to find an agreeable place to spend the evening, drifted into a largely attended revival meeting, and took a humble seat in the rear of the room. The good pastor noted his presence and his marked interest in the exercises, in which he joined the singing, but made no other demonstrations. The parson felt it his duty to kindly approach the stranger, which he did in a gentle and unobtrusive manner, and finally asked him "if he enjoyed religion." "Not much to brag off," replied the Major, good naturedly. "Won't you come forward for prayers?" asked the good parson. "No, I guess not, thank you," replied the bluff Major, "you see, parson, I don't live here in Williamstown; I live over in Pownal. Knowing me as they do over in my town, if I should venture to ask your good people to pray for me, and I think I need they should, my neighbors would be over here in force tomorrow morning and hustle me up to the Brattleboro insane asylum."

There are quite a number of Pittsfield citizens who remember the vigorous campaign speeches of Hon. Martin I. Townsend in the sixties, and once when the old town hall was very hot on account of the weather, a packed audience, and camphene lamps, that in the course of his powerful talk he divested himself first of his coat, then of his collar and necktie, and finally of his vest - when he arose to his very best, oratorically. Rev. Dr. Thompson of Adams, so familiarly known as one of the shining lights of the county's Methodist clergy, is a very old friend of Mr. Townsend. Once when Mr. Townsend was talking to him in regard to his visits abroad, he remarked, "that there was a certain locality which he once visited on the grand old island of Erin, which is so full of historic interest and wonderful scenery, where the whole of the ten commandments were sacredly kept by the inhabitants, and everything else they could lay their hands on."

William R. Plunkett has in his possession the original title given by the old town of Pittsfield to the senior Dr. Henry Childs to the site on North street occupied by a portion of the Pittsfield Sun brick block. This land was given to Dr. Childs with the provision that he should keep a "medicine shop," or drug store in Pittsfield. After this site passed into the possession of Phinehas Allen, senior, additional land was purchased and the first printing office was permanently established here. But neither of the famous Allens were ever caught napping by the town in relation to the validity of their ground title. In their book store and post office on the first floor they never failed to keep a supply of their favorite patent medicines of their day, such as Sarsaparilla and Burdock Bitters, which kept in force the provision of a "medicine shop" on the old site and held their title to the premises clear.

The once famous Dr. Channing and his wife paid a visit to Williamstown many years ago and were highly welcomed by its distinguished faculty, all of whom have passed from earth. While at tea at the then famous old Mansion House, some excellent flavored baked sweet apples were served which proved to be very delicious and toothsome to Mrs. Channing. To the great amazement of a large table full of guests on the last day of their stay

(Continued on page 60)

KING KREMLIN OF BERKSHIRE

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

There is no question that next to the famous Blue Grass region of the State of Kentucky, the County of Berkshire stands second, if not fully equal in reputation for the successful breeding of fine strain horses for the race track and for the higher grades of service to mankind. During the past years quite a number of gentlemen in both northern, southern and central Berkshire have from time to time been the owners of very notable horse stock farms, well supplied with conveniences for health, forage, water, breeding and exercise, and with race tracks thereon for the development of speed. These in turn have contributed some splendid equine stock to this, as also foreign countries, and some very notable high and quick steppers. Gradually these stock farms have been given up by their owners, and with the exception of the fancy and speedy private studs of William S. Jenks of Adams, and possibly a few such in the southern part of the county, such have disappeared, though the love of fine horses wearing nimble hoofs is yet a great fad in Berkshire and will be as long as nutritive grass grows within its borders and pure waters gush from the myriad springs upon its hill and mountain ranges.

But the Berkshire horse stock farm which has given the county national and foreign fame during the past twelve years in its contribution of fine and fast steeds of high form, strain and mettle to the world, has been, and still is, that of William Russell Allen of Pittsfield and Missouri. With its model buildings situated on a sloping hillside plain of many acres of pasturage, meadow and tillage, midway between Pittsfield and Dalton, the Allen Farm with its wonderful stud of stallions, mares and colts, its product of the most notable equine lineage in the land, a truly famous establishment in every sense, has become a veritable Mecca for the horsemen of the world. The two most famous members of the Allen stud of the present day, though many others thereof are most reputable and attractive, are King Kremlin and his promising four year old son, Kavali, who, both in stallion races have made the mile in 2.07 3/4, the former when but five years of age, and the latter but lately at the age of four.

King Kremlin was 15 years old last April, He was sired by Lord Russell, a brother of the celebrated Maud S., at the Woodlawn stock farm in Kentucky where he was trained for two years. His dam was Eventide, and he is a grandson of Harold, Miss Russell and Vara, and is of Woodford, Mambrino, Hambletonian and American Star lineage. When five years old, in 1892, he held the world's racing record of 2.07 3/4, for a stallion of that age, in which feat he not only stamped himself as the champion racing stallion in the world, but the fastest five year old trotter at that date which had ever lived. Kremlin as remembered in 1894 in which year he was by an accident further incapacitated for racing, and who has since been kept entirely for breeding purposes, showed a promise of high speed far beyond any trotter then known in the United States. He was of a perfect bay coat or color and markings, of fine size and quality, of remarkable muscular development and power, enduring and level headed, perfectly balanced and gaited, absolutely sound, had won all his races in light shoes and without boots, and in his maiden race as a three year old had made the fastest record for a horse at that age. In 1892 he made five miles in 2.08¼, 2.07 3/4, 2.08¼, 2.09, 2.09 which was faster than any stallion had ever then sped over the regulation track.

His head, neck, limbs and trunk were fully developed into perfect symmetry and power, and he was singularly gentle and well mannered. In repose he was quiet, intelligent, sober and self-contained, the very embodiment of health, strength and reserved force, but in action his blooded nostrils seemed to fairly steam with will and all conquering fire, and his trunk and limbs to be surcharged with those elements of force and power with bring reward to triumphant exertion in contest. It was a pity that this beautiful animal should be retired by accident in the full bloom of youthful promise, with his broad forehead, large bright eyes, clean cut neck, with matchless muscular soldiers and firmly knit limbs and joints poised upon his polished aristocratic hoofs. Yet in 1894 King Kremlin, so perfect

in form and carriage, without a single mar or blemish was the peer of Berkshire equines before or since, as he is now the reigning monarch at the Allen Stock Farm, with his famous regal family of fast steppers, of which the princely bay, Kavali, has already reached the highest records of his illustrious sire.

A 2017 EDITORIAL UPDATE.

At some point in Pittsfield's history King Kremlin was deemed worthy of some sort of local geographical honor. At the time outer Elm Street was acquiring new housing and streets, one of those streets was named "Kremlin," and by way of expanding the horse motif in street names, Kremlin Street led into Saratoga Drive.

Alas, along comes the Cold War with the Soviet Union and the street residents petitioned for a change of name and it is now Lillian Street.

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Telegraphic - from page 54

connection with the main line. Considered as harmless, the connection was being broken, when the operator was hurled against the battery door to the floor of the office, laying there insensible for 20 minutes. The next morning it was found that five poles had been shattered on the Page farm, two miles east of the office, and that the wires were hanging in the trees, but unbroken. The cause of the shock to the operator was thusfully explained. Farmer Page asserting that the bolt that did this mischief was "the raggedest blaze of lightning he ever set eyes on."

An old spring is remembered in Pownal, Vermont, at which William P. Brayton and W. H. Phillips once made a repast while out mending the first telegraph line. Having procured a few hard crackers and a half dozen ancient dried herring in a little store, they repaired to this spring after hours of weary toil, with a battered tin cup and refreshed themselves. It was always asserted by Mr. Brayton that this was the most appetizing meal he ever sat down to in his life. Genuine hunger presided at this board.

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Random - from page 58

in town, Mrs. Channing commenced piling up the baked apple seeds beside her plate in a very dainty manner. Just as the repast was coming to an end she smiled very sweetly on the doctor, as she passed the seeds over to him, saying: "Mr. Channing, these are such nice eating, I wish you would carry home and plant these seed so that we may raise these baked apples for ourselves."

The late Judge Shepard Thayer of North Adams was exceedingly fond of venison and never neglected an opportunity to secure a meal of this, his favorite game meat. D. S. Simmons, who was the builder of the "little tunnel" as a railroad contractor, who afterwards kept the old Berkshire House and then a meat market on Eagle street, was aware of the fondness of his friend for this food. Consequently one Saturday he cut off some very dark slices of meat from the neck of an old beef carcass, and as his friend was going home that night, presented the same to him as a rare bit of venison steak. All the doors and windows of the Thayer kitchen had to be thrown wide open when the cook was boiling this steak for the Sunday morning breakfast, and when the lawyer came to tackle it at the table, he could make no more of an impression on it than though it had been cast iron. Thereafter there was a decided coolness between the two, and not until Simmons had removed to Greenfield, where he became prominent as a landlord, farmer and capitalist, was this joke condoned.

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OBITUARY SKETCHES

From various issues of *The Berkshire Hills*, publishing dates are given with each obituary.

DR. JOHN MILTON BREWSTER
November 1, 1902

One after another the brave old band of pioneer physicians of Berkshire County have passed on to their final rest until Dr. John Milton Brewster, the last survivor of these, passed from earth at his Pittsfield home in October at the age of 85 years, after a lingering illness of four years duration. This gentleman, for he was such in every sense this word conveys a meaning, was the grandson of Dr. Oliver Brewster, the famous surgeon in Col. Brown's Berkshire regiment at Stone Arabia and in the ninth generation of unbroken descent from the notable Elder William Brewster of the Puritan Plymouth Rock Colony. His father, Dr. John Milton Brewster, Sr., was born at Becket in 1789, was educated at Lenox Academy and graduated in medicine at Boston. He practiced medicine in Becket until 1821, where his just deceased son was born in 1817. From thence the father removed to Lenox, where he practiced as a physician and surgeon for sixteen years, and thence to Pittsfield in 1837, where he continued his profession for 30 years, and where he died in 1869 at the age of 80, having been in active medical practice for 55 years, and very prominent as one of the old abolition or anti-slavery guard of early political days in the county. The senior Brewster had a most promising family of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last survivor.

Dr. John Milton Brewster received his first schooling in the little red school house in Lenox, and after preparation in the old Lenox Academy entered Williams College in 1835, graduated in 1837, after three years receiving the degree of Master of Arts, being at the date of his death one of its oldest living alumni. Graduating at the old Berkshire Medical College in 1841, he practiced medicine for ten years at Amherst, and removing to Pittsfield in 1858, was appointed by Gov. N. P. Banks, Superintendent of the State Almshouse at Monson, after holding which position for ten years returning to Pittsfield in 1868. For several years he conducted a drug store on North Street and for six years was a most popular and efficient superintendent of the Pittsfield public schools, and connected with the Berkshire County Savings Bank and First Congregational Church in official positions. He was twice married, is survived by his second wife, but by none of his children or grandchildren. He was a man of high spirit, deep thought, of a sympathetic and helpful disposition, and was greatly beloved and respected by the generation in which he once filled so conspicuous a position in life, and to which, in a great measure, he outlived.

CHARLES M. BARDEN
November 1, 1902

Charles M. Barden of Bridgeport, Conn., suddenly deceased at Chicago in September, being one of the oldest and most widely known representatives of the paper trade in the United States. His father in 1832-4 was employed in the old paper mills of the pioneer paper made in Dalton, the first Zenas Crane, but removed to Sauquoit, Oneida County, New York, where he was connected with the Oneida Paper Mills in that place. Here Charles M. was born in 1836, the Barden family having followed the paper making trade and business for many generations, his only brother, George F., having been salesman for L. L. Brown & Co. of Adams, Byron Weston of Dalton, and now acting in the same capacity for the Parsons Paper Company of Holyoke. Charles M. learned the paper making trade at the mills of the old firm of Platner & Smith at Lee and for several years afterwards was foreman of the P. C. Baird mills in that town. Then he became the salesman for five years of the old Berkshire Mills in Dalton, leaving the same to become the traveling representative in the United States and Canada for Crane Brothers of Westfield, which position he filled for twenty years and which he was engaged in at the time of his death. The old-time physician of Lanesboro, Dr. Joseph Jarvis, was his

great-grandfather, and from him through his mother he derived his Berkshire descent.

SHERIFF JOHN CROSBY
January 1, 1903

In the death of Ex-Sheriff John Crosby from heart disease at the age of 73 years, at his residence in Pittsfield late in December, Berkshire County parts with still another from the ranks of its fast-thinning prominent elder citizenship, which so largely contributed in the past century to its upbuilding and its present prosperity. Not only was he a typical son of this soil, but he was a self-made man in every sense of the word, who by his noble bearing, cheerful disposition, charitable, sympathetic, and sociable character and chivalric courtesy through all of the years of his life won to himself, in whatever station he most honorably filled, the friendship, confidence and esteem of all with whom he became associated. John Crosby, whether as a constable, detective, an under or a high sheriff, or as a private citizen, endowed by nature with a fine physique, a dignified carriage and a sunny countenance, disposition and manner, was always a gentleman, and was so recognized in his every walk and station.

He came into public life through pure merit as a young man and by his faithful fulfillment of duty, however repugnant this may have oftentimes been, and he steadily rose to high and important positions in the gift of the Commonwealth and his fellow citizens. He was a Sheffield farmer boy, the son of John and Hannah Curtiss Crosby, whom he cared for and honored as a dutiful child and man all through their lives. Educated in the common schools of Sheffield and graduating from its old academy, he learned the trade of a carpenter, which occupation he pursued for several years, and until called to fill important town offices in Sheffield and afterwards in Stockbridge and Pittsfield. He was first appointed deputy sheriff by Edward Ensign, the high sheriff from Sheffield in 1865, when only 23 years of age, was reappointed by Sheriff George S. Willis of Pittsfield, and seven times under the administration of Graham A. Root. From 1875 he served for five years as state detective under the appointment of Gov. Gaston, having been selected at the instance of a strong force of friends in the legislature and in the county, who knew his sterling worth. After having run twice for high sheriff and being defeated by a few votes, he was elected in his third campaign for that office, which he grandly filled for nine years, being defeated in 1895 by the republican candidate Charles W. Fuller, by a small majority. In his entire political career he fought his battles squarely and fairly and both in victory or defeat still retained his friendship with all.

The close friendships of John Crosby were many, and success or adversity never altered his consideration and care for those who were associated with him in intimate and long acquaintance, while the prominent and more humble, the fortunate and unfortunate, never had reason to criticize so accommodating, unassuming and sympathetic a citizen whether in office or out of it. He was an ardent lover of his native hills and was ever deeply interested in all that pertained to the welfare and growth of his county. His official duties, in which he had so often to handle the criminal elements of society, were always performed with courage and promptness, and his sadness over the painful duties he was several times called upon to perform in his career, was always manifest to the public eye. Though fearless in the performance of his duties as an officer and as a man, sympathy and charity were such strong characteristics of the man that they could never be mistaken.

For quite a number of years he had been aware that an insidious and fatal disease was preying upon his fine physical powers, yet he did not allow this to greatly becloud his life. He always tried to accept things as they were and to the last in cheerful companionship mingled with the people and was interested with them in all matters of local and national life. Though greatly depressed by the long and sad illness of a beloved daughter and shocked by her sudden and recent death, yet he strove to meet his loss cheerfully and without complaint. His final illness was of short duration and his death was peaceful. He is survived by his only son, Hon. John C. Crosby.

ELNATHAN SWEET
February 1, 1903

Elnathan Sweet of Albany, a noted civil engineer for many years and connected with railways, water systems and bridge building, suddenly died of heart disease in January. He was the son of the celebrated old time Baptist minister, Elder Elnathan Sweet, who preached at Stafford's Hill, Cheshire, Adams and in all the northern Berkshire towns as a pastor, supply and in revival gatherings. He served as superintendent of the Rock Island railroad for two years and was state engineer for New York for two terms. He was born in Cheshire in 1837 and removed thence to Stephentown with his parents.

JOHN ROWLAND MOREWOOD
February 1, 1903

John Rowland Morewood, 82, for many years the owner of the Pittsfield Country Club property, died in Elizabeth, N.J. in January. He was prominent in the tea trade in New York City for half a century in the firm of Morewood & Morewood. He was the father of Mrs. Richard Lathers, and a widely known summer resident of Berkshire.

REV. JOHN F. CLYMER
February 1, 1903

The death of Rev. John F. Clymer at Dansville, N.Y. in January, as the result of a stroke of paralysis about a year previous, was an event of sadness to a large circle of friends and acquaintances in Berkshire County. First called to the pastorship of the Methodist Church in Pittsfield in 1873, and again in 1892, he became very popular and widely known throughout the county for his earnest and able work in the ministry and for his fearless advocacy of the cause of temperance, entering into the latter with unusual courage and fearlessness and accepting both victory and defeat without triumph or complaint. He had actively served in the ministry for nearly forty years, was a pleasing and attractive pulpit orator, a genial, good-natured and popular citizen and most eminently maintained the courage of his convictions.

JESSIE CAMPBELL (Mrs. John K. West)
February 1, 1903

The remains of Jessie Campbell, wife of John K. West of Detriot, Minnesota (sic) were brought to Pittsfield for interment the last week of January, she having died at the age of 54 at Chicago, where she was undergoing medical treatment. Probably no beautiful daughter of these Berkshire hills having her home far distant, was so thoroughly attached and deeply interested in her old girlhood home as she, though deeply concerned in the locality which more intimately knew her in her riper years. Occasionally she would visit the old hill-girdled homestead and her presence was a gleam of sunshine to those left of the prominent families with whom she was connected by birth and marriage, and those friends who always held her close and precious in remembrance.

She was born in Pontoosuc village in which the great woolen manufacturing establishment was founded by her kindred and was successfully managed by them so many years, and for whom she had a loyal affection. Her old home in the town was the colonial mansion next north of the South Church, the old building opposite, recently removed to give place to the new natural history and art structure, having been the residence of her pioneer grandfather. She was the fourth daughter of George Campbell, who was familiarly known all through his busy life as "Little George," to distinguish him from his uncle of the same name. She is survived by her husband, John K. West, by her eldest sister, Miss Abby, of Chicago, her third sister, Mrs. W. H. Swift of that city, and her brother, David, one of the directors of the Pontoosuc Company and a partner of his brother-in-law in legal practice in Chicago for many years. Her second sister, Mrs. W. G. Harding, and her youngest, Miss Mary. have deceased, the latter but a short time ago.

JUDGE JACKSON TEMPLE
February 1, 1903

The recent death of Judge Jackson Temple at his residence at Santa Rosa, California, in his 76th year recalls his district school life at Centerville, now Blackinton, his academic studies at Drury Academy in North Adams under Lyman Thompson, and

his graduation at Williams College in the class of 1851. He was born in Heath in 1827 and removed with his parents to North Adams, his father, Deacon Temple, having purchased the old Elisha Wells or Sherman farm, located on the hillside just to the north of the old covered bridge west of the village of Greylock on the old highway to Williamstown, the homestead being located about a half mile east of the village of Blackinton. He attended the Blackinton or Centerville district schools with his brothers David and Broughton, his sister Charlotte, and with Henry N. Wells, now resident at Woodhaven, N.Y. Afterwards himself and brothers and H. N. Wells walked over to Drury Academy, and the group were joined at Braytonville by Arnold G. and Andrew Potter. On the death of Deacon Temple the home farm was sold and the proceeds divided among the children, Jackson using his share to obtain an education. He entered Williams College in 1848 and was a distinguished member of his class, who were quite prominent in after life. His wants had so drawn upon his moderate means that when he came to graduate he had not money enough to purchase a suit of clothes suitable for wear in which to deliver his commencement oration. At this juncture he asked an uncle, who was the owner of a Williamstown brickyard and considered well off, for a loan, which was refused, as the relative said he feared he could never get his pay if he thus accommodated the poor student. Yet it is probable that afterwards Jackson Temple, who was tall and strong limbed and of commanding appearance, earned more money in a single year of his talented life than ever accumulated by his entire relationship. Of his brothers, Broughton has several times visited North Adams, having been engaged in coal mining on an extensive scale. At one time he was the owner of a 160 acre farm in Illinois, whose acreage was all of bituminous coal, through which there was a railway line.

Judge Joseph Tucker of Pittsfield in a recent article in the Springfield Republican states that after studying law at Yale College, Jackson Temple went across the isthmus to California in 1853, settled at Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, where he from thence forward resided. He speedily became known as a man of the highest character, while his reputation as a great lawyer steadily grew until it extended over the state. He was at one time the law partner of Gov. Haight of California and would himself have been elected Governor of his adopted state if he had not declined nomination. In 1870 he was appointed to fill a vacancy in the supreme court for one year. In 1876 he became Judge of a district, including four counties, and soon after was made a justice of the superior court; in 1886 he became justice of the supreme court, but resigned in 1880 because of ill health, in 1894, having regained his health, he was elected to the supreme bench for a term of 12 years, being then 67 years old. Nominated as a Democrat, there was but little distinction of party in the vote he received. He was never a seeker of office, and did not crave popularity, but his absolute purity, and impartiality, and a great ability, compelled support; he was one of the few college students whose career could be, and was, predicted by those who knew him well. He was perhaps the most distinguished member of a class which contained quite a number of able men; he was a fine sample of the real thoroughbred sons of New England. The Press-Democrat newspaper of Santa Rosa says of him: "As a citizen Jackson Temple stood as high among his fellows as he did among his colleagues upon the bench."

IRENE CURTIS CLARK (Mrs. William M.)
February 1, 1903

The death after an extended illness of Irene Curtis Clark, 75, wife of William M. Clark of Pittsfield, occurred in the last week of January. She was the daughter of Ocron Curtis, the founder of Curtisville in the town of Stockbridge, resided there and in Lenox until 1876, and was sister of the late William O. Curtis, the notable pioneer landlord of Lenox and original promoter of that town as a summer resort. She is survived by her husband and her three sons, William R., George W., and Dr. Henry S. Clark of New York.

PIONEER SHOE MANUFACTURERS OF NORTH ADAMS

From *The Berkshire Hills*, February 1, 1903.

George Millard was the first citizen of North Adams to extensively enter into the manufacture of boots and shoes, and was therefore the pioneer of this now great and thriving industry in the Tunnel City of Berkshire County. He was a short, thick-set, heavy man, filled with indomitable business enterprise, push and pluck, of genial, good-humored and sociable characteristics, of great public spirit and thoroughly devoted to the welfare and progress of the old time village and town and its religious, political and financial progress. He is first remembered in the region of 1840 as keeping the largest retail grocery store in the village in the brick building now standing on Eagle street, with his residence just to the south of it, and which was known for very many years as the Millard Block. It was the gilt-edged establishment of its kind of the locality, it had for its patrons not only the first families of the village, but the large farming community roundabout, and in fact most of the working people who were not connected with the local manufacturing establishments.

This store was a country store on a large scale, and carried a large stock not only of West India goods, farm produce, flour, grain and staples, but also of dry goods, boots and shoes, hardware and all supplies, commodities and utensils which were of general public necessity.

It was the market to which the agricultural population of all that section flocked and found ready sale for their products, and to which they made constant pilgrimage either for cash or barter. Other stores of the characters springing up in the village, in time Mr. Millard rented his store and a long wooden building in its rear as a boot and shoe factory, to which business he devoted himself during the balance of his residence in the town, in later life removing to Bennington, Vt., where he purchased a cork factory which he was successfully operating at the time of his death.

During his residence in North Adams he was a veritable pillar in the Baptist church, was elected twice as representative to the Legislature, took an active part in forwarding all local enterprises and reforms, and was most ardent in his championship for the opening of the Pittsfield and North Adams, the Troy and Boston Railroads, and for prosecuting the work of building the Hoosac Tunnel. To the latter cause he contributed much time and means, neither of which he spared in his enthusiastic labors to help bring about the accomplishment of this great undertaking. It was to him who was accorded the honor of breaking the first ground on the west side of the mountain, with a brightly gleaming new shovel, in the presence of a large gathering of people assembled from far and from near.

The entire product of the first boot and shoe factories in North Adams in the forties was marketed in the towns and villages within a radius of fifty miles about the village, delivered by teams to retail stores, and peddled out among the farmers in wagons driven by the manufacturers themselves and by trusted men in their employ. A good deal of the pay received for these boots and brogans and coarse wear for women and children, was in butter, eggs, cheese, poultry, potatoes, apples and such.

The help in the factories was largely paid their wages in this produce, to which was added just sufficient cash to tide them along. The women and the working girls of that day were clad in prunella gaiters, which though very serviceable, were rather too light for ordinary wear and for comfort, except in the summer months.

In 1843, Edwin Childs and David C. Rogers commenced the manufacture of boots and shoes in a couple of upper rooms in Penniman's Row. In 1845 this firm moved to the Millard store on Eagle street and took in Harvey Ingraham as a partner, a citizen who had a capital of $10,000, which he had amassed as a carpenter in the employ of the firm of Brown & Harris on their mill grounds, afterwards owned by Sylvander Johnson. In 1847 Edwin Childs retired from the firm and going to Montreal became a prominent shoe manufacturer in Canada, and the same year Joshua K. Rogers and George Millard became partners with Ingraham under

the firm of Rogers, Ingraham & Co. In 1850 George Millard bought out the concern and with Harvey Ingraham and W. F. Waterbury conducted the business in a large three story wooden building which he had built on the east side of Eagle street and opposite the brick store, and which was known as the Millard Hall Block. In 1857 George Millard bought out his partners, and for a while ran the business alone, and afterwards with Edwin Rogers, and then with his sons Alden C. and Henry S. Millard. During this time Harvey Ingraham with his brother William, opened a factory just west of the David Darling homestead on Main street, which they conducted until the former's death. Alden C. Millard retiring from the Millard Hall firm and removing to Chicago, Henry S. Millard and his father conducted the business until George Millard's removal to Bennington, Henry S. Millard purchased the plant and took in Jerome B. Jackson as a partner.

The firm of Millard & Jackson continued business in the Eagle street stand for a short time, occupying both the upper stores of the Millard Hall Block. Previously the second story of the building had been used as a public hall, and for quite a number of years it was the gilt-edged place for holding concerts, lectures and for political gatherings, third story and a greater portion of the first being devoted to boot and shoe making, the storage of stock and the packing of goods. Millard & Jackson then built that portion of the large Union street works now owned by Norman L. Millard & Co., bordering on Union street and the entrance to Willow Dell, or about a third of the present great establishment, and removed their business to this brick structure. In 1867, William H. Whitman purchased Mr. Jackson's interest and the firm became that of Millard & Whitman, and it was thus conducted up to 1874, when by the purchase of H. S. Millard's interest by Norman L. Millard the firm was changed to that of Whitman & Millard. In 1882 Mr. Whitman disposed of the plant to Mr. Millard, who has enlarged the establishment to its present size, constantly increasing its popular output and growing up a great and successful business, having taken his nephew, C. K. Millard, into partnership in 1892.

In 1866 William G. and H. T. Cady as Cady Bros., descendants of the notable pioneer citizens, the Cadys and Bradfords, erected a large wooden shoe factory at the north end of Holden street, near the present site of the Weber shoe factory, and continued a most prosperous industry until 1880, when William G. retired. H. T. Cady continued the business for a number of years afterwards and finally sold the plant to its present owners. For a number of years William G. served the old town as one of its most efficient selectmen, and H. T. retiring from business has served the city as mayor and spent much time in travel abroad. In 1883, W. G. Cady and S. H. Fairfield as W. G. Cady & Co., built a large four story wooden shoe factory on South Ashland street, from which after a few years Mr. Cady, because of ill health, retired, and but a short time ago again started in the show manufacture at Greenfield, still retaining his residence in North Adams. The South Ashland street factory under the management of Mr. Fairfield is in most successful operation.

The Canedy Clark Shoe Co. was founded in 1844 by William H. Whitman and J. M. Canedy and was conducted as the firm of Whitman, Canedy & Co. until 1889, when owing to the death of Mr. Whitman it was changed to that of Canedy & Wilkinson. In 1894 Mr. Canedy became the sole proprietor up to 1897, when a company was incorporated as the Clark, Canedy Co., with J. M. Canedy as president. The factory is a three story brick structure on the west side of South Ashland street and is in a most flourishing condition. In 1895 the Wilkinson & Bliss Shoe Co. built a factory on Lincoln street, which was run for several years and then shut down.

The foundations of the C. T. Sampson Manufacturing Company were laid in 1850, when George Millard having purchased a bankrupt manufacturer's stock of boots and shoes in the eastern part of the state, engaged Calvin T. Sampson then a young farmer of Stamford, Vt., and owning a few acres, to load them into a wagon and drive into neighboring towns and peddle them out either for cash or farmers' produce. On his first trip Sampson cleared as his commission $25, and in a few weeks disposed of the lot with good wages for himself. Sampson then sold his Stamford farm and removed to North Adams, and with a capital of $300 started in business.

In 1851 he secured a small stock of goods from Boston parties on three months credit, which he peddled out in the village in a carpet bag and in ten days had sold them all out. In November, 1850, he opened a retail store in the building now standing on the southwest corner of Main and Eagle streets, which he carried on most successfully until 1858, having safely passed through the severe financial crisis of 1857. Just above him on Eagle street was the old shoe store of Tom Hill, the first of any note in the village, of which Edwin Rogers was then proprietor, and the competition was very sharp between the two, and sometimes a little strained, owing to the waggishness of Edwin, and the matter of fact characteristics of Calvin.

But Sampson attended strictly to his business and in the upper part of the building now occupied by Rice Drug Store in 1855 had begun to manufacture a woman's leather shoe to take the place of prunella wear of that character, which found ready and popular sale. These he retailed over his own counter and jobbed out in a small way in exchange for goods of other manufacturers. His first shoemakers were N. A. Viall and William G. Viall the first workmen to come to North Adams from the eastern part of the state to make women's shoes. Of one or two apprentices employed, when but 25 pairs of shoes a day were being turned out, was William G. Cady, the veteran shoe manufacturer of northern Berkshire, who remained in his employ for seven years. N. A. Viall remained in the village but a short time and returned to his home in Oxford. William G. Viall continued with Mr. Sampson as his designer and foreman until 1856, when he took employment with Millard, Ingraham & Waterbury. After selling his retail store Sampson entered into shoe manufacture on a larger scale in the building known as the Cady Block on the corner of Eagle and Center streets. In 1862 he purchased the Bennett Tannery building near the Eagle street bridge, and bordering on the river, his business then having increased to an output of 360 pairs daily. He then employed W. G. Viall as his superintendent and from 1866 until 1887 his business increased to 3600 pairs per day.

In 1869 he purchased the large brick mill just east of the Arnold Print Works, on Marshall street which had been erected for what was called the North Adams Tool Co., but which owing to a hitch in completing the organization of the same had never been occupied. This he filled with new machinery, the most improved article in which were patent pegging machines. Afterwards the C. T. Sampson Manufacturing Company was formed in 1878, of which C. T. Sampson was president and George W. Chase, treasurers. In 1887 Mr. Sampson sold his interest in the company and Mr. Chase became its president, the former retiring and having deceased but a few years since. Mr. Chase continued the business until about the close of the past century and since this time the works have been discontinued.

No attempt is made in this sketch to show the increase in this great North Adams industry at the present day from its feeble conception in Penniman's Row and on Eagle street fully 63 years ago, which has risen to gigantic proportions, the products of which from first finding a barter market in the immediate locality, have reached all over the commercial world, making the real history of this Northern Berkshire manufacture a most remarkable event from its pioneer start down to the present time (1903). Besides from the birth of the boot and shoe industry of North Adams, Berkshire County became the rival in later years with its rapid growth in that locality and with similar establishments in Adams, Cheshire, Dalton and Pittsfield, of the eastern counties of the state, as it is now, of great magnitude and importance.

William G. Viall, who is now resident at North Adams and who having grown gray in the service, was connected with the Sampson manufactory until it was closed a few years ago, was with Harvey Ingraham, Henry J. Pellett and a few other kindred musical spirits, the originators of brass band music in North Adams, for which in past years it was much famed. So many of the old band musicians were employees of the boot and shoe shops that the earlier organizations of this character were called the Shoemaker Bands. That these arrived at a high state of efficiency has been already noted in this monthly.

It is remembered of George Millard that he was of a very jovial turn of mind and for his size and weight was very athletic. In

1836 a number of young men were trying their mettle in a running jump on the sidewalk in front of his store, when he came out in his shirt sleeves and proposed to take a hand in the sport. Judge of the surprise of the boys when he covered the ground a full foot in advance of their champion jumper, who gave him a cheer, which echoed and reechoed on the mountains roundabout.

The first public walking match in North Adams was held in a hall in the third story of the old Arcade Building. The floor was strewn with sawdust, a ring was roped in, there were a half dozen contestants at the start, and there was great excitement in the village. The contest lasted for two days and nights and the sprinters finally all collapsed but Sammy McClellan, a short-built, red-haired and somewhat eccentric little shoemaker who worked in the old brick store of George Millard. All the artisans in leather of the period became intensely interested in Sammy, who showed wonderful courage, pertinacity and staying qualities. They filled the hall with sheers of encouragement, they watched his food, sponged him down and when he finally came off victorious he was awarded the prize, they celebrated his victory by carrying him home on their shoulders, and faithfully guarded his whole week of sleep to become rested up.

The town of Stamford, Vt., notably contributed energy and enterprise to the building up of shoe manufacturing in North Adams, and it was from this locality that George Millard came to enter upon his business life in the village. From this town also came Calvin T. Sampson to enter upon his notable career, as also Norman L. Millard, at the head of the present great industry bearing his name in the Tunnel City. J. M. Canedy, at the head of the Clark, Canedy Company, was a native of Readsboro, Vt., while S. M. Fairfield was born in Florida, and the Messrs. Rogers and Childs in Conway. Of the North Adams boys holding great prominence in this industry were the Messrs. Cady and W. H. Whitman, and every one of these shoe manufacturers from moderate beginnings won their way up to the highest rounds on the ladder of business enterprise and success.

Up to the time of the civil war C. T. Sampson, from his start on $300 capital, had accumulated about $16,000. Through losses from southern debtors in the war he became somewhat embarrassed, but recovered his foothold, and after the war built up a great custom all over the country, the quality of his work being such that for years he retained his patrons without having to solicit their trade. Though from an unfortunate entanglement in the Eagle Mowing Machine Company of Albany, his losses were over $100,000, and which put him to great inconvenience for a time, he was a very wealthy man at his decease, he having bequeathed the bulk of his estate to charitable, benevolent and religious institutions.

George Millard was among the first business men in the county to have printed note heads and envelopes. The peculiarity of his design was an amusing one. It was an elephant clad in top-boots in which he was striding off at a high rate of speed, and upon whose side was printed, "George Millard, Boots and Shoes, North Adams, Mass." Notwithstanding engraved note heads and envelopes soon came into use, Mr. Millard stuck to his original idea while he remained in that business. It is a vivid reminder of old times to have an esteemed patron in the present town of Adams occasionally write a word to this office with the old George Millard elephant on his envelope.

Between 1868 and 1870 began the great conflict between C. T. Sampson and the Knights of St. Crispin, a leading union of shoe-workers in the United States having a large lodge in North Adams. This union having undertaken to dictate wage hours and wages to Mr. Sampson, met with a flat refusal on his part to treat with them. A strike in his works being in course of events, he suddenly discharged some members of the St. Crispin's Society whom he knew to be active in that organization and sending to North Brookfield engaged 45 men on explicit terms, but these were prevailed upon by the St. Crispins to throw up their contracts. He then resorted to the novel expedient of employing Chinese labor in his factory. His assistant and right hand man for many ears was sent to San Francisco where he hired 75 Chinamen who were landed at North Adams, June, 1870, amid the wildest excitement. This number was afterwards increased to 123, who remained in the village for 10 years and who made excellent workmen. Though

these Celestials were wildly threatened with violence at the outset, the storm soon subsided and during their residence no cruelty or outrage happened to them, as they strictly minded their own business and were inoffensive and polite. They were barracked and boarded themselves on the Sampson grounds, receiving their supplies of tea, rice, etc., direct from China, and partaking of their food at long tables with their wonderful chopsticks, occasionally invited a spectator to a marvelously delicious cup of tea.

These were the first Chinamen ever brought into New England, and the northern states as well, for labor, the first in the country to be taught a skilled trade, and Berkshire County enterprise and courage accomplished this feat. Although these Celestials celebrated their religious and national feasts on the Sampson grounds, especially making their observance of New Year's noticeable with Chinese lanterns, bombs and fire crackers, they were never disturbed. This action completely broke up the St. Crispin Society locally, and it was not long before the Chinese and Americans were working together harmoniously, while it had the effect of disorganizing the union in the northern states past all resurrection.

We are permitted to republish a interesting article lately (1903) written by Dr. William E. Brown, the founder of the Brown Sanitarium at North Adams, on the advent of the Chinese in Berkshire, and now a resident of Dansville, N.Y., who in the seventies was a practicing dentist on Main St., who administered nitrous oxide gas to the first Chinaman who ever breathed it, and for whom he made a set of false teeth. This Chinaman soon after returned to the Celestial Empire where he exhibited the first set of false molars ever seen in that country.

There was great excitement that day in June, 1870, when a telegram announced that the Chinamen, who were to take the places of the striking Crispins, would arrive on the train due at 10 a.m., from San Francisco. The station and yard was crowded with angered strikers, and idlers, the former with threats of violence, and it was a question of courage on the part of the officers and citizens, who stood against mob law under any and all circumstances. As the China boys alighted from the train and started for the shop, some half mile away, it was a thrilling sight. The seventy-five Chinamen with their goods upon their shoulders in bundles and bags, presented a picture that any person who witnessed it will ever remember. George W. Chase, of the Sampson Mfg. Co., was at their head, flanked by officers of the town, supplemented by state constables. As they started up the street, howls, threats of vengeance and cat calls made the route anything but assuring to the peaceable boys from the Celestial Empire. They paid no heed, following Mr. Chase, looking neither to the right nor left. The great crowd of strikers and followers threatened, but the officers were equal to it all and side from slight injuries received by a few from stones thrown by unknown persons, they reached the Sampson Shoe Shop, which had been fitted up for their abiding place.

The shop is a very large, square building, with an inner court. The two eastern stories of this side had been fitted up with bunks. In these rooms these Celestials were housed and fed during the ten years of their working in this shop, and so conducted themselves as to very speedily win the confidence of the people at large and also of the shoe-makers in town, whose places they had come from the Orient to fill. This procession was unlike anything ever seen in the east. Each boy was dressed in the garb of the lower grade or caste of the Chinese, blue jean blouse, wide flowing trousers and felt shoes with heavy felt soles. These shoes of lighter material and more elaborate became the vogue with the young women who became the teachers of these Mongolians the same year. Quoting from the Springfield Republican,Oct. 7, 1871, the correspondent says, "The Chinese question, so far as our town is concerned, is settled, and they wander through the streets, after working hours, unmolested, scarcely noticed. On last Sunday afternoon twenty-five young ladies and gentlemen spent an hour at their quarters teaching them. Their Sunday school will be continue though the season. After working hours, any evening, groups of Chinamen may be seen gathering around some little girl, who is teaching them to read and speak our language."

Quoting still further, "The shop was visited one day this week by a Chinese merchant from San Francisco, who did not manifest a

very commendable spirit while among his countrymen, passing them by without a look of recognition, to the evident disgust of the men, who manifested their dissatisfaction by groans, etc., which were quickly suppressed by a look from Charley Sing, the interpreter. Minister Wu was not greater than he." During this year seventy-five more Chinamen were added, and their coming elicited not a murmur. At this time the Chinese were paid by the piece the same as the workmen in other shops, before this having been under contract (and men stigmatized as slaves.) This solved the labor problem to the satisfaction of all concerned. This shop employed about three hundred and fifty hands at this time, later on more than one hundred more were added, making the largest shoe shop in this part of the state. A Crispin leader said, speaking of these Chinese shoemakers, "No one hundred and fifty men of any nationality could live together as these Chinamen are doing without having trouble among themselves, from drinking, etc." The rate of loss of time among these men was much less than among any class of workmen. Mr. Chase said it was too small to mention. Many of them attended church and Sunday School, and learned to play upon the organ, and for some time played during the session of the Sabbath School in the Baptist church. Several became members of the Baptist church and it is said that the first Chinaman who received Christian burial in this country died at North Adams and was buried from the Baptist church. This funeral possession was very interesting, every Chinaman dressed in white, and made a most imposing body as they followed their dead to "Hillside Cemetery." When they completed their work at North Adams, the bodies of their countrymen, six in all, who had died while there, were shipped to San Francisco, and from thence to China.

On the Chinese New Year the boys made merry on a large scale, celebrating by firing hundreds of bunches of fire crackers wound around a long pole protruding from the second story window, and a terrible din was the result. Their band gave concerts and they gave a great banquet in the shop. Friends and teachers gathered and made merry. Their sweetmeats and fruits were very fine, and their Chinese Chef was a first-class cook. After a year or two, a great many of them used a knife and fork at table in place of chop-sticks. Their food was of the best. A load of baker's bread came to the shop every day. Meats, especially small pigs, chickens and other fowls were used freely. Many of them cut their queues, and wore American clothing, and conformed to our habits. Lue Gang Gine resides at North Adams still, a naturalized citizen, a member of the Baptist church, has lived in one of the first families, is much respected, well to do, going to Florida every year, where he manages an orange grove. Charley Sing, the interpreter for the Courts, also holding a similar position under the Governor. Many of these boys saved money enough to live on their income in China. Thirty of the Chinamen paid taxes, and all the others were minors. The following is a list of tax payers' names taken by the assessor: Charley Sing, James Chung, Pin Yug Ling, Ah Foo Aug, Toy Sing Chin, Ah Lang Gonn, Ah Fuee Lee, King Yok Aug, Ah Yong Louie, Ah Shoe Ham, Ah Fook Aug, Hog Toy Low, Ah Dive Low, Nang Moover Low, Hing Wang Lee, Ah Hane Ling, Gee Tuck Low, Sam Queen Low, Ah/Gon Row, Ah May Low, Gis Lie Lee, See Kong Chung, Ah Hell Yah, Toy Foo Young, Sen Gu Lee, King Tak Chung, Hag Hane Low, Kong Nap Wang, Ah Quom Low, Ah Tune Chung, Ah Deng Lee, Ah Lee Chung.

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From *10,000 Vital Records of Eastern N.Y. 1777-1834.*

Jonathan Clarke married Mrs. Betsey Priet in Nottingham, N.H.. "Groom is the father of 13 children by one wife and the bride is mother of 14 children by one husband.

John Hamilton married Mrs. Rebecca Colby. The bride, not yet age 20, "has now a third husband and has lived a widow for the last six weeks." ▬

AN OLD STAGE DRIVER 1836-1837

From *The Berkshire Hills*, February 1, 1903.

It is not generally known, but it is nevertheless true, that there is living in the west part of Great Barrington the last surviving mail carrier and stage driver who conducted "The Red Bird" line of coaches from Hartford to Albany over 65 years ago. This veteran of the road is William Palmer, who was 82 years of age May 26, 1902. A son of Noyes F. Palmer, he was born in Hillsdale, N.Y. and at the age of fourteen came to Great Barrington village, where he soon obtained employment at the store of the late John C. & Asa C. Russell. When the original woolen factory of the Russells was erected in 1836, William Palmer held the plow and one Joe Ferris drove the horses to break ground for the foundation. This building of wood was destroyed by fire in 1864.

One of the best known original stockholders of the "Red Bird" line was the late Deputy Sheriff Harvey Holmes, then of New Marlboro, but in the latter part of his life a resident of Great Barrington. At New Marlboro, in 1831, Mr. Holmes established a brass foundry, and built up a trade in New York, Albany, Hartford, Hudson and other places. Among his workmen at the foundry was Elihu Burritt, "The Learned Blacksmith."

The "Red Bird" line was finely equipped, but there was no money in it, and in after years Mr. Holmes would relate with a laugh, that they lost $5,000 in the enterprise, but derived a good deal of fun from it.

Of other residents of southern Berkshire who had an interest in the "Red Bird" line was Deacon Forbes of Sheffield, whose youngest son, Moses, drove one of the teams from Sheffield to Albany. Forbes made an effort to secure the stock on the through line, and was so extravagant in his ideas, that he actually hid $9,000, but Mr. Holmes went to Washington and bid it off for himself and others for $5,000. On the failure of the company, Augustus Tobey of Alford, who appears to have had some interest in the line, took the horses to that town for pasture, and soon after they were sold at public auction.

While the line was in full operation, Mr. Palmer had in his charge seven or eight of these horses, and now in his old age he is fond of relating that they were all beautiful and high-spirited animals. Colebrook and Winsted, Connecticut were on this route, by way of Sandisfield, and it was no easy task in winter to get through the deep snows which cover the hill tops in those towns. The only guide at such times were stakes, or bushes, along the outer boundary of the highway, and on one trip Mr. Palmer lost his bearings, and came near perishing in the deep drifts.

Of the noted taverns in those times was the Berkshire Inn, which stood on the corner of Main and Bridge streets in Great Barrington, where the post-office block now is. The old wooden building, said to have been built on the site of a still older one, was erected by Josiah Smith in 1770. This was afterwards kept by Captain Walter Pynchon, then by Reuben Bacon from 1803 to 1812; then by Francis Knapp and after him by Timothy Griswold to the time of his death in 1825. The last landlord, who is yet remembered, was the late Captain Asahel Beebe, whose young son lost his life one Fourth of July by falling into a cauldron of boiling hot water. In 1838 and 39, the old tavern was moved in sections and a new structure was erected in its place by the late George R. Ives.

It was quite an event as the stages of the "Red Bird" line arrived at the old tavern, and the notes of the driver's horn as he approached the village are remembered by Mr. Palmer in a very vivid manner. He also relates with much interest that the sessions of the Probate Court were held in the north room of the old tavern. William Walker of Lenox was Judge and Henry W. Bishop, Register of Probate. In those days even the best of temperance men drank a little "sling or flip," especially in cold weather, and Mr. Palmer relates that the Judge took a brandy sling, while the Register called for gin toddy with a "toad" in it, meaning a cracker.

H. C. Warner

New York City

OLD DALTON AND PERU CHURCHES

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

John W. Crane of Springfield, a descendant of the fourth generation from the first pioneer settler of Becket and Washington, contributed the following interesting article.

At the "raising" of the old white Congregational Church in Dalton, removed to a site near the railroad depot and now doing duty as a grain store and warehouse, Parson Jennings was present and welcomed all the helpers on the occasion. Mr. Pierce was the builder of the church and of course was boss of the raising, the roof of the edifice being quite flat and the steeple quite high. After the frame was safely put in place, a man named Torrey from the town of Windsor, a noted wit and maker of verses for all poetry lovers of the region, joined the gathering, whereupon Parson Jennings invited him to make a "varse" to fit the occasion. Sitting down upon a stick of timber, he mused in silence for a few moments, when tapping the ground with his cane, he looked up at the Parson and recited:

"Flat roof, tall steeple;
Blind guide, ignorant people."

The Parson heartily joined din the burst of merriment which greeted this quaint couplet, destined to live for many a day and generation.

The old Peru Congregational Church, so long a much prized sight from many of the high eminences of the county, as well as the present modern edifice built upon its site, stood upon the water-shed of both the Housatonic and Connecticut rivers. In order to procure the underpinning stone for this old church, which was destroyed by fire seventy-five years after it was laid, a "bee" was arranged for a certain Fourth of July. All the farmer boys of the town were promptly on hand with their oxen and steers, and at four o'clock on this morning stated for the West Chesterfield stone quarry to load up. It was a long and unique procession, the quarry was reached, the stone loaded and the return made as far as Worthington Corners by high noon. Here the landlord of the hotel gave the oxen a "baiting," the farmer boys a dinner, and as fitting both to the day and the occasion "flip" was as free as water. After a generous rest both men and teams started homeward arriving in Peru in the early evening. The stone supplies thus procured were twenty feet long, two and a half feet high and ten inches thick. The quantity was not only adequate for the foundations of the building, but at the same time the "bee" procured the huge front step over which so many old-time church goers entered this historic edifice, so memorable in the past history of this once reputable old Berkshire hill town.

The hewing of the massive timbers of this old church was done by a carpenter named Pierce of a numerous Peru family. So skillfully was this work executed that the olden-time stage passengers used to stop and admire the smoothness of the sills and beams, as no mark of the axe strokes were visible upon them. Carpenter Pierce handled a huge broad-axe which weighed fourteen pounds and was the champion wielder of that tool in the county. The shingles for this old church were made from a single pine tree, which was cut down on the Dalton meadows and which was purchased of a Mr. Curtis. This tree yielded 18,000 shingles which roofed the old church, and there were some to spare. After the fire the shingles on the north side of the structure were discovered to have been perfectly sound after having been in this exposed position for so many long years, which was only to be accounted for from the fact that the huge Dalton pine was of first forest growth.

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From *10,000 Vital Records of Eastern N.Y. 1777-1834.*

William Eckert, 75, married Elizabeth Linsenbigler, 17.
Benjamin Gregory, 15, married Martha Churchill, 11.
Thaddeus Dan, 25, married Caty Chase, "aged 11 years and 6 months."

GUIDE TO INTERPRETATION OF THE 1855 MASSACHUSETTS CENSUS

The above title intro has been appearing on the inside of the back cover of each yearly issue #2 of *Berkshire Genealogist* almost since its inception. As of this time it stands incomplete with several more towns (including a sizeable count in Pittsfield) not represented

Since one can find the 1855 Massachusetts Census with a quick trip to the Internet, we have decided to cease its publication.

One can find the 1855 Massachusetts Census at:
https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1459985

Tnis project was indexed in partnership with the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS). Name index and images of population schedules listing inhabitants of the State of Massachusetts in 1855. 155 images from Suffolk County (Boston) are missing and will be forthcoming. It is searchable by name or you can browse through it by town.

* * * * * * * * * *

The following bit of poetry was found in the vault of the Local History Department of the Berkshire Athenaeum, in the Austin Haight Collection, and reminded us of the old fashioned and generally quite comical epitaphs one finds on the older grave stones. It was written in West Lebanon, NY on October 6, 1873 by that most famous of authors, "Anonymous." Considering where it was found it must be of an historical-genealogical nature, birth and death; we thought it was rather cute and would make a good space filler here. Enjoy.

A FOWL PROCEEDING

A fowler while prowling through Lebanon plain,
With wide open eyes in search of rich game;
Came where the finches had built them a nest,
And one chicken only their union had blest;
The old birds flew 'round and strived very hard,
With every endeavor their chicken to guard;
But the fowler regardless of parental cries,
Took the young bird away before their old eyes,
And bagging the game went out to the west,
And left the old finches to mourn 'round the nest.

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