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OF  
NEW HAVEN COUNTY,  
CONNECTICUT.

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Edited by  
J. L. ROCKEY,  
Assisted by a corps of writers.

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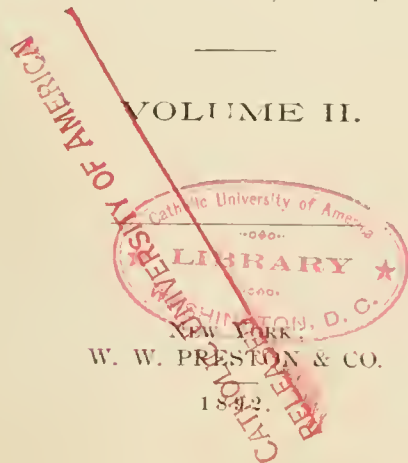
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# HISTORY OF NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

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## VOLUME II.

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### CHAPTER I.

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#### THE TOWN OF BRANFORD.

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Settlement and Early History.—Civil Government.—Town Officers.—Town Buildings.—Branford Borough.—Probate District.—Public Highways.—General Industrial Interests.—Branford Village.—Beach and Shore Resorts.—Stony Creek Village.—Secret and Beneficial Orders.—The G. A. R. and the Soldiers' Monument.—Education.—Congregational Church and Society.—Trinity (P. E.) Church.—Baptist Church.—Methodist Church.—Lutheran Church.—St. Mary's (R. C.) Church.—Cemeteries.—Biographical Sketches.

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**B**RANFORD is one of the shore towns of the county. It is between seven and eight miles, along the sound, between Guilford on the east and East Haven on the west. From North Branford south to the coast line the distance is between four and five miles. The surface is uneven, there being in some localities high hills. Many of these having a smooth surface, are tillable to the summit. In the western part some of the Branford hills attain considerable elevation and are designated by local names. In the southeast outcroppings of granite are manifest and the soil is less fertile than in other localities. Along Stony creek that rock has been extensively quarried for building purposes. That stream empties into the sound at a cluster of numerous islands, several hundred in number, large and small, called Thimble islands. Farther west is still another cluster, called Indian islands. The streams are small, Branford river, flowing through the central part, being the most important. Near the sound its course is winding, and for several miles it is a tidal stream, admitting vessels of from 50 to 75 tons burden. In the vales and lowlands the soil is strong and very productive. It has been found, with proper fertilization, to be admirably adapted for garden crops, and a number of inhabitants have lately engaged in that pursuit. The uplands are better for grazing and fruit. Agriculture is still a leading occupation of many citizens. Formerly property was much more equalized than at present, and in consequence the town was long ex-

empt from an indigent population. In 1835, according to J. W. Barber, there was but one town pauper. In the last half century this condition of things has been changed to a considerable extent by the introduction of new industries and the use of much of the area for suburban and summer residences.

Concerning the early settlers of the locality first known as Totoket\* there is much diversity of opinion. Some writers insist that the town was depopulated by the going away of Mr. Pierson and his followers, and Doctor Trumbull says that for a long time no organic existence was maintained, Branford being reinvested with town privileges in 1685. These assertions do not appear to be sustained by the investigations of the Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin, whose account of early events is given in the following annals:

"In the month of December, 1638, the New Haven settlers bought an additional tract of land of the Indians. It was ten miles in length, north and south, and extended eight miles east of the Quinnipiac river. It was bought of Montowese, son of Sowheog, the sachem of Mattabeseck Indians. Sowheog was a powerful sachem. His fort was at Middletown, on a hill, where, by means of his whistle, he could call around him 500 warriors very quickly. His dominion embraced a portion of this county. The Indians of Branford were governed by his son. The deed was signed by Montowese and Sausounck. Their tribe then was very small (ten men with their families). Montowese's signature was a bow and arrow. Sausounck's was a rude hatchet. This tract of land included the present territory of Branford. Its boundaries were Lake Saltonstall and the river on the west, Stony river (not Stony creek) on the east, the sound on the south, and a line ten miles back from the sound on the north. The boundaries have never varied much from these original lines. On the east, Guilford has a small tract that once belonged to the original Branford. This territory was then called Totoket, from the Indian name of a range of hills in the northern part. Its shores were a favorite resort for the Indians of the neighboring settlements, as well as of Totoket. Fish and clams were abundant. For some years after its purchase little use was made of it except for hunting. The Indians were allowed to hunt and plant also. A few squatters occasionally pushed in along the shore. Notable among these was a Thomas Mulliner, and he thus became a cause of considerable trouble to the early settlers. From him comes the name 'Mulliner's neck,' long applied to the region now called 'Branford Point.'

"September 3d, 1640, the general court at New Haven made a grant of Totoket to Mr. Samuel Eaton, brother of Governor The-

\*Some writers interpret Totoket to mean "The place of the Tidal River," *i. e.*, Branford river; others say with equal positiveness that the name was derived from the range of mountains terminating in North Branford. The present name, Branford, is said to have been derived from Brentford, a village in England, where some of the early settlers lived before coming to America.

ophilus Eaton, upon the condition of his procuring a number of his friends from England to settle on its lands. Mr. Eaton failed to fulfill this condition. He went to England to procure settlers, but never returned.

"In 1643 Totoket was granted to Mr. William Swaine and others of Wethersfield. The record read thus: 'Totoket, a place fit for a small plantation, betwixt New Haven and Guilford, and purchased from the Indians, was granted to Mr. Swayne and some others of Wethersfield, they repaying the charge which is betwixt 12 and 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and joyning in one jurisdiction with New Haven and the forenamed plantations, upon the same fundamental agreement settled in October, 1643, which they duely considering, readjlye accepted.'

"The removal from Wethersfield was the result of divisions in the church there. There were several ministers in the Wethersfield settlement. Each naturally desired to be *the* minister, and each had his special friends. They had not then learned the more modern policy of leaving each faction to gather around its own choice and support him as well as they could. They could support only one, but which should he be?

"Advice being sought from Davenport, of New Haven, and others, a separation was advised. Some went to Stamford; others, and the larger number, came to Branford.

"The men who had bought Totoket for a settlement came to occupy their purchase early in 1644. Their names were: Samuel Swaine, William Swaine, Luther Bradfield, John Plum, Robert Abbott, John Robbins, William Palmer, Samuel Nettleton, Roger Betts, John Linsley, Robert Rose, John Morris, Michael Palmer, Francis Linsley, Thomas Whitehead, John Hill, Daniel Dod, Richard Harrison, Sigismond Richalls, Thomas Blachly, John Edwards, Robert Meaker, Richard Mather, Jonathan Sargent, Richard Williams, Jonathan England, William Merchant, Edward Frisbie, John Horton, Samuel Pond, Thomas Lupton, Richard Richards, Edward Treadway, Samuel Plumb and Charles Taintor. These were mostly from Wethersfield.

"Thomas Mulliner was already on hand. And from New Haven came Jasper Crane, Lawrence Ward, George Ward, Richard Lawrence and Reverend John Sherman. Several had their wives and children with them. These were the first year's inhabitants.

"Coming early in the year 1644, they began to clear off the forests, build shelters for themselves and their cattle, prepare land for cultivation, gather hay from the fertile meadows, and organize society. The abundance of shell fish found along the shores no doubt made it comparatively easy to procure food. By the first of October they have a minister who resides with them and serves them regularly; this was Reverend John Sherman. He was born in Dedham, county of Essex, England, December 26th, 1613. He entered the University of Cambridge at an early age, but left college when ready for his degree, un-

der the character of a college puritan. In 1634-5 he came to New England. He preached his first sermon at Watertown, Mass., under a large tree. His preaching was much admired. One minister said: 'Brethren, we must look to ourselves and our ministry, for this young divine will outdo us all.' He spent at least one year in Totoket. He preached in several places. He also acted as judge and magistrate for the colony. He died August 8th, 1685. His great-grandson, Roger Sherman, was one of the signers of the declaration of independence.

"The new inhabitants make their first division of lands in June, 1644. This is the first thing recorded upon the ancient records of the town. It reads thus: 'June 18th, 1644, this dai it is ordered that the meadow in this plantation shall be divided into 4 parts, and then divided by lott, viz.: all the meadow that lyeth on the right hand side of the town that is earliest settled shall be in the first dividend, and all the meadow that lyeth by the river on the left side and all upwards from that place where it is considered a bridge must be, is for the 2d dividend; Also 3dly all the meadow that lyeth downe the river from the place where it was considered a bridge must be, and all that lyeth within the compass of that piece of ground called the plaine shall be in the 3d dividend. 4thly all the meadow left beside in the towne that is knowne shall be in the 4th dividend. This meadow is to be bounded and prized by Robert Rose, William Palmer, Samuel Swaine, John Horton, Richard Harrison, and Thomas Blachly, with all convenient speede, and then the lott to be cast.'

"The people first settled along the river, mostly on the western and northern side. Indian Neck was left to the Indian inhabitants. The new settlers very soon had trouble with Mulliner. The court record is, '3d of Feb., 1644, Thos. Moulenor, sen'r, and Thomas Moulinor, his son, being charged with sundry miscarryages and breach of peace but nott issued. Itt was referred to another court and the meane time it was ordered that they shall both enter into a recognisance of each man 100 l, to keep the publique peace and be of the good behavior towards all people, and especially towards the inhabitants of Totoket.'

"To show some of the vexations of that first year an instance is here given. November 11th, 1644, 'Upon complaint made by some of the planters of Totoket, that the Mohegin Indians have done much damage to them by setting their traps in the walke of their cattell, itt was ordered that the marshall shall goe with Thomas Whitway to warune Uncus or his brother, or else Foxen, to come and speake with the Governor and the magistrates.'

"This name Foxen shows the origin of the title given to a well-known section in the northwestern part of the town.

"Among the first buildings which the settlers put up were a house for the minister, and a meeting house. The minister's house may have been near the present residence of William Russell. The meet-

ing house was built in the front part of the present burying yard. It was a kind of block-house, and was surrounded by palisades, as a defense against possible Indian attacks. During the hours of worship some one or more of the settlers stood guard near the entrance of the stockade. All carried their firearms when they went to meeting. They were not afraid of Totoket Indians, but of raiding bands of other tribes, who attacked Indians and whites alike in the town. It is a tradition that the Totoket Indians had to resist attacks of that kind in defense of their hunting and fishing grounds. A sort of fort was built by them near the present residence of William Bryan (of the Montowese Hotel), and once, at least, a sanguinary battle was fought there.

“The houses first built by the settlers were rude and small,—the common houses of to-day are palaces in comparison, both in size and appearance, and furniture. The work for both men and women was hard. Their vigilance must be constant; their crops were meagre and uncertain; their methods of cultivating the soil were rude; their tools were few and clumsy. They also had to guard individuals from purchasing or receiving gifts of land from any Indian without the consent of the town. They also required all new-comers to agree to bear their proportion of expenses for sustaining a minister.

“‘Samuel Swaine complained of Mr. Mullyner for neglecting of traynings, watchings, and bringing of his arms when it was his turne on the Lord's Days.’ Mr. M. makes acknowledgment and promises to do better.

“During the second and third years of life in this new settlement a number of other families came in to join those already here. The most notable of the new-comers was the Reverend Abraham Pierson, from Southampton, Long Island. He came with his wife Abigail and at least two children, one of which was a son Abraham, afterward the first president of Yale College. Several other families came with him or soon afterwards, from the same place. Reverend Abraham Pierson was born in Yorkshire, England; he was graduated at the University of Cambridge in 1632; he was Episcopally ordained while in England; he preached for some years in his own country. He came to Boston in 1639 and joined the church there. For a time he preached at Lynn, Mass., where he was again ordained. In 1640 a portion of the inhabitants of Lynn, ‘finding themselves straitened,’ removed, with Mr. Pierson, to Long Island. They made an ineffective attempt to settle on the west end of the island. They then went to the east and settled Southampton. When they came to decide whether they would be under New Haven jurisdiction or that of Connecticut colony, the larger part chose the latter, because, in their view, more liberal.

“Mr. Pierson and some others were dissatisfied, and, therefore, removed to Totoket, which was under New Haven jurisdiction. Sprague says, ‘Mr. Pierson agreed with John Davenport in wishing to rest all civil as well as ecclesiastical power in the church, and to allow none

but church members to act in the choice of the officers of government or to be eligible as such.' Accordingly, he desired to be under the New Haven jurisdiction, which sustained this view of civil government. Coming to Totoket he was chosen pastor. The people give him a liberal share of the land and provide otherwise for his support. This is seen by a record a little later. September 22d, 1650, 'It was ordered that the minister's pay shall be brought each half year. For every milch cow he shall have two pounds of butter, in part pay every year; for the rest, for the first half year in beef, or pork, or Indian corn, or *wampum*—for the second half year in wheat and pease, good and marketable.'

"1659. February 24th. 'At a town meeting it was granted by the consent of the town to Mr. Pierson that he shall have the use of the whole five hundred pound lot that he has formerly used which is the meadow of a two hundred pound lot that did not belong to his house when he bought it; that was granted to him for as long as he shall live in the town, and if he shall live in the town till his death then it is given to his wife and his children for their use forever.' This will show the requirements made upon new comers.

"It is evident that new settlers were coming every year, as new names appear in the votes of the town and allotments of land. They were so careful to secure uniformity of action, and to have each measure considered by all the people, they made strict rules concerning attendance upon all their meetings. They laid heavy fines upon such as neglected to attend when they were duly warned.

"There was no bell to sound out the call to meeting. A man was therefore appointed to beat the drum as a call. One of the town charges in that day was 3 shillings for a pair of drum sticks. In those early days constant vigilance was required to guard against lawless men and wild beasts.

"One of the town votes reads thus: 'June 24th, 1650, This day it is ordered that if any man or woman, young or old, shall be taken by the watch abroad in the night after ten of the clock, and cannot give a sufficient reason therefor to the watch of their being abroad, shall for every such fault pay 12 pence or other condine punishment as the court shall require.

"During these first ten years of their history the settlers were disturbed by troubles with the Dutch. England was ruled by Cromwell. There was war between England and Holland. The Dutch were pushing their trading settlements all along the New England coast as well as in New York and down the Atlantic coast. Of course the English people here shared in the controversy. The Dutch made a short stop at Totoket, had a landing and are believed to have built a small trading house. Their stay was sufficient to give the name 'Dutch house wharf' to one of the river landings. The name is retained to this day.

“The early settlers were much engaged in traveling by water. Coasters have always been a numerous and important class in Branford. It is recorded that in 1651 fifty men from New Haven and Totoket, in attempting to settle their land at Delaware, were imprisoned by the Dutch governor. The people here instituted vigorous measures to defend themselves from possible attacks from the Dutch. But so serious did this matter become that, in 1653, New Haven and Connecticut colonies united in an appeal to Cromwell for help against the Dutch.”

In spite of these apprehensions, it does not appear that the Dutch injured any one at Branford, and in the main the town was as fairly prosperous as any other community of like age in the country. The principles and practices of Mr. Pierson's community had been established, when the town was again agitated by the question of the union of the colonies, and before it was decided affairs in Branford were very much unsettled. How this matter affected the town is thus described by Mr. Baldwin:

“From the first settlement of Connecticut by the English, in 1635, little official correspondence passed between the settlers and the English government till 1661. Companies settled about where they chose. The most of attention on the part of the British government to the new colonies is ascribed to the civil troubles at home. King Charles I. was dethroned and executed in 1649. Oliver Cromwell was made protector in 1653; he died in 1658; his son Richard succeeded him, but resigned in 1659. Charles II. ascended the throne in 1661. Soon followed the dreadful revenges he took upon such as had been concerned in removing his father. This furnished the romantic episode of the long concealed regicides, Goffe, Whalley and Dixwell, so interesting to all readers of our early history.

“The colonies of Connecticut and New Haven were separate governments, though Connecticut claimed jurisdiction over the whole by virtue of their first patent; there had been some talk between them about it, but nothing decisive occurred until a new charter was obtained from the new king. Then Connecticut purchased her claim of jurisdiction and the New Haven towns were constrained, though with sorrow, to submit.

“The coming of royal commissioners from England, in 1664, to look after the king's interests here, hastened the union. There was danger, if they continued divided, that the Duke of York's grant would be purchased; this would have carried the boundary of New York to the Connecticut river, and so left our state very small indeed. A peaceable union saved the two colonies. But some could not be reconciled to this change; Mr. Pierson and his friends were especially grieved; they saw in this new jurisdiction the destruction of all their hopes; they did not believe there could be a good and safe government unless the voting and office holding were in the hands of professional

Christian men. We can imagine the earnest and absorbing talk the subject must have occasioned in these men's homes, both in week days and on the Sabbath. Having spent so much labor in building houses, fences, etc., having cleared the land, built bridges, mills, and so many needed helpers to comfortable living, it was a serious matter to think of leaving all, to go into another wilderness and begin again. The labors of twenty-three years meant a great deal, yet their consciences constrained them. They sent agents to examine and buy lands for them on the Passaic river in New Jersey. Some persons from Guilford and Milford shared in the proposed enterprise of a new settlement.

“The agents having returned and made report of their commission, a large number of the people of Branford held a meeting on the 30th of October, 1666, which is thus noted: ‘At a meeting touching the intended design of many of the inhabitants of Branford, the following was subscribed: Deut. 1. 13; Ex. xviii, 21; Deut. xvii, 15; Jer. xxxvi, 21. 1. That none shall be admitted free-men or free burgesses within our town upon Passaic River, in the Province of New Jersey, but such planters as are members of some or other of the Congregational churches, nor shall any but such be chosen to magistracy or to carry on any part of civil judicature, or as deputies or assistants to have power to vote in establishing laws, and making or repealing them, or to any chief military trust or office, nor shall any but such church members have any vote in any such elections; though all others admitted to be planters have right to their proper inheritance, and do and shall enjoy all other civil liberties and privileges according to all laws, orders, grants which are, or shall hereafter be made for this town. 2. We shall, with care and diligence, provide for the maintenance of the purity of religion professed in the Congregational churches.’ Whereunto subscribed the inhabitants from Branford: Jasper Crane, Abra. Pierson, Samuel Swaine, Lawrence Ward, Thomas Blatchley, Samuel Plum, Josiah Ward, Samuel Rose, Thomas Pierson, John Ward, John Catling, Richard Harrison, Ebenezer Canfield, John Ward, Sen., Ed. Ball, John Harrison, John Crane, Thomas Wrentington, Delivered Crane, Aaron Blatchley, Richard Lawrence, John Johnson, Thomas Lyon (his L. mark).—23.

“Most of these signers moved with Mr. Pierson to Newark (New-work). They comprised many of the most prominent inhabitants of Branford. They went by vessel down Long Island sound. This is the way most of the first settlers came to Branford. Those from Wethersfield came down the Connecticut river and along the shore; those from Southampton and New Haven also came by water in most cases. They built and used small coasting vessels from the first.

“We have evidence that Branford was by no means depopulated; the town records were not removed; other settlers came in, buying and



occupying the houses and lands of such as had removed. Some that had proposed to go, not making a favorable sale of their property, decided to remain. Mr. Pierson engaged the Reverend John Bowers to preach to those who remained, and he paid him to the end of the year 1666."

Newark was the third colony Mr. Pierson helped to plant. Now he sat down under a code of laws of his own choice, with his hopes realized, and remained with his people until his death, August 9th, 1678.

"Though so many had removed, the rest showed they were not discouraged. June 20th, 1667, they met and took vigorous measures to rally the planters to hope and courage. They voted and put on record this agreement: 'Forasmuch as that it appears that the undertaking and the settlement of this place of Branford was procured by and for men of Congregational principles, as to church order, according to the platform of discipline agreed on by the synod of 48, or thereabouts, drawn from the word of God in the main; we, that yet remain here, can say that we have found much peace and quietness, to our great comfort, for the which we desire to bless God; and that it may so remain to such as do continue their abode in this place, and to such as shall come in to fill up the rooms of those that are removed, and that do intend to remove from this place of Branford. We all do see cause now for to agree that an orthodox minister of that judgment shall be called to it and among us. The gathering of such a church shall be encouraged. The upholdment of such church officers shall not want our proportional supply of maintenance, according to rule. We will not in any wise encroach upon or disturb their liberties in so walking from time to time, and at all times: nor will we be in any ways injurious to them in civil or ecclesiastical respects. And this we freely and voluntarily engage ourselves unto, jointly and severally, so long as we remain inhabitants of this place, and this we bind ourselves unto by our subscription to this agreement. It is also agreed that whoever shall come for purchase or to be admitted or planted here, shall so subscribe before admittance or his bargain be valid in law among us.' Jasper Crane, Jonathan Rose, John Wilford, Thomas Blatchly, Samuel Plum, Michael Taintor, John Collins, Michael Palmer, John Ward, John Linsley, George Adams, John Whitehead, Samuel Ward, Edward Frisbie, Henry Gretwich, Matthew Biskatt, Thomas Harrison, Thomas Wheadon, John Robing, Robert Foote, George Page, Thomas Gutsill, Samuel Swaine, Samuel Pond, Isaac Bradley, William Rosewell, Peter Tyler, John Anams, Moses Blachly, John Frisbie, William Maltbie, Bartholomew Goodrich, Sigismond Richalls, George Seward, Edward Ball, William Hoadley, Eleazer Stent, John Rogers, Samuel Bradfield, John Charles, Edward Barker, Anthony Hand, Thomas Sargent, Daniel Swaine, John Linsley, Jr., John Rose, John Taintor, Francis Linsley—48. Six of the signers of this

agreement afterward went to Newark. John Wilford, Thomas Blatchly, John Collins and Michael Taintor are put forward as leaders. They are directed to buy Richard Harrison's house and lands for a minister. The people pledge themselves to pay for them. They require all new-comers to do the same."\*

In addition to those who removed or remained, it is known that 26 persons died before 1666, which would indicate that while the population of Branford was not as great as that of some other towns, at that period, the improvements must have been of considerable importance.

New and desirable settlers were added yearly, and under the more liberal policy of the united colonies, the work of development was carried forward. Of the new men who settled here was William Rosewell, a merchant in New Haven. December, 24th, 1672, the town gave him, "in consideration of his setting up a saw mill upon Beaver brook and selling the people boards and timber at a specified price, the privilege of cutting the wood he needed for timber, etc., provided he cut none within a mile of the furnace pond. Mr. Rosewell built a house about where Mrs. Peggy Fowler now lives. He gave it to his wife, Catherine (Russell) as a marriage portion. He continued to buy land of different parties until he owned a large estate. He was also engaged in trade between New England and Barbadoes. He probably had vessels built for his trade near Peggy Fowler's. He died July 19th, 1674. His widow died in 1698. Of their three children only one, a daughter, outlived the parents.

"John and Noah Rogers came from Long Island, and were sons of William Rogers of Southampton and Hempstead; Eleazer Stent came from New Haven with his mother and sisters. His father was a Protestant minister who had sailed from England for Virginia. He died on the passage. His family afterward came to New Haven. His widow married Thomas Beaumont. She was again a widow when the family came to Branford. She again married Thomas Harrison, of Branford. Eleazer Stent was in Branford as early as 1667. He was a freeman in 1672; was granted six acres as a home lot. It was between the Russell place and 'fig lane,' going back to the river, not on the highway at first. He was soon made town clerk, to assist John Wilford. He continued after Wilford died, and for many years. In 1683 he was granted a small piece of land near 'Little Plain brook.' 1687, March 4th, he was granted ten acres at 'dirty swamp, along Guildford old road;' was chosen 'commissioner' May 3d, 1688; same day was given six acres upon the hill west of Brushy plain, on condition of his giving up six acres of 'dirty swamp.' John Plant, to whom, 1683, February, the town gave six acres upon Mulliner's hill. His son, James, was born February 22d, 1685. February 4th, 1688, the town gave John Plant six acres more on the 'half way hill,' that is half way to 'iron works.'

\* Baldwin.

“Isaac Bradley, who came from New Haven and settled near Stony river, and was granted land. The ‘Bradley farm,’ near the East Haven line, south of the main road, was long owned by his family.

“John Collins, a shoemaker, came from Guilford. George Baldwin, a blacksmith, came from Milford. 1688, October 4th, the town gave him ‘Sawpit’s’ lot, also land at ‘Cattholes,’ also swamp between ‘the narrow of dirty swamp and world’s end path.’ In 1691 the town gave him five or six acres below Brushy plain. In 1694, August 14th, he was also chosen constable, and to ‘beat the drum’ for Sabbath and other meetings. He was paid thirty shillings for it. In 1697 he was chosen collector of taxes.

“Richard Towner. His first grant near Canoe brook, 1690. April 8th, he changed his land ‘near Bartholomew Goodrich, at the old mill brook.’ 1692, November 2d, he was chosen to have the oversight of young people on Sabbath days. He gave name to ‘Towner’s hill.’ William Bartholomew was here and agreed to build a corn mill. Thomas Gutsell was settled near Branford Point; from him came the name ‘Goodsell’s Point.’ His wife Ruth (Butler) deserted him, going off to Providence, R. I., with Joseph Woodward.

“During these years the town kept up a ‘train band.’ 1687, April 5th, town agreed to furnish a silk flag for the soldiers, paying Edward Johnson for work upon it.

“John Blakiston came here soon after 1700; he was a mariner. He began to buy land near the present Blackstoneville, and continued, from year to year, until he was one of the largest landholders in the town. He is believed to have been the grandson or great-grandson of the William Blackstone who built the first house in Boston, Mass. He then owned much of the land upon which the present city of Boston is built. Boston preserves the name in one of her streets. He is also believed to have been a near relative of Sir William Blackstone of England, a name so well known and honored.

“This John Blackiston came over from Rhode Island. Tradition relates that his marriage was not agreeable to his friends, or his wife’s friends, so the young people resolved to make a new home for themselves in this town. All the Blackstones of Branford were and are his descendants. Much of the land originally purchased by the first John Blackiston, is still retained in the Blackstone family of to-day. Rhode Island and Massachusetts have their Blackstone river, Blackstone canal and town of Blackstone. This name has been closely identified with the important interests of Branford for 150 years. It has also sent out honored branches to other places.”

Near the same time (1700), Reverend Gurdon Saltonstall came to Branford and married Elizabeth, daughter of William Rosewell, the trader and ship builder, and who had left a large estate in the town. In 1707 he was elected governor of the colony, and was reelected until his death, in 1725. Soon after being elected governor he built a large

mansion on the Rosewell property, near the Furnace pond, which he occupied most of the time, living at New London the remainder of the time, and was buried at the latter place. From the fact of his residence here Saltonstall lake took its name. The house is still standing and was for many years one of the grandest on the shore, being fitted up in a style becoming the station of a governor.

Nathaniel Johnson was another important settler after 1700. He was a merchant from the old country, and brought much wealth to the town, which he invested in lands. "He bought the two hundred acres that had been given to Thomas Mulliner, Jr., in the northwest corner of the town. Mulliner and his wife moved to Westchester, N.Y., and the name ceased here. Mr. Johnson is believed to have built the house that stood where Mrs. Peggy Fowler now lives. It was burned, with all the barns near it, about sixty years ago. It made so large and hot a fire the people had great difficulty in saving the other houses in the street. Samuel Barker was another wealthy man who came about the same time. His first purchase was 42 acres at 'Littleworth,' of Philip Pond in 1734. He gave the Reverend Mr. Robbins five acres the same year. Mr. Barker is believed to have built the house still standing on Cherry hill. That house was finely finished and furnished for its day. It had pictured tiles around its fire places. Some of those tiles are still to be seen. Some are preserved by the family of James F. Morris, who once owned the place. The place was sold to Ralph Isaacs, a man of some considerable fame in this place during the war of the revolution. His daughter married an Ingersoll, and became the mother of the Ingersolls now so well known in New Haven. Another family of note coming here about the same time was the Gould family. That family furnished the physicians for Branford for about 100 years. They are believed to have built the house that stood between the present Stedman and Robinson places on the Main street. Richard Gould, M. D., came to America from North Country, County Devon, parish of Oakhampton. He was born April 28th, 1662. He died March 9th, 1746, aged 84.

"William Gould, his son, was born at the same place February 11th, 1693. He was a physician here July 2d, 1757. He had three wives and ten children. His son, William Gould, Jr., M.D., was born here November 17th, 1727, and died July 29th, 1805. He had a son, Orchard Gould, M.D., who was born March 1st, 1764, and died February 4th, 1819. His brother, James Gould, was an eminent lawyer and judge for many years. His sister, Elizabeth, was the wife of Hon. Roger M. Sherman, of Fairfield. Mrs. Mary Daniels, who built the house where Mr. Henry Nichols now lives, was a daughter of Doctor Orchard Gould."

James Gould was born in Branford December 5th, 1770; graduated from Yale in 1794, and received degree of LL.D. in 1819. He was one of the most learned men of his times, and his contributions to literature are chaste and elegant to an unusual degree.

“ Richard Gould, M.D., must have practiced medicine here for a number of years. He was much esteemed, as is evident from his being elected tythingman in 1728. Only the most dignified and trusted men were chosen to this office in that day. William Gould, his son, purchased several tracts of land at Paved street and Hopyard plain. Some of that land is still owned by Elias Gould, the only male descendant of the name now living in Branford.

“ Another physician lived in Branford at that time—Isaac Bartholomew, M.D. He became a large owner of land, buying a great deal at Hopyard plain. This name has been a prominent one in Branford since the first William Bartholomew, who built the first dam and the first corn mill on the Branford river. It used to be pronounced ‘Bottlemy,’ or ‘Barthlemy.’

“ John Guy and Orchard Guy are the first names of another somewhat influential family. John Guy, in 1723, buys Eleazer Stent’s place, near the town street. Orchard Guy, a little later, has a house near the place where Charles Wilford now lives.

“ October 10th, 1737, Andrew Beach, of Fairfield, buys an acre of land, a house and barn at Mill plain, of Archibald McNeil. The house was evidently built by McNeil. The place is now owned and lived in by Timothy Palmer and family.

“ The land just north was owned by Roger Tyler. Mr. Jordan Rogers owned what Mr. Timothy Palmer’s new house stands on. Mr. Andrew Beach is believed to be the ancestor of all the Branford Beaches. He was a ‘cordwainer’—what we now call a shoemaker. Archibald McNeil may have built that old house. He bought and sold several places, and is believed to have built several houses. He once owned a house that stood about between Hattie Hoadley’s house and the Blackstone house.

“ In 1734 Ephraim Parish bought of Solomon Palmer five and a half acres of land and a new house-frame and a barn. Mr. Palmer had bought the land of Bezaleel Tyler. It is the place so long the home of Reverend Timothy O. Gillett and wife. Mr. Parish built the house; he had a son, Ephraim, and a grandson, Russell Parish. This Russell sold it to Reverend T. O. Gillett in 1811. Russell Parish had kept a hotel there for a number of years.

“ In 1733, William Barker sold a piece of his home lot to Reverend Philemon Robbins. It was on ‘Pig lane,’ or Barker’s lane, and known as Foot’s lot. That is probably the lot on which the Reverend Mr. Robbins built his house. This lane ran down to the meadows, both east and west of what is now the main road. It ran by the south side of William Averill’s house, and south of the Catholic church on the west side of the street. There were houses on that lane, one supposed to be the first Stent house, down at the east end of the meadow; another half way to the road, believed by some to be the first Robert Foote house.

“There was a road in those early days which commenced back of Mrs. Peggy Foster’s house, and ran along the meadow up to the main road, back of the Baptist church. There were at least three houses on that road—one close to the railroad, said to have been the first frame house in Branford; another about west of Captain William Averill’s place; another west of Mr. John Foot’s place. Another road turned west from this last, near the Stent lot, and followed the meadows round to Page’s Point.

“In December, 1736, Samuel Stent died. He had been a public-spirited and useful man; he left money to the church and £10 to the town for the care of the poor. This sum was loaned on interest by the selectmen. As it ceased to appear in any reports after a few years, it was probably lost. During these years, from 1735 to the first years of the war of the revolution, Branford rapidly grew in population and wealth. The land was taken up and cleared and cultivated over a great part of its surface. Many vessels were built and quite a foreign trade grew up. A new wharf was built at the Dutch House landing, by Samuel Barker, in the year 1752.

“The whole territory of Branford belonged to those who were proprietors at the time of obtaining the patent, and such as they sold to. When a new settler came and bought, he shared in whatever new divisions of unappropriated lands were made. There were three divisions before the year 1700. There were four more before 1750. The greater part of all Branford territory was taken up between 1700 and 1740. The fourth division took up most of the present territory of North Branford. The fifth division took a great part of Stony Creek section. There were meetings of the proprietors separate from the town meetings. These continued even down to within the memory of some now living. Their records show to whom each parcel of land was originally given. In assigning land, they left places for roads to such land; these were the highways, and they were few. Most of the roads now in use have been opened during the last sixty years.

“In Branford, as in some of the other towns, slavery was a recognized institution, Indians and negroes being sold in bondage. The more wealthy families had usually two or more colored men and women. These servants, as they were called, were often a very interesting part of the household.”

“Among the foregoing Richard Harrison came to Branford about 1650, and died in 1653. One of his sons, Richard, removed to New Jersey in 1666. It is supposed that the family came from Virginia and was connected with the Harrisons of that state. Thomas Harrison, another son of Richard, remained in the town. He had five sons, who left numerous descendants, among them being Governor Henry B. Harrison, Hon. Lynde Harrison and others. One of the five sons, Thomas, and his son, Nathaniel, and grandson, Nathaniel, Jr., were very prominent men in their day, filling many positions of honor and

trust. The Harrison family is still numerous and honorably represented in Branford and North Branford."

Another settler of prominence was William Maltby, who for a long time was one of the justices of the quorum and was usually called Judge Maltby. Samuel Maltby graduated from Yale, and also became prominent in affairs. Most of this family removed.

Captain William Hoadley, born about 1630, and supposed to have been a brother of Reverend John Hoadley, of Guilford (who returned to England in 1650), was an early merchant of Branford. He left a large family, and from them have descended members who attained honorable distinction; as Governor George Hoadley of Ohio, Charles J. Hoadley, LL. D., state librarian; David Hoadley, the architect, and his son David, president of the Panama railroad, and others who were active in the town's affairs.

Edward Barker was one of the leading men in the western part of the town. His son, Samuel, graduated from Yale, and bore the title of Mister. One of his sons, Samuel S., who graduated from Yale in 1772, was an officer in the revolution, resigning as major in 1782. Both he and his father removed to Beekman, N. Y., where he died in 1819.

Noah Rogers, another early prominent settler, also had a grandson, Captain Edward Rogers, who took an active part in the revolution. Removing to New York, his son, Edward, became a member of Congress after 1840.

Colonel Edward Russell, a son of Mr. John Russell, one of the leading public men in his time, was a captain in Colonel Douglass' regiment, in 1776, and the same year became a major in General Wooster's command. In 1778 he received the rank of colonel and did much service in the war.

An idea of the names of many of the citizens of Branford may be obtained from the following lists, which have been compiled from the town books, in the periods named, where they were registered as owners of ear marks for their cattle:

1747: Nathaniel Page, Benjamin Barnes, Ebenezer Harrison, John Parrish, Joel Parrish, Nathan Goodrich, Abraham Foote, Nathaniel Butler, Isaac Harrison, Daniel Hoadley, Nathaniel Frisbie.

1748: Samuel Barker, Thomas Rogers, William Barker, Benjamin Palmer, John Butler, John Potter, Josiah Harrison, Daniel Harrison, Wheeler Brown, Samuel Palmer, Aaron Baldwin, Enos Barnes, Joseph Page.

1749: Elisha Frisbie, Daniel Page, Noah Frisbie, Daniel Butler, Eliphalet Howd, James Barker, Samuel Rose, Isaac Hoadley, Daniel Otis.

1750: John Ford, Joseph Palmer, Abel Butler, Josiah Butler, Samuel Butler, Asa Leete, David Leavitt, Eleazer Stent, Samuel Stent, Samuel Kirkham, Abraham Hoadley.

1751: Benjamin Bartholomew, Daniel Rogers, Joseph Bartholomew, Daniel Bradley, Samuel Russell, Jehiel Whedon, Samuel Maltbie, John Russell, Edward Russell, Joshua Dudley.

1752: Daniel Johnson, Timothy Harrison, Samuel Rose, Elnathan Beach, John Plant, Abraham Plant, Samuel Barker, Abraham Harrison.

1753: Stephen Blackstone, Jacob Hoadley, Samuel Rogers, Josiah Fowler, Ebenezer Linsley, Edward Brockway, Silas Parker, David Tyler, Benjamin Plant, Richard Towner, Jonathan Plant, John Smith, Elisha Smith, Jonathan Russell, Jr., Nathaniel Taintor, Thomas Gould.

1754: John Johnson, David Hudson, Ebenezer Russell, Jonathan Whedon, John Linsley, Jr., Stephen Harrison, Joseph Rogers, Ebenezer Hoadley, Daniel Baldwin, Stephen Foote, Joseph Wilford, James Hoadley.

1756: James Baldwin, Daniel Palmer, Jacob Palmer, David Hudson.

1757: Phineas Baldwin, David Foote, Jr., William Gould, Ebenezer Foote.

1758: Joseph Finch, Reuben Whedon, Nathaniel Goodrich, Timothy Frisbie, Amos Seward, Josiah Parrish, Thomas Frisbie.

1759: John Barnes, Richard Baldwin, David Linsley, David Goodrich, John Welford, Joseph Tyler, Joseph Tyler, Jr., Jonathan Goodsell.

1760: Samuel Barker, 2d, Isaac Palmer, Jeremiah Woolut, Nathaniel Harrison, John Welford, Jr., Abel Page, William Harrison.

1761: Papillon Barker, Edward Rogers, Samuel Baldwin, Abijah Hobart, Thomas Norton.

1762: Reverend Warham Williams, Jacob Linsley, Ephraim Foote, Samuel H. Torrey, Nathan Foote, Timothy Hoadley, Wilkinson Howd, Obadiah Winters, Abraham Rogers, John Blackiston, Jr.

1763: Ralph Hoadley, Isaae Linsley, Thomas Stent, Eli Rogers, John Rose, Solomon Rose.

1764: Isaac Foote, Obed Linsley, John Harrison, Rufus Palmer, Noah Baldwin, Jr.

1765: Ezekiel Hays, George Baldwin, Timothy Russell, Edward Barker, Timothy Palmer, Samuel Still, Othniel Stent, Jeremiah Searritt, Minor Merrick.

1766: Solomon Tyler, Benjamin Linsley, Ebenezer Truesdell, Thomas Russell, Jared Robinson, Peter Harrison, Bille Rose.

1767: Isaac Tyler, Stephen Potter, Zaccheus Baldwin, Bartholomew Goodrich, Timothy Goodrich, Samuel Russell, Jr., Amos Harrison.

1768: Jonathan Linsley, Rufus Hoadley, Samuel Buel, Asa Foote, John Butler, 2d, Samuel Harrison, Jr., Orchard Guy, Samuel Maltbie, Jonathan Truesdell, Joseph Chidsey.

1769: Samuel Hoadley, Judah Howd, Ozias Tyler, John Negus, Joseph Page, Joel Rogers, John Stent.



1770: Jared Barker, Roger Tyler, Samuel Ford, Josiah Harrison, Jonathan Tyler, Peter Tyler, Jason Rogers, Ephraim Beach, Jareb Palmer, Jabez Palmer, Rufus Palmer, Nicholas Palmer, William Goodrich, Bille Tyler, Samuel Byington, Elisha Barker, Reuben Page.

1771: Daniel Page, James Maltbie, Timothy Hoadley, Enoch Staples, Jonathan Maltbie, Bernard Lintot, Samuel Hand, Samuel Eells.

1772: Samuel Page, Jr., Edward Mulford, Russell Barker, Rogers Tyler, Jairus Bunnell, Edward Stent, Benjamin Tyler, Samuel Whedon.

1773: Jonathan Beers, Freeman Crocker, Ebenezer Rogers, David Rose, John Johnson.

1774: Samuel Foote, David Harrison, Jr., Asahel Tyler, Obadiah Tyler, William Douglas, Jeremiah Johnson, John Monroe.

1775: Elihu Stone, John Harrington, Hezekiah Palmer, Abijah Rogers, Ammi Harrison, Peter Harrison, Ichabod Culpepper, Joseph Rogers, Jr., William Monroe.

1776: Jonathan Towner, Jonathan Bartholomew, Samuel Tyler, Ebenezer Beach, Matthew Butler, Isaac Hotchkiss, Benjamin Hoadley, Israel Baldwin, Israel Linsley, Elihu Linsley, Timothy Barker, Jr., Aaron Morris, Jesse Stent, Ransom B. Harlow, Solomon Goodrich, Samuel Howe, Samuel Howe, Jr., Solomon Talmadge, John Butler, 3d, Major Edward Russell, John Russell, Joseph Parmalee, Timothy Parmalee.

1777: Timothy Chidsey, Barnabas Palmer, Collins Page, Isaac Ingraham, James Goodrich, Estus Barker, Michael Taintor, Jr., Medad Taintor, Jonathan Towner, Ephraim Parrish, Lemuel Johnson, Cornelius Johnson, Samuel Griffing, Artemas Johnson.

1778: Elnathan Tyler, Amaziah Rose, Gideon Goodrich, Jr., Rosewell Chidsey, Robert Olds, Hooker Frisbie, Benjamin Maltbie, Zaccheus Maltbie.

1779: Edwin Harrison, Rufus Linsley, Nathan Rose, Wooster Harrison, Isaac Smith, Elihu Rogers, Oliver Lanfair, John Augur, Malachi Rogers, Benjamin Barker.

1780: William Scott, William McQueen, Captain Benjamin Baldwin, John Rogers, Captain Reuben Rose.

Some doubt attaches to the early records of the town, and it is questioned whether they are complete. Certainly, on some points, they are obscure and imperfectly preserved. But it is not true, as is often said, that the early Branford records were carried to Newark, New Jersey, when Mr. Pierson and his adherents removed thither, in 1666-7. John Plum, the first clerk, died in Branford in 1658, and his successor gathered up his accounts and preserved them as well as he could, after he had copied them. These records of Eleazer Stent show nice care in the writing, but their orthography is in the peculiar style of two hundred years ago. Most of the early records pertain to affairs of the planters in relation to the allotment and disposition of lands,

the care of the herds and flocks, and the support of a minister, as examples:

“December 15th, 1645. This day it was ordered that Mr. Sherman should be allowed a year, to begin from the 1st of October, 1644.”

“This day it was ordered by the inhabitants of this place (commonly called Totokett), that John Plum shall keep the town books. It is ordered, also, that all the inhabitants shall give in their estate unto John Plum by the 25th of this month, and the second day of the week next following all the inhabitants are to meet at Mr. Sherman's house by eight of the clock, upon the penalty of losing of twelve pence.”

“December the 28th, 1645. It is ordered this day that Mr. Palmer, Mr. Swaine, Samuel Swaine and John Plum shall go to-morrow to New Haven to meet Mr. Mulliner at the Governor's, to agree upon a way both for Mr. Mulliner, the accommodating and voting, and any other difference that is between him and the town. It is ordered, also, that any one under a 100th shall be accommodated according to that rule that Mr. Sherman, Mr. Swaine, Goodman, Rose, and John Plum did bring in. Those that have a 100s bond according to the former order. Moreover, it is ordered that Mr. Palmer, in consideration of some former expense and also for the good services he has done the town, and also for the public business that he is to do the town for one year following as they call him thereunto, he is to have that piece of meadow which lyeth at the end or side of his lot to the neck, and also upland apportionable to it.”

This shows that Mr. Palmer was the first town agent chosen.

“The 2nd month, the 10th day, 1646. This day it was agreed by the town and Francis Linsley that the said Francis shall keep the heard of cows and heifers from the 16th of this month to the 16th of the 9th, and he to call for them by the sun half an hour high in the morning and to bring them home at that time in the evening, and he must blow a horn, or make some other noise, before he come in the morning and also in the evening, that we may be ready to turn them out of our yards, and to return them in the evening.” They further arrange that he is to have one Sabbath out of four. If any of the cattle get lost he is to look for them four days, with a man to help, at his own charge.

Another important public measure was the surrounding the town or much of it by a strong fence.

“The 16th of the 9th month, 1646. This dai it is ordered that there shall a fence be made from the sea, beginning near that neck where Thos. Mulliner sometime dwelt, to run about five miles to the sea near a place where the Indians now dwell. And four miles of this fence is to be done according as it shall fall to men by lott. And the first lott

that shall be drawn is to begin within one-quarter of a mile next that part of the sea first mentioned, and so every one shall do his part according as he shall be drawn, as he that is drawn first shall make first, so every one severally shall do it according as their name shall be drawn then following. And the rest that remains shall be done in generall. This fence is to be finished by the first of May next, and no man is to take any timber but right against his fence. And whoever defaults of not doing by the time appointed every one shall forfeit to the town two shillings per pound a rod or span or pole. And for every day after this it shall not be done every one that is defective shall pay sixpence a day for every rod or span or pole until it be made, and also pai the damages that shall come whoever defaults of not making. The fence is to be 4 feet 2 inches. It is to be a log fence."

"The 27th of the 3d month 1647. This day it is agreed between the Townsmen of Totokett and John Edwards of Wethersfield, of Connecticut, that the said John Edwards hath agreed to pay all the charges that have arose within the said Totokett from the beginning of the plantation unto this present day, with equal proportion with each man according to estate he gave in both for himself and his son and that as well in respect of joyning the preaching of the word of God as all other common charges that have occurred to this plantation."

Many domestic matters were very carefully regulated, the most explicit rules being adopted in the town meetings. If, for instance, a man wanted to own a gun, he had to secure the town's consent. December 31st, 1718, "Charles Tyler asked for that liberty, but the town thought it would not be safe and voted in the negative."

A demand having been created for various products of the town, their shipment was regulated. February 6th, 1717, the town votes that none should be allowed to cut staves on the town's land without special permission from the town. About this time (1717) the town had to regulate the gathering of "bayberries." These small, waxy balls, found on bushes, were useful in making wax. This wax entered into the manufacture of several very useful articles—especially of blacking and salve. It continued to be an article of trade in Branford down to within the last fifty years. In 1717 the town forbid the gathering of these berries on the highways and common before September 15th. A fine of ten shillings was exacted for each violation of the law.

A deed from the Indians for all the lands in Branford bounds was secured in 1685, and February 16th that year the town received its patent from the colony. It was signed by Governor Robert Treat, and was granted Mr. William Rosewell, Ensign Thomas Harrison, William Hoadley, Samuel Pond, Edward Barker, William Maltby, Lieutenant Eleazer Stent, John Frisby and John Tayntor, representing all the settlers. Both instruments were properly recorded July 13th, 1719.

Since the war for the Union among the first selectmen have been: John Bishop, David Beach, Henry E. Towner, Thomas S. McDermott, John Plant, George H. Page, J. August Blackstone, Richard S. Bradley, William R. Foote and Daniel O. Brien.

In the same period the town treasurers were: Elizur Rogers, Eli F. Rogers, and the past thirteen years, Henry H. Stedman.

John Plum was the first town clerk, and left papers which Eleazer Stent afterward copied. None of Mr. Plum's writings have been found. He died in 1648, and John Wilford was chosen in his place. Succeeding him the town clerks served until the years set after their names: Eleazer Stent, to 1705; William Maltbie, 1710; John Russell, 1712; Nathaniel Harrison, 1714; John Russell, 1721; Samuel Maltbie, 1746; John Russell, 1747; Israel Baldwin, 1748; John Russell, 1754; Nathaniel Harrison, 1758; Samuel Barker, 1775; William Monroe, 1776; Samuel Barker, 1781; Edward Russell, 1794; Samuel Gould, 1798; Orchard Gould, 1818; Samuel Frisbie, 1824; John Barker, 1825; Samuel Frisbie, 1839; William Tyler, 1841; William R. Frisbie, 1843; Willoughby L. Lay, 1847; Orrin D. Squire, 1858; Samuel Beach, 1861; J. E. Russell, 1866; A. M. Babcock, 1867; Elizur Rogers, 1870; Eli F. Rogers, 1876; Henry H. Stedman, 1891, deceased the same year and was succeeded by Walter Foote.

The town hall at Branford is a large, two-story frame building, centrally located on the green. It was erected in 1857, thoroughly repaired in 1869, and placed in good condition since that time. In 1875 a fine safe, manufactured at Branford by James E. Russell, was placed in the office of the town treasurer.

The town prison or lockup was erected in the rear of the town hall in 1878-9. It is a small, strong stone building and cost \$1,100.

The town poor farm was purchased in 1874, at a cost of \$3,200. It was thereafter greatly improved.

By an act of the general assembly, January 15th, 1874, the town was divided into two voting districts—Branford and Stony Creek. In 1890 the latter had about one hundred voters, or about one-eighth of the whole number of polls cast.

An act of the general assembly, July 25th, 1867, authorized the incorporation of Branford village as a borough, and the matter of organization was placed in the hands of John R. Holcomb, Samuel E. Linsley and Elizur Rogers. A board of officers was elected the following September, but the organization was soon dropped. In 1883 the privileges of the act were revived and another election was ordered to be called by Samuel E. Linsley and T. F. Hammer. But this, like the former movement in this direction, was also void of practical results.

The affairs of the town are carried on at a yearly outlay of about \$17,000, about one-seventh of that amount being used for the maintenance of the poor. There was, in 1890, a debt of \$31,470.97, \$30,000

of which was bonded. The grand list of the previous year was \$1,581,618, and the rate of taxation 12 mills.

The Branford Probate District was established in 1850, when it was set off from the Guilford district. The first court was held July 8th, 1850, Levi S. Parsons being the judge, and Ebenezer B. Barker the clerk. The subsequent judges have been the following: 1853, O. D. Squire; 1854, John J. Bartholomew; 1863, J. E. Russell; 1869, Edward R. Landon, of Guilford, acting judge; 1870, Eli F. Rogers; 1879, Henry H. Stedman.

It has been stated that when the proprietors laid out the land they usually made allowance for roads, but evidently there were no fenced roads for many years after the town was settled. Fences were gradually made, as different persons found it needful to have them. They did not always conform to the highway, as laid out; they often encroached, and thus much land is now held by individuals that really belongs to the town as highway. Most of the roads, before the year 1800, were only cart paths to peoples' houses and fields. In most instances they were called lanes, and often received some outlandish names. Many of the people of the town were opposed to the location of general highways, and it is said that the petition of the people of "North Parish," in 1741, for a road to connect them with Guilford, was pending several years before it was granted, and other roads to points outside of the town shared a like fate.

The town has had no turnpikes, but the Shore road following, in a general way, the old "Totoket path" of the very first settlers, has generally been improved to an easy condition. In the past thirty years nearly all the principal highways, whose courses in many places have been modified over the original layout, have been graded and made hard and smooth by covering them with paving material found in abundance near Cherry hill. In the main, all the principal roads are now well improved.

The streams of the town being narrow, it has been a small item to maintain the bridges. One of the most important is the stone bridge at the foot of Montowese street, which was built in 1869 and provided with tide gates. In 1874 a part of it was swept away, but was substantially repaired, and is now an attractive structure. The pile bridge, next below, was built in recent years.

The railway through the town was got in operation in the summer of 1852. A station was first located at Branford village, later another at Stony Creek, and still later, the third, at Pine Orchard. The first two have become important points on the Shore Line railroad.

The wants of the early settlers were supplied by several mills, erected on the streams of the town, among the first improvements of the kind being a tide mill, near where is now the Branford Point bridge. Later the Bartholomews and others built a mill higher up

the stream, at Mill Plain, and mills have been there continued until the present time.

The town united with New Haven in granting liberty to set up iron works at Saltonstall lake, at that time called the Great pond, and later known as Furnace pond, voting aid to encourage the enterprise, from 1655 until 1658. These were the pioneer iron works in the state. The power has ever since operated some kind of machinery, a small feed mill being at present kept up. On Beaver brook, above this point, William Rosewell built a saw mill about 1672. On other small streams machinery was set up, as the wants of the town demanded, but the operations were on a small scale.

The Branford Lock Works rank as one of the oldest and the leading industry in the town. They are the outgrowth of small industries established in the early part of the century. About 1809 Orrin D. Squire became a resident of the village, and as a skillful blacksmith carried on a shop in the rear of the "Hayes Garden." Near the same time L. D. Hosley and Daniel Nichols had a small foundry on the brook, above the village. They united their interests and established a new plant, where are now the works, removing some of their old buildings to that place. At that time the "hollow" was a part of a wood lot, being full of trees and stumps. They engaged in a general foundry business and made fine castings and stoves, which had a good reputation. Subsequently the variety of products was increased and changes of the firm occurred.

In 1852 the business passed to the "Squire & Parsons Manufacturing Company," which had among its members Levi Parsons, Lyman Squire and William S. Kirkham, and the manufacture of locks was extensively begun. After several years the company failed, and in 1862 the property passed to Thomas Kennedy, a practical lock maker of New York. He brought to his assistance skilled labor and improved machinery, much of which he devised himself, and soon created a vast business, which in 1865 he placed under the management of the present corporation, which was organized with a capital of \$150,000. Thomas Kennedy was elected president, and so served until his death, in 1880. John H. Royal was the first secretary, and was succeeded by E. F. Jones, who now serves in that capacity, and is also treasurer of the company. A. L. Runyan succeeded Kennedy as president; John J. Kennedy is the general superintendent and W. J. Powes the general agent of the works.

The plant is valued at a quarter of a million of dollars and covers nearly five acres of land. Most of the buildings are brick, and afford a working capacity for 500 people. In addition, many of the operations are performed by machinery, peculiar to this establishment, making it possible to produce 500 dozen complete locks and knobs per day, some of them being very handsome in design and finish. About five

tons of iron, brass and nickel are consumed daily, and this industry has contributed very much to the prosperity of the town.

The Branford Malleable Iron Fittings Company have extensive works opposite the railway depot, at Page's Point. The first improvement there was made after the building of the railroad, by Elizur Rogers, who built a dock and opened a coal yard, which are still continued. On the west, and having the facilities of the railroad and Branford river, the manufacture of iron articles was soon after begun by the "Totoket Company," which was incorporated in October, 1854, with a capital of \$16,000. Among the principal stockholders were William H. Perry, William S. Kirkham, F. Northrup, L. S. Parsons, John Plant, Samuel O. Plant, Henry L. Baldwin, William Blackstone, Gurdon Bradley, A. & E. Rogers, Eli F. Rogers, J. Henry Page, Henry Rogers, David Beach and William Wadsworth. Operations were begun in 1855, on malleable iron, brass and wrought iron goods. Two years later Henry Rogers was authorized to sell the property of the "Totoket Company," and for several years Elizur Rogers and B. H. Hadley, as Rogers & Hadley, carried on the business. In 1864 the present corporation took charge of the property and developed the business to its fine proportions.

The plant is one of the largest in the Union, devoted to this line of manufactures, which embraces fittings of every nature. About four acres are covered with substantially constructed brick buildings, a number of them being several stories high, and the main structure is more than 200 feet long. One foundry is also 200 feet long and two others are of less length. There are two large annealing rooms and other spacious buildings, adapted for the uses of the company. Power is furnished by ponderous engines, and every department is equipped with labor-saving machinery, but the works give employment, aside from these devices, to nearly 300 persons. A specialty is made of the manufacture of goods from semi-steel, which have proved excellent substitutes for drop forgings and gun metals, and all goods are manufactured on a basis of chemical analysis.

The company has since 1865 been officered by J. J. Walworth, president; E. C. Hammer, secretary and treasurer; T. F. Hammer, general manager at Branford; and R. E. Hammer, general superintendent. Under the direction of the Messrs. Hammer the business has become very prosperous and is continually increasing.

The manufacture of carriages was for many years an important industry at Branford, F. A. Holcomb & Sons being large builders, in the eastern part of the village, before their removal to New Haven. Another company had its works on Page's Point, where they were destroyed by fire and not rebuilt, when the business was wound up. At the old Dutch House wharf, in shops which are now idle, Alexander Van Wie at one time made carriage parts on an extensive scale. These

buildings were occupied in 1874-9 by James E. Russell and others in the manufacture of large and small safes, patented by Russell.

Another abandoned interest is ship building, which, about eighty years ago, gave occupation to scores of people, and yards were maintained at various points on the Branford river, as high up as Mill Plain. At the latter place a vessel called the "Laura Hoadley" was built. The yard at Hubbard's bridge was occupied by various builders, and was used as late as 1875, when Captain Russell Pond built a small craft at that place. Here was built a vessel called the "Lottery," "which was cast away at Little Egg Harbor, and all her crew lost with her."

At Page's Point a number of vessels were built, among them being the "Friendship," the "Ariel," and the "Mary Ann." The last was named for the daughter of Rosewell Sheldon, who presented the colors and a looking glass when she was launched. This vessel was also ill-fated, and was lost on Oyster Pond Point. At Goodsell's Point Harvey Frisbie built small vessels, and had the conveniences for "gravings" vessels.

In this period of vessel building coastwise commerce was quite active, but has been very limited since the era of railroads. Quite a trade was carried on with the upper New England states in shipping thither dried fruit and other farm products, and bringing back fish and ship timber. Many of the young men led a seafaring life, and the young women and boys found occupation on the farm, picking juniper berries and wax berries, or sewed buckskin gloves or bound shoes for parties outside of town. The spinning of twine for shipment to the fishing coasts was much followed at one time.

The town also had some trade with foreign ports, and near the close of the last century Branford was made a port of entry. The harbor master lived at Dutch House wharf, and the building used for the customs service stood there many years after the port was abandoned. Some time after this Elnathan Linsley built a wharf at Branford Point, and that became the principal landing point. The water there at the highest is about 15 feet deep, and steamboats land there in summer. The place later became more important as a summer resort. Among the mariners of the town were members of the Blackstone, Harrison and Palmer families, who were also ship owners. Captain John Blackstone settled here after 1700, coming from Rhode Island. He prospered in his affairs and became a large landowner, at the place called "Blackstoneville," where some of the property is still held by descendants. Captain James Blackstone, of this family, became very aged, and had a long and varied experience as a seaman. Captain Farrington Harrison was in the West Indies trade, carrying cattle to those islands. He died in 1808. Captain Ammi Harrison was also a well-known mariner. Captain Edward Palmer was the owner of a good schooner, called the "Betsey." Only small vessels now ascend



this river, the traffic by this means being very limited. But few seamen now reside in the town.

For more than a century of years many of the inhabitants found much subsistence in the sea food afforded by the Branford coast, and for some years oysters were an article of commerce. This extraordinary demand upon the natural beds exhausted them, and regulations for their protection were early found necessary. In 1789 the town voted to regulate the catching of oysters; and it was provided that from April 1st to November 1st of each year no bivalves should be taken, under a penalty of \$7 for each offense. From November 1st to the following April permits might be obtained to take two bushels in the course of 48 hours, one permit only being issued to a family. For many years the natural beds afforded delicious oysters, and the Branford river and other inlets were much frequented by fishermen. "In Branford Harbor no oysters are raised to sell, and the outside oyster grounds in town jurisdiction are, as a rule, too shoal for safe cultivation."\* In recent years the interest in this business has increased, and under a system of cultivation the oyster fisheries of Branford have become important industries. There are about 1,000 acres under the jurisdiction of the town, and more than 1,300 acres controlled by the state. In 1890 the town had 13 oyster planters, among them being Lewis Shepard, E. B. Beach, N. H. Bishop, N. C. Frink, Henry Hall, Oliver Knowles, C. C. Smith, G. Smith & Sons, and the Stony Creek Oyster Company. The latter corporation was organized after the late civil war, and in 1868 reported a capital of \$28,000, and a board of directors composed of Nathan C. Frink, H. Lynde Harrison, William H. Holt, T. N. Parmalee, William Blackstone and F. A. Holcomb. Henry Rogers was the president. In 1890 the capital was reported at \$42,000; real estate valued at \$9,500; and had personal property to the amount of \$7,500. W. J. Clark was the president of the company, and F. E. Smith, secretary.

Nearly the entire oyster business has been centered at Stony Creek, where it gives employment to a number of men. Five vessels are employed in the business. The oysters grown at Stony Creek are of superior quality, and are in demand beyond the supply. Even while yet confined to the natural beds they were much sought, and frequently parties from the interior would visit this place, encamping for several days, until a supply of oysters had been obtained.

On Indian Neck salt was made in limited quantities in the early part of the present century; and along Saltonstall lake an effort was made to manufacture peat fuel by a company organized for that purpose in 1871. The project was, however, abandoned before any satisfactory results were obtained.

Near the same time the Pine Orchard Granite Company was organized, with a capital of \$50,000, to develop the granite deposits in that

\*Henry H. Stedman, 1890.

section, but that project was also abandoned. The granite quarries at Stony Creek have been more successfully operated, there being several which are carried on extensively. The quarry near the railway station was opened by B. N. Green, and the one farther east by John Beattie. From the quarry at "Red Hill," on the north side of the railway, a stone is taken which closely resembles the red Scotch granite, and is susceptible of a very fine polish.

These interests are more fully noted in the account of Stony Creek.

Branford Village, long called Branford Center, is about eight miles east of New Haven, on Branford river, several miles from the sound. It has a very pleasant location, the principal part being on a considerable elevation, which also affords good natural drainage and sites for attractive homes. Until 25 years ago the village was less important than at present, much of its growth having been made in this latter period, in consequence of prosperous manufactories and the desirability of Branford as a summer resort. These circumstances have also made Branford one of the most important stations on the Shore Line railroad, both the freight and passenger traffic for this point being heavy. When the road was completed, in 1852, the station was located at the foot of Montowese street, where was also the village wharf. A few years later Elizur Rogers began his improvements at Page's Point, opening a new street to that place from Main street, in the old village, and the depot was soon after located west of the Page Point wharf. In 1887 a very spacious and handsome station for passenger use was erected and has since been occupied. It is of brick and is one of the finest structures of the kind in the county.

The upper or older part of the village is built around the green—an irregular tract of land, nearly three-fourths of a mile in length, and coming to an apex at the west end. The east end is about 30 rods wide. For a long time it was much neglected, but has been made attractive by planting it with elms and maples. Upon it stand three church edifices (Congregational, Episcopal and Baptist), the old academy, the town hall and the soldiers' monument. On the north side is the principal business street of the village, which is also the main highway from New Haven east. Formerly that thoroughfare was chiefly on the south side of the "Green," to Montowese street, down to Hobart's bridge, thence east to Stony creek. On these streets were built the first good homes of the early settlers, and some of the old buildings still remain. The first house south of the cemetery, on the east side of Montowese street, was the Russell place, where were kept for several years the books which formed the nucleus of Yale library. Opposite was the Welford place. Lower down the street lived David Staples, father of Captain Enoch Staples, who is credited with commanding a privateersman in the revolution, and it is said that he lost his life while attempting to board one of the enemy's vessels. The building on the other side of the street is the Bradley place and is one

of the oldest in the town. Nearer the river were the Hobart and the Captain Ammi Harrison places, both being well-known in their day. The railroad destroyed the former place.

On North Main street lived another cluster of Harrisons; William having his residence on the hill, Jonathan on the lot where is now the school house, and Captain Farrington Harrison where now lives Henry G. Harrison. This house remains much as it was built, in 1757. Others of the old-time residences have been modernized and in Branford, more than in some of the other shore towns, is seen the handiwork of the architects of the present time.

Ezekiel Hayes, great-grandfather of the ex-president, built a house on the site of the present Totoket Hotel, in 1757. He was a toolmaker, having a shop on the brook in the rear of his garden. He there also made cow bells for the early settlers, in addition to his other work. In the course of time this house was taken and kept by Giles Barker as a tavern. He had previously kept a public house on the Nichols lot, which was burned down. Lorenzo Blackstone improved the Hayes house, enlarging it to a three-story building, and for some time the Totoket Hotel was favorably known. It is still kept as a public place, but with varying success.

A mile or more east of the village the "Half Way House" (midway between New Haven and Guilford) was kept many years by David Towner; and near the Guilford line Joseph Frisbie had another public house.

Among the traders and principal merchants of the village, after 1800, was Mason Hobart, at the end of Meadow street. In the same locality Nathaniel Johnson was a merchant, large land-owner and ship-builder. He erected a large house on the site of the present Fowler place, which burned down about 80 years ago.

On the hill on North Main street, Rosewell and Jephtha B. Sheldon and Timothy Johnson merchandised in the early part of this century, and the buildings they occupied still remain; Levi Bradley was on the other side of Main street and Phineas Bushnell was in the western part of the village. Business now began to concentrate at the "hollow," where the proprietors of the foundry had stores. In 1825 Judah Frisbie built a store on what is known as the Rogers lot, where next traded Henry Taintor. Both removed, and in 1833 Eli F. Rogers there began merchandising and continued at that stand until 1868, when he built a business house on the north side of the street. In 1869 he was succeeded by Kimberley & Scranton, who removed to New Haven. This is now the J. Hutchinson & Co. stand. The village has a dozen other stores.

The Branford post office was long kept by Jonathan Barker at his house, where is now the residence of H. D. Nichols. In 1827 O. D. Squire had the office in a small building near the lock works, and the income that year was \$51.34, less than half the income of the Guilford

office the same year. Sometime about 1845 the office was removed to the brick store kept by the company, and Lyman Squire was the postmaster. In 1849 Eli F. Rogers became the postmaster and continued until 1862. He was succeeded by Philo Hall, who served until 1886, when Henry D. Linsley was appointed and was the incumbent until January 13th, 1891, when B. B. Bunnell became the postmaster.

Branford is now a postal money order office. Six mails are received daily, and from this office is supplied the mail of the Short Beach post office, which was established in 1887, with Mrs. Ruth Clapp as the postmistress. At Branford a new office has been occupied since April, 1891.

A few newspapers have been published in the village, the first being the *Branford Weekly Gleaner*. It was published in 1878, and later by Philo Hall and others, when it was merged with the *Shore Line Times*, of New Haven. Another paper, also of short duration, was published by Willis Hopson. Neither publication received the support it merited.

It is probable that Doctor Richard Gould was the first permanent physician in the town, coming after 1700 and residing here until his death, March 9th, 1746, 84 years of age. Contemporary in the latter years of his practice was his son, Doctor William Gould, who was also born at Oakhampton, England, in 1692, and who died in 1757. The latter had also a son William, who was a physician in the town, and who was born here in 1727 and died in 1805. In 1787 he was given permission to "set up for the inoculation of small pox for the space of one year, under the direction and terms of the government." He was the father of Doctor William Gould, born in 1752, who died in 1809, and of Doctor Orchard Gould, the last of this famous family of physicians to practice here. Doctor Orchard Gould was born in 1764 and died in 1819. His home was on the hill where is now the Elizur Rogers place. All these physicians are interred in the old cemetery.

About the time of the first Doctor Gould, Doctor Isaac Bartholomew was in practice some years, but removed to Middletown. He was a son of William Bartholomew, the miller. Later a Doctor Herpin was a practitioner, coming from Milford. He probably remained only a short time. In the latter part of the last century Doctor Joel Northrup was in Branford, and lived where is now the Congregational parsonage.

Doctor Willoughby L. Lay came from Lynn, Mass., and after many years of practice died in 1858. He lived in the house now occupied by his son, James W. Lay. His practice passed to Doctor H. V. C. Holcomb, who also died in the town some time about 1871. Doctor Newton B. Hall was a student of the latter, and after several years of practice in Branford also deceased.

As early as 1872 Doctor C. W. Gaylord\* located in the village and

\* See biographical sketch in this chapter.

continues in active practice. Near the same time Doctor E. W. Brainerd came from East Haven, and after some years was killed at Montowese street railway crossing, while on his way to Stony Creek. At the latter place the physicians have been Doctors G. P. Reynolds and E. C. M. Hall, none residing there in 1890. Doctor Isaac P. Leete, an eclectic practitioner, has been in Branford a score of years, and in the regular school of practice have been the past eight years, Doctor Walter H. Zink; and the past six years, Doctor A. J. Tenney.

In 1890 the attorney resident at Branford was Edmund Zacher, who also maintained an office in New Haven. In the same way Lynde Harrison lived in the village a number of years. Jay E. Russell was an attorney at Branford after the late war, but after several years removed to California. Edward H. Rogers removed to New York and William A. Wright to New Haven. The town has had but few resident attorneys.

Since the completion of the railroad, in 1852, the sea shore of Branford has become very popular, and has been greatly improved for summer visitors and residence purposes. Along nearly its entire length may be found attractive cottages, hotels or pleasure grounds, and the several localities, designated by the names of Short Beach, Double Beach, Lanfair's Cove, Branford Point, Pawson Park, Indian Neck, Blackstone's Cove, Pine Orchard, Point Pleasant and Stony Creek, all have advocates of their merits and claims upon those who love sea-side attractions. In area Indian Neck is the most extensive of the above localities. As its name indicates, it was a natural home for the Indians, and after the settlement of the whites they were encouraged to live there upon small tracts of land, some of which they cultivated, but subsisted mainly in fishing. Thus some of them lived on the "Neck" until a century after the coming of the whites. In the meantime, the town had purchased these lands of the Indians and set them aside for the support of the church. A tract for that purpose was purchased as early as 1685, and the acquisition continued until the First Society practically controlled the lands in that section. In 1770 the society began leasing these lands for a term of seven years, the rental being about \$200 per year, and continued that practice until 1860. After that period the rental was increased, and the lands netted the society about \$400 per year. In 1867 Samuel Beach secured a lease of Indian Neck for 99 years, with the privilege of sub-leasing, but under restrictions which strictly protect its morals; and from this time on the improvements for summer homes began. By the terms of the new lease, the First church society realizes about \$900 per year.

The extreme southwestern part of the "Neck" is known as "Jaffrey's Point," from Indians who had their lands at that place, and who, in 1702, sold some of their possessions to William Maltbie. East of this was the 34-acre farm of the Indian Pawson, some of which was high and attractive ground. This and other lands in that locality have

been improved as "Pawson Park"—a very pleasant and well regulated day resort and picnic grounds.

On the main part of Indian Neck, Elias Pond made the first substantial improvement, building an English house. On the shore the Taunton Seine Company had leased lands for fishing purposes, and from this circumstance were derived the names Taunton Beach and Taunton island, off shore from that place. In the same locality are Clam island and Shumake island, the latter being first owned by Andrew Beach, the first of that name in this locality. On another part of the coast William Frisbie had a small fishery. Near the same place Captain Lynde Frisbie built a small house for the entertainment of visitors, which, with enlargements, became known as the Indian Neck House—a hotel kept by Eli Goodrich and others. After 1866 William Bryan built another summer hotel, called the Montowese House. Fine cottages were built soon after by Thomas R. Trowbridge, Thomas Gallaudet and many others, until the entire shore has been lined with artistic and pleasant cottages, owned by people in all parts of the state, who were attracted not only by the scenic surroundings, but by the security against objectionable elements afforded by the provisions of the lease exacted by the society.

At Short Beach the first house for summer entertainment was built about 1852, by Harrison Bristol, and at that time the place was a comparative forest. Here are now cottages for several hundred people, many of them being permanent residents, and the place has a village-like appearance, having a small chapel, a school building, a post office and a few business places.

At Branford Point Elnathan Linsley made the first improvements, which converted that locality into a public place. Others succeeded him and the present Branford Point House is owned by George T. Parker. It has enjoyed a large patronage. The groves at the point are pleasant, and there being a landing point for steamboats, the place is much visited some seasons.

On the coast eastward is Pine Orchard, so-called on account of the fine grove of pines near the sandy beach. The locality has afforded good fishing and clamming, and has been visited for that purpose with much regularity the past hundred years. In later years many of those who went there were entertained by Jerre Sheldon, who lived on the road from Damascus to Stony Creek. Truman Sheldon, a son, succeeded his father as a dispenser of public hospitality, and established a popular place, the fame of "Mother Sheldon" being widely known as a caterer. In still more recent years their sons, Edward and George Sheldon, established a very popular place, and Pine Orchard has become a favorably known resort. New roads have been constructed to this locality, and the railroad has established a station. A number of fine cottages have been built in recent years.

Stony Creek village\* is in the southeastern part of the town and off shore are the Thimble islands, having attractive beach surroundings. Long before the settlement of the whites, these localities were famous resorts of the Indians, who here found fish and game in great abundance. In no other places on the Long Island shores were there found such immense beds of oyster and clam shells as were seen here on the coming of the first settlers, showing that it must have taken ages to accumulate them. The village derived its name from the creek in this locality, and the stream was so called on account of the nature of the bed over which its waters course. The Thimble islands form a pleasant and interesting group, being scattered in a somewhat promiscuous manner, forming harbors and places of shelter from storms for pleasure boats and vessels in the coastwise trade. Tradition has associated the name of Captain Kidd, the freebooter and pirate, with one of these harbors. It is said that toward the close of the seventeenth century he made it a place of rendezvous and sometimes came ashore for supplies. On one occasion some of the citizens went on board his ship, but not liking the looks of the craft, hastily ended their visit. Not long after this a division of the common lands of the town was made, when the name of "Kidd's Harbour" was applied to one of these localities. It is very probable, however, that Kidd's real rendezvous was at Gardner's island, 35 miles to the eastward, and that he may have barely visited this place.

The islands are about 25 in number and have been favorite pleasure resorts ever since there is any account of them, but in later years they have become more widely known. In 1847 Captain William Brien purchased one of them, called Pot Rock island, and built on it a house for the entertainment of visiting parties and others who might claim its hospitality. This house has since been enlarged and steamboats make two trips a day between this point and New Haven when the season is fairly under way. About 50 cottages have been built on the different islands, some of them being very handsome. Most of them are occupied from May till October, but in July and August this section is most populous. In those months a steamboat also plies regularly between these islands and the mainland at Stony Creek.

In 1874 the general assembly constituted Stony Creek the second voting district of the town of Branford. It was made to include about a mile and a half from east to west and, including the islands, about the same distance from north to south.

The Stony Creek section was not early settled, on account of the rough and broken nature of the land, which made it less inviting than other parts of the town.

"This region was comprised in the fifth division of Branford. This was made before 1700. The first allowance to any settler of land there was to Francis Norton, March 13th, 1671. The record says: 'His lott

\* From data by Henry Rogers.

is to be at Stony Creek, by the sea.' In 1673 William Leete, Esq., was granted lands somewhat east of Stony Creek. His grant was for a lease of twenty-one years, and he was required to build a house upon it to hold it. October 26th, 1680. Richard Butler obtained a farm there. He was allowed six acres more in 1686, if he would build a house within three years. Abraham and William Hoadley soon became owners there. Thus we have the name 'Hoadley's Neck' for the portion next to Guilford, by the sea. The Frisbies soon after appear as owners there. William Barker, Edward Barker, Jonathan Barker, Daniel Palmer, Abraham Howd, John Rogers and others soon settled there. These persons mostly purchased of the heirs of the proprietors, who lived elsewhere, but who shared in every new division of land. Thus Doreas Rosewell, of New Haven, sold to Edward Barker 'land in the fifth division at Stony Creek, in 1716.' The same family names are to be found on some of the same property to-day. Names of places in the old deeds and boundaries are: 'Brook Creek,' 'Little Island,' 'Brushy Corner,' 'Wolf-Pitt Island,' 'Hog-Pound Hill,' 'Sea Hill,' and 'Chestnut Hill.' We first meet the name 'Thimble Islands' in a deed of 'Shell Island' to Isaac Cook, November 3d, 1739. The first roads were laid out in 1710.

"Stony Creek became a school district in 1788. On December 8th of that year the town of Branford granted to Pennock Howd, John Rogers, Jr., Timothy Barker, Abraham Rogers, Stewart Gaylord, Isaac Rogers, Barnabus Palmer, Demetrius Cook, Jr., Ebenezer Frisbie, Jr., Elias Pond, Daniel Jones, Uzziel Cook and Edward Frisbie their request for a separate school district."\*

Most of these were young men, who, besides tilling their small farms, found occupation part of the time in the fishing business in the rivers of Maine, or coasting to New York with wood, which was at one time quite a considerable interest. A few also sailed from these shores to the West Indies. After the decline of the shipping business some of the older families removed.

We have spoken of the abundance of sea food and how popular Stony Creek was among the Aborigines, who statedly visited these places. It became no less popular among the whites, and very early there was an influx of fishermen and others from abroad. Many of the latter were farmers who came here for a few days' diversion. Some of these visitors were not very careful as to their manner of living here, falling into customs so outlandish that the natives designated this class as "Portugese." This lack of restraint also attracted a better class of people, whose recreations, though free, were less harmful. One of the latter class was Reverend Samuel Eells, a sociable man of much native wit. It is related of him that on one occasion when he and a genial company of friends had visited this place "he suggested to them (many being his parishioners), that if any were

\*Baldwin.



officers they should leave their oaths under a juniper bush, above the large flat rock in the road; church members should leave their covenants there, and upon their return they might take them up and carry them back home unsullied by any improper conduct at the beach." But this, most likely, is also a mere tradition of a time removed and obscured by the lapse of a hundred years.

The building of the Shore Line railroad, in 1850, very materially changed the life of Stony Creek, opening a new future for it. This enterprise was, to a considerable extent, the work of the president, secretary and treasurer of the old New Haven & New London Railroad Company, Frederick R. Griffing and Ralph D. Smyth, of Guilford. At that time Stony Creek was very sparsely settled, but a station was located, with the expectation that such a step would develop this country. Looking at the improvements which have been made, no one can doubt the wisdom of their judgment in this matter. New life was transmitted to Stony Creek, and improvement after improvement has been made until the present fair condition has been attained.

In 1853 the Stony Creek post office was established, with Timothy Barker as the postmaster, and it has steadily increased in importance. Soon after new roads were laid out, upon which a number of fine cottages have been constructed. Hotels and other business houses were opened to accommodate the summer visitors, and the permanent population has from year to year been augmented, as other interests were established, until a number of these business places have also become permanent.

Theodore Howd has for many years been the principal merchant in the place, the post office being kept in his store.

"All these businesses brought in more people, various other businesses and much money. Enlargement and improvement have been seen in consequence on every hand.

"But, after all, the greatest charm of Stony Creek is its fitness for a popular 'watering place.' This is becoming more and more its chief feature.

"Twenty years ago Mr. Giles Baldwin and Mr. Timothy Barker used to have a few summer boarders at their pleasant homes. David Barber also had a few at his house, which was then farthest toward the sea. Mr. James Douglass came and carried on a hotel with good success for some years. Mr. Henry Rogers, Mr. John Russell, Mr. H. Bishop and some others received their friends as visitors or boarders, more or less, during the season.

"None of these could really have foreseen the extent to which the business of entertaining visitors has since grown at Stony Creek. The multitudes who now find their way by cars or carriage or boat to Stony Creek and its Thimble Islands, can hardly understand from what small beginnings these places have grown in fifteen years. Besides the well known hotels of 'Brainard's,' 'Frink's,' 'Barnes,' and the 'Flying

Point House' of 'Northrop's,' there are hundreds of residences and cottages covering the main land and the numerous islands. The progress is greater each year. This resort gains in favor with good people every season, and thousands now visit Stony Creek during the summer months to enjoy the beauty and rest afforded."

In 1865 a fine new school house was built, and about ten years later it was found necessary to increase the capacity of the school room by building another house.

In the old red school house Deacon Giles Baldwin started a mission Sunday school, in 1863, and two years later regular preaching services were established by Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin, of the First Society of Branford. Before that time occasional services had been held at the same place by Reverend Timothy P. Gillett and others. The increased interest encouraged the building of a small church upon a lot donated by Henry Rogers. It was dedicated July 8th, 1866, but in 1877 it became necessary to enlarge it. Abraham Baldwin aided much in securing an organ, and Timothy Barker, of San Francisco, gave a Sunday school library and bell. These provisions permitted the organization of the Stony Creek Congregational church, January 16th, 1877, with 34 members. Reverend C. W. Hill was the first pastor, serving a year, when he was followed by Reverend F. M. Taylor. In May, 1888, Reverend Andrew McIntyre became the pastor, and the church reported 75 members. Mission services are also held at Stony Creek by the Swedish Lutherans and the Roman Catholics.

Soon after the building of the railroad an examination of the granite ledges in this locality convinced quarrymen that they were very valuable. The stone is of fine grain and has several shades of color. In 1858 B. G. Green purchased a tract of land, upon which he opened a quarry soon after, in which he employed 50 men, and operated successfully about 15 years.

In 1870 John Beattie, of Newport, R. I., purchased a tract at Hoadley's Neck, on the east side of the creek, where he opened extensive quarries. But in 1882 this part of the town was set off to Guilford. Mr. Beattie has operated very extensively, at times employing several hundred men. In the same locality, but on the opposite side of the creek, the Branford Granite Company secured a tract in 1889, which has been already developed to a considerable extent. The company is composed of Brooklyn capitalists, and from 100 to 150 men are employed, in a well equipped quarry. Here are found bluish-grey and reddish colored granites, which are equal to any produced in this county.

A quarry of red granite was opened a mile north of the railroad, by some New Yorkers, some time in 1875. It was not well equipped, but the quality of the granite was fine, and from it has been obtained the material for making some of the granite columns in the legislative chambers at Albany and Hartford. After some years Samuel Bab-

cock, of Middletown, secured the property and organized the Stony Creek Red Granite Company to operate it. This quarry has also been well equipped and large shipments have been made. About 150 men are employed, and the company is engaged in filling large contracts.

In 1888 the well known contractors, Norcross Brothers, of Worcester, Mass., purchased tracts of land adjoining the above, and opened an extensive quarry, which is supplied with all modern equipments, including a special railway connection with the Shore Line railroad. The capital stock of the company is \$250,000. The quality of the products is very superior.

Still another quarry is operated by the Totoket Granite Company, in which 60 men are employed. The products are of a pinkish color and of a fine quality. In other localities are found fine deposits of granite, which, no doubt, will also be developed in the future, and which will add much to the prosperity of Stony Creek.

Widow's Son Lodge, No. 66, F. & A. M., is the oldest secret organization in the town. It was instituted September 27th, 1825, with the following charter members: John Polter, Joel Polter, John Foote, Merritt Foote, Calvin Frisbie, Asa Norton, Orrin D. Squire, Lyman Frisbie, Edmund Palmer, Samuel Russell, James W. Frisbie, Judah Frisbie, Lorrin D. Hosley, Ruel Chidsey, William Tyler, Ebenezer Linsley, William Bryan, Doctor Willoughby L. Lay.

Of this body of men, William Bryan was the only survivor in 1890. Many additions to the membership were early made, but through some informality the charter of the Lodge was revoked in 1842. The following year it was restored, but after six years, in 1849, it was again revoked, and for five years the meetings of the Lodge were intermitted. Since the second restoration of the charter, in 1854, the Lodge has been prosperous to an unusual degree, considering the limited jurisdiction. In 1890 there were 126 members in good standing and the following principal officers: Trustees, E. Zacher, C. W. Covert, John Eades; W. M., W. N. Boynton; treasurer, C. F. Bradley; secretary, L. A. Merriam. Among the past masters have been: Orrin D. Squire, Merritt Foote, William Nash, H. V. C. Holcomb, H. F. Nichols, William D. Hendricks, N. B. Hall, Frank E. Welford, Herbert Jones, Harvey Beach, Henry H. Stedman, Joseph F. Nettleton, Samuel A. Welford, Josiah Jones, George H. Newell, E. E. Isbell, W. Boynton, John Eades, Francis Clark and C. A. Hoadley.

Woodland Lodge, No. 39, K. of P., was instituted February 26th, 1882, with twenty charter members and the following principal officers: B. F. Hosley, past chancellor; W. H. Zink, M. D., chancellor commander; J. Curtis, vice commander. The Lodge has been very prosperous, having in the fall of 1890 98 members. Its meetings are held in a finely furnished hall in the Armory Building, which is sub-let by this Lodge to six other societies. A number of sick and funeral benefits have been paid. At this time the principal officers were: C. H.

Van Wie, past chancellor; George W. Hull, chancellor commander; H. B. Terhune, vice commander; W. H. Felker, keeper of records and seals.

Endowment Rank, Section 891, K. of P., was started November 17th, 1888, with 15 members and \$23,000 of insurance. In the fall of 1890 the members numbered 30, and the insurance amounted to \$57,000.

B. F. Hosley Division, No. 13, Uniform Rank, K. of P., was organized June 9th, 1890, with 34 members in full uniform, and E. C. Johnson, captain; George W. Hull, recorder. The membership of the division has been increased to 41, and all these branches of the Knights of Pythias are prosperous.

The town has had a large number of purely beneficiary orders, a number of which have succeeded in establishing themselves so well that they continue prosperous. Among the oldest of these are the First Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, which was incorporated January 28th, 1878; and the Court Totoket, No. 7196, Ancient Order of Foresters of America, which was instituted November 7th, 1884, with 11 members. In the fall of 1890 the total belonging was 118, and George W. Hull was the chief ranger. It is duly incorporated by an act of the general assembly. The court has property to the amount of \$1,000, besides having paid many sick and other benefits, on a basis of \$9 dues per year.

In the Second Degree of this order was instituted February 26th, 1886, Sanctuary Totoket, No. 7196, Ancient Order of Shepherds, with James Galligan, John Winthrop, George W. Hull, J. W. Cliffe and 11 other charter members. This has also increased its membership, there being in the fall of 1890 23 members.

El Dorado Council, No. 10, K. of C., was instituted in August, 1884, with 12 charter members. Its membership increased rapidly, there being in the fall of 1890 119 persons belonging, all of them in good standing. The principal officers were: Grand knight, John J. Buckley; deputy grand knight, John B. Reilley; recording secretary, Luke Quinn; financial secretary, Thomas Scanlan; treasurer, Martin Burke. The Lodge has a sick benefit fund of \$1,500, paying \$5 per week to members who are awarded that kind of support.

Totoket Lodge, No. 3019, Knights of Honor, was organized November 20th, 1883, with the following charter members: C. F. Bradley, W. E. Beach, F. T. Bradley, John Eades, W. E. Fowler, Walter Foote, D. W. Goddard, C. W. Gaylord, W. W. Hawkes, B. F. Hosley, C. A. Hoadley, H. F. Jourdan, E. C. Johnson, G. H. Newell, L. F. Nichols, F. E. Peckham, A. B. Palmer, E. H. Parshley, W. T. Robinson, I. N. Spencer, Jr., J. C. Sharney, N. R. Terhune, W. A. Wright, S. A. Welford and Edmund Zacher. The membership in 1890 was 60, and H. C. Woodstock was the dictator. Those who had passed that office were: W. A. Wright, George Newell, E. Zacher, B. F. Hosley, H. N.

Way, Henry Jourdan and Frank Jerald. Doctors C. W. Gaylord and A. J. Tenney were the medical examiners.

Among the distinctively labor organizations were an assembly of Knights of Labor and a society in the Iron Moulders' Union, both of which had a good membership.

In the domain of temperance societies has been St. Mary's Total Abstinence and Beneficial Society, which for nearly a score of years has been doing a good work among the young Catholic people of this town. Of more recent organization, and doing a similar work among the Protestant youth, were the Knights of the Golden Cross and Branford Division, No. 16, Sons of Temperance, each having an increasing membership.

Mason Rogers Post, No. 7, G. A. R., is a flourishing organization. It was instituted July 28th, 1881, with the following charter members: Isaac Van Benthusan, J. Edward Turner, Joseph Curtis, Edward D. Sheldon, Henry Z. Nichols, Elizur C. Johnson, James W. Lay, Obed Tyler, Michael Kinner, Joseph F. Nettleton, Samuel S. Cook, David Sliney, A. Judson Smith, Nicholas R. Terhune, Jerome Baldwin, Calvin L. Ely, Alvin M. Thayer, John Hutchinson, George Bliss, William Donahue, Walter E. Fowler, Franklin Bradley, Burton T. Buel, Ammi B. Parmer and Ammi B. Barker. In 1890 the membership was but slightly greater, the number belonging being thirty. The post commanders have been Calvin L. Ely, Henry Z. Nichols, Nicholas R. Terhune, Ammi B. Barker, Henry W. Hubbard, Walter E. Fowler, J. Edwin Towner, Elizur C. Johnson and J. Atwood Linsley.

This Post was instrumental in the building of the beautiful Soldiers' Monument, standing on Branford Green, between the middle and west end church edifices. It raised for that object \$1,000, the town of Branford gave \$1,000, and the patriotic non-resident citizens of the town added \$1,000 more—the total cost of the pile being about \$3,000. The monument was built by the Smith Granite Company of Westerly, R. I., and is wholly of the celebrated granite of that section. It consists of a large base, two semi-bases (the upper one being inscribed: G. A. R., 1885) and a large die, on the cap-stone of which is the shaft, which is surmounted by the figure of a soldier, more than seven feet high, whose arms encircle a flag. The entire height is about thirty feet.

The dedicatory inscription is on the north face of the die:

BRANFORD  
TO HER BRAVE SONS  
WHO FOUGHT IN THE WAR  
OF THE REBELLION  
1861—1865.  
ONE COUNTRY.      ONE FLAG.

On the shaft are cut shields and engraven the principal battlefields in which Branford soldiers were engaged:

ANTIETAM.  
FREDRICKSBURG.

—  
SHILOH.  
GETTYSBURG.

—  
VICKSBURG.  
PORT HUDSON.

—  
NEW BERNE.  
CHANCELLORSVILLE.

The town's monument committee was composed of John Hutchinson, Samuel Beach, James W. Lay, T. F. Hammer, John P. Callahan, Joseph Curtis and Edward F. Jones, who also arranged for the dedication, October 28th, 1885. The occasion was one of great interest and brought together a large concourse of people. Among those in attendance was the venerable Captain James Blackstone, 93 years of age; the governor of the state and other distinguished citizens. Reverend J. O. Peck was the orator of the occasion. The Second Platoon of Battery A (Branford artillery company) fired a military salute, and thus was given to the public one of the most artistic and substantial monuments in the county.

At Stony Creek a Lodge of the Sons of St. George has been established in recent years, which has been well maintained.

The following account of early educational matters is from the pen of Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin:

“The duty of properly educating children soon began to receive attention. May 21st, 1655, ‘It is agreed by the consent of the whole to give toward the maintaining of a college at New Haven, to give our part of a rate of sixty pounds by the year, year after year.’

“The same year laws were made for the whole colony by Governor Theophilus Eaton, and the next year these were the requirements:

“‘Whereas too many parents and masters, either through an over tender respect to their own occasions and businesse, or not duly considering the good of their children and apprentices, have too much neglected duty in their education while they are young and capable of learning: *It is ordered*, That the deputies for the particular court in each plantation within this jurisdiction, for the time being, or where there is no such deputies the constable or other officer or officers in public trust, shall, from time to time, have a vigilant eye over their brethren and neighbors, within the limit of the said plantation, that all parents and masters doe duly endeavor, either by their own ability and labour or by improving such schoolmaster or other helpers and means as the plantation afford, or the family may conveniently provide, that all their children and apprentices, as they grow capable, may, through God's blessing, attain at least so much as to be able duly

to read the Scriptures and other good and profitable printed books in the English language, being their native language, and in some competent manner to understand the main grounds and principles of christian religion necessary to salvation.'

"Penalties were also provided for such as neglected their children's education.

"Reverend Abraham Pierson, pastor of the church here, beside faithfully attending to his own people, was careful not to neglect the heathen families in the same territory. He regularly preached to the Indians. He prepared and had printed a catechism for them. He was versed in the Indian language, so that he could do this. His acquaintance with the Indian tongue was useful in other ways; he was frequently called to act as interpreter, especially before the court. J. Hammond Trumbull has given specimens of this catechism. A citation will show the kind of meat set before these Indians 'in their buckskin and war paint': Question—'How do you prove that there is but one God?' Answer—'Because the reason why singular things of the same kind are multiplied is not to be found in the nature of God, for the reason why such like things are multiplied is from the fruitfulness of their causes; but God hath no cause of his being, but is of himself; therefore he is one. 2. Because singular things of the same kind, when they are multiplied, are differenced among themselves by their singular properties; but there can not be found another God different from this by any such like properties.'

"Mr. Pierson had a regular salary for his labors among the Indians; it was paid by a missionary society in England—'The Commissioners for the United Colonies of New England.' This salary sometimes amounted to \$150 a year. To induce the Indians to attend upon his ministrations rewards were offered.

"In the effort to secure the settlement and growth of the town after the Newark removal, education was neglected. For many years the schools were few and far between. Several times, in the period, the people were fined for not having a school as the law required. There were a few teachers employed, as John Arnold, in 1678; Eleazur Stent, in 1680-1, and in several later years. Thomas Sargeant, in 1684; S. Mansfield, in 1691; Richard Wilford, in 1700; Eleazur Stent again in 1701, at forty dollars a month. Again in 1702. Then John Collins, in 1703. These schools were only for a few months in the winter. The town paid part of the wages, the parents paid the rest. The effect of so little interest in schools was this. Nearly a whole generation grew up in ignorance. This is seen in the frequency with which both men and women 'make their mark' in signing deeds and other documents."

In the early part of the present century, according to President Dwight, the interest in education was very feeble. There were at that time in the South Society five districts, each provided with a school

house. The one at Stony Creek was provided in 1789 upon the petition of eleven inhabitants of that locality. In the meantime, what is now North Branford was far more active in promoting the cause of education, and a number of their youth were securing the benefits of academic instruction.

At Branford village a select school was taught by Reverend Timothy P. Gillett, some time after the war of 1812, which there, also, awakened a desire for schools of a higher grade, and which led to the establishment of an academy, in 1820. Benjamin R. Fowler, Calvin Frisbie, Philemon Tyler, John Beach and others, aided by Mr. Gillett, were active in this movement, and secured the town's consent to erect the buildings on the south side of the green. A two-story frame house, with a belfry, was put up, which is still standing in that locality. For a number of years Branford Academy had a good reputation, and the stockholders were rewarded by having a school in their midst, which well served its purpose. The academy was continued with varying success until 1866, Miss Jane Hoadley being the last teacher. Others who are remembered as having taught there were: Reverend Gillett, Deacon Samuel Frisbie and Lynde Harrison. The latter was instrumental in securing a school library of several hundred volumes. The upper story of the academy building has long been used as a Masonic hall.

The usefulness of the academy was at an end after the consolidation of the public schools of the town. Gradually these were improved, and with the increase of wealth there was a demand for better buildings. About the time of the late war this question was much agitated, but the unusual expense at that time prevented action. Finally the village school building was so poor that the public moneys were refused. After much effort, \$3,500 was voted for a new school house, and soon after a public graded school was established in it. In 1881 it was enlarged, and it has since been fitted up in a very thorough manner, the property being an object of pride in the community. It is valued at about \$8,000. In recent years very neat school buildings have been erected in some of the other districts of the town.

As early as 1875 the high school at the village, under the principalship of E. Zacher, was well sustained. In 1881 William E. Hatch became the principal in the new house. G. L. Faxon succeeded him in 1883, and under his direction the schools at the village were more properly graded. A course of three years was established for the high school, and ten grades outside of that. C. R. Stiles became the principal in 1885, and since 1887 H. S. Gulliver has been at the head of the schools at the village. Six rooms are occupied. The children here enumerated number 400, and in the entire town 773. The entire school expenses per year are about \$8,000. For a number of years Doctors Walter H. Zink and C. W. Gaylord have been the acting school visitors, and have aided much in promoting the interest in popular education.



Most of the early settlers of Branford were plain people, but were men of strict Puritan principles, "men of stern integrity and zealous for religious liberty, so far as its principles were then understood. The doctrines of their creed were Calvinistic, or those which were embodied shortly after in the Cambridge and Westminster Confessions of Faith. In church polity they were Congregationalists, holding the doctrine of parity, or of one order in the ministry, and that all ministers are of equal official rank; and that each parochial church is an ecclesiastical body complete in itself, with power to elect its own pastors and deacons, to decide on the proper qualifications of those who offer themselves for admission to membership with them, and to receive, to discipline and exclude, as the majority shall judge to be agreeable to the laws of Christ, the only head, law-giver and king of the church. They further held to the propriety of asking advice from other churches, reserving the right to follow or reject such advice, according to their judgment of expediency. In common with other colonists of that age, they acted on the scheme of carrying the gospel and its ordinances, education and its advantages, with them, and having the church, the minister and the school coëval with their settlement."\*

Hence, before their organization into a church estate they built a log meeting house, and as early as October, 1644, had Mr. John Sherman, one of the first settlers, preaching for them on a salary. He was a man of superior talents, and ministered to them until 1646, when the settlement of the Reverend Abraham Pierson left him free to go to Watertown, where he was settled in the ministry, and where he died at the age of seventy-two years.

The Reverend Abraham Pierson has been properly regarded as the first pastor of the church. Coming from South Hampton, L. I., with a part of his congregation from that place, and being a man of character and influence, he was here also the controlling spirit in all the affairs of the town until his removal to Newark, as has been stated.

"Mr. Pierson preached in the log meeting house which stood in the old grave yard, near the willow tree now there. One of the original palisades which stood around that house is now to be seen on Mr. William Russell's place. The Sabbath services consisted of two sermons, each an hour long, timed by the hour glass standing on the pulpit. There was also a prayer, and two or three hymns were sung, but there was no scripture reading nor any musical instruments.

"Men and women sat on opposite sides of the house, the boys sat by themselves, attended by a 'tithing man,' to keep order. Children were baptized in the meeting house, generally on the next Sabbath after their birth; sometimes on the day of their birth. Marriages were as often performed by some magistrate as by a minister. There were no public religious services at funerals; minister and people all

\*Reverend Timothy P. Gillett.

attended and assisted silently and solemnly until the remains were buried. The meeting house roof, and so, in fact, the roofs of all the houses, were thatched—sedgegrass was the material used.

"A little before the Newark removal Robert Rose died—April 4th, 1665. He gave by will, six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence to the church. This was probably the first legacy ever left to the Congregational church of Branford. The example thus early furnished has been followed by several others since."\*

When Mr. Pierson removed to Newark, in the summer of 1666, he employed John Bowers, of Guilford, to preach for those remaining until the end of the year, when the town engaged him, as is shown by the following record:

January 6th, 1667. "This certifieth that the inhabitants of the town of Branford did engage themselves unto Mr. Bowers for to allow and pay unto him the sum of thirty pounds and the cutting and carting of wood, and to be rent free in the house and lands that are bought for a minister, and he is to be free from all town rates for himself and his estate, for and in consideration that the said Mr. Bowers is for to carry on the work of the ministry one whole year here in Branford, and his time is for to begin the 9th Dec., 1666, and the town doth promise to bear his charges of diet till he come with his family."

They renewed this arrangement from year to year until 1671, when he was invited to settle with them and carry on the work of the ministry. He accepted the invitation, but the call not being unanimous, there was some trouble, which caused him to leave and settle over the Derby church, in 1672.

"They now have ten years of candidating. March 12th, 1677, they call a Mr. Stowe, but he does not accept. October 24th, 1677, they wish a Mr. Wise to remain with them through the winter. He was a very large man and famous as a wrestler. They have a Reverend Daniel Russell for a few months. August 1st, 1678, they call Reverend John Harriman. A month later they call Reverend Samuel Mather, offering him sixty pounds salary and the minister's house and lands. He stays a while; they build him a barn, paying for the work in land.

"In 1679 they consider the question of building a new meeting house. They conclude to enlarge the old one to twice its size. Mr. Mather serves them, off and on, till 1681. With the hope of keeping him they agree to petition the general court for liberty 'to embody in a church estate.' Men, not Christians, and those willing to support a religion that left them free to their chosen habits, had so far directed the policy of Branford since Pierson had left. Hence their difficulty in obtaining a minister. December 6th, 1681, they conclude to seek *God's* help; they invite the Reverend Mr. Eliot, of Guilford, to come and carry on 'a day of humiliation' and prayer with them. April 1st, 1682, they call Reverend Jonah Fordham, but he refuses. Febru-

\*Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin.

ary 13th, 1683, they call a Mr. Oakes. Being doubtful of his acceptance they concluded to let the minister's house and lands, as they record it, 'at an outcry by a piece of candle.' By this is meant a short piece of candle was lighted, at the time of the sale, and the auctioneer cried up the property until the candle burned out. He that bid highest during that time obtained whatever was offered. Samuel Pond, for four pounds and six shillings, on this occasion, obtained the use of the property. He was to vacate it when they had a minister to need it; but that was not till three years later. Mr. Oakes proposing to go to 'the Bay,' that is to Massachusetts, the town 'agreed to sit still and not be in motion to look out for other help' until they hear from him. He never returns. November 7th, 1683, they call a Mr. Younglove. January 7th, 1684, they call Reverend John Wilson. April 29th, 1684, they call Mr. Mather again. Then they try Reverend John Cotton, Jr., and a Mr. Woodruff and a Mr. Emerson. February 1st, 1686, Reverend Samuel Russell is introduced to Branford people. The now sufficiently humbled people are drawn to him. He is called, and comes.

"Having the Reverend Samuel Russell now living with them, they move to reorganize the church. June 7th, 1687, 'Whereas motion hath been made to Reverend Samuel Russell respecting his settlement or taking office in a church way, and having also applyed and solicited to the general court for liberty to embody, and being granted, as also it being moved to Mr. Russell, by those that are members of churches,' the town agreed to reserve their motion and desire, leaving it to a committee to prosecute the work as they and Mr. Russell shall agree.

"March 7th, 1688, their affairs had so progressed they were ready for an organized church. They then entered into and signed the following covenant:

"'It having pleased God of his grace to call up to the visible profession of religion, and being now by his providence called to unite together for the carrying on the ordinances of God amongst us, we do, therefore, with self-abasement and sorrow of our great unworthiness, yet in obedience to the gospel of our Lord Jesus, we do this day, before God and his people, give up ourselves and ours first unto God and then one to another, to work together to attendance to all those duties and enjoyment of all those privileges of the covenant of grace that are to be attended and enjoyed in a particular visible church, making the Scriptures to be our rule. We do declare it to be our purpose, as God shall assist, both in our principles and practice in all substantials to work in a consonance with the churches of Christ with whom we hold communion. Samuel Russell, John Frisby, Ebenezer Stent, Peter Tyler, Samuel Pond, Daniel Swaine, Aaron Blatchly, Samuel Betts, Thomas Sergeant, Elizabeth Barker, Hamot Maltby, Saroi Blatchley, Miriam Pond, Dorcas Taintor, Elizabeth Stent, Hamot Wheadon, Elizabeth Pamer, Hamot Frisbie, Deliver-

ance Rose, Mary Betts, Ruth Frisby, Saroi Page, Saroi Gutsil, Jane Tyler.'

"In April others signed, as: John Rose, Francis Tyler, Abigail Russell, Elizabeth Rose, Wid. Linsley, Wid. Nash, Esther Wheadon.

"In November others still, as: Jonathan Frisby, Jono. Maltby, Thomas Topping."\*

This may be regarded as the beginning of the church organization proper. The town and the society thereafter became distinct, the latter managing, in a measure, its own affairs. They had begun, in 1685, the acquisition of the lands on Indian Neck for the support of the minister, and during this pastorate much of the land now owned was acquired.

Reverend Samuel Russell was a son of Reverend John Russell, of Hadley, and was a graduate of Cambridge College. His salary was £60 and the society gave him as a settlement the town house and lands connected with it, and he lived at that place as early as 1686.

"The years that follow show increase and prosperity in church and town. They soon add to the minister's salary and occasionally grant him more land, until he becomes about the largest land-holder in the place.

"January 2d, 1692, they give Mr. Russell a deed of the parsonage property which was built in 1690.

"April 5th, 1697, they grant to Mr. Russell and others the privilege of setting up a saw mill. The next year they grant Mr. Russell the use of the grass in the burying yard for ten years, if he will fence it in. Then it is probable the old cedar palisades were used by Mr. Russell in making this fence, the first fence around the graveyard."

The Russell parsonage remained substantially as built until about 1825, when it was modernized. It became noted as being the building in which the meeting was held which led to the formation of Yale College, and for several years the library of the new institution was kept there.

In 1687 "the town agreed to white-lime the meeting house, but September 28th, 1699, it was unanimously agreed to build a new meeting house, 'the form of it to be about forty foot square, an upright wall from the ground to the plate.' Appointed Mr. William Maltbie, Mr. Edward Barker and Mr. William Hoadley, Eleazur Stent, Lt. Samuel Pond, Ensign Thomas Harrison, Jr., and Searg. John Rose, or any five of them, to be a committee to manage the work from time to time.

"November 30th, 1699. 'Whereas it hath been agreed upon by the town to build a new meeting house, and there being different notions respecting the form—some being for a square house and others for a long brick house with lean-to—it is agreed by the town that a lott shall be drawn to decide the matter, and it is agreed that Benj. Harrington

\* Reverend E. C. Baldwin.

shall draw the lott.' The lot being drawn fell for a square meeting house. The form of the tower and turret was left to the committee. The inhabitants agreed to work out their proportions of expense as near as they can in such work as the committee judge them capable. The committee were to deduct from wages of those who come late or are negligent. They sell the new part of the old house to help pay joiners for work on the new house. They sell the old part of the old house to Richard Wilford for teaching school. This new house stood on the common, about in front of the town hall.

" June 27th, 1701. ' It is agreed that the congregation in Branford do meet together to worship in the old meeting house next Lord's Day, and that the next following we meet in the new house.'

" They gave several men liberty to put pews for themselves in the church there, to be for their families ever after, for a reasonable rent. This house stood till 1744. In 1738 they voted to build a new meeting house, just west of the old one. When it was done, they pulled down the old one."

Mr. Russell's ministry closed with his life, June 25th, 1731, when he was 71 years of age. His pastorate was continued a little more than 43 years, but in the last six years he was not able, on account of bodily ailments, to preach much, and by mutual arrangement the pulpit was supplied by Reverend Samuel Sherman and others.

Until 1725 the entire original town attended services at the meeting house on Branford green, but this year the inhabitants were divided into two parishes, those living on the North Farms becoming the North Branford Society, and the original society became the old or South Society. The church was also divided, and the town assisted in building the two meeting houses required.

Mr. Russell has been styled " the second father of Branford." He was a talented man, and by the ministers of his time was looked upon as a leader. Including those who joined when the church was organized, he added 300 to the membership of the church. He was a warm friend of Yale College, serving as a trustee from 1701 to 1731. He contributed to its support liberally himself, and induced his people to do the same. Four of his sons were graduated from that institution, viz.: John, Samuel, Daniel and Ebenezer. His other sons were Jonathan and Ithiel, and their descendants became worthy and honorable citizens,

Efforts were made after the death of Mr. Russell to secure Reverends Samuel Sherman and Ebenezer Silliman as pastors. Both had preached on calls, but failed to settle. The church was now without a pastor until 1733, when Reverend Philemon Robbins was secured. In the summer of 1732 he came with a classmate of Harvard, from which college they had just graduated, to attend the commencement of Yale.

" While Mr. Robbins was at New Haven a person came from Bran-

ford to procure some one to preach as a candidate; and he, being recommended as a suitable person, consented to go in that capacity. The people are pleased with him, and, September 18th, 1732, ask him to come four weeks on probation. October 9th, 1732, they give him a call to settle, offering £400 as a settlement, to be paid in two years; also £130 per annum for the first four years, and after that £140 per year and his firewood."

He accepted the call, and began his ministry with the following: "October 9th, 1732. I had an invitation to settle in the work of the ministry in the South Society in Branford, Connecticut, Dec. 27th, 1732. I accepted the call. Feb. 7th, 1733, I was ordained to the pastoral office in Branford South Society. PHILEMON ROBBINS."

"Mr. Robbins found here a church of 125 members—43 males and 82 females. There were 218 additions during his ministry of 47 years. In the first years the gains were numerous. In the years of opposition and trouble the gains were few. In the first year the church chose Captain John Russell as deacon.

"December 24th, 1736, Mr. Robbins married Hannah Foot, the daughter of Isaac and Rebecca Foot, of Branford. Then the people helped their minister to build a house. That house is still standing, perhaps the second oldest house in Branford. It is owned and occupied by Mr. Michael Harding. The original house has been added to and much improved by the present owner. Mr. Robbins spent his married life in it, and his nine children were born there."

In the ministry of Mr. Robbins occurred some of the most important and stirring events in the history of the town. About 1740 here, as well as elsewhere in the New England states, much attention was paid to the subject of religion, the minds of the people being especially awakened by the preaching of evangelists, who went from town to town on this mission. Mr. Robbins believed in these special efforts to quicken the spiritual life of the church, and insisted on "spiritual growth as evidence of conversion. He adopted measures to promote such life. In addition to the usual meetings he encouraged prayer and conference meetings. He at times had extra preaching services. He was ready to encourage revival efforts everywhere. It seems strange to Christians now that any one should object. Yet many did, even ministers. So much objection was made, in a number of towns, divisions occurred, and new churches were formed. The more actively inclined felt compelled to the step by the opposition they met in the old church. Of course Mr. Robbins and those like him were jealously regarded by such as differed from them. Perhaps he, rather more than others, because he had come in from Massachusetts, where they did not so highly esteem the Saybrook Platform.

"At this time Reverend Jonathan Merick was the minister at North Branford, and Reverend Warham Williams was minister at Northford, Reverend Thomas Ruggles, Jr., was at Guilford, and Reverend Samuel

Whittlesey at Wallingford, Jacob Hemingway at East Haven, and Reverend Isaac Stiles at North Haven, and young Samuel Russell at North Guilford.”\*

At this time the “great revival preacher, George Whitfield, had been making his remarkable tour through our country. He met great opposition in New England. Many Connecticut ministers were especially hostile. Mr. Robbins favored him, and so, with a few others, bore the stigma of ‘new lights.’ They were looked upon with great disfavor by the other pastors.

‘One special cause of complaint grew up from the desire of many people in various towns to have the ‘new lights’ ministers preach for them. Some of the earnest preachers were willing to do so. Reverend Mr. Humphreys, of Derby, consented to preach to a Baptist church; he was expelled for it. Reverend Timothy Allen, of West Haven, was also expelled. He had been heard to say, ‘That the reading of the Scriptures, without the Spirit’s aid, will no more convert a sinner than reading an old almanack.’ He was a devoted minister, but he was too spiritual for his church. Mr. Lee, of Salisbury; Leavenworth, of Waterbury, and Todd, of Northbury, were also expelled for similar faults. Mr. Robbins’ turn came next.”

The opportunity for prosecuting him presented itself very soon in the violation of the rules of the Consociation, adopted at Guilford, the latter part of 1741. One of its acts was to vote “That for a minister to enter into another minister’s parish, and preach or administer the Seals of the Covenant, without the consent of or in opposition to the settled minister of the parish is disorderly. Notwithstanding, if a considerable number of people in the parish are desirous to hear another minister preach, provided the same be orthodox and sound in the Faith, and not notoriously faulty in censuring other persons, or guilty of any other scandal. We think it ordinarily advisable for the minister of the parish to gratify them by giving his consent upon their suitable application to him for it, unless neighboring ministers should advise against it.” “Not satisfied with this, these ministers went to the general assembly and got a law passed which was an outrage to every principle of justice. One provision was this: ‘3. If any minister, or ministers, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, shall presume to preach in any parish, not under his immediate care and charge, the minister of the parish where he shall so offend, or the civil authority, or any of the committee of said parish, shall give information thereof, in meeting, under their hands to the clerk of the society or parish where such offending minister doth belong, which clerk shall receive such information and lodge and keep the same on file in his office, and no assistant or justice of the peace in this colony, shall sign any warrant for collecting any minister’s rate, without first receiving a certificate from the clerk of the society or parish where

\*Reverend Elijah Baldwin.

such rate is to be collected, that no such information as is above mentioned, hath been received by him or lodged in his office.' This was an example of what cruel wrongs may be done by professed good men in the name of religion. In their eager desire to carry certain ends they deemed for the good of Zion, they violated every principle of justice, and forgot every Christian virtue. Of course their efforts only increased the evils they hoped to destroy. The records of them are another monument of the folly of doing evil that good may come.

"Some time in the early part of December, 1741, Mr. Robbins had an invitation to preach at the Baptist church in Wallingford. These Baptists lived within the bounds of the First Society or parish in Wallingford. They were formerly in the Congregational church, but had gone off, and professing Baptist principles had set up by themselves. Some years before Mr. Robbins came to Connecticut they had employed a Separate minister, Mr. John Merriman, who was ordained their pastor. By the advice of the governor, no rates had been collected from them by the First Society for several years.

"Mr. Robbins returned no positive answer to the first overture. Soon after he received the following letter :

" ' To Mr. Robbins, Branford.

" Sir:—After suitable respects to yourself, this note is to inform you that Mr. Bellamy has been with us at Wallingford, and preached in our Baptist's society to very good satisfaction and success on several persons both of our people, and also those of your denomination with whom we desire to join heartily in the internals of religion, though we can't in form; so that it seems to be the desire of both denominations here, that yourself would oblige us with a sermon or two as soon as you can after the next week; and please to send me when. This is also my desire for the good of souls and the glory of God.

" Sir, yours in good affection,

JOHN MERRIMAN, Elder.

" Wallingford, Dec. 23d, 1741.'

"Mr. Robbins accepted the invitation and agreed to go on January 6th, 1742. The day before he was to preach he was handed a note from two of the members of the Congregational church of Wallingford, requesting him not to preach for the Baptists. But he could see no reason why he should break his engagement. There were many reasons why he should keep it. He accordingly went and preached twice to full congregations.

"Mr. Robbins had preached in Wallingford on January 6th, 1742. The Consociation met at New Haven February 9th, 1742. Mr. Theophilus Yale, a member of the Consociation, messenger from Wallingford church, exhibited a complaint against Mr. Robbins in the form of



an indictment. Mr. Robbins could never get a copy for himself, but it ran like this :

“The subscriber, do certify, in way of complaint, to this reverend Consociation, that on the 6th day of January last past, the Rev. Mr. Philemon Robbins did enter into the First Society of Wallingford, and preached in a disorderly manner, in contempt of the authority of this Consociation, without the consent of the Rev. Mr. Whittlesey, pastor of said society; contrary to the act of the Guilford Council; contrary to an act of this Consociation, and contrary to the desire of his neighboring ministers, and a great number of church members in Wallingford.

“THEOPHILUS YALE.”

“Mr. Robbins, who was present, observed that there was nothing said in the complaint of its being contrary to the law of God. ‘We know not how to answer for preaching any more than for praying, unless they would tell him wherein was the crime of it. They told him it was expressed in the complaint as contrary to the act of the Guilford Council, etc.’ Mr. Robbins said he did not know what were the acts of the Guilford Council when he preached at Wallingford. Whatever they were they had not even then been read to or accepted by the Consociation. Where there was no law there could be no transgression. As it being contrary to the desire of two neighboring ministers and a great many church members, there was no rule in the word of God or Saybrook Platform that obliged one to attend such desire in preaching. They referred him to the vote of the Consociation to any act of that Consociation instructing their delegates to the Guilford Council. He answered that such a vote did not bind the Consociation to any act of that council; that he was not guilty even under that vote, because he had not been into another man’s parish to preach. The Baptists were a church gathered by themselves. They had a minister ordained over them. He had preached for them at their minister’s desire. The collector of Mr. Whittlesey’s society had been advised by the governor not to require taxes of these Baptists. He had, moreover, sent to them proclamation for fasts and thanksgivings as to other churches. But they claimed that the Baptists were not by the letter of the law a legal society, so decided his preaching to be disorderly. They required him to make confession, and gave him over night to think of it. But he declined to do what they required. They then passed judgment on him as follows: ‘At a meeting of the Convocation of New Haven County, convened by and according to adjournment at New Haven, February 9th, 1741-2. A complaint being given in by Theophilus Yale, Esq., a member of the First church in Wallingford, against the Rev. Philemon Robbins, pastor of the First church in Branford, within this county, that the said Mr. Philemon Robbins has preached in said First society in Walling-

ford, in a disorderly and offensive manner, as by said complaint is set forth and laid before this Consociation:

“ ‘*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Robbins so preaching was disorderly.

“ ‘*Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Philemon Robbins should not sit as a member of this council for his disorderly preaching.’

“ This judgment being read, Mr. Robbins took leave, went home and made this memorandum: ‘The crime is preaching to the Baptists, and the punishment is being secluded from the Consociation.’

“ But, unexpectedly, the punishment is turned into a crime, and becomes the burden of more serious complaints. At the next meeting of the association he found a complaint against him from some of his own people. Everything seemed to be managed in the greatest secrecy, for he only learned of it at the last moment. The association sent him this notice:

“ ‘The Association of the County of New Haven convened at New Cheshire May 31st, 1743. To the Rev. Mr. Philemon Robbins, Pastor of the First Church in Branford. Reverend Sir, and dear Brother; By a paper, given into this association by one of the members of your church, and signed by six members of the same, we are given to understand that there is an uneasiness among a number of your people, with your conduct and management in sundry particulars; and, hoping that it may be of good service, we have desired a number of our body, viz.: the Rev. Messrs. Jacob Hemingway, Samuel Russell, Samuel Hall, Isaac Stiles and Jonathan Merrick, to repair to Branford on the second Tuesday of June next, to make inquiry into the difficulties among your people, and shall rejoice if they may be instrumental of good and peace among you; and hoping you will take this in good part, and treat the motion candidly, we heartily wish you well.

‘Test, THOMAS RUGGLES, Scribe.

‘By order of Association.’

“ When he found who of his people had petitioned for this, he was much surprised. One was an old *non compos mentis* man, unable to attend church; others were persons who had never given him any reason to believe they were uneasy. Three were persons who had annoyed him before, and who had evidently moved against him at the instigation and advice of some of the ministers. He could never get a copy of the things complained of; but, as near as he could learn by diligent inquiry, they were these:

“ 1st. That Mr. Robbins has set up lectures, without a vote of the church for it.

“ 2d. That he denies the platform.

“ 3d. That he has baptized a child at New Haven.

“ 4th. That he is a promoter of divisions and separations.

“ 5th. That he admits members of the separate church at New Haven to the Communion.”

The number and nature of these charges showed very plainly that these members had been instigated by some of the ministers of the Consociation. Mr. Robbins soon quieted the apprehensions of his parishioners and even made everything satisfactory to the five members who had complained of him. But his opponents were not satisfied. New complaints were lodged, at the instance of the opposing ministers, and nothing Mr. Robbins could say or do would satisfy them. After a protracted trial of two years and much agitation, the Consociation formally deposed him from the ministry.

“His church and people now took the case in their own hands. Instead of using the liberty which the law of the legislature gave them, they paid their minister’s salary with more cheerfulness and punctuality than before. Instead of admitting the charges of error filed against him before Consociation, the church, *nem. con.*, met and rebutted them thus: ‘We are of opinion that what is contained in the articles against the pastor of this church, respecting doctrines and principles, is very wrongfully and injuriously charged, and disagreeable,’ contrary to ‘the known course and tenor of his preaching. We think Mr. Robbins preaches the doctrines of grace more clearly than in some of the first years of his ministry among us; and yet we have too much reason to fear that our uneasy brethren and neighbours, especially some of the principal of them, are dissatisfied on account of those doctrines: which doctrines, for our part, we think are clearly revealed in the word of God, and adhered to by the reformed churches, as appears by their confessions of faith and catechisms; and we trust God has and will implant them in our hearts, and enable us to maintain them as long as we live.’ No very pleasant decision for such men as Whittlesey and Stiles, who had ordained and given the right hand of fellowship to young Robbins, and whose new light was now so brilliant as to give pain to their visual organs. He was ecclesiastically silenced and deposed. His flock would not submit. They voluntarily withdrew from the compact into which they had entered with the neighboring churches about 38 years before. They retained their minister and loved him the more for his trials and his increased soundness in the faith. His opponents appealed to the assembly for aid to quell or to awe this rebellious spirit. The assembly, in May, 1748, cited the society to appear before them and answer to the complaint. The society appointed John Russell, Esq., and Samuel Barker to be their agents or attorneys, to appear before the assembly and show reasons why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. The assembly, after hearing the parties, appointed a council of seven ministers from different parts of the colony, requesting them to repair to Branford and hear the parties, and endeavor to make peace in the society. On hearing the decision of the assembly, the society here voted to request and entreat the ministers so appointed by the assembly, together with messengers from their respective churches, to meet at Branford, on

Wednesday, the 29th of June, 1748. But the council never met. Though requested again in July, that they would *be pleased* to come and attend to the business of their appointment, they came not. Being let alone, the difficulties died out. The days of Mr. Robbins were thenceforth spent in peace with his people—in the love and confidence of his church and of the whole community. Without any formal act of restoration, he was called gradually into the councils and associations of his brethren.”\*

Being received into the Consociation and the association, Mr. Robbins remained an honored and trusted member until his death, August 13th, 1781. He preached the preceding day with unusual animation, closing his sermon with the words “Glory! glory!” After dinner, on the day of his death, he sat down in his arm chair and was soon apparently asleep, but, as it proved, went quietly out of this life into the next. Two of his sons became eminent as ministers. His later descendants, also, have honored the name.

Not long after the settlement of Mr. Robbins it was determined to build a new meeting house. “March 15th, 1738, the Society moves to build a new meeting house. October 11th, 1738, they decide to build it west of the old one, and 64 feet long by 44 feet wide, with 24 foot posts, but nearly two years pass away before they really get to work at the new house.” It was occupied in 1744, and was in the style of that day, a two-story house without a spire. In 1803 a steeple was built to the house and a clock placed in the spire. With other repairs this meeting house was used until 1843, when it was removed and a part of the present brick edifice was occupied, in the pastorate of the Reverend T. P. Gillett. This house was practically rebuilt in 1868-9, in Mr. Baldwin’s pastorate. A new front, with tower and steeple, was built, and the rear was lengthened 15 feet, making the building very commodious. It was also thoroughly refitted and a new organ provided. The entire outlay was about \$26,000. It has since been repaired. In 1889 a very fine parsonage, costing \$7,000, was erected on the old Frisbie lot, in the rear of the church edifice. All the property is in good condition.

After the death of Mr. Robbins the pulpit was vacant several years, when Reverend Jason Atwater was secured as the next pastor. He was a native of Hamden, Conn., and a graduate of Yale College. He was ordained by the Consociation, March 10th, 1784. He died of consumption, June 10th, 1794. His pastorate was ten years and three months. The society gave him £300 settlement, and £100 salary, with the privilege of cutting firewood from the society’s lands. During his ministry 96 were added to the church; the baptisms were 187, of which number 19 were adults; marriages, 96.

The next pastor, Reverend Lynde Huntington, was a native of Norwich, and a graduate of Yale. He was ordained the 28th of Oc-

\* Reverend T. P. Gillett.

tober, 1795, and died of consumption, September 20th, 1804. The society gave him as a settlement £300, and £95 salary, "with the privilege of cutting wood sufficient for his own fires from the Society's lands, so long as he shall continue to preach in said Society." The additions to the church under his ministry were 50; the baptisms 121, adults 2; marriages, 50.

Reverend Timothy P. Gillett, son of Reverend Alexander Gillett, of Torrington, was settled as the next pastor. He was ordained June 15th, 1808. The society gave him a "a salary of \$500, to be paid annually, until from continued ill health and infirmity he is no longer able to perform the duties of the gospel ministry among them," with the privilege of cutting his firewood from the society's land. His salary was not increased, remaining as fixed until he ceased to be the active pastor. But so frugal was he, without being mean or miserly, that, without engaging in any speculations, his estate in 1881 amounted to \$80,000, some of which was given to benevolent objects. During his pastorate many additions were made to the membership of the church, the last years of his life being the most fruitful. He continued as pastor *emeritus* until the fall of 1866. His health having failed, Reverend Jacob G. Miller was appointed colleague pastor in 1859, and so served until 1864. The following year Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin was settled in a like relation, and after Mr. Gillett's death became the pastor. He continued until 1878. He was an able and conscientious minister and the last to remain a term of years. Since his departure the acting pastors have been: 1878-80, Reverend C. W. Hill; 1880-84, Cyrus P. Osborne; 1885-88, Henry Pearson Bake; 1888, Thomas Bickford.

On the 1st of January, 1889, the latter was settled as the pastor. He was ordained to the ministry in 1875. His labors here the past year have been successful, about fifty members being added, making the present (1890) membership 340, contributed by 190 families in the parish. In addition to its labors at home the church has encouraged mission services at Short Beach, and aided in establishing the church at Stony Creek.

The church maintains a well equipped Sabbath school of several hundred members, having Horace B. Meigs as superintendent, and has also a number of aid societies connected with it.

The following have been the deacons and the years of their election: Lawrence Ward, uncertain; John Rose, uncertain; George Baldwin, uncertain; Samuel Harrington, after 1689; Samuel Rose, after 1689; John Russell, 1733; Edward Barker, 1757; Nathaniel Foot, 1763; Elnathan Beach, 1763; Stephen Smith, 1771; Daniel Maltbie, 1771; Samuel Rogers, 1777; Zaccheus Baldwin, 1795; Samuel Tyler, 1800; Samuel Frisbie, 1809; Eli Fowler, 1816; Harvey Page, 1851; Jeremiah Russell, 1852; \*William Linsley, 1857; John Plant, —; \*Austin M. Babcock, 1869.

Of the foregoing, John Russell, who was a son of Reverend Samuel Russell, was, in his day, one of the most distinguished civilians in town.

\*Now in office.

The following Congregational ministers have been raised up in the town of Branford: Reverends Joseph Barker, John Tyler Benedict, Thomas Wells Bray, Andrew Bartholomew, Samuel Barker, Thomas Canfield, John Cornwall, John Foote, Levi Frisbie, Josiah Frisbie, Dana Goodsell, George Justus Harrison, Jared Harrison, Roger Harrison, L. I. Hoadley, Lewis F. Morris, Solomon Palmer, Abraham Pier-son, Ammi R. Robbins, Chandler Robbins, D.D., Samuel Russell, Ebenezer Russell, Lemuel Tyler and Samuel Whiting.

Trinity Church (Protestant Episcopal)\* had its origin in the dissenting minority of the First Society, or those who were avowed opponents of Mr. Robbins after he had become a "new light." In 1748 these opponents of Mr. Robbins petitioned the general court for aid in carrying into effect the decree of the New Haven Consociation, debarring him from ministerial duties, and to the obedience of which he paid no heed. The petitioners were Nathaniel Harrison, Nathaniel Johnson, *Joseph Frisbie, Noah Rogers, John Rogers, John Rogers, Jr., John Linsley, Jonathan Hoadley, John Hoadley, Nathaniel Hoadley, Benjamin Palmer, Demetrius Cook, Ebenezer Frisbie, Orchard Guy, Daniel Palmer, Samuel Maltby, Nathaniel Butler, Joseph Bishop, Samuel Frisbie, Micha Palmer, Jr., Noah Baldwin, Abraham Palmer, Ebenezer Linsley, Usal Cook, Nathaniel Frisbie, Isaac Cook, Abijah Hobart, Daniel Frisbie, Jonathan Goodsell.*

The names in italics represent the families which probably embraced Episcopacy, though it is by no means certain that every person so indicated became a churchman. Many of the foregoing remained Congregationalists, forgetting, in the course of a few years, their disaffection with the "new light" doctrines.

In September, 1748, Reverend Matthew Graves, missionary from New London, and Doctor Samuel Johnson, from Stratford, held Episcopal services in the town, and thereafter they were continued with some regularity, so that the church properly had its beginning in that year. A few years later the society was more fully organized and under its direction regular missionaries served it: Reverend Matthew Graves in 1748; Samuel Johnson, D.D., in 1748, 1752 and 1766; Ebenezer Punderson, 1752-61; Solomon Palmer, 1763-6; Bela Hubbard, D. D., 1767-84. During the revolution the feeling against the Episcopal church was very strong and but little advance was made. The society had, in these latter years, only a nominal existence, and in June, 1784, steps were taken to reorganize and to found the present parish. This act was consummated November 29th, 1784, when the following were elected as the first parish officers: Mr. Ebenezer Linsley and Captain Samuel Russell, church wardens; Captain John Russell, Obed Linsley, Thomas Frisbie, John Rogers, Jr., Papilian Barker, Captain Ebenezer Barker and Edward Barker, vestrymen; William Monro, clerk of the church and society.

\*From data by Reverend M. K. Bailey, Eli F. Rogers, Esq., and others.

At the same meeting a vote was passed with the intention of procuring Mr. Sayre as their minister, and he probably was in charge while the church was building.

The next step was the formal notice of organization given to the First Society, so as to secure exemption from paying rates. This notice was signed by the following:

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| “Ebenezer Linsley    | Barnabas Palmer       |
| Jonathan Hoadley     | Obed Linsley          |
| Ralph Isaacs         | William Monro         |
| Isaac Rogers         | John Russell          |
| Jonathan Hoadley jur | Allen Smith           |
| Samuel Russell       | George Cook           |
| Thomas Frisbie       | Oliver Landfair jur   |
| Ebenezer Barker      | Roswell Chidsey       |
| Abraham Rogers       | George Friend         |
| Ebenezer Frisbie     | Sarah Johnson         |
| John Garrett         | Martha Olds           |
| Nathaniel Palmer     | John Cory             |
| Thomas Barker        | Jacob Rogers          |
| Peter Grant          | Thomas Rose           |
| Samuel Whedon        | John Potter jur       |
| John Rogers jur      | Daniel Jones          |
| Pennock Houd         | Abel Frisbie          |
| Stewart Gaylord      | Jonathan Barker       |
| Ebenezer Frisbie jur | Benjamin Barker       |
| Timothy Barker       | Obediah Tyler         |
| Elias Pond           | Ebenezer Linsley 3d   |
| Richard Spink        | John Butler           |
| Andrew Morris        | Samuel Russell jur    |
| Edmund Morris        | Moses Stork           |
| Papillian Barker     | Samuel Palmer jur     |
| Archelaus Barker     | John Rogers           |
| Daniel Frisbie jur   | Ebenezer Linsley jur— |

“ By order of said Episcopal Church or Congregation in legal meeting assembled, holden in said Branford first society on the 11th day of December A.D. 1784.

WILLM MONRO Clerk—

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Ebenezer Linsley | } Committee— |
| Samuel Russell   |              |
| Samuel Whedon    |              |
| John Russell     |              |
| Obed Linsley     |              |
| Thomas Frisbie   |              |
| Papillian Barker |              |
| John Rogers jur  |              |

“ We whose names are in the foregoing, beg leave to address the first society, and to assure them that we wish them peace in Jesus Christ; and they with us may enjoy every blessing this world can afford, and eternal happiness in the World to come—By Order of the Episcopal Church or Congregation in the first society in Branford.”

After some little delay and consideration the matter was settled by a decision that the Episcopal society should be exempt from the payment of all rates for the benefit of the First society, after December 13th, 1784, since which time Trinity parish has had a recognized independent existence.

The next step was to build a church, but here, as in many other places in the county, the selection of a site was attended with some difficulties.

“ It was voted, December 28th, 1784, to build a church not to exceed 50 feet by 38, and John Russell, William Monro, Captain Samuel Russell, Obed Linsley, Abraham Rogers, Papillian Barker and Ebenezer Barker were appointed a committee to receive subscriptions, transact all business of building, and to search the First society's records to see whether liberty had formerly been granted to build a church, and in case it had not, to make application for it. William Monro and Captain John Russell were also appointed to see an attorney about the rates, and to petition the county court for liberty to build a church. Neither of these committees seem to have gotten much satisfaction, for March 7th, 1785, Samuel Russell, John Russell, Ebenezer Barker, John Rogers, Jr., Abraham Rogers, Obed Linsley and William Monro were appointed to determine where the church should be built. This committee examined two sites—‘ the hill where the timber now lies, likewise the ground near the school house hollow.’ March 25th, it was voted to build on this hill, which was called Baldwin's hill, if a title could be had. Where Baldwin's hill was cannot be decided, but probabilities indicate a site near the residence of Mr. Philander Hopson. This did not prove satisfactory, and the place selected was ‘ the ground near the school house hollow.’ The decision was referred to Jonathan Ingersoll, Esq., of New Haven, and he fixed it.

“ Meanwhile the subscription paper had been started. The first copy was drawn up December 28th, 1784, without doubt at the parish meeting. In this list several names appear which are not among the founders, one of them being *Cambrig Primus*, probably a slave or freedman, who subscribed six shillings. A second list, showing amounts subscribed, paid and due, gives the sum total as £300—10—0. The tax list of forty-three members of the parish in 1786 aggregated £1,533—10—3. A part of the subscriptions were paid in labor and goods.

“ The timber was drawn in February of 1785, the work on the frame was probably done in June and July. August 12th a contract



was given to Jacob Tyler, of Southington, to complete the church which was then raised. It was for £50, one-third to be paid in cattle and cash, and two-thirds in West India rum and dry goods, the rum being valued at three shillings or fifty cents per gallon. In December men were still working at the pillars. The first parish meeting in the church was warned for the first Monday in May, 1786. In the period between December and May, then, the church was occupied.

“Three names appear in the documents of the time as most prominent—those of Samuel Russell, Ebenezer Linsley and Ralph Isaacs. They did a great deal of work for the parish, and were liberal in their contributions. The parish meetings were frequently held at the houses of the former two. Captain Russell and Ralph Isaacs made frequent journeys on parish business. The latter lived in the old farm house at Cherry hill. He entertained the clergy, and his contributions in money were larger than those of anyone else.

“At this point of the parish history we find the old church standing northwest of the present edifice, where a line of the foundation stones still appears through the turf. It was unpretentious, being built somewhat after the school house model. But it represented much perseverance and toil. There was no recessed chancel, but a semi-circular rail enclosed the altar and the chancel space. The whole Sunday school used to gather about the rail to be catechised at the visit of the bishop. The pulpit was very high and stood against the wall, having a small dark robing room under it. It was afterward moved forward, and a convenient robing room placed behind it, the chancel was made square, reduced in size, and pews were added. The altar at first stood directly in front of the pulpit—afterward near the chancel rail, with a space behind it. Over the entrance was a semi-circular gallery, the ends extending about half the length of the church. The pillars were a conspicuous feature of the interior, and seem to have cost considerable labor. At one time it was intended to erect a spire, and the timber was drawn to the church. It was, however, sold, and formed the spire of the Congregational church preceding the present one. It was pulled over, at the demolition of that edifice, and people who saw it fall remember how it quivered in the air like a serpent before it came down.

“For about forty years there was no way of heating the old church. A stove for burning wood was put in about 1825, the pipe being put through a window. Another was added a dozen years later. The seats were free, and the men and boys sat on one side, the women and children on the other.”

With some minor repairs the church was used as built until 1840, when the old gallery was replaced by a new one. In 1845 the rectory property, which had been secured by a stock company after 1840, was transferred to the parish, and near the same time a pipe organ was placed in the church. A new church edifice being deemed necessary,

funds were raised in 1850, and Harry Barker, Isaac H. Palmer, Levi S. Parsons, David Averill and Benjamin Rogers were appointed a building committee. A plan which was deemed quite advanced for the times was selected, and the corner stone of the building was laid in April, 1851. The church was consecrated by Bishop Brownell January 27th, 1852. Four years later the improved parsonage and the church were fully paid, leaving the parish free from debt.

The parish has been the recipient of a number of generous gifts, among them being, in 1859, the sum of \$524 from Abraham Rogers; in 1867, bonds from General Schuyler Hamilton, who was for a number of years a devoted member of the church, to the amount of \$1,000; in 1867, \$404 from Captain David Barker, to provide free sittings in the church; in 1872, \$500 from the estate of Mrs. Mary Daniels; in 1880, the Chapel of Grace, from Isaac H. Brown and his friends; in 1882, a bequest from Eli Goodrich, amounting to about \$9,500.

The parish is prosperous financially and in numbers of members, having 140 families and 213 registered communicants. Its total yearly contributions are about \$2,000.

The senior wardens of the church have been as follows: 1784-6, Ebenezer Linsley; 1787-1804, Samuel Russell; 1805, Isaac Hoadley; 1806-7, Samuel Russell; 1808-12, Andrew Morris; 1813-14, Ebenezer Linsley, Jr.; 1815, Timothy Johnson; 1816-18, Ebenezer Linsley; 1819, Timothy Johnson; 1820, Ebenezer Linsley; 1821-2, Timothy Johnson; 1823-4, Ebenezer Linsley; 1825-8, Abraham Rogers, Jr.; 1829-30, Timothy Johnson; 1831-2, Abraham Rogers; 1833, Timothy Johnson; 1834, Abraham Rogers; 1835, Timothy Johnson; 1836, Edward Linsley; 1837-43, Timothy Johnson; 1844-8, Edward Linsley; 1849-54, Isaac H. Palmer; 1855, Orrin Hoadley; 1856-7, Isaac H. Palmer; 1858-63, Orrin Hoadley; 1864-88, Isaac H. Palmer; 1889—, Walter E. Fowler.

The clergymen who have served the parish have been the following: Reverend Samuel Johnson, D.D., 1748, occasional services; Matthew Graves, 1748, occasional services; Ebenezer Punderson, 1752-61, stated services part of the time; Solomon Palmer, 1763-6, stated services part of the time; Bela Hubbard, D.D., 1767-83, probably occasional services; James Sayre, 1784-6, probably resident minister, church built; John Bowden, D.D., 1785, one visit known; Jeremiah Leaming, D.D., 1787, one visit known; Edward Blakeslee, 1788-90, probably stated services part of the time; Tillotson Bronson, D.D., 1789, one visit known; Ambrose Hull, 1790-91, resident minister; Manoah Smith Miles, 1795-7, resident minister; Ammi Rogers, 1801-04, stated services part of the time; Virgil H. Barber, 1806, one visit known; Charles Seabury, 1808, one visit known; Benjamin Benham, 1809, two visits known, probably in charge; J. D. Jones, 1809-11, without doubt in charge of cure; Elijah G. Plumb, 1811-18, resident minister; Ashbel Baldwin, 1816, one visit recorded; Origen P. Holcomb, 1820-3, resident minister; Joseph Perry, 1821, also in 1819; John M. Garfield,

1823-8, stated services; James Keeler, 1828-9, resident minister; William T. Potter, 1830, stated services; Edward J. Ives, 1831-2, stated services; David Baldwin, 1834-8, stated services; Levi H. Carson, 1838-40, entire services; Pascal P. Kidder, 1840-3, resident rector; Frederick Miller, 1844-9, resident minister; William H. Rees, 1850, resident rector; Henry Olmstead, Jr., 1851-62, resident rector; Clayton Eddy, 1862-4, resident rector; Frederick D. Lewin, 1864, resident rector; David Bishop, 1866-9, resident rector; George C. Griswold, 1870-2, resident rector; Henry Olmstead, D.D., 1872-82, resident rector; Charles H. Plummer, 1882-3, one year; Melville K. Bailey, 1885-91, resident rector; F. B. Whitcomb, since June, 1891.

The longest ministry was that of Reverend Henry Olmstead, who died in the service of the church October 30th, 1882. An appropriate tablet, commemorating the 21 years of service which he gave the parish, has been placed in the church. His age was 64 years. In his ministry the Chapel of Grace, at Branford Point, built mainly by Isaac H. Brown and his friends, of Grace church, New York, was donated to the parish. Another well-beloved pastor was Frederick Miller, who died as rector of this church October 3d, 1849, aged 39 years. Both are buried beneath the chancel of the church.

In the ministry of Reverend John M. Garfield the Sunday school was founded, about 1826, and soon had 50 members. After a few years it went down, and in 1834 it was reorganized by Isaac H. Tuttle. Eli F. Rogers became the superintendent and acted continuously until 1865. Samuel E. Linsley then became the superintendent and served until his death, September 22d, 1883. Since 1834 Eli F. Rogers has been an officer of the Sunday school, which has about 160 members.

The Branford Baptist Church was constituted in 1838. In the year 1836 Mrs. Nicholas Andrews, a devout member of the Wallingford Baptist church, lived in Branford, and at her request her pastor, Reverend Simeon Shailer, visited the town and preached. He was followed, in 1837, by Reverend Amos D. Watrous, whose services attracted many, but also awakened some hostile feeling and acts of violence towards him and his property. Not disheartened, Reverend David T. Shailer came next, beginning regular Sabbath services in the old Academy building, in December, 1837. The following spring a large chamber in the Andrews house was fitted up as a place of worship, and April 8th, 1838, occurred the first public baptism in the village, Woodward Page and Abigail Johnson being immersed in the river, near the Neck bridge, in the presence of a great throng of people. The same season were also baptized Charles Hopson, George W. Johnson, Betsy Beers, Nicholas Andrews, Nelson J. Linsley, James Barker and wife, Mary Ann Goodrich, Irene Page, Maria Russell, Charlotte Covert, Mary Beers and Nancy Hopson. These and ten others were, on the 19th of December, 1838, constituted as the foregoing church.

A larger place for meetings having become necessary, the town yielded its consent that a house should be built on the site of the old whipping post on the "green," and the members gave materials and labor toward building the house, Mr. Shailer himself helping to hew some of the timbers. Nelson J. Linsley supervised the work of building. The church edifice was dedicated July 11th, 1840, but not free from debt. It was more or less a burden on the society for twenty years, being finally lifted by the Ladies' Aid Society, of which Mrs. Martha Barker was the president. In 1859, in the pastorate of the Reverend P. G. Wightman, the house was remodelled, the interior especially being much changed. In 1866 the work of bettering the church building was still further carried on at an outlay of \$1,800. A baptistery was built in 1888 and more repairs were made at an outlay of \$1,000. The property is worth \$3,500, and the church has 300 sittings.

In 1876 a fine parsonage was built on Rogers street, which is valued at \$3,000, \$1,500 being contributed by Ara Baldwin and Mrs. James Barker.

The church has been reasonably prosperous, having now about 150 members. It has had but two clerks—James Barker, from 1838 until 1882, and James Fowler since that time.

Those elected as deacons were: in 1838, Nicholas Andrews; 1843, James Barker, Nelson J. Linsley; 1853, Samuel D. Linsley, Giles T. Baldwin; 1868, James Palmer; 1874, Philander Hopson;\* 1879, Harvey Beach, Henry W. Hubbard,\* Elizur Johnson.\*

For many years Giles Baldwin had a Sabbath school at Stony Creek, and after 1874 Deacon Philander Hopson continued the good work a number of years at both Branford and Stony Creek. Of the former school H. W. Hubbard was the superintendent in 1889, and the scholars numbered about 100.

The ministers of the church have been the following: Reverend D. T. Shailer until April, 1844, when the church had 62 members; A. C. Wheat, 1845, for three and a half years; Calvin Topliff, one year; Lucius Atwater, 1850-4; R. H. Bolles, 1855-6; D. T. Shailer, supply, 1857; P. G. Wightman, 1858-63; A. H. Simons, 1864-7; Curtis Keeney, eight months; Henry A. Wildridge, eight months; Warren Mason, 1870-3; five supplies in 1874-7; Melville Thwing, first to occupy the parsonage; C. C. Smith, July, 1877, to May, 1885; J. A. Bailey, supply 1½ years; P. G. Wightman, supply from October, 1886, to April, 1887, and pastor since that time. From his historical sermon, preached on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the church, in 1888, this account has been compiled.

Attempts were made by the Methodists as early as 1836 and since to establish a church at Branford, but for many years without success. In 1875 the effort was renewed, and a small congregation was organ-

\*Present deacons.

ized, which built a house of worship on the street on the south side of the green. Unfortunately the organization of this society was not long continued, and in 1878 it disbanded. The building was later purchased by Doctor Gaylord, who converted it into a neat public hall.

The Tabor Church (Swedish Evangelical Lutheran) occupies a commanding location in the southern part of the village. It is a Gothic frame edifice, 40 by 58 feet, with a brick basement and handsome corner tower. The corner stone was laid October 20th, 1889, and the church was formally dedicated August 10th, 1890. The interior is handsomely finished, and the entire property cost \$5,152. It was built mainly by the efforts of the Swedes and Finlanders in this locality, the building committee being composed of P. A. R. Engquist, Gustaf Dahlgren, Joseph Mattson, Peter Palson, Herman Mickelson, H. Jacobson, John Gulland, Charles Damberg. The congregation occupying this house was organized in the fall of 1887, with a few members. But there has been a steady and encouraging increase, there being now more than one hundred members belonging. The meetings were first held in the basement of the Congregational meeting house, Reverend Henry Jacobson being the minister.

St. Mary's Church (Roman Catholic). The mass of the Catholic church was first said in Branford at the house of Francis Harding, in the summer of 1851. That family was one of the first professing the Catholic faith to take up its abode in the town, and a son, Michael Patrick Harding, who was born April 15th, 1850, was the first native Irish-American of Branford. The officiating priest at this mass was the Reverend Father John Sheridan, who came from New Haven, and was followed by Father Matthew Hart, of St. Patrick's church of the same city, who opened the ground for the church, which was raised in 1855, while Father John Lynch was in charge of the mission, which was now here maintained by St. Patrick's parish. In 1861 Reverend James Bohem was assigned to the parish, composed of the shore towns east of New Haven, and in 1862 was followed by Reverend Thomas Quinn. Reverend James F. Campbell became the priest in 1865 and enlarged the church building. After three years he was followed by Reverend Thomas Mullen. Since September 1st, 1876, the resident priest has been Reverend Edward Martin. Branford became a distinct parish in the spring of 1887, when Guilford was set off. It contained, in 1890, 177 families and 1,200 persons, and was growing in numbers and influence.

Besides the church building the parish owns a fine priest's house and two places of interments. The old cemetery, in the northern part of the village, is well filled, and contains a number of handsome monuments. The new one of 14 acres is east of the village, and was purchased in 1889 for \$2,500.

Until the present century the town had but one public place of burial—the cemetery at Branford village. On the 30th of November,

1810, the burial place at Mill Plain was occupied, young Ammi Beach being the first interred there. The area is small, but the ground is well enclosed and filled with graves, many being marked with headstones. These indicate the burial at that place of members of the Beach, Baldwin, Bartholomew, Barker, Downs, Frisbie, Hoadley, Norton, Tyler, Towner and Rogers families. The third place of burial was opened at Damascus, June 18th, 1812, and Mrs. Lucretia Day was the first person buried at that place. After the dates named the latter two places were used mainly by the inhabitants of the Stony Creek section until 1876, when the cemetery was opened in that locality.

The Catholics have a place of burial at Branford village, and another east of Branford river, on the Guilford road.

The old cemetery has been used from the time of settlement. It contains many graves, some of which are unmarked. The area has been increased from time to time, a large addition being made after 1850. Mrs. Sally Gillett gave \$2,000 as a fund for the care of the cemetery, and that proper attention might be paid to the graves of herself and consort. A brown sandstone monument marks this resting place in the new part of the cemetery, and the inscriptions are as follows:

REV. TIMOTHY P. GILLETT,  
DIED NOV. 5, 1866,  
AGED 86 YR'S,

A preacher of the Gospel 61 years, and pastor of the First Cong'l Church in Branford 58 years.

"I know in whom I have believed."

MRS. SALLY GILLETT,  
WIFE OF

REV. TIMOTHY P. GILLETT,  
DIED MAY 20, 1887,

AGED 100 YEARS & 2 MONTHS.

In the old part of the cemetery, near the spot where stood the first meeting house, is the table monument to the memory of Reverend Samuel Russell and his wife. In the same part of the cemetery are the graves of Reverend George L. Russell, who died in 1844, and of Reverend Rutherford Russell, who died in 1876. In this cemetery is also the well marked grave of Reverend Philemon Robbins, who died August 13th, 1781.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Daniel Averill, born in 1817, is a son of David and Polly (Morris) Averill, and grandson of Daniel Averill, who was a drummer in the revolutionary war. Mr. Averill followed the sea in coasting and West India trade until 1877. He married Jane, daughter of Seth Bradley, of East Chatham, N. Y. They have two children: Delbert C. and Laverne S. Delbert married Estella Shepard, of Branford, and has one

son, Roy Victor, born in 1880. Laverne married Samuel Hodgkinson of England, and has one son, Harold Daniel, born 1890.

Henry W. Averill, born in 1851, is a son of Samuel and Myrtie (Fowler) Averill, and grandson of Daniel Averill. Mr. Averill is a farmer. He married Hattie, daughter of Albert C. Gardiner, of Rhode Island.

John U. Baldwin, born in 1836 at Carmel, N. Y., is a son of Arvah and Harriet (Carpenter) Baldwin. He came to Guilford with his parents when a boy, and after his marriage settled at his present home in Branford. He is a farmer and butcher. He married Mary E., daughter of Alva Kelsey. Their children are: A. Earle and Melvina C.

Harvey R. Barker is the only son of James and Martha (Beach) Barker, and grandson of Captain Archilus Barker, who was a revolutionary soldier and sea captain. Mr. Barker is a farmer. He married Sarah, daughter of Richard Hubbard. They have three children: James, who is a farmer with his father; Elizabeth A., now Mrs. Fred Smith; and Susan J., now Mrs. E. R. Monroe.

David Beach, born in 1817, is a son of John and Sally (Harrison) Beach, and grandson of John H. Beach. Mr. Beach is a farmer, though the two sons operate the farm at present. He married Sylvia Baldwin. Their children were: Betsey B., John H., who married Carrie Linsley; Frank E., who married Alida Duncan; and two that died in infancy.

John Bishop, son of Jonathan C. and Lydia (Tyler) Bishop, and grandson of James Bishop, was born in 1818, and is the youngest of five children. Mr. Bishop is a farmer. For twelve years he was selectman of Branford. He married Thankful K., daughter of Elias Gould. They have two children living: Elias G. and Sarah E. (Mrs. William Whiting); and two died in infancy.

John Augustus Blackstone is a son of Augustus and Esther (Linsley) Blackstone, and grandson of John, whose father, John, was a son of John Blackstone, who died in 1785, and is supposed to be a grandson of William Blackstone, who came to New England in the early part of the seventeenth century. Mr. Blackstone was born in 1829. He was married in 1855 to H. Minerva, daughter of Rewel Andrews. They have two sons: Charles A. and Ruel A., both married and following the business of farming with their father. Mr. Blackstone has held the office of selectman eight successive years, also tax collector, assessor and town agent.

Ralph Blackstone, born in 1825, is a son of Ralph and Saily (Pond) Blackstone, and grandson of John, whose father, John, was a son of John, a descendant of William Blackstone. Mr. Blackstone is a farmer. He married Mary, daughter of Orrin Hoadley. She died, leaving two daughters, Valnette and Emeline E.

Richard Bradley, born in 1850, is a son of Gurdon and Ann M. (Spink) Bradley, and grandson of Timothy<sup>z</sup> Bradley. Mr. Bradley is a contractor and builder, and has worked at carpentering for twenty years. He was selectman one year. He married Mary C., daughter of Leonard and Harriet E. (Yale) Smith. Their children are: Frank S., Harriet E. and Charles, who died in infancy.

Frank E. Brainard, son of John W. and Esther L. (Bailey) Brainard, grandson of Deanthiue Brainard, and great-grandson of Sylvester O. Brainard, was born in 1861. Mr. Brainard has been a merchant at Stony Creek since 1884. He married Anna, daughter of Ira M. Brown. They have one daughter, Florence.

Terence Brannigan came from Ireland in 1868. He is an iron moulder by trade. He has lived in Branford since 1876, and since 1888 has kept a dry goods and clothing store. He married Catharine A. Winnithan. They have five children: Angeline, Daniel, Jeremiah, Terence and Catharine.

Ebenezer J. Coe, who died in 1889, aged 72 years, came from Middlefield to Stony Creek in 1854. He married Phebe, daughter of John and Esther (Coe) Burdsey. Their children are: Ruth B. (Mrs. Elsworth Austin), John W. (of Meriden), Mattie R. (Mrs. W. C. Maynard), and Fannie R. (Mrs. W. Wallace). Mr. Coe kept the "Three Elms House" for several years prior to his death, and his widow and daughter now keep it.

Elbert H. Coe, born in 1820 in Middlefield, Conn., is a son of Amos and Harriet (Johnson) Coe, and grandson of Seth Coe. Mr. Coe, in 1859, came from Middlefield to Stony Creek, where he has since been a farmer. He married Louisa C., daughter of Alfred Bailey. Their children are: Ellen (Mrs. Joseph Howard), Harriet (Mrs. Lembert Chidsey), Timothy A., Phebe (Mrs. Walter Foote), and one daughter that died, Ida. Timothy A. Coe was born in 1857, and is a farmer and milkman. He married Martha, daughter of Bela Foote.

Samuel S. Cook, born in 1825, is a son of Samuel and Margaret (Hobert) Cook, and grandson of Joseph Cook. Mr. Cook was a shoe manufacturer until the war began. He was in the army in Company B, 27th Connecticut Volunteers, as sergeant nine months. He then followed the sea for twelve years, after which he was foreman of the packing department of the Malleable Iron Fittings Company for ten years. He married Caroline C., daughter of Chandler and Lucy Loretta (Collins) Page. They had four children: Alice E. (Mrs. L. J. Nichols), Anderson S., and two sons that died—Everett E. and Everett A.

Eckford Davis, born in 1836 in Killingworth, is a son of Lewis and Sally (Burr) Davis, and grandson of Peter Davis. Mr. Davis came from Killingworth to Branford in 1860, where he has been a farmer. He married Sarah E., daughter of Eber Beach, granddaughter of Andrew, and great-granddaughter of Ephraim, whose father, Andrew



Beach, in 1737, came to Branford and settled near where Mr. and Mrs. Davis now live. Their only daughter, Mary T., is now Mrs. Elon Bragg.

C. Wilbur Field, son of Danforth C. and Lucretia (Griswold) Field, grandson of James E. and great-grandson of Samuel Field, was born in 1837. Mr. Field is a farmer. He married Sarah, daughter of George Bailey. Their children were: George W. (deceased), Charles M. (deceased), Minnie I., Homer W. (deceased), Fannie E., James C., Wallace D., Elsie J. and Lillia L.

George C. Field, son of Danforth and Lucretia (Griswold) Field, was born in 1836, and is a blacksmith and farmer. He married Sarah, daughter of George L. Dowd. They have an adopted son, George I.

William R. Foote, oldest living son of Samuel and Sarah E. (Russell) Foote, was born in 1848, and is a farmer. He was two years selectman, and has held other town offices. He married Nettie, daughter of Samuel Averill. Their children are: Wallace H. and Mabel L., living; and Ada and Roland T., deceased.

CHARLES WOODWARD GAYLORD, M.D., was born in Wallingford, this county, August 28th, 1846, and his parents are still residents of that town. He was the eldest of three children born to David and Bertha (Bartholomew) Gaylord, the other members of the family being William Bartholomew, who became a business man of Meriden, where he died in October, 1889, aged 40 years; and a daughter, Ida, who married Frank Brown, of Meriden. Charles W. Gaylord is grandson of John Gaylord, whose father, John, was one of three brothers—Elias, Nathan and John—who came from England and settled in Cheshire and Wallingford, in the locality long known as Gaylord hill. In the war of the revolution the grandfather, John, served in defense of the colony of Connecticut, having warmly espoused the patriot cause.

Doctor Gaylord spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, until he was 18 years old, when he went to the Connecticut Literary Institution at Suffield, where he was two years preparing for college. In the fall of 1866 he entered Yale, and graduated from that institution in 1870. He soon after began to qualify himself for the medical profession, beginning his studies in the Yale Medical School, and pursuing also a course in the Bellevue Hospital and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in the city of New York. In the summer of 1872 he graduated from the Yale school, and for a few months assisted Doctor Benjamin Franklin Harrison, of Wallingford, in his practice. In November, 1872, he located at Branford, where he established an independent practice, which soon grew to large proportions, and which has been successfully continued in this and the adjoining towns. Although comparatively a young man, Doctor Gaylord ranks as one of the leading country practitioners in the county. He is a member of the Connecticut State and New Haven County Medical Societies. Since the passage of the new coroner's law, he has served as medical examiner for the towns of Branford and North Branford.

On the 27th of February, 1873, Doctor Gaylord was married to Miss Anna Rose, of Essex, Conn. Two sons and three daughters have come to bless this union, viz.: Lynde Vincent, January 31st, 1874; Bertha Rose, June 5th, 1876; Anna Evangeline, July 8th, 1884; Charles William, February 27th, 1889; Ruth Marguerite, March 21st, 1891.

Doctor Gaylord is enterprising, progressive and public-spirited, and has warmly identified himself with the best interests of his adopted home. He was an active member of the Branford Village Improvement Society as long as it existed, and to its efforts can be attributed much of the changes wrought in the appearance of the place. He was also interested in the establishment and maintenance of a village lyceum, under whose auspices several instructive courses of lectures were held. In the furtherance of this purpose to provide for the entertainment and instruction of the community, he fitted up, in 1879, a public hall, which he has since made one of the most cosy little opera houses in smaller places. He has taken an unabated interest in schools, serving as chairman of the board of education, and for a number of years was the acting school visitor. In this period the schools were greatly improved and are yearly advanced to a higher plane. Since being at Branford, Doctor Gaylord has been a member of the Congregational church, and gives it a warm support. His political preferences have allied him to the republican party, but he is in no sense a partisan when the interests of the town are at stake. In this relation he has endeavored, at all times, to conform his life to the best standard of true citizenship—to be energetic and progressive in his own affairs, but ever to be mindful of his obligations to his town and the state which protects his home.

Charles H. Grannis, son of John and Sally Griffin Grannis, was born in 1851. His grandfather was Jared Grannis. Mr. Grannis has been twelve years in the meat business, and since November, 1888, has owned a market of his own.

Michael P. Harding, son of Francis and Ellen Harding, was born in 1850, and was the first child born in Branford of Irish parentage. Mr. Harding succeeded his father in the mercantile trade in 1871, the latter dying in August of that year. He was representative in 1876 of general assembly. At present he stands the fifth highest taxpayer of the town taxes. He is vice-president of the Branford Savings Bank, and has held a number of different public offices in the town.

Henry G. Harrison, born in 1831, is a son of John and Betsey Harrison. He was married April 11th, 1869, to Harriet L., daughter of Harry and Nancy (Towner) Rogers, and granddaughter of Jarus Rogers.

William H. Hartley, born in 1844, in New Haven, is a son of William and Sarah (White) Hartley, and grandson of William Hartley. Mr. Hartley is a farmer. In 1871 he bought the old Governor Saltonstall homestead, at the foot of Saltonstall lake, where he now lives.



*C. W. Gaylord M. D.*



He married Mary Woods. They have six children: Mary A., Sarah G., Annie M., Theresa, Josephine and William.

Benjamin A. Hosley, son of Loring D. and Anna A. (Beach) Hosley, was born in 1823, and is a farmer. He was married in 1849 to Lois W., daughter of William Ward, of Vermont. Their children are: Benjamin F., Anna M. (Mrs. George W. Dory), John H., M. Carrie (Mrs. G. W. McClunie), William H., Edward K., and one that died—Judith E. Benjamin F. Hosley, eldest son of Benjamin A., was born in 1852, and is a contractor and builder. He married Idella, daughter of Russell and Lydia (Tyler) Pond.

Henry W. Hubbard, born in 1833, in Hartford, is a son of Richard and Rebecca Hubbard. Mr. Hubbard is a blacksmith and wagon maker. He came from Middletown, Conn., to Branford in 1855, and has worked at his trade since that time, with the exception of nine months, when he was in the civil war, in Company B, 27th Connecticut Volunteers. He married Emma P., daughter of James Linsley. They have three daughters: Ida P., Henrietta W. and Luella L.

Frederick Jourdan, born in 1822, at Basel, Switzerland, came to Branford in 1850, where he was a butcher and farmer until 1876, when he began the lumber and coal business, which he and his son have since conducted. He married Fannie E., daughter of Edward Linsley. They have one son, Henry F. Mr. Jourdan has been a member of the school board for a number of years, and has held other town offices.

George W. Lanfair, born in 1830, is a son of Oliver and Chloe (Steele) Lanfair, and grandson of Oliver Lanfair. Mr. Lanfair is a carriage maker by trade. He is now a farmer, owning and occupying the homestead of his father and grandfather, at Double Beach. His first wife was Emily Augur, who died leaving four children: Charles, Edna, Nellie and Sadie. His present wife was Mattie, daughter of Sheldon Hitchcock.

Peter A. Lundquist, born in Sweden in 1846, is the son of P. J. Lundquist. He came to Connecticut in 1872, and to Stony Creek in 1878, where he has since been a stone mason. His wife was Sophia Johnson.

Daniel O'Brien, born in 1845 in Ireland, is a son of John O'Brien. He came to Branford in 1854. He has been employed in the knob department of the Branford Lock Works since 1862, and since 1874 has been foreman of the department. He has been selectman three terms, and a member of the school board twelve years. He married Kate O'Donnell and has twelve children.

Sidney V. Osborn, born March 10th, 1856, in Woodbury, Conn., is a son of Aaron and Polly (Bishop) Osborn, and grandson of Daniel Osborn. Mr. Osborn came to Branford May 7th, 1879, where he has since been a farmer. He was for one year assessor of the town, in 1889, and one of the board of selectmen in 1890 and 1891. He mar-

ried May 6th, 1879, Emma, daughter of Daniel and Alvira Tyler, of Middlebury, New Haven county, Conn., and granddaughter of Daniel Tyler, of Middlebury. They have one son, Sidney V., Jr., born January 23d, 1888.

George Palmer, born in 1829, is a son of Lauren and Polly (Butler) Palmer, and grandson of Jared Palmer. Mr. Palmer is a farmer, and has what are acknowledged to be the finest farm barns in the town. He has been for 25 years insurance agent, and for 30 years agent for farm implements. He married Ellen J., daughter of Hezekiah Warner, of Wheeling, W. V. They have one daughter, Fannie, a school teacher.

SAMUEL ORRIN PLANT was born in Branford, January 24th, 1815. He is a son of Samuel and Sarah (Frisbie) Plant, and was the youngest of their family of five children, namely: Anderson, deceased in Branford, the father of Henry B. Plant, the president of the Plant system of Southern transportation companies; Sarah, married Judah Frisbie, a merchant of New Haven; John, a deacon of the church, and who died as a farmer at Plantsville; Mary R., deceased at the age of 17 years; and Samuel O.

The father of this family was a son of Benjamin Plant, who descended from the Plant family which was among the early settlers of Branford, and whose allotment of land was in the fertile little valley, a mile from the village, and bounded on the west by the Branford hills. Here for six generations have been the homes of the Plant family in Branford, and for many years the place bore the name of Plantsville. At this place lived Samuel Plant, when he served as a coast guard in the war of 1812, and here he died in July, 1861, aged 90 years.

Benjamin Plant, the grandfather of Samuel O., also rendered military service. In the revolution he and two of his sons were enlisted. One of them was with Washington in his perilous retreat across the Delaware; the other son, Timothy, was killed at the battle of Germantown. The maternal grandfather, Joseph Frisbie, was also a patriot and there is a tradition that he was with the detachment of soldiers at the execution of Major André. Mr. Plant thus being of revolutionary stock, has become a member of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Samuel O. Plant was educated in the common schools of his native town, at the academy at Branford, and also attended the boys' school of General James N. Palmer, at New Haven, where he was a classmate of General A. H. Terry. In February, 1841, he married Mary A., daughter of the venerable Captain James Blackstone, of Branford. By this union two children attained mature years: Ellen B. Plant, of Branford; and Sarah F., who became the wife of Judge Lynde Harrison, of New Haven.

Since his boyhood Mr. Plant has been a farmer, and to that occu-



*S C Plant*





pation has industriously confined his efforts, achieving well-merited success. Although limiting himself to the private walks of life, he is well-known and enjoys the respect and esteem of his townsmen as one of the leading citizens of Branford. Mr. Plant was a whig until that party ceased to exist, and has since been a republican. For the past fifty years he has been a member of the Branford Congregational church.

Willis T. Robinson, born in 1847, is a son of John H. and Julia A. (Tyler) Robinson. He has been engaged in mercantile trade in Branford for a number of years. He married Lucy F., daughter of Gilbert Gaylord. Their children are: James H., Oswin H., and one that died, John G. Mr. Robinson was a member of the house of representatives in 1886.

HENRY ROGERS, born at Branford July 31st, 1821, is a descendant of two of the oldest and most respected families in the county. He is a son of Abraham and Fanny (Fowler) Rogers, a grandson of Abraham Rogers, great-grandson of John Rogers, whose father, also John, was a son of Noah Rogers, the first of the family name to settle in Branford. It is claimed on good authority that the latter's ancestor, William Rogers, was a son of Thomas Rogers, who came from England in the "Mayflower," in 1620. Some of his sons, according to Governor Bradford,\* had been left in England, but followed their father to this country, and William was at Wethersfield as early as 1640. He probably removed with Andrew Ward and his company to Stamford, Conn., about 1641, and later went with the company to Hempstead, L. I., where he was allotted some land. He afterward moved to Southampton, L. I., where he died about 1650, and his widow deceased at Huntington, L. I., about 1664. From the latter place, about three years later, the youngest son, Noah, removed to Branford. Here he married, April 8th, 1673, Elizabeth Taintor, and had a family of four sons and three daughters. Their son, John, married Lydia Frisbie, daughter of John Frisbie, January 17th, 1713. Of their family of four sons and the same number of daughters, John, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was one. He married Thankful, daughter of Nathaniel Harrison, Jr., Esq., and one of their five children was Abraham Rogers, the grandfather. The wives of the foregoing Rogers' ancestors were daughters of some of the earliest and most prominent settlers of Branford. Lydia Frisbie was a granddaughter of Reverend John Bowers, one of the first ministers in Branford, and Michael Taintor, John Frisbie, Nathaniel Harrison and Nathaniel

\* History of Plymouth Plantation 1656, p. 449.

[Passengers in the "Mayflower."]

"Thomas Rogers Joseph his sone his other children came afterwards."

P. 543: "Thomas Rogers dyed in the first sickness, but his son Joseph is still living and is Married and hath 6 children."

"The rest of Thomas Rogers [children] came over and are married and have many children."

Harrison, Jr., as well as Noah Rogers, were frequently, in their day, members of the general court.

Abraham Rogers, senior, was married in Branford, March 11th, 1773, to Hannah, daughter of Benjamin Palmer, and of their family of six children there was but the one son, Abraham, the father of Henry Rogers. The elder Rogers removed to Stony Creek, where he died in 1827, being at that time one of the largest landowners of the town. Besides being a farmer he was in the coasting trade, and owned several vessels. He served in the revolution, being with the Connecticut militia in their retreat on Long Island, in the fall of 1776.

On November 16th, 1809, Abraham Rogers, Jr., married Fanny, daughter of Eli Fowler, of Branford. They reared a family of four sons: Eli F., born July 15th, 1811; Abraham, born June 11th, 1813; Elizur, born November 2d, 1816; Henry, born July 31st, 1821. All settled in Branford, becoming useful and honored citizens. The father remained on the homestead, and for many years was a justice of the peace, besides holding other town offices. He died in 1870. In the war of 1812 he was first lieutenant in the 5th Company, 2d Regiment of state corps of troops. In 1814 the British, under Commander Hardy, blockaded the Long Island sound coasts, and threatened to make incursions into Connecticut. Troops were called out and the 5th Company, with Lieutenant Rogers in command, was in service from September 12th, 1814, until the following October 20th. Most of the service was at New Haven, in the regiment of Colonel Sanford.

The maternal ancestry of Henry Rogers is equally important, the descent being from William Fowler, the magistrate, who came to America in 1637, and who was one of the leading settlers of Milford. From that town John Fowler moved to Guilford in 1649, marrying Mary Hubbard, of Guilford (daughter of George Hubbard, formerly of Wethersfield), and in his new home became a man of note. His son, Abraham, born in 1652, married in 1677, Elizabeth, daughter of Deacon George Bartlett. They were the parents of Abraham Fowler, Jr., born in 1683. The elder Abraham Fowler was one of the most important men of the town in his day, representing it in the general courts and serving as a justice until his death in 1720. The last eight years of his life he was a member of the governor's council. In 1720 his son, Abraham Fowler, Jr., married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Hubbard, Jr., and their youngest child, Noah, was born in 1730. The latter married Deborah Pendleton, daughter of Joshua Pendleton, of Stonington, who was a descendant of Andrew Ward, one of the very first settlers of Connecticut, and who helped to found that plantation. She also descended from William Spencer, who was one of the deputies of the new colony in 1639. Noah Fowler became a large land owner, living on a part of his estate in Guilford, near the Branford line. His revolutionary service was very honorable. He marched with his company, as its captain, to the relief of Boston in 1775, served



*Henry Rogers*



as major of his regiment in the Long Island retreat in 1776, and was on the coast guard many times during the war. At the formation of the 27th Regiment of militia, about 1780, he was appointed its colonel.

His son, Eli Fowler, maternal grandfather of Henry Rogers, was born April 1st, 1765, and in 1784 married Mary, daughter of Ebenezer Hopson, of Guilford. About 1790 he settled on a part of his father's estate, in Branford, which he occupied until his death in 1850. He was a man of great prominence and served in many official capacities. In 1797 he was elected a member of the state legislature and was returned to that body 17 times, the last time being in 1819. In 1818 he was a member of the constitutional convention; in 1806 he was appointed a brigadier general of Connecticut Militia; January 8th, 1814, he was commissioned colonel of a regiment of artillery to defend the state coast; from 1816 until his death he was a deacon of the Congregational church. One of his five daughters, Fanny, born April 24th, 1789, was the wife of Abraham Rogers, Jr. She was a most excellent woman and was held in great esteem.

Henry Rogers, her youngest son, was reared on the old homestead as a farmer, living there and following that occupation until 1870, when he began to divide his land into building lots, and his former farm is now covered with the principal part of the village of Stony Creek. He was also active in the introduction of the present system of oyster cultivation at Stony Creek, and has been concerned in the development of those celebrated beds. In 1851, at the first election of the people for that office, he was elected justice of the peace and served until 1858. In 1877 he was a member of the general assembly of the state and has held numerous minor offices, to the satisfaction of his townsmen, who hold his worth in high esteem.

Mr. Rogers was married May 16th, 1849, to Elizabeth, daughter of John Townsend, of Oneida county, N. Y. The only child by this union is a son, Edward Henry, born September 4th, 1854. He graduated from Yale in 1875 and from the law school of that university in 1877, and is now a successful attorney in New York city.

John Rogers, born in 1821, is a son of Jarus and Fannie (Frisby) Rogers, and grandson of Isaac Rogers. He is a farmer. He was selectman two years. He married Mary C., daughter of Peter Winn. They had two children: Ida O. and J. Sumner, both deceased.

Charles H. Wilford, born in 1842, is a son of John and Lucretia (Goodnow) Wilford, grandson of John Augustus, and great-grandson of John Wilford. Mr. Wilford is an iron moulder by trade. Since 1874 he has been engaged in the butchering business. He was married in 1866, to Hattie, daughter of John Grannis. They have five children living and have lost three.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD.

Location and Description.—Settlement and Settlers.—Civil Organization.—General Industrial Interests.—Bare Plain.—North Branford Village.—Northford.—Masonic Lodge.—Patrons of Husbandry.—Educational Affairs.—North Branford Congregational Church.—Northford Congregational Church.—The “Enrolled” Church.—Zion (Protestant Episcopal) Church.—St. Andrew’s (Protestant Episcopal) Church.—Bare Plain Union Chapel.—Cemeteries.—Roster of Captain Eells Company in the Revolution.—Soldiers’ Monument.—Biographical Sketches.

IN 1831 the “North Society” and the “Northford Society,” in the old town of Branford, were formed into a new town, with the name of North Branford. It is about five and a half miles long from north to south, and a little more than four miles wide. The Totoket mountain extends through the greater part of it from northeast to southwest, causing a large part of the area to be unfit for cultivation. Other sections are hilly, but east and west of the general ranges are some pleasantly located and fertile lands, which have been well improved. The west section is drained by Farm river and its affluent brooks. The former is the outlet of Pistapaug lake and affords several small but good water powers. In East Haven this stream is called Stony river. Along it are some pleasant vales and meadow lands. The east section is drained by Stony creek and Branford river, both small streams. Agriculture is the chief occupation of the inhabitants and the town has had, in all periods, a number of substantial farmers. It has also been noted for the sturdy, self-reliant nature of its inhabitants, as well as the general intelligence which characterized them.

Regarding the early settlements of the town, the Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin, who thoroughly investigated it, said:

“It seems quite clear that when the territory Totoket was purchased of the Indians, in 1638, two white families were already on the ground. One was Thomas Mulliner, who claimed as his a large tract in Branford Point region. The other was Thomas Whitway. He was living in the vicinity of Foxon. Both were identified with the early settlement of North Branford. As Whitway’s settlement was within the Branford lines, it must have been a portion of the region since and now called Bare Plain. The New Haven purchasers, before selling to the Branford settlers, arranged with Mulliner to give up a considerable portion of his claim. Whitway was left to enjoy peaceable possession of his, partly because the land was not wanted and partly be-

cause he made himself useful. He understood the Indian language and could act as interpreter on occasion. 'Nov. 11, 1644, upon complaint made by some of the planters of Totoket, that the Mohegan Indians have done much damage to them by setting their traps in the walks of their cattell, itt was ordered that the marshall shall goe with Thomas Whitway to warne Uncus or his brother, or else Foxon to come and speake with the Governor and the magestrates.' The name Foxon shows the origin of the designation of the western portion of this locality. Whitway went with the marshal to interpret for him without doubt. Thomas Whitway died on December 12th, 1651. His lands were reclaimed by the town because he seems to have left no heirs to continue in possession of them. Other parties beginning to occupy them, the town in 1695 took measures before the court to keep them off, E. Stent and John Rose to enter caveat upon such lands at a special court at New Haven April 23d, 1695.

"Thomas Mulliner also died in due time, but his son, Thomas, who was his sole heir, so far as known, was living in 1691. That year it is on record that Thomas Mulliner and his wife, Martha, give up all other claims to land, and are given 200 acres of land in the extreme northwest corner of the town. This was a piece almost square, bounded by New Haven and Wallingford. In 1714, December 25th, Horseman Mulliner and his wife Elizabeth sell to Nathaniel Johnson the 200 acres. The Mulliners moved then to Westchester county, New York, and no more appear in Branford history.

"In 1687, March 4, John Rosewell, Samuel Hoadley, Joseph Foot, Josiah Frisbie, William Barker, John Maltbie\* and Isaac Bartholomew were granted a parcel of land one mile square in the western and northerly part of the town. That grant must have included much of the land in the district of Bare Plain. The conditions were that each man was to build a habitable house and settle on his land within three years. If any failed to do this they could not hold the property. These were young men starting out to secure homes for themselves. There is much reason to believe that Foote, Maltbie, Hoadley, Frisbie and Bartholomew did settle on these lands." They were thus the founders of families that have ever since been in North Branford.

"Josiah Frisbie was the son of Edward Frisbie. John Maultbie was probably the son of William Maultbie, and Joseph Foote was the son of Robert Foote. Samuel Hoadley was probably the son of William Hoadley, who was, August 25th, 1697, granted the privilege of setting up a saw mill on Stony river (Farm river), if he would agree to sell boards at five shillings, and not take more than half a log to pay for sawing it. William Maultbie was a justice and magistrate in the town. September 28th, 1699, he was granted the liberty to retail 'rhum.' March 21st, 1700, John Maultbie removes to New London, and sells to his father William.

\* Also spelled Maultbie.

“Captain Jonathan Rose, son of Robert Rose, built a house near Hop-Yard Plain before 1700.” His father was one of the Branford original proprietors. There is a tradition “that Robert Rose owned ten cows and sixty horses; also, that the Sunday ‘milking’ was always given to the poor. The Bible he brought with him from England, printed in 1599, is still extant. It has been, in its time, the property of three or four deacons of the Rose family.” Colonel George Rose, prominent in the later affairs of the town, who died in 1884, was a descendant.

“Bare Plain was settled by Frisbie, Hoadley and others before 1700. John Linsley and Bartholomew Goodrich were among the earliest and largest owners of North Branford lands. Ensign Isaac Harrison and Eleazer Stent drew lands on others’ rights, which they had bought, and thus were early owners. June 6th, 1700, John Coley, of New London, a grandson of John Linsley, of Branford, sells a Bare Plain farm to John Barnes. It was land on which the new chapel is now built. The Barnes house stood out in the middle of this farm lot, south of the present chapel. This John Barnes gets liberty from the town, October 26th, 1702, to build a Sabbath day house on the common at Branford Center. Other families were rapidly pushing up to settle in the northern half of Branford territory. Hence there was a necessity of another division of lands.” It was completed March 9th, 1703.

“This was the fourth proprietor’s division and a long step toward equalizing rights. It disposed of most of the lands now in North Branford. It also confirmed the titles of several who were already in possession. There were fourteen different parcels. A roughly drawn map of this division is to be found upon the 223d page of the 2d volume of Branford town records. Along the Wallingford line, from west to east, were Thomas Mulliner, Thomas Wheadon and Ensign Harrison, who drew for William Hoadley.

“The next range below, from west to east, was drawn by Josiah Frisbie for Samuel Frisbie, Eleazer Stent for the Rosewell family, John Linsley for Bartholomew Goodrich. Below Rosewell was William Hoodly again. The eastern tier extending from boundary of present Northfield Society to Guilford road at Paved street comprised the particles of Jonathan Rose, Micah Palmer, Samuel Pond and Thomas Gutsell. Next west was a tier assigned to John Rose, Noah Rogers and William Maultbie. Still another tier west was set to Mr. Maultbie, Nathaniel Foote, Josiah Frisbie and William Barker for Thomas Sargeant.”

Concerning the Northford section, the Reverend A. C. Pierce said in his historical sermon, in 1876 :

“With respect to the precise time of settlement, it is not easy now to determine it with absolute certainty; but from the earliest dates to be found upon the tombstones in your cemetery, and from some other



evidence, traditional and otherwise, of which I have been able to avail myself, I have judged that this must have taken place not far from the year 1720. The tradition is, that various individuals from the town of Branford, to which the parish then belonged, in the pursuit of a larger success in their industry, and with something of that roving and adventurous spirit which has ever characterized the people of our New England towns, and which has so rapidly peopled the broad West, were accustomed to leave their homes in the opening spring with their provisions and implements of husbandry for a sort of backwoods life through the summer months, occupying "clearings" at the base of your mountain range, from which they gathered ample crops, returning again by their woods' path with the approach of winter to enjoy the fruits of their summer absence, in the bosom of their families.

"The first encampments of these Branford laborers, it is said, were at the foot of the mountain, near the dwelling long occupied by Deacon Ralph Linsley—the place of these encampments, determined, perhaps, by the fact that there the laborers were well sheltered by the high bluff from southern and easterly winds, and that there they might avail themselves of pure and abundant supplies of water from a never-failing spring, still held in high esteem.

"But evidently this migratory sort of life could not long continue, and arrangements for a continuous residence in the Northford 'clearing' must have been shortly made. Near the fountain already alluded to, a cellar, filled in by the plowshare but a few years ago, was pointed out as the probable site of the first permanent dwelling, or rather, I should say, the first erected and occupied by the *white men*, for in this immediate vicinity and along side the pelucid stream above were numerous wigwams of the Indians, two or three of which were inhabited by their dusky owners within the memory of those who were the oldest residents of the parish when my own ministry here began."

These young men were the descendants of the following early settlers of the old town of Branford: Michael Taintor, Robert Foote, Peter Tyler, John Rogers, John Linsley, John Frisbie, William Maltby, Francis Linsley, Edward Frisbie, Thomas Harrison, William Hoadley, John Taintor, William Bartholomew. They were soon after joined by families bearing the names of Cook, Harrington, Barnes, Baldwin, Todd, Munson and Rose. In most instances these names are still perpetuated by the present inhabitants, and around them clusters most of the history of the parish. Among later prominent settlers here were the Smiths, Fowlers, Williams, Elliotts, Beaches and Whitneys—all good types of true New England citizens.

Like in most of the inland hill towns of the state, the population has, in the last half century, decreased instead of increased. In 1880 there were 1,025 inhabitants; in 1890 there were two hundred inhabitants less, but the grand list was about the same as in 1880.

The North Branford people began to ask to be a separate town soon after the revolutionary war, in which they had taken a very active part. In 1799 they asked the legislature to help them to this. The town strongly opposed the effort. For a time town meetings were held alternately in the two societies. April 22d, 1751, meetings were held at Hopyard Plain to do business for both societies. September 21st, 1790—Voted to hold future town meetings at First Society's meeting house.

North Branford was finally organized as a town under the terms of an act passed by the May (1831) session of the general assembly. The first town election was held at the Congregational meeting house, in North Branford village, June 13th, 1831, Benjamin Page acting as the clerk, and was chosen to that office and treasurer. Jesse Linsley, Samuel Bartholomew and Eleazer Harrison were chosen selectmen. Luther Chidsey, Timothy R. Palmer, L. Talmadge, Gideon Baldwin, De Grosse Fowler and Wyllys Linsey were chosen tythingmen. The highway districts were altered and placed in charge of John Maltby, Jonathan Rose, 2d, Timothy Bartholomew, Jr., Richard Linsley, Jared Potter, Rufus Rogers, 2d, Levi Rose, Jr. It was voted to hold the meetings alternately in the North Branford Society and in the Northford Society.

At the next regular meeting Rufus Rogers, 2d, Ralph Linsley and Samuel Foote were chosen as a board of relief.

The town clerks since the organization of the town have been the following: 1831, Benjamin Page; 1832, Joseph Munroe; 1833, John Linsley; 1834, Ralph Linsley; 1835-43, Benjamin Page, Jr.; 1844, William M. Fowler; 1845-9, Francis C. Bartholomew; 1850-63, Benjamin Page, Jr.; 1864-70, T. Russell Palmer; 1871, Charles Page.

In the same period the first selectmen have been: 1831, Captain Jesse Linsley; 1832, John Rose, 2d; 1833, Timothy Bartholomew; 1834, Walter R. Foote; 1835, Jesse Linsley; 1836-7, Chauncey Linsley; 1838, Walter R. Foote; 1839-41, George Rose; 1842, Samuel Rose; 1843, George Rose; 1844, Timothy Bartholomew; 1845-6, Walter R. Foote; 1847, Langdon Harrison; 1848-9, Levi Talmadge; 1850, Whitney Eliott; 1851-2, Judson Page; 1853-4, Prelate Dernick; 1855-7, George Rose; 1858-9, Charles Todd; 1860-2, George Rose; 1863, William D. Ford; 1864, George Rose; 1865-7, Martin C. Bishop; 1868, George Rose; 1869-70, Martin C. Bishop; 1871-7, Alden H. Hill; 1878-81, George Rose; 1882, Alden H. Hill; 1883-4, Herbert O. Page; 1885, William D. Ford; 1886, Isaac B. Linsley; 1887, Alden H. Hill; 1888-90, Herbert O. Page.

The town meetings continue to be held alternately in the first and the second societies, the basement of the meeting house being rented for that purpose. All manner of accounts are also kept separately under the heads of these societies. No public buildings are owned by the town. The yearly expenditures of the town are more

than \$7,000, about \$1,800 of which is applied to the maintenance of schools. About \$2,100 is expended annually on roads and bridges, and the highways are in fair condition. For many years the roads of the town were mere pathways. The highway to North Guilford was not located until after 1745. One of the earliest and best roads is that connecting Northford and North Branford villages. The town has no railway, but Northford station, on the Air Line railroad, in North Haven, affords the necessary facilities of that nature a few miles from Northford.

“Among the earliest interests of North Branford, besides farming, were fulling mills and barkers’ mills, in which cloth was shrunk and cleaned and hides were tanned. In 1734 Edward Petty was permitted to set up both a saw mill and fulling mill on the river not far from the center. In 1742 Barnabus Woodcock had both fulling mill and barkers’ mill on Long Hill. He soon sold to James Burwell. In 1744 James Burwell was given liberty to set up fulling mill on the river, just south of the North Branford church.”

In the *Connecticut Journal* of November 25th, 1801, appeared the following advertisement of a fulling mill in this town:

“JOHN MALTBY

Informs his Customers and others, as water is scarce among the Clothiers, he has a good supply of water, and dresses cloth in the neatest order, that he is in want of what is called Cash, for which he will dress cloth on the shortest notice.

He lives in Northford, a place called Pog,  
North from Branford, along as you'd Jog.

“Two years before this, Calvin Mansfield, who had removed from Northford to North Haven, advertised a new mill there. John Maltby, who had bought the old works at Branford, writes: ‘Messers Printers, I saw in your paper, No. 1665, a pompous advertisement of one Calvin Mansfield, of North Haven, setting forth a plurality of clothiers’ works. That gentleman seemeth to be very fond of showing his name in the public prints. I believe he never owned clothier’s works anywhere; I am certain that the clothier’s shop and tools which he advertises for sale is not his, but the property of the subscriber, and it is not for sale. I should not have noticed the imposition so much as to put pen to paper had I been alone concerned. But this trouble I give myself to undeceive the public. John Maltby, Northford, in Branford, Oct. 1st, 1799.’

“This letter called out Mansfield’s reply, which is a specimen of the amenities of discussion then prevailing: ‘Messers Printers: If my optics did not fail I saw in your Journal, No. 1666, a scurvy publication of a certain John Maltby, of Northford. This Maltby, I fancy, thinks it a pretty novelty to publish his name also, and that in opposition to his betters;—children and fools have sometimes doubtless spoken the truth, but Maltby appears to me an exception to this general rule. I shall not enlarge, but observe simply that the clothier’s works which

I advertised in your paper, No. 1665, are in fact Foot's and my property, and for sale with an indisputable title. The public will need no further conviction than to come and see the records and the subscriber. I shall not make another reply to any stuff of Maltby's, but subscribe myself the public's most obedient servant, Calvin Mansfield, North Haven, Oct. 7th, 1799.' '\*

Mansfield was eccentric, but had a genius for invention, and his sons, Sherlock and Hiram, were pioneer manufacturers of wooden buttons and combs, near the village of Northford. John Maltby also carried on a large cooperage, the products being carted to Fair Haven. The clothing works were last operated by Henry De Wolf, and the site is now used by William M. Foote for the manufacture of carriage wood parts.

Fifty years ago this little Farm river began to be much used to furnish the power needed to carry on the industries devised by some of the citizens of Northford, there being here an unusual amount of inventive ability put to practical use. Maltby Fowler was, next to Mansfield, one of the first of these Northford inventors. He produced machinery for making metal buttons, combs, spoons, gimlets and pins. The machine for making the latter articles was one of the first of the kind in this country, and was sold to Waterbury parties when pin making was there begun. The sons of Maltby Fowler—William, George, De Grosse, Horace, Frederick and Thaddeus—also had mechanical ability, and most of them invented useful and meritorious articles. All are deceased. About 1840 Horace Fowler invented a machine for embossing silk. Thaddeus Fowler was one of the most successful inventors of this family. He made a very satisfactory pin machine, which was used about five years at Northford, in the old Maltby mill building, by the United States Pin Company, when the interest was transferred to Seymour, of which place Thaddeus Fowler became a citizen.

Frederick Fowler invented a machine for rolling brass lamp and household goods, and in company with F. C. Bartholomew, Isaac H. Bartholomew and others, formed the Northford Manufacturing Company, which was organized in April, 1854. They occupied large shops, supplementing the water power with steam, and successfully operated about thirty years. Large quantities of tin, japanned and household goods were manufactured and shipped to all parts of the country. Operations were last carried on by F. C. Bartholomew, but for several years the shops have been idle.

The Fowlers and Bartholomews, as the Northford Hook & Eye Company, made those articles several years, and later manufactured rivets, but sold the machinery to parties in Chicago. About 1855 Isaac H. Bartholomew and Frederick Fowler invented a machine for perforating tinware, which was a very useful device. In recent years

\*Reverend E. C. Baldwin.

the former and his sons, Edward and George G. Bartholomew, engaged in the invention and manufacture of devices for electrical lighting, occupying a part of the old hook and eye factory. Dynamos and other appliances are made.

At Northford David S. Stevens and others formerly manufactured iron and steel plated spoons, the industry giving work to about thirty persons, but after twenty years it was allowed to go down and the buildings have been left in a state of decay. On another site, on Farm river, E. C. Maltby manufactured wooden goods, such as buttons, spoons, etc., but later successfully engaged in the process of manufacturing dessicated cocoanut goods. The latter works became extensive, about forty persons being employed. This industry was removed to Shelton, and the buildings are now occupied by the extensive card printing and novelty business of D. S. Stevens, Jr., which is one of the chief occupations in the town. Until September, 1890, the works were owned by the Stevens Brothers (H. M. & D. S.), when the former removed to Wallingford.

At Northford a modern creamery has become a recent and successful industry. The milk of 300 cows is consumed.

On Farm river, at Bare Plain, the Rogers mills have been operated the best part of two hundred years. Samuel A. Rogers was the last of that family to own them, the proprietor since 1880 being Charles Page. In the neighborhood of Branford village lumber mills were run by Joshua Rose, Charles Todd, the Partridge family and the Foote family. At the latter site Samuel Foote had a carding mill, in which members of the Linsley family were also interested. A small grist mill, by Samuel Foote, is now kept at that place. At the next site below the milling interests were controlled in 1890 by Alden H. Hill, who was largely engaged in getting out ship timber for the builders at Fair Haven. For a short time Edward A. Linsley had a small forge in the southwestern part of the town, where he wrought axes of a good quality.

Bare Plain is a general name applied to the level tract of land a little north of the southwest section of the town. When the whites came there was but a scant growth of trees in that locality, hence the name. Here was begun the first mercantile business in the town, according to the account of Mr. Baldwin:

"The first and only store in those days for the northern farmers was kept in the house now owned by Mr. Marquand, half way up the hill, above James Linsley's, at Bare Plain. There were several Frisbie families living in that vicinity, and one of them kept the store."

At a later period, on the old New Haven road, Colonel Thaddeus Harrison had a very popular country tavern; this is now the farm house of his son, Jerome Harrison. In this section Doctor Increase Harrison practiced medicine half a century ago, and Doctor Jacob Linsley was located here at a later period.

In 1880 a chapel was built at Bare Plain, and in 1889 a post office was opened near by, with the name of Totoket. A. J. Smith is the postmaster. A daily mail, by stage from New Haven, is supplied. Here are also the card works of H. D. Bartholomew and A. J. Smith, and several mechanic shops in addition to the foregoing, complete the hamlet.

North Branford village was the next business point of the town. It has a pleasant location, five miles from Branford village, and about nine miles from New Haven. There are several dozen buildings, including two stores, shops, a fine new school house and Congregational and Episcopal houses of worship. The card works of C. W. Barker the past seven years is a thriving industry.

This was formerly more of a business place than at present, the "Totoket Store" having a large trade when Russell Clark occupied it. Since 1882 Ralph Beers has been the occupant, and was the postmaster in 1890. Preceding him were, as postmasters, C. W. Barker, Albert Platt, Russell Clark and Jasper Monroe, the latter merchandising in the village about 1840. At the post office is kept a small public library, established in 1889, which is controlled by the North Branford Library Association. Reverend Franklin Countryman is the general manager.

Doctor Sheldon Beardsley lived here a number of years, following his profession until his death. After a time Doctor Edward A. Ward was located, and skillfully served the wants of the sick. Doctor Wellington Campbell remained a few years; and Doctor H. O. Brown, who removed in 1889, was the last located practitioner.

Public houses were formerly kept by Philo and Nathan Harrison. Since 1852 there has been little demand for such accommodations.

Northford is near the north line of the town, on the west side of the Totoket mountain, from which it is separated by Farm river. For many years it was known by the Indian name Paug. There are an Episcopal church and an attractive brown stone meeting house, belonging to the Congregational society; a good Masonic Lodge, several factories, and about a dozen fine residences. The place has long been known as one of the most thrifty of its size in the state, and is also one of the most intelligent communities in the county. The removal of several industries has diminished the population and relative influence of the place.

In 1827 Augustus Tyler was the postmaster of the Northford office, and the income was \$42.02. Malachi Cook next held the office at his store, north of the churches, where it was kept in 1841 by Timothy Bartholomew. William Evarts was an innkeeper, and also kept the post office. Henry C. Hart was long in charge. Thomas A. Smith came next, at the same stand, and since March, 1889, Henry N. Pardee has been the postmaster. For many years it was a second-class presi-

dential office, being now in the third class. Several mails per day are supplied from Northford station, distant two and a half miles.

Reuben Harrison had a store fifty years ago, one mile north of the churches, where Lorenzo E. Harrison had a fruit distillery at a later day. In the same locality Doctor Joseph Foote was a medical practitioner many years. A Doctor Baldwin practiced later, but the past two years the town has not had a resident physician.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 103, F. & A. M., was instituted at Northford in 1868, with the following as charter members: John M. Page (first master), Milo A. Todd, Thomas A. Smith, R. N. Augur, John H. Mansfield, Edgar F. Eaton, Philo Williams, J. H. Bartholomew, F. C. Bartholomew. Considering its limited jurisdiction, the Lodge has prospered very much, and had, in 1890, 72 members, with T. F. Barnes, master; E. F. Eaton, secretary; S. M. Foote, treasurer; J. A. Smith, senior warden; and J. H. Baldwin, junior warden. The intermediate past masters have been: L. Peet Tuttle, Henry N. Pardee, Guernsey B. Smith, T. F. Barnes, A. L. Dayton, E. F. Eaton, Urban T. Harrison, S. M. Foote and John P. Potter.

In 1870 the meetings of the Lodge were convened in Association Hall, at Northford, built that year by a company organized for that purpose. This was destroyed by fire in the summer of 1878, and many of the Lodge records were also burned. The hall was rebuilt the same year, and is still in use. It is a three-story edifice, the first being used as a store, the second as a public hall, and in the third is the finely furnished Masonic hall.

In this hall are held the meetings of Northford Grange, No. 80, P. of H., which is well supported. Totoket Grange, No. 83, holds its meetings in Totoket Hall. Both bodies are doing a good educational work in their respective localities. Of the former Dwight M. Foote was the master in 1890, and Charles Linsley of the latter.

Foxon Grange, No. 84, in the northern part of East Haven, also draws upon North Branford for some of its membership. At this time Charles W. Granniss was the master.

This part of Branford shared the interest of the old town in the cause of education, and soon after the North Parish was established provision was made for schools.

“Nov. 5, 1736—Town vote to build a school house near Edward Frisbie's on the country road.

“March 29, 1732—Gave 40 acres for school lands in No. B.

“1734—Laid out 60 acres on farther Great Hill for school for No. B.

“1760—Grant school to people of Bare Plain.

“1760, May 30—Grant to people of north of Great Hill money for school.”

In the Northford parish, too, arrangements were made for schools soon after the machinery of the parish was gotten into operation.

“At first, and until 1752, the entire parish was comprised in a single school district. A division was then effected, creating one district north and one south of the meeting house. Three years after, in 1755, a third district was organized, and still a fourth in 1769, these arrangements all being made, and common school education supervised—not by the town, as now, but by the Ecclesiastical Society.”

A deep interest was taken in these primary schools, and although there have not been any academies or schools of higher order to which the youth of Northford might readily resort, the thirst for knowledge was so keen that many acquired an education in colleges and professional schools elsewhere.

“Few parishes in the state, and perhaps none of equal population, have given to the world so large a number of liberally educated men—so goodly a number of emigrant sons, who have served their generation in the varied fields of professional labor—as Northford, and of these it is she speaks with something of the honest exultation of the noble Roman mother, who pointed to her sons as they returned from the public schools, saying, ‘These are my jewels.’ Of these sons, 31, so far as I am informed, have been graduated at Yale College.

“The legal profession has been represented by four Northford men, as follows; Noah Linsley, Douglas Fowler, George Hoadley and Gustavus R. Elliott.

“Nineteen at least have borne, and for the most part honored, the diplomas of the medical schools. I give their names without any attention to their arrangement in chronological order: Doctors Malachi Foote, William Foote, Salmon Frisbie, —— Auger, Stephen Todd, Jehiel Hoadley, Augustus Williams, Joseph Foote, Lyman Cook, Harvey Elliot, William Baldwin, Chauncey Foote, Jared Linsley, Benjamin F. Harrison, D. A. Tyler, Benjamin Fowler, Anson Foote, Elizur Beach and John Linsley.

• “Sixteen have entered the ministerial profession. Their names are as follows: Reverends Medad Rogers, Lemuel Tyler, Jonathan Maltby, Mr. Rose, L. Ives Hoadley, Isaac Maltby, Oliver D. Cook, Eli Smith, Samuel Whitney, James H. Linsley, John Maltby, Erastus Maltby, Benjamin S. J. Page, Harvey Linsley, L. S. Hough and Stephen C. Loper.

“Thus 39 have represented the parish in the three leading professions. In this connection mention should be made of Reverend Albert Barnes, author of ‘Barnes’ Notes,’ etc., who, though not born here, was of Northford parentage; his father, Rufus Barnes, and mother, Anne Frisbie, were natives, and lived here until their marriage, when they removed to New York state. And also of the two female missionaries whose early homes were here—Mrs. Epaphras Chapman, missionary among the Indians, and Mrs. Dwight Baldwin, at the Sandwich Islands.

“Reverends Samuel Whitney and Eli Smith, already mentioned,



were also prominently engaged in missionary labor, the one at the Sandwich Islands, the other in Syria."\*

At North Branford village a very neat school house was completed in the fall of 1889, and was first occupied December 30th, that year. It has 56 sittings and cost \$1,400. The character of school buildings in other localities is also being improved.

Many learned men claim the old "North Parish" as their home or birthplace. Miss Martha Russell, a native of Bare Plain, is an authoress whose works of fiction are read by many admirers of her talent.

The religious interests of the town embrace two Congregational and two Episcopal churches and a Union chapel at Bare Plain. Concerning the early religious history of the town, the Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin said, in his "Annals of Branford":

"For a number of years the 'North Farmers,' as they were called, came to meeting at Branford, and were under the ministrations of Reverend Samuel Russell. As there were but few roads, and those poor, and the people had no carriages, the journey was slow and difficult. It was made on foot or on horseback, along the poorly-made paths, through forests and swamps. But the word of God and the privileges of the sanctuary were prized in those days. The journey took them all day. The whole family went, carrying their wood, also weapons for defense, hence Sabbath day houses were built to accommodate both family and horses. Having no fires in the meeting house, they went to these houses for warmth and bodily refreshment. In 1706 the town granted to Stephen Foote, Daniel Barker, John Frisbie and Edward Frisbie, 'North Farmers,' the privilege of building Sabbath day houses on the common at Branford Village.

"Mr. Russell and others also occasionally preached for them, in their own locality, worship being held in private houses. But this only had the effect of strengthening the desire to have a minister of their own, at 'North Farms,' and for this privilege they petitioned. Naturally the people of the lower part of the town were reluctant to have so many valuable families separated from them. Not getting consent from the town they petitioned the general assembly in May, 1717, for relief. (Col. Rec.) This pressure led the town, the same year, to vote liberty to the people at Sibbie's Hill to have a minister for four months. Sibbie's Hill is just north of the present center of North Branford. This name comes from an Indian sachem, who once lived there near a spring of water which bears the same name. Daniel Page, afterward Deacon, one of the first settlers, lived near the summit of this hill. It is said that the services of the extra minister were held at his house. All expenses were paid from the town treasury, and collected from a tax on the property of the whole town.

\*Reverend A. C. Pierce.

“ Thus encouraged, they renewed their efforts for a new society in 1717, and the town consented so far that it appointed a committee on proposed bounds. They ran the line from ‘ Rose’s meadow,’ ‘ Rattlesnake rocks,’ ‘ Sawmill,’ ‘ Long Hill,’ and ‘ Cedar Swamp.’ All were not quite satisfied with the first bounds, so they were changed a little. The North farmers had their minister longer and longer each year until on September 27th, 1722, they ask to have him permanently settled. The town therefore voted to set up another society, purchase minister’s lot, build a meeting house and a house for the minister. In 1722, October 8th, the proprietors gave 200 acres for parsonage lands at Jod’s lot on the east side of Great hill for the new society.

“ December 30th, 1723—The North Farmers came with their request again and asked for a change of bounds. It was voted that if they would sit down contented with their former bounds then the town would go equal shares with them in building and perfecting a meeting house within those same bounds, of forty feet in length and thirty feet in breadth. The petitioners to which this answer was given were Jonathan Butler, David Barker, John Harrison, Benjamin Linsley and Samuel Harrison.

“ In May 12th, 1724, the town voted ‘ that the whole town would, as one in respect that they are numerous, so that one meeting house is not sufficient to contain them, build another, have another minister, and to maintain each of them by one rate.’ On June 23d of the same year, they vote to go on with the building at ‘ North Farms,’ the building to be 45 by 35 feet. December 28th in the same year they reconsidered the vote about the meeting house and minister, changing bounds and location. Three sites were debated. It was finally decided to locate it ‘ on the knoll on the west side of the river, at the place near Samuel Harrison’s.’ This spot was a few feet south of the present meeting house in North Branford. The town vote £200 for the house if the North Farmers will accept the terms. But all is not quite satisfactory. Therefore, on August 5th, 1725, the town appointed a joint committee to arrange the matter. By December 14th, 1725, they have come to an agreement, and they appointed collectors for each society. They also arrange for the payment of the new meeting house bills. Isaac Foote, Lieutenant Rose, John Harrison, Daniel Barker and Josiah Rogers were the committee appointed to direct the building of the meeting house. It was not finished until 1732.

“ Tradition says that Reverend Samuel Russell went up and offered prayer at the erection of the frame of the new meeting house. At the raising an accident occurred, which might have been very serious. One of the heavy upright beams fell from its position into the midst, as it seemed, of the people. Beams used then were very heavy. But, by a kind providence interposing, no one was struck or injured by the falling timber.

“ That meeting house had its location very near the present newer

structure at the center. It stood and was used until after the present meeting house was finished. It is remembered by some persons now living. Its windows were small and diamond-shaped and numerous. It had doors on the east, west and south sides. The pulpit was high and shut-in galleries went around three sides, and they were quite high. The floor of the house was a step below the sills as you entered. Box pews for families covered the floor. Above the pulpit was hung a square, roof-like structure for a sounding board. In later years the bats had nests in this and occupied them with impunity, because of many years accumulation of dust and filth, that seemed out of the reach of all cleaning efforts that were made in those days. It was no uncommon thing for a bat to get loose during a service and go scooting through the house, to the manifest discomfort of many in the congregation. A number of the 'North farmers' lived near the Wallingford line, but they came down to 'Sibbie's hill' to attend worship for a number of years."

In the latter part of 1725 the North Ecclesiastical Society was organized, and the town was amicably divided into two parishes. The old church at Branford was also divided, dismissing members to form the North Branford church. In 1726 the ecclesiastical societies began to keep their records separate from those of the town.

"March 3d, 1726—The town granted the privilege of a burying yard to the North society. The oldest stone in it records the death of Isaac Bartholomew in 1727. He was the second, if not the first, regular physician the town had."

The North Society also settled its first minister in 1726—Reverend Jonathan Merick, who was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1700, and who had graduated at Yale in 1725. He was ordained the following year, his only charge being the North Branford church, which was organized about the time of his settlement, or in 1727. The town helped him to build a house on the farm which it had furnished him, and which until a few years ago was in the possession of his descendants, who at one time were numerous in this locality. Mr. Merick had a tall, commanding stature, and wore one of the large, old-fashioned wigs. His ministry closed in 1769, in consequence of a paralysis, which laid him aside from his duties. His last public act was to preside as moderator of a church meeting, held February 23d, 1769, to appoint a day for the ordination of his successor, Reverend Samuel Eells. His signature appears, then, for the last time, on the church records. His grave, in the little enclosure just east of the North Branford meeting house, has a stone, with this inscription:

In Memory of

REV. JONATHAN MERICK,

Consort to Mrs. Jerusha Merick, and first Pastor of the 2d Church of Christ in Branford, who departed this life June 2d, *Anno Domini*, 1772, *Ætatis Suae* 72; in *Officio Ministerei* 43. Remember them who have spoken unto you the word of God. Our Fathers, where are they? and the Prophets, do they live forever?

The successor of Mr. Merick, Samuel Eells, who became the second pastor, was born in Middletown in 1745, and here ordained in 1769. The parish voted him a settlement of £200 and the material for building a house. He was a man of vivacious temperament, and was much esteemed by his people. In 1777 he preached a sermon on the need of prompt response to the demand of the governor for troops, and placing himself at the head of the North Branford company, marched to the defense of the country. His commission as chaplain was dated January 14th, 1777, and was signed by Jonathan Trumbull. Both the commission and the muster roll\* are deposited in Yale library. Mr. Eells died April 3d, 1808, and was buried at North Branford. He added 104 members to the church, being the largest number added by any one minister.

At the beginning of his pastorate in 1769, he prepared the first list of the members of the church, numbering at that time 70. These belonged to the following families: Barnes, Buel, Barker, Baldwin, Butler, Collins, Foote, Ford, Harrison, Hubbard, Hoadley, Linsley, Norton, Merrick, Page, Palmer, Russell, Rogers, Rose, Scarritt, Tyler, Whedon and Wolcott. The names of many of these families are perpetuated in the present membership.

In the early history of the church the mode of worship was different from the present. Jonathan Butler was elected as the first singing clerk. Abiel Linsley and Abraham Whedon were next appointed to "set the Psalms," and in 1735 it was voted to give the clerk "liberty to tune the Psalms which way he pleaseth."

In 1770 William Whedon and Ithiel Russell were appointed choristers, and in 1780 the society maintained a singing school. In 1792 the "Musical Society of North Branford" had a flourishing existence. "In 1799 the society paid its singers \$10 per year, and they purchased books at their own expense, and trained themselves in singing."

In 1789 the pews of the church were "dignified," but the practice was soon abandoned.

The third minister of the church was Charles Atwater, who was born in New Haven in 1786. In March, 1809, he was ordained to this pastorate by President Dwight, of Yale, and served until his death, February 21st, 1825. He was acceptable and useful, and his memory is still cherished. He is also buried in the North Branford cemetery. His home in the town was the present parsonage, which was remodelled in 1859. The three sons of Mr. Atwater, George and Doctor David F., of Springfield, and James, of Brooklyn, have become prominent and useful men.

Reverend Judson A. Root became the fourth pastor, in the old meeting house, October 15th, 1828. In his pastorate this house was taken down, the society voting, February 28th, 1831, to remove it, after having been in use more than a hundred years. The new meeting

\* See copy, in this chapter.

house was begun May 26th, 1830, six feet north of the old house, and was dedicated in April, 1831. In the winter of 1870-1, a pulpit recess was added and the house was thoroughly renovated. It has since been kept in good repair. The church property was further improved in the fall of 1886, when a neat frame Gothic chapel and parish house was built, near the main edifice. Its cost was about \$2,000, which was largely the gift of Mrs. George Rose and Mrs. Lucretia Plant, assisted by others of the parish. This house was dedicated January 16th, 1887.

Mr. Root's pastorate continued until 1834, and 58 members were added to the church.

Reverend Henry B. Camp became the pastor in 1835, but was compelled by sickness to leave in 1836.

On the 17th of January, 1838, Reverend John D. Baldwin became the sixth pastor, and remained until 1844. In that period 60 members were added to the church, 25 joining in September, 1840. Mr. Baldwin was a man of marked ability, and after his removal to Worcester, Mass., he became a distinguished author.

The subsequent pastors of the church were: Reverend George I. Wood, 1844-50; Whitman Peck, 1851-5; George I. Wood, 1855-9; William B. Curtis, 1860-7; E. J. Clark, 1867-77; John W. Beach, 1878-9; D. N. Prentice, 1880-2. Since May, 1882, the acting pastor has been Reverend Franklin Countryman.

The ministers raised up in this parish have been the following: Reverends Henry Gilbert, Ammi Linsley, Alonzo Loper, Fosdick Harrison, Jared Harrison, Marcus Harrison, Roger Harrison, Lewis Mnn-ger, Edward Strong Peck, Ammi Rogers, David Rose, Levi Rose.

The deacon elected when the church was formed was Benjamin Barnes, who lived on the main road across Bare Plain. Prior to 1734 Daniel Page, who lived on "Sibbie's" hill, was elected another deacon. In 1743 Israel Baldwin, who had removed to this parish from Milford, was appointed the third deacon. In 1765 he was found dead on "Great hill," a sudden sickness overtaking him, after he had gone to that place on business. The subsequent deacons were elected in about the years set opposite their names: Ithiel Russell, 1754; Barnabas Mulford, 1769; Ebenezer Russell, 1772; Aaron Baldwin, 1778; Israel Baldwin, 1798; Daniel Russell, 1808; Daniel Whedon, 1822; Sidney Alden, 1822; Thomas Plant, 1838; Samnel F. Russell, 1846; Luther Chidsey, 1846; Timothy R. Palmer, 1870; Charles Page, 1870; George C. Linsley, 1883. The last two served in 1890. At this time the parish had 90 members, belonging to 85 families. The Sabbath school had 150 members.

The following account of the Northford Congregational Church was compiled from a historical discourse by Reverend A. C. Pierce, October 8th, 1876.

For about 40 years the inhabitants in the extreme northern part of the old town of Branford worshipped at places remote from their

homes, for a long time at what is now North Branford village. The distance was great and the facilities of travel few, but these Sabbath day journeys were made without much relief until 1734, when the general court of Connecticut, upon the petition of Peter Tyler, Samuel Harrington, Bezaleel Tyler and others living in the northerly part of the "North Parish," ordered "That said memorialists shall be allowed liberty to have some Orthodox Minister preach the gospel to them during the months of December, January, February and March annually, and during said time they shall be free from paying church rates to said North Parish."

The remaining months of the year the inhabitants of this section attended the meetings of Reverend Jonathan Merick, held at the "Center," or North Branford village, continuing that arrangement eleven years longer, when the third ecclesiastical society in the town of Branford was formed, to include these "Northerly inhabitants" of the Second or North Society. Their meeting for parish organization was held June 24th, 1745, at the house of Benjamin Hand. Samuel Harrington moderated, and Josiah Rogers served as clerk. They then "agreed by a major vote that the name of the place shall be called *Salem*." This title, so significant of the amicable feeling which attended the organization of the parish, was set aside in December, 1751, when the name of "Northford" first appears in its stead in the parish records. It is not plain what induced the change, as there does not appear to have been a local circumstance to warrant the taking of such an "incongruous name."

"At the commencement of their existence as a distinct religious community, public worship, it would seem, was held in a private dwelling at first, and probably for the entire period prior to the completion of the first meeting house, or rather until the building was so far advanced as to allow worship within its walls, at the residence of Mr. Isaac Ingraham."

"In June or July of 1746, one year from the establishment of public worship, application was made to the general court for the appointment of commissioners to 'locate a meeting house,' a measure adopted, as we may suppose, on account of some diversity of views as to where the edifice should stand, or to avoid subsequent divisions, such as are so likely to grow out of locating public buildings.

"In compliance with the desire of the petitioners, the general court voted permission to build a house of worship, and appointed 'Capt. John Hubbard, Capt. Jonathan Allen and Mr. John Hitchcock, all of New Haven, to locate said house,' which committee in due time made its report to the court, and thereupon it was voted, that 'Said house of worship be erected in the highway, on the west side of the path, twenty rods north of Samuel Bartholomew's house, the sills to enclose a walnut staddle thereon standing, with a heap of stones around it.' In the following spring a building committee was appointed, and the work was undertaken.

“ The edifice erected was at first without a steeple, which appendage was added in 1796—49 years after the body of the house was built—and a bell, the same now in use, was placed upon its deck. Even the lower part of the house was not finished until 1752, and the galleries not until 1760.”

The old meeting house was used for the last time April 25th, 1847. Most of that time it was simply a barn-like structure, and there were no heating appointments except foot stoves. Yet here the inhabitants attended in goodly numbers, and within its rude walls several generations were edified in spiritual things. Bare and uninviting as it was, no doubt to them the old house was not altogether an unlovely object, and had become endeared to them by many pleasant associations.

In 1846 the present stone edifice was begun, and was dedicated April 28th, 1847, Doctor Leonard Bacon preaching the dedicatory sermon. Its appearance indicated a fine structure, but unfortunately the walls of the tower were so poorly built that it was found necessary in 1863 to take them down and rebuild them, the work involving an outlay of \$800. In 1873 the walls of the church gave way, and were rebuilt at an expense of \$3,400, but the building now presents a substantial appearance. In more recent years it has been embellished and a fine parsonage has been provided nearer the church edifice than the old parish home, which has become the rectory of the Episcopal parish.

Five years after the organization of the “ Salem ” parish the church was formally constituted, June 13th, 1750, of the following male members: Captain Aaron Cook, Deacon Samuel Harrington, Samuel Barnes, John Baldwin, 2d, Ensign Josiah Rogers, Jr., Joseph Linsley, Isaac Foote, Jr., Stephen Todd, Abel Munson, Merriman Munson, Abraham Bartholomew, Peter Tyler, Timothy Rose, Daniel Maltbie, John Taintor, Samuel Goodsell, Joseph Elwell and Enos Barnes.

On the first Sabbath in July following 23 females, most of them relatives of the foregoing, were added to the roll. Most of them had been dismissed from neighboring churches to form the new body. The membership increased, but the parish support was diminished in 1763, by the formation in this territory of St. Andrew's Episcopal parish, whose existence has been continued until the present time. In 1801 there was here organized another body, called the “ Enrolled Church,” which was composed of members of the Northford church, who had become disaffected with Mr. Noyes' preaching. They enrolled themselves as dissenters from the views and feelings of the old church, and organized themselves as a new body, with the above name. A house of worship was built in 1805, in which services were stately maintained, but no minister was ever installed. Among the ministers who preached for the “ Enrolled Church ” were Reverends Huntington, Barrows, Claudius Herrick, Eliphalet B. Coleman and Jeremiah Atwater, D. D. The feeling which caused the separation continued until

1833, when, through the mediation of the association, the differences were adjusted and the matter was healed, so that most of the members of the "Enrolled Church" returned to the mother society, and the new body disbanded.

The changes in the industrial life of this section caused the removal of many of the inhabitants and a corresponding decrease of the membership of the church. In 1890 the families in the parish numbered 58, and there were 23 male and 53 female members.

Soon after the parish was formed an effort was made to secure a settled minister, but a number of calls were extended before the invitation was honored. Finally Warham Williams consented to come, and the 13th of June, 1750, was appointed as the day for his ordination. It was looked forward to with no little interest by the people of the parish and such a large attendance was anticipated that it was voted by the Society "That Isaac Ingraham, Paul Tyler, and John Thompson, shall be a committee to take care of the meeting house doors ordination day, to *keep folks out.*"

"Mr. Williams was of Puritan ancestry, his great-grandparents on both sides having come from England at the time of the Puritan exodus. He was grandson of Reverend John Williams, who was carried captive by the Indians from Deerfield to Canada, in 1704, and was son of Reverend Stephen Williams, D.D., of Long Meadow, Mass. He was graduated at Yale College, in which institution he was shortly after elected tutor, and in the corporation of which he served as Fellow from the time of his early ministry to the time of his death."

"His ministry continued through a period of 38 years, and was one of marked success, there having been added to the church during his pastorate, including the 23 original members who were constituted a church on the day of his ordination, 256 individuals, an average of something more than six each year through his entire ministry. He fell asleep April 4th, 1788, in the 63d year of his life, and 'his sepulchre is with you unto this day.'

"After the decease of Mr. Williams the pulpit was variously supplied for a period of two years.

"In March, 1790, the labors of Reverend Matthew Noyes began. In May, proposals were made for his permanent establishment in the pastorate; the proposal for his support being, that he should receive £200 settlement, and £90 annually as his salary.

"In the following August his ordination took place, the sermon being preached by Reverend Dr. Goodrich, of Durham. He was a native of Lyme, Conn., a descendant, as was his predecessor, of Puritan ancestry, being in the fifth generation from Reverend James Noyes, who came from England in 1634 and settled in Newbury, Mass.

"Mr. Noyes' academic education he received at Yale College (of which he also was afterward a member of the corporation), and his



theological studies were pursued under the instructions of Reverend Dr. Whitney, of Brooklyn, Conn. His pastorate here continued through a period of 44 years, and under his ministry there was an ingathering to the church of 201 individuals. His labors as pastor were suspended in 1833; his pastoral relations were dissolved in 1835, and in 1837, on the 25th of September, he finished his course, departing this life in the 76th year of his age."\*

"He was a methodical and vigorous thinker and his mind was remarkably ready in the phraseology of the Scriptures." These qualities endeared him to the community and he was one of the most honored clergymen of his times.

On the 1st of December, 1835, Reverend William J. Boardman was installed as the third pastor, and served the church eleven years. He was ordained to the ministry at North Haven September 20th, 1820, and spent his entire ministerial life with these two churches. He died at Northford October 1st, 1849.

The pulpit was now supplied for about six years by (among others), Reverend Henry Steel Clark, D.D., Reverend Edward Root and Reverend Charles H. Bullard, but June 8th, 1853, Reverend A. C. Pierce became the pastor and served until July 1st, 1866. His ministry was pleasant and successful, 72 persons being added to the membership of the church.

For about two years Reverend A. C. Hurd was the stated supply, when, in December, 1869, Reverend George DeF. Folsom became the acting pastor, continuing until his resignation, April 4th, 1879. He was followed by the Reverend E. A. Winslow, and in November, 1880, Reverend Theodore A. Leete became the pastor, continuing until May 6th, 1883. Henry S. Snyder was here next ordained, October 28th, 1885, to a pastorate which ended May 6th, 1888. Since August 5th, 1888, the acting pastor has been Reverend J. Lee Nott.

In passing from the ministry it is natural to speak of the deacons as office-bearers in the church. They have served in the following order: Deacons Josiah Rogers and Merriman Munson, chosen when the church was organized; Deacons Benjamin Maltby and Phineas Baldwin, chosen April 2d, 1778; Deacon Benjamin Maltby, Jr., chosen December 1st, 1791; Solomon Fowler, chosen December 3d, 1801; Stephen Maltby, chosen May 31st, 1804; Munson Linsley, chosen February 2d, 1809; Ralph Linsley, February 2d, 1826; Thomas Smith, February 2d, 1832; Charles Foote, October 3d, 1844; and William Maltby, March 4th, 1863, the latter being this office-bearer in 1890.

A permanent fund for the benefit of the church has been established by the generosity of friends. Among such benefactors mention should be made of Deacon Samuel Harrington, who, in 1754, gave £20 to the society for their permanent use in the maintenance of a dissenting minister; of John Taintor, who bequeathed a farm, valued at about

\* Reverend Pierce.

\$2,500, for a like purpose; of Ebenezer H. Fowler, who left for the society real estate and personal property to the value of some \$4,000; also, of Doctor Jared Linsley, of New York city, who, on more than one occasion, particularly when the parsonage was purchased, manifested his love for his native parish and his generosity of spirit in methods more expressive than mere kind words and good wishes; of Mrs. Ruth Maltby, who bequeathed, at her decease, the sum of \$100; and of Mr. Julius Maltby, who, at his decease, donated to the society \$2,000.

Zion Church (Protestant Episcopal) is located at North Branford village. A preliminary meeting to consider the propriety of organizing such a body was held at the house of Chauncey Linsley, March 12th, 1812, when, as a result of the deliberations, the permission of the bishop was asked to proceed. He granted the desired privilege and, April 2d, 1812, the following were constituted the Episcopal Society of North Branford: Augustus Baldwin, Jesse Linsley, Jonathan Foote, Jacob Barker, Sherman Bunnell, Jacob M. Tyler, Nicholas O. Thompson and Jonathan B. Potter.

The three first named were elected as vestrymen. Other members from the Harrison, Monroe and Rose families were added, and in 1813 Reverend Elijah G. Plumb was secured for one-eighth of his time as the first minister. He also preached at Northford, Branford and at East Haven. Subsequently a similar arrangement was continued with other churches in Branford and Guilford, the Reverend David Baldwin being the well-beloved rector for many years, in connection with the church at Guilford. In 1890 the parishes of North Guilford and North Branford were served by one rector—Reverend W. H. Dean, residing in the former parish.

The North Branford parish reported 20 families and 25 registered communicants. About \$500 was raised in the parish for church purposes each year.

In 1818 the parish voted to build a church 32 by 42 feet, and appointed as a building committee David Rose, Samuel Baldwin, Jr., Chauncey Linsley, Augustus Baldwin, with Jesse Linsley as treasurer. Not being able to obtain public land upon which to build, a lot was bought, in the village of North Branford, of Jairus Harrison, a part of which was set aside for burial purposes. This was laid out into lots, which were divided, in 1829, among the Baldwin, Rose, Linsley, Butler and other families.

In 1827 the church was painted, and in 1840 was more thoroughly finished and repaired by Charles Todd, Joshua Rose and Jesse Linsley. In the fall of 1863 it was enlarged and much beautified, and May 30th, 1864, the church was duly consecrated by Bishop John Williams. Stained glass windows were placed in the church in 1886, and it is now a comfortable place of worship, with 150 sittings.

Among the wardens of the church have been Jonathan Foote, Jesse

Linsley, Jonathan Rose, Chauncey Linsley, Charles Todd, Joshua Rose, Martin C. Bishop, John H. Harrison, Jr., Jesse L. Harrison and George W. Dudley. The vestrymen in 1890 were Albert Todd, Samuel L. Hale and E. M. Fields. Martin C. Bishop was the superintendent of the Sunday school, which had several dozen members.

St. Andrew's Church (Protestant Episcopal) at Northford was organized much earlier. The agitation and discussion of theological subjects, after the time of the "great awakening," caused a number of families to renounce Congregationalism, as defined by the "Saybrook Platform," and some of these were later led to associate themselves with churchmen in an Episcopal society which was formed in 1763. The original members of this society were: Paul Tyler, Ichabod Foote, Joseph Darien, Samuel Maltby, David Rogers, Jonah Todd, Phineas Beach, Joseph Finch and John Johnson.

Some of these had been connected with the Episcopal church at Guilford, and no doubt occasionally attended worship at that place, even though the distance was so remote. It was the nearest point where the worship of the Church of England was at that time maintained.

Soon after this Episcopal society was formed steps were taken to build a church at Northford. A lot of land was secured from James Howd, who gave a deed for the same, December 31st, 1763. The following year the church was completed for use, and in a repaired form served its intended purpose until 1845, when the house at present occupied was built. It has sittings for 200 persons, and repairs in recent years have made it inviting and comfortable.

Opposite the church edifice is the old but substantial rectory of the parish. A part of the house was built about 1750, as the residence of Reverend Warham Williams, of the Congregational society, whose parsonage it became. After the death of Mr. Williams, in April, 1788, the house was occupied by the well-to-do Reverend Matthew Noyes, until his death, September 25th, 1839. At this time he was reputed to be one of the wealthiest clergymen in the state,\* and the house contained many comforts not found in ordinary homes. In August, 1866, through the efforts of Rector Sheldon Davis, the house became the property of the parish, and was much repaired. In his ministry of six years the church was also thoroughly renovated.

For many years the church had the ministerial service of rectors of near-by parishes, Mr. Davis being settled here in the summer of 1866. In 1872 Reverend D. H. Short, D.D., became the rector, and so served four years and five months. He was succeeded by Reverend John Coleman, who resigned after two years, in September, 1879. Reverend Clayton Eddy was the minister in 1880, and July 3d, 1881, Reverend George Buck began a rectorship, which was terminated December, 1886. Since the fall of 1889, the rector has been Reverend Warren H. Robberts.

\* J. W. Barber, Hist. Col., p. 240.

The parish has 40 families, 200 individuals and 50 registered communicants. The wardens in 1890 were Douglas Williams and E. A. C. Potwine.

Bare Plain Union Chapel is a frame building, seating 100 people, and was erected in 1880 at a cost of \$1,300. It is controlled by an association, incorporated March 3d, 1880; and in 1890 the trustees were: Isaac B. Linsley, Charles E. Linsley and Herbert O. Page. While all persuasions can obtain consent to use this house, which is intended for the accommodation of the people of the western part of the town, it is used mainly by the Congregationalists of the North Branford church. Since 1886 Reverend Charles Page has held regular services at this place. In 1885 he became a licentiate of the New Haven East Association.

Near this chapel is the Bare Plain Cemetery, which was opened in the spring of 1860, on the land of Jerome Harrison. The original area was half an acre. In 1877 it was enlarged by the addition of an acre, purchased by the Bare Plain Cemetery Association, which now controls the ground. The person first interred was Miss Amoret Harrison, in April, 1860. Since that time it has been much used.

The cemetery at Northford embraces several acres, and is kept in fair order. It contains many monuments, some being costly and of fine design, which commemorate the memories and virtues of the Williams, Tyler, Maltby, Hoadley, Foote, Smith, Augur, Linsley, Cook, Todd, Elliott, Harrison and Bartholomew families. A headstone indicates that Captain Stephen Smith died June 22d, 1851, aged 100 years and 8 weeks.

DR. JARED LINSLEY  
BORN IN NORTHFORD  
OCT. 30, 1803,  
DIED  
JULY 12, 1887.

For over fifty years he was a practicing physician in New York city. Here are also the graves of several of the former pastors of the Northford society.

At North Branford village are small places of interment in connection with both of the churches at that place.

Roster of Captain Eells' Company in the Revolution: Captain, Samuel Eells; first lieutenant, Samuel Baldwin; second lieutenant, Jacob Bunnell; sergeants, Ebenezer Linsley, Isaac Foot, John White, Lud. Munson, Abraham Foot; corporals, Uriah Collins, Samuel Harrison, Samuel Brown, Jacob Page; musicians, John Bunnell, Joseph Whedon, Moses Baldwin; privates, Samuel Augustus Barker, Ambrose Baldwin, James Barker, Benjamin Bartholomew, Daniel Baldwin, Jairus Bunnell, Phineas Baldwin, Jacob Barker, Gideon Bartholomew, Jonathan Byington, Titus Cook, Stephen Cook, Hooker Frisbie, Isaac Frisbie, Samuel Ford, Gideon Goodrich, Daniel Hoadley, Ralph Hoad-

ley, Jairus Harrison, Rufus Harrison, Isaac Hanford, Benjamin Harrison, Reuben Johnson, John Linsley, Jonathan Munson, James Pierpont, Samuel Peck, John Potter, Solomon Rose, Jonathan Russell, Ebenezer Rogers, Joseph Smith, Dan Smith, Othniel Stent, Ebenezer Truesdell, Solomon Talmadge, Asa Todd, Jonathan Tyler, Medad Taintor.

Later in the war the town quickly responded and some of its citizens were at New Haven to repel the British invasion July 5th, 1779. "John Baldwin was shot by the enemy and left dead upon the field."

In the early part of the revolution Colonel William Douglas, who lived on the farm now occupied by Douglas Williams, a descendant, was in command of a regiment of Connecticut troops. "He contracted consumption, as a consequence of exposure, and died before the war was concluded." His memory is still cherished in the town.

The Soldiers' Monument at North Branford is the first monument in the United States erected to the memory of the defenders of the Union in the war of the rebellion. The movement to build it was begun soon after the declaration of peace, in 1865, and a committee was appointed to raise funds for that object. This consisted of Russell Clark, Jonathan Foote and Henry Rogers, the latter being at that time located at Branford village as an attorney. About \$2,000 was secured and the building of the monument was begun, of Stony Creek granite. The last piece was swung into place the following year and on the 12th of April, 1866, the monument was dedicated, an oration being pronounced by General E. M. Lee. The monument stands on North Branford Village green, west of the meeting house, and makes a pile about 20 feet high. It consists of a massive base, die, semi-base and shaft. The inscriptions are—on the shaft:

1865.

On the die:

OUR SOLDIERS:

JAMES H. SCRANTON.  
 J. HENRY PALMER.  
 WALTER A. STONE.  
 ALBERT F. WHEATON.  
 JOSIAH JOHNSON.  
 JOHN F. ROBINSON.  
 DAYTON R. SCRANTON.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Charles E. Alling, born in Hamden, Conn., in 1846, is a son of Ezra and Emily (Bassett) Alling, and grandson of Merritt Alling. Mr. Alling is a farmer in Northford, where he has lived for several years. He is one of the selectmen of North Branford. He married Jennette, daughter of Charles D. and Mary (Linsley) Maltby, granddaughter of Samuel, and great-granddaughter of Benjamin Maltby. They have two children: Morris E. and Mary M.

REUBEN NEROS AUGUR, one of the largest farmers of Northford, was born September 27th, 1822, on a homestead in the southern part of that society, still owned by members of his family. He was a son of Joel and grandson of John Augur, one of the early prominent settlers of that part of the county. His father died July 5th, 1873, aged more than 83 years. He had been twice married and reared five children. His first wife was Abigail Barnes, by whom he had this son, Reuben N., and three daughters, viz.: Abigail Angeline, married John Allen, of Wallingford; Phoebe Eliza, married Henry Loper, of Guilford, now resides in New Haven; and Correlia, married Thelos Todd, of Northford. The second wife of Joel Augur was Mrs. Hannah Tripp, by whom he had one son, John P. Augur, who deceased in North Branford.

Reuben N. Augur left his father's farm when he was sixteen years of age, with a limited common school education, to learn the butcher's trade in New Haven. He followed that occupation until 1850, when he returned to Northford, where he has since resided, and has been very successfully engaged as a farmer and cattle and horse dealer. He owns 450 acres of highly improved land, and the surroundings bear evidence of thrifty management. Mr. Augur is a very active, industrious man, possesses good judgment and dilligently applies himself to his chosen occupation. In his relations to the community he is a good, useful citizen, warmly favoring such measures as will promote the welfare of his native town. He is a democrat, and no office seeker, but represented North Branford in the state legislature in 1859. As a member of the Episcopal society of Northford, he is a most liberal supporter of the work of that church, and his charity in other causes is unstinted. He is also an honored member of Corinthian Lodge, No. 103, F. & A. M., of Northford, and ranks as one of the leading men of that community.

Reuben N. Augur was married November 26th, 1846, to Esther E. Todd, who died October 23d, 1849, aged 23 years, and leaving one son, Elbert Reuben, born October 5th, 1847, who died July 22d, 1879, at Middletown, Conn. For his second wife Mr. Augur married a sister of the foregoing, Maria C. Todd, October 28th, 1850, who died January 3d, 1873, at the age of 40 years. By this union there were three children:

1. Robert Duane, born November 24th, 1851, who died August 23d, 1883, in the society of Northford. He left surviving his widow, Margaret Evans.

2. Ella Maria, born April 27th, 1854, married Henry M. Stevens, of Northford, and now resides in Wallingford.

3. Watson Davis, born May 1st, 1856, who married Agnes Gertrude Stevens, of Northford, and is now a citizen of Middletown.

Mr. Augur was married to his third and present wife, Mrs. Margaret E. Hall, December 26th, 1876. She was a daughter of Daniel Barnes,



*H. V. Putnam*





of North Haven, and widow of James T. Hall, of the same town. By her former marriage she had one son, Frank E. Hall, born October 18th, 1856, who is now a resident of New York city.

Clarence W. Barker, born in 1856, is a son of Eliphalet and Martha (McCoy) Barker, and grandson of Chandler Barker. In 1879 Mr. Barker began a card printing business in Branford, and in 1883 he moved the business to its present place at North Branford. Since 1885 he has had a novelty and toy department. He married Minnie, daughter of Henry D. and Sarah (Talmadge) Bartholomew. They have four children: Florence E., Clarence D., Fred W. and Bertram L.

Harrison Barker, born in 1837, is the only son of Elon and Anice (Harrison) Barker, and grandson of Joel, whose father, Jacob, was a son of Daniel, whose father, Daniel Barker, was one of the first settlers in North Branford. Mr. Barker has two sisters—Caroline and Emily. He is a farmer on the farm where his father resided up to the time of his death, in 1883.

Henry D. Bartholomew, born in 1832, is a son of Samuel and Nancy G. (Wolcott) Bartholomew, and grandson of Timothy Bartholomew. Mr. Bartholomew married Sarah, daughter of Levi and Marietta (Foote) Talmadge, granddaughter of Enos, whose father was Solomon Talmadge. They have two children: Bertie L. and Minnie G. (Mrs. C. W. Barker).

Isaac H. Bartholomew is a brother of Francis C. Bartholomew, mentioned in Wallingford, with whom he was engaged in manufacturing here for a number of years prior to 1872. Mr. Bartholomew married Delia, daughter of Horace Fowler. They have two sons: Edward F. and George W. They lost four children: Emma, Hattie, Mary and Willie.

Sedley D. Bartlett, born in 1848 in North Madison, Conn., is a son of David and Mariette (Stevens) Bartlett. He is a painter and paper hanger by trade. He came to North Branford in 1878, and since 1882 has kept a store here. He married Mary E., daughter of E. Washington Dudley.

Ralph Beers, born in 1843, is the only son of Frederick and Amelia (Palmer) Beers, grandson of Samuel, and great-grandson of Pitman, whose father was Wheeler Beers. Some of his ancestors served in the revolutionary war. Samuel Beers, a great-uncle, was killed in September, 1777, aged 25 years. Mr. Beers has been engaged in mercantile trade since 1866, and since 1883 has owned and operated a store in North Branford. He has been the postmaster since 1883, with the exception of three years. His wife was Sarah Smith. They have one daughter, Florence L., and one son.

Martin C. Bishop, born in 1823, is a son of Augustus and Patty (Loper) Bishop. Mr. Bishop is a joiner by trade. He came from North Guilford to North Branford in 1859. He was several years selectman, and in 1870 was representative in the legislature. His first wife

was Angeline A. Chittenden, and his second wife was Janette A., daughter of Jacob Griswold. They have one daughter, Ellen, wife of Frank Foot.

Edward J. Buel, born in 1833, in Clinton, Conn., is a son of William A. and Rosetta (Stevens) Buel, and grandson of Oliver, whose father, James, was a son of Reuben Buel. Mr. Buel is a mason by trade. He lived in Ohio and Michigan from 1840 until 1875, when he came back to Connecticut. He served in the late war in Company D, 75th Ohio Volunteers; was a prisoner at Andersonville and Florence, S. C., for six months. He married Lovina Manley, who died leaving three children: Minnie A., Clifford E. and Elbert E. His second wife was Mrs. Dorliska A. Griswold, daughter of Heman and Mabel (Field) Stone. Mrs. Buel had one son by her former marriage, Charles Griswold.

Edwin A. Buell, born in 1832 in Clinton, Conn., is a son of Horace Buell. He is a tinsmith by trade, and came to Northford in 1858. He was in the late war in Company K, 15th Connecticut Volunteers, for three years. He married Mary Amelia, daughter of Seneca and Mary (Hart) Barnes, and granddaughter of Samuel Barnes.

Frank O. Burr, born in Haddam, Conn., in 1853, is a son of Stephen D. and Fannie A. (Lane) Burr, and grandson of David Burr. He came to North Branford in 1875, where he is a farmer. He married Sarah L., daughter of Richard and Lucretia B. Russell, and granddaughter of Jonathan Russell. They have one daughter, Lucretia H.

Luther Chidsey, born 1800, died 1872, was a son of Caleb and Rebecca (Page) Chidsey, and grandson of Isaac Chidsey. Mr. Chidsey was a farmer. He married Eliza, daughter of David Palmer. Their children are: Grace (Mrs. Noah Foot), Mariette, Leverett (married Mary Grannis), Myrick (married Emma, daughter of John Grannis and sister of Leverett's wife, and has two children, Georgia L. and Walter), and Emma (Mrs. Edward Newton).

Rebecca S. Clark, daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah M. (Smith) Wilcox, married, first, Nelson Burr, of Haddam, who died, leaving one daughter, Sarah M., who married Ellis Stevens, and has three children: Elbert W., Flora B. and Willie E. Mrs. Burr afterward married Admerald Clark, of Durham. They came from Durham to North Branford in 1885, and three years later Mr. Clark died.

Reverend Frank Countryman was born in New Haven, September 23d, 1849, and is a son of Nicholas and Louisa (Hine) Countryman. At the age of 13 he entered Hopkins Grammar School, New Haven, and prepared for Yale College; entered Yale College in 1866, and graduated in 1870; then studied (1871-2) in Yale Theological Seminary. He was married first, December 26th, 1870, at New Haven, to Mary I., oldest daughter of Judge Pickett, of city court, New Haven. She died August 24th, 1877, leaving no children. Mr. Countryman married Miss Ella S. Butricks, of New Haven, November 18th, 1880, and they have one child,

Ella May, born November 9th, 1882. Mr. Countryman preached in Bröwnington, Vt., during the summers of 1872 and 1873; was pastor at Prospect, Conn., 1874 to 1877; preached at Georgetown, Conn., 1880 to 1882; pastor at North Branford, Conn., since 1882. He is a member of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the Revolution, and a descendant of revolutionary stock.

E. Washington Dudley, born in 1824, in Madison, is a son of David and Abigail (Stevens) Dudley, and grandson of David Dudley. Mr. Dudley came from North Madison to North Branford in 1876. He married first, Jane, daughter of Gaylord Munger. She died, leaving four children: Helen A. (Mrs. Edson S. Beardsley), Mary E. and Martha E. (twins), and Frank E. Mary E. married Sedley D. Bartlett, and Martha E. married George B. Stone. His second wife was Emeline, daughter of Elihu Stevens.

Bela H. Foote, born in 1816, is a son of Rufus and Elizabeth (Harrison) Foote, and grandson of Daniel, whose father, Daniel, was a son of Joseph, whose father, Robert, was a son of Nathaniel Foote. Mr. Foote first married Almira Pierpoint, who died, leaving one son, Adelbert P. His second marriage was with Mary, daughter of John and Esther (Coe) Birdsey. Their children are: Martha A. (Mrs. T. A. Coe), Carrie L. (Mrs. S. A. Barnes), and Ella M. (Mrs. O. C. Kelsey). Mr. Foote is a farmer.

John M. Foote, born in 1819, is a son of Edwin and Salina (Maltby) Foote, grandson of Elihu, and great-grandson of Daniel, whose father, Daniel, was a son of Joseph, whose father, Robert, was a son of Nathaniel Foote, of Wethersfield, Conn., the first settler. Mr. Foote is a farmer. His first marriage was with Sarah A. Monson, who died leaving one son, Sereno M., who married Rose Cooper, and has three children: Laura, S. Scott and John H. Mr. Foote's second wife was Mrs. Lydia J. Crook, a daughter of Hezekiah Towner, of New Milford, Pa.

Lynde H. Foote, son of Warren W. and Lucinda (Harrison) Foote, and grandson of Elihu Foote, was born in 1834, and is a farmer. He married Juliette, daughter of George W. Gedney. They have one daughter, Flora G.

Noah Foot, born in 1825, is a son of Walter R. and Sally A. (Harrison) Foot, and grandson of Jonathan Foot. Mr. Foot represented the town in the legislature in 1872, and has held several town offices. He married Grace, daughter of Luther and Eliza (Palmer) Chidsey. They have two sons, George and Frank.

George L. Ford, born in 1839, is the youngest son of William and Sarah (Rose) Ford, grandson of Davis, and great-grandson of Samuel Ford. Mr. Ford is a farmer. He married Lois R., daughter of Luther F. Dudley. They have four children: Walter D., Frederick L., Robert N. and George D.

Andrew M. Gates, born in 1831, is a son of Andrew M. and Lucinda

(Augur) Gates, and grandson of John Gates. Mr. Gates is a farmer. His first marriage was with Olive E., daughter of Harvey and Lydia Augur. She died leaving two children: Andrew M. and Addie M. His present wife is Laura, daughter of Eliaday Harrison.

J. Henry Gates, born in 1831, is a son of John M. and Sylvia (Palmer) Gates, and grandson of John Gates, who came to North Branford in 1793. Mr. Gates represented the town in the legislature in 1889, and has been selectman one year. He married Sarah L., daughter of Charles and Louisa A. (Monson) Todd, granddaughter of Albert, whose father Charles, was a son of Albert Todd. They have three children: Charles M., Sylvia L. and John H.

John A. Gates, born in 1836, is a son of Andrew M. and Charlotte (Robinson) Gates. He married Grace A., daughter of George Augur. They have one daughter, Mary Etta, wife of Charles E. Linsley.

Jerome Harrison, born in 1806, was the only child of Thaddeus and Betsey Harrison, grandson of Butler, and great-grandson of Timothy, whose father Josiah, was a son of Nathaniel, whose father Thomas, with his brother Richard Harrison, came to Branford about 1644. Mr. Harrison is a farmer. He was a member of the house of representatives in 1884 as a democrat. He married Lydia Chidsey, daughter of Samuel and Betsey (Holt) Chidsey. Their only daughter, Amorette W., died at the age of 17 years.

Jesse L. Harrison, son of John H. and Sally (Linsley) Harrison, and grandson of Martin Harrison, is a farmer and dairyman. His first wife was Anna Jackson, who died leaving one daughter, Anna J. His present wife was Marion E., daughter of Russell and Emily (Dudley) Foote. They have one son, Robert R., and one daughter, Sallie Linsley.

John C. Harrison, born in 1838, is a son of Amos and Harriet (Hart) Harrison, grandson of Amos A., and great-grandson of Amos Harrison. Mr. Harrison is a farmer. He was for two years selectman. His first wife was Stella, daughter of Darius Hull of Cheshire. His present wife is Susan Emily, daughter of Bradford J. Hull, of Woodbury, Conn. Their children were: Charles C. (deceased), Amos L., Harvey C. and Clarence E.

Nathan Harrison, born in 1836, is a son of Albert and Ann (Foote) Harrison, grandson of Nathan, and great-grandson of Nathan, whose father, Josiah, was a son of Nathaniel, and grandson of Thomas Harrison. Mr. Harrison is a farmer. He served nine months in the war in Company B, 27th Connecticut Volunteers. He married A. Louisa, daughter of Nelson Strickland. Their children are: N. Irving, Albert, Lewis, Leroy, Frederick and John.

Roderick E. Harrison, born in 1845, is a son of Amos and Harriet (Hart) Harrison, and is a farmer. He is one of the selectmen of the town. He married Ella E., daughter of Sherman J. Nettleton, of Durham. They have one daughter, Callie E.

Rufus Harrison, born in 1821, is a son of Eliaday and Rebecca (Rose) Harrison, grandson of Nathan, and great-grandson of Nathan, whose father, Josiah, was a son of Nathaniel, and grandson of Thomas Harrison. Mr. Harrison is a farmer.

Urban T. Harrison, born in 1855, is a son of Lorenzo E. and Antoinette (Todd) Harrison, and grandson of Benajah Todd. He has been a turner in Simpson, Hall, Miller & Co.'s shop, at Wallingford, for a number of years. He has two sisters: Ella (Mrs. T. F. Barnes) and Louise.

ALDEN HOPSON HILL, a son of Arden and Flora (Davis) Hill, was born in Killingworth, Conn., September 4th, 1831. He was the seventh of nine children and the elder of two brothers. His parents were farmers in very moderate circumstances, whose income would not permit them to educate their children, and the school days of Alden H. were limited to an attendance of three months in the winter, when he was fourteen years of age. What knowledge he subsequently acquired was obtained in the school of experience, aided by a thoughtful disposition and an observant nature. He was thus early in life thrown upon his own resources, and began by working out as a farm laborer. As a result of his first season's labors he paid \$70 into the family fund; and from this time until he was twenty years of age all his earnings were devoted to the relief of his parents and sisters. To accomplish that purpose he worked incessantly, never losing a day, and often making over-time, being most faithful in the discharge of his filial obligations. Several seasons were spent in North Branford, working in that manner, in the fields, woods and mills, and in 1864 he became a permanent resident of the town. Since that time he has here built up, by his tireless energy and industrious habits, the fortune he now enjoys. He erected his fine home in 1879.

His first business venture, in the season of 1864—a contract to furnish ship timber for vessel builders in an adjoining town—resulted in a loss to him of \$1,000. But, not discouraged and profiting by his experience, he persevered in the same industry, and has been very successful in his subsequent undertakings. He invested in the stock of thirteen vessels, for which he furnished material, and is now a part owner in ten of them. Since 1865 he has operated the Chidsey mills, below North Branford Center, and later, as their owner, rebuilt them. He has also become a large land owner, and engaged in other enterprises which have enabled him to employ constantly from three to thirteen men, he thus being the most active business man of the town. In his relations to the community in which he resides, Mr. Hill enjoys the confidence and esteem of those who know him, and in all his dealings he has endeavored to conform his actions to the teachings of the golden rule. He is benevolent and public-spirited, ever being ready to take a foremost part in the affairs of the church, schools and town, filling the office of selectman eight years. As the representa-

tive from North Branford in the state legislature in 1878, he helped to dedicate the new state capitol. In politics he is a republican, but has held himself free from partisan feeling. He is an active member of the North Branford Congregational society, and has for several years been chairman of the society's committee. The work of that church has his generous support. In his success in life and conduct as a citizen, he affords a commendable example of one of the best types of our self-made men.

Mr. Hill was married November 18th, 1879, to Sarah E., daughter of Judson and Mariette (Thompson) Page, of North Branford, who was born December 8th, 1847. She is a woman of much worth, and has ably seconded him in his life work. They have two children: Raymond Thompson, born January 11th, 1883; and Alden Judson, born August 12th, 1886.

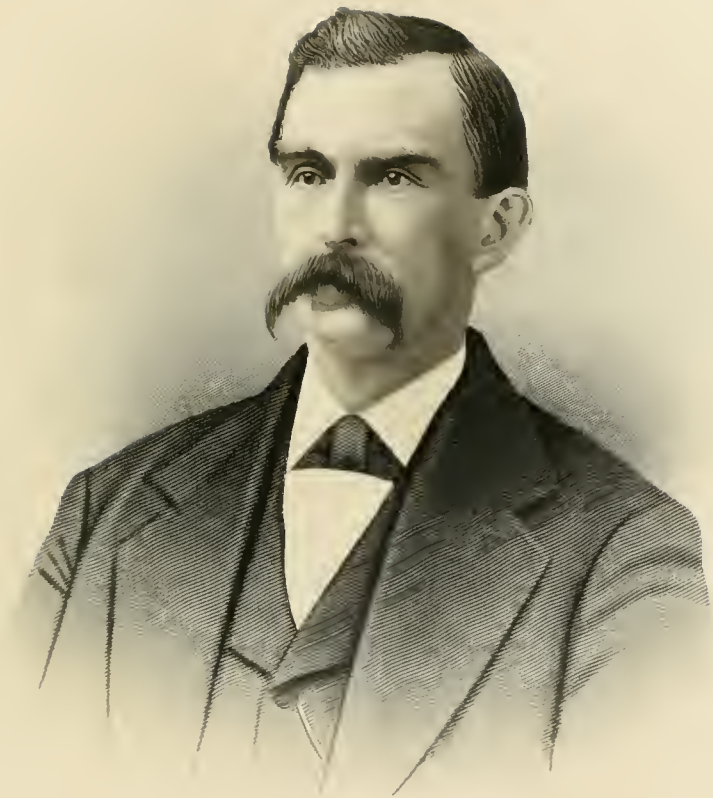
Charles F. Holabird, born at Sheffield, Mass., in 1857, is a son of Hiram B. and Mariette (Vosberg) Holabird. He married Bertha, daughter of Alfred Russell. They have four children: Royal R., Charles L., Douglass B. and Ralph H.

Charles E. Linsley, born in 1856, is a son of Edward and Emeline A. (Hall) Linsley, and grandson of Isaac Linsley. He was married in 1890, to Mary Etta, daughter of John A. Gates. Mr. Linsley's father died in 1875. He has one sister living, Lucinda Rose. A brother, Edwin H., was born in 1865 and died in 1886.

George C. Linsley, born in 1842, is a son of Edward A. and Mary A. (Baldwin) Linsley, grandson of Solomon, and great-grandson of Rufus Linsley. Mr. Linsley is a farmer. He has been for eight years deacon of the North Branford Congregational church. He married Hettie L. Ball, who died, leaving one son, Merwin B. His present wife is Vernelia A. Smith. They have two sons: Charles S. and Ernest C.

Isaac B. Linsley, born in 1845, is the only child of John and Lydia E. (Hall) Linsley. He is the great-great-grandson of John Linsley, who was the first settler on the farm, which has gone from father to son until the present owner, Isaac Linsley. Mr. Isaac B. Linsley was two years selectman and has held other town offices.

James H. Linsley, born in 1835, is a son of John S. and Eliza A. (Halsey) Linsley, and grandson of James Linsley. Mr. Linsley graduated from the Connecticut State Normal School in 1857, and taught school several winters in this and other states. He is a farmer. He served in the late war in Company C, 10th Connecticut Volunteers, from September, 1861, until August, 1865, and was wounded three times. In November, 1864, he was mustered as captain of the company. He had two brothers in the service: Benjamin M., who was killed at the battle of the Wilderness; and John S., who is now a physician. Another brother is a clergyman. Mr. Linsley was representative from this town in 1867. He married Catharine D., daughter of Dean Conant, of New Hampshire. They have two children: Eleanor B. and Arthur M.



*Alden H. Hill*





Solomon Linsley, born in 1819, is a son of Elijah and Delia (Foote) Linsley, grandson of Solomon, and great-grandson of Joseph Linsley. Mr. Linsley is a farmer. His first wife, Adaline Hull, died leaving one son, Noah. His second wife was Mrs. Hannah Bradley, daughter of Augustus Hemingway. Mr. Linsley has been selectman two years, and has held other town offices.

William Maltby, farmer, born in 1825, is a son of Henry and Ruth (Hart) Maltby. He is a deacon of the Congregational church, which office he has held for the past 25 years. He has taken an active interest in all that pertains to the best good of the public schools in his town, having been a member of the school board for more than 35 years. He represented his town in the legislature of 1881. He married Esther, daughter of Doctor Rice Hall, and has two daughters—Ophelia H. and Mary J. A son, William T., died in childhood.

WILLIAM HALL MALTBY is a direct descendant of one of the oldest families in the eastern part of the county. He was born in Northford Society, August 29th, 1810, and was the elder child of Thaddeus and Elizabeth (Hall) Maltby. Their younger child, also a son, Isaac, born in 1819, removed to California, where he died in 1889, leaving an only son, Herbert. The grandfather of William H. Maltby was Benjamin Maltby, a large farmer and miller in Branford. He died May 10th, 1823, aged 68 years. He had been married first, January 22d, 1778, to Rebecca Taintor, who died in May, 1786, leaving him five children. By a second marriage there were five more children, the ten being as follows: Thaddeus (the father of William H.), born January 15th, 1779, married Elizabeth Hall, May 18th, 1809, died January 12th, 1873, being within three days of 94 years of age; Benjamin, born November 11th, 1780, married Wealthy W. Chittenden in 1811, and died in 1834; De Grosse, born September 14th, 1782, married Sarah Smith, October 11th, 1807, died February, 1872; Elizabeth, born June 20th, 1784, married Bennett Bronson, May, 1820, died June, 1840; Rebecca, born April 19th, 1786, died April 22d, 1836; Julius, born January 5th, 1788, married Melinda Fowler, May, 1819, died October, 1872; Samuel, born January 27th, 1790, married A. De Witt, September, 1816, died January 28th, 1881; Elbridge, born January 23d, 1792, married Jane Ball, November, 1822, died in 1863; Erastus, born December 2d, 1796, married Almira Smith, September 7th, 1826; Eliza R., born April 13th, 1800, married Jonathan C. Fowler, April, 1820.

William H. Maltby was reared a farmer, and for many years actively followed that pursuit, his habits of industry and frugality aiding him in accumulating considerable property. He was thus engaged in Wallingford from 1836 until 1842, and for the next twenty-one years in the town of Durham. In 1863 he returned to the old homestead, in Northford, where he has since resided, honored and respected by all who know him. Although now advanced in age, he retains his vivacious disposition and cheerful nature, which are among

his chief characteristics, in spite of bodily affliction. On the 17th of December, 1845, his hip was dislocated by a fall over the drum of the water wheel of a saw mill, which precipitated him a great distance and badly injured him; but after a year he recovered, and thereafter led a very busy life. He has taken a warm interest in the affairs of the towns in which he resided, and for a number of years was a selectman, both in Durham and in North Branford. The latter town he represented in the state legislature in 1871. He is a republican and a member of the Northford Congregational church, and member of the prudential committee. In the earlier years of his manhood he was much interested in military matters, and for several years he was in command of the Northford company.

Mr. Maltby was married September 30th, 1836, to Polly A., daughter of Rufus Foote, of Northford, who died November 27th, 1872. By this union there were three children: Benjamin E., born February 21st, 1840, died March 29th, 1841; William E., born April 7th, 1843, died March 31st, 1864; Elbridge Lyman Hall, born August 23d, 1846, now living in the city of Boston. Mr. Maltby was united in marriage the second time April 30th, 1873, to his present wife, Martha, daughter of John Birdsey and Esther Coe, of Middlefield, Conn., and granddaughter of John Birdsey of the same town.

George H. Munger, born in 1827 in North Madison, Conn., is a son of Gaylord and Densie (Stephens) Munger, and grandson of Josiah Munger. He came from North Madison to North Branford in 1868, where he has been a farmer. He married Emily, daughter of David and Betsey (Norton) Russell. They have three daughters: Martha C. (Mrs. Erastus Dudley), Belle A. (Mrs. C. A. Harrison) and Helen R. M. (Mrs. C. M. Bergstresser).

Charles Page, born in 1839, is a son of Benjamin and Sarah E. (Merriam) Page, grandson of Benjamin, and great-grandson of Daniel, whose father, Daniel, was a son of George Page, who was among the first settlers of Branford. Mr. Page attended the schools of this and surrounding towns, spent one term in the State Normal School, and later he took a special course in Yale Theological Seminary and was licensed to preach in 1885. He taught school nine years in this vicinity. He was a member of the house of representatives in 1874, and has been town clerk and treasurer since 1871. He married Elbertine A., daughter of Luther F. Dudley. Their children are: Charles A., Edson C. and May C. Mr. Page has three brothers and one sister: John M., Benjamin, Martha E. and Robert.

Herbert O. Page, born in 1846, is a son of Judson and Mariette (Thompson) Page, and is a farmer. He has been for four years chairman of the board of selectmen, and has held other town offices. He was a member of the house of representatives in 1886. He married Betsey R., daughter of John R. Baldwin, whose father, Noah, was a son of Edward, and grandson of Noah, who was a son of Noah, and



171<sup>me</sup> H. Mattby



he a son of George Baldwin. They have two children: Herbert D. and Helen Gertrude.

Thomas Palmer, born in 1817 at Stonington, Conn., is a son of Thomas and Lydia (Austin) Palmer, grandson of George and great-grandson of Andrew Palmer. Mr. Palmer followed the sea more or less from the age of nine years until 1872. Several years of that time he was in command of vessels. He came to North Branford in 1873, where he now lives. He married Eliza Hiscock, and their children are: Charles, George, Edith, Edgar, Jefferson, Daisy, Rosa E., and three that died—Thomas, Eliza and Edward.

Seth Russell, born in 1814, is a son of Augustus and Lydia (Rose) Russell, and grandson of Jonathan, whose father, Jonathan, was a son of Reverend Samuel Russell. Mr. Russell is a carpenter and farmer. He was a member of the house of representatives in 1866. He married, first, Abbie Chidsey, who died, leaving two children: Susan (Mrs. Samuel Thompson) and Clark. His second wife was Ann Hecock, and his present wife was Elizabeth Baldwin.

A. Judson Smith, born in 1841, is a son of Henry and Emily (Watson) Smith, grandson of Abner, and great-grandson of Pollicarpus, who came from Barnstable, Mass., to East Haddam, Conn. The latter was a son of Heman, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of Heman Smith, who, it appears from the records of Barnstable, was made a freeman there in 1642. Mr. Smith is a tinsmith by trade. He came to Branford in 1867, and from that time until 1888 he carried on the hardware business there, and since that time he has lived in North Branford. In September, 1889, he was appointed the first postmaster at Totoket. His first marriage was with Aphelia Pyatt. She died, leaving three children: Nettie E., Etta M. and Albert W. His second wife was Mary S. Hand. Their children are: Mary E., Ruth E., Bessie S. and Margaret L.

Thomas A. Smith, born in 1827, is a son of Thomas and Hannah (Tuttle) Smith. He was for several years engaged in the manufacturing business in Northford, but since 1875 has been a merchant. He was for 12 years postmaster of Northford. He held the office of selectman and was for two years a representative in the legislature. His first wife, Ann Delia Harrison, died, leaving one son, Albert H. His present wife is Martha E., daughter of Benjamin Page.

DAVID STEARNS STEVENS, JR., was born at Quinnipiac, in the town of North Haven, April 5th, 1857, and is a son of David and Eliza (Benjamin) Stevens. He was the fifth of six children born to them, viz.: Albert Benjamin, who died in Northford; Alice Eliza, married Jared B. Bassett, of North Haven; Elizur Seneca, of the firm of Maltby, Stevens & Curtiss, of Wallingford; Henry M., also residing at Wallingford; David Stearns, the subject of this sketch; and Agnes Gertrude, married Watson D. Augur, of Middletown. By a second marriage, to Frances J. Hart, Mr. Stevens had two more children: Frances Jane

and Peter DeForest, both living in Virginia, to which state the father removed in 1883. He had become a resident of Northford in 1868 and for a number of years there carried on business as a spoon manufacturer.

As a boy, David S. worked in his father's shops, attending meantime the common schools of Northford, but completed his preliminary education at General Russell's institute in New Haven. In 1875 he returned to his home in Northford, where he then began the card-printing business in his father's spoon shop, with an outfit costing \$36, which his father advanced to him. From the beginning his efforts were attended with success and the industry grew so rapidly that, in 1880, the present commodious rooms in the old Maltby Works were secured. In these new quarters the business was developed until it became one of the leading interests of the kind in this country. As many as fifty hands have been employed in carrying on the operations, which embrace the manufacture and printing of an endless variety of plain and fancy cards and scrap-book pictures, which are sold in every part of the Union. In 1880 his brother, Henry M., became associated with him, the firm since that time being Stevens Brothers. Since 1890 the latter has been in charge of the Wallingford branch of the business, which was established that year.

Mr. Stevens possesses a fertile brain, which has enabled him to keep in advance of the ever-varying changes of his business and to constantly devise or add new features, which have further enlarged it. He has also developed a capacity for affairs which entitles him properly to a place among the representative successful self-made men of the county. His skill, tact and indomitable energy and perseverance have brought him business prosperity and an honored name. He is much esteemed in the community in which he resides and has identified himself with its best interests, serving them so far as the urgent demands of his business would permit.

Mr. Stevens was married October 9th, 1879, to Clara Hoadley, daughter of E. C. and Hannah Maltby, who was born September 27th, 1857. Her mother, Hannah Hoadley, was a daughter of the Reverend L. Ives Hoadley, who was an honored minister of the Congregational church. Five children have been born as the fruit of that union: Douglas Maltby, September 4th, 1880; Clifford Fleetwood, July 9th, 1885; Wilbur Benjamin, December 3d, 1886; David Stearns, July 23d, 1888; Clara Marguerite, December 31st, 1889.

Mr. Stevens resides in the E. C. Maltby place, at Northford, which has been finely fitted up for his home.

Albert Todd, born in 1834, is a son of Charles and Ann Louisa (Munson) Todd, grandson of Albert, and great-grandson of Charles Todd. Mr. Todd is a farmer. He married Orpha A., daughter of Samuel and Laura (Jones) Smith. They have two children living: Charles S. and Louisa L. One died, Lewis A.



*W. S. Hervey*





Willys Tucker, born in 1821, is a son of Sheldon and Betsey (Dorman) Tucker, and grandson of Oliver Tucker. He is a farmer and blacksmith. Since 1861 he has been agent for farm implements. He married Submit, daughter of John and Jerusha (Rossiter) Graves. They have two children: Ellen M., wife of Edgar Eaton, and Alice L., wife of Charles Munson. Mr. Tucker has served several years as selectman.

Douglas Williams, born in 1830, is a son of Herman H. and Sarah J. (Douglass) Williams, and grandson of Herman, whose father was Herman Williams. His maternal grandfather was Captain William Douglass, son of Colonel William Douglass. Mr. Williams is a farmer. His first wife, Jeanette L. Foote, died, leaving three children: Benjamin D., Herman H. and Davis F. His second wife was Eugenia, daughter of Warram W. Foote, and sister of the first wife. His present wife was Mrs. Ann L. Shove, daughter of Abiatha Foote.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE TOWN OF GUILFORD.

Location and Description.—Natural Features and Points of Interest.—The Pioneers.—Civil Government.—Probate District.—Magistrates and Justices.—Town Buildings.—Cemeteries.—Roads and Bridges.—Industrial Pursuits.—Guilford Borough.—Lodges and Societies.—Religious Interests.—Educational and Literary.—Some Distinguished Citizens.—Physicians and Lawyers.—Military Matters.—Soldiers' Monument.—Biographical Sketches.

THE original town of Guilford included the present town and Madison, which was set off in 1826. It stretched along the shore of Long Island sound from Branford to Killingworth, a distance of nearly ten miles, and was nearly eleven miles long from south to north. At the north end the width was not quite five miles, and at other points it was irregular. The boundary between Branford and Guilford was a straight line from the mouth of Stony creek to the center of Pistapaug pond, upon which cornered the towns of Wallingford, Branford, Guilford and Durham. The pond is a mile long from north to south, and half a mile wide. From this common center a line, extending northeast to the western branch of the Hammonasset river, formed the northern boundary, and separated Guilford from Durham. The eastern boundary was down that stream to the Hammonasset proper, thence down the middle of the river to Dudley's creek, thence down to West rock, on the sound. This separated the town from Killingworth. In this territory were for many years four Congregational societies, viz.: Guilford First Society, North Guilford, East Guilford (now Madison), and North Bristol (now North Madison). The latter two and a narrow strip, two miles long from the sound north, of the First Society, were constituted the town of Madison, thus leaving Guilford with a mean length of eleven miles and an average width of four miles, the town of Madison forming the eastern boundary, and having the East river in part as the dividing line.

That stream, called by the Indians *Ruttawoo*, has its source in several brooks, or branches, in the northern part of the old town, which unite at Nut Plains. Then it takes a southwesterly course, and empties its waters into Guilford harbor, east of Guilford Point. For some distance it is a tidal stream, and is navigable for sloops to East River bridge, where are several wharves, in the town of Madison. Near its mouth are Sawpits, Quarry and the Farmers' wharves. The other

principal stream of the town is the Menuncatuc, or West river, which is the outlet of Quinnebaug or Quonepaug pond, in North Guilford. This pond or lake is two miles long from north to south, and a little more than a fourth of a mile wide. Its waters are very deep, and the environing scenery is attractive. Southwest is a smaller sheet of water called West pond, whose small outlet flows into West river. The latter stream has a southerly course to the west of Guilford borough, and empties into the harbor west of the point. It is also a tidal stream as high as the village, where small wharves have been constructed. East creek is a small stream occupying an intermediate position between the above streams, and also emptying near the neck or mouth of East river.

Guilford harbor is too shallow to afford a good entrance for vessels. At low mark there are six feet of water on the bar, and twelve feet at full tide. A higher flow sometimes submerges the lowlands along the rivers. In these flats and channels are found clams of superior quality, and the East River oysters are regarded by epicures as the finest flavored in the state. The quantity is limited, and the price is high. An effort was made to build a breakwater to improve the harbor, which has been filling up from the wash of the waters of the sound, but the government refused an appropriation. In 1703 Guilford was designated by the general assembly as one of the eight ports of entry in the colony, and Josiah Rossiter was made naval officer. In the latter part of the last century Guilford was made tributary to New Haven harbor. Two miles west is Sachem's Head harbor, which is a small but deep body of water, almost wholly land locked, and before the period of light-houses was much used as a night station for vessels in the coastwise trade. Before 1775 this harbor was also used by vessels in trade with the West Indies. Many cargoes of cattle and other stock were shipped from that point, and lumber was also shipped to some extent. Still further southwest is another expanse of still water, washing Leete's island on the east. It is too shallow for shipping purposes, but was formerly a favorite place for fishing.

At both of these larger harbors the land projects in points, which have for many years been esteemed as summer resorts. Guilford Point, a mile or more below the village, has thus been used more than a century. Later a hotel was built, known as the Point House, which increased the popularity of the place. This house is now old, but has an attractive location, with quieting surroundings. Before the use of the railroad, steamboats landed passengers at this point. A good road now leads to it from the village railway station.

Sachem's Head, the other point, is three and a half miles southwest from the village, and is more abrupt and picturesque than the former. It derived its peculiar name from an incident in the war upon the Pequots at their fort on Mystic river.

"The defeat of the Pequots took place May 26th, 1637, by the English under Captain Mason, and their allies, the Narragansett Indians, and a remnant took flight along the 'shore trail' of the Indians westward, pursued by a few English under Captain Stoughton and Indians under Uncas. The English kept a reserve force on board their transports, which coasted along the shore, scouring every inlet for detached bands of the retreating foe. When the land party under Stoughton and Uncas had reached this head-land projecting into the Sound Uncas, who knew Indian craft, left the trail and made a thorough search of the point. A chief and several warriors were found. The refugees made effort to escape by swimming across the narrow part of the harbor, and were captured as they landed. The Sachem was shot dead with an arrow by Uncas, who cut off his head and placed it between the limbs of an oak tree, which grew around the skull, holding it firmly for years, and from this tragedy originated the name 'Sachem's Head.'"\*

This expedition of Captain Stoughton was one of the means which led to the settlement of the county, first at New Haven, and later brought the Guilford settlers to that place and this section.

"It has been said that Captain Stoughton on his return with the fleet put in for refuge and spent a few days in the beautiful bay of the 'Red Mountains,' later the 'Fayre Haven' of the Whitfield company, and observing its many advantages for a commercial town site he, on his return to Massachusetts Bay, informed Governor Eaton and company, who had just landed, of its adaptability for settlement, and the Governor, notwithstanding advantageous offers which had been made at Boston, Salem and Lynn for their settlement, and also the lateness of the season, came here with a company to view this 'promised land.' On being satisfied with its conditions which invited settlement, he at once made all preliminary steps necessary for its purchase of the then nearly extinct tribes (the Quinipiacs), and built a hut and left a small company to hold and occupy the territory until the next spring. He then returned and took possession of his new purchase."

From New Haven attention was directed to the desirable lands of Guilford and Milford, which, no doubt, were soon after prospected, with a view to their acquisition by the whites.

A little east of Sachem's Head is a place called Bloody Cove, where is said to have occurred a fatal skirmish between Uncas and his clan and the Pequots before the above capture took place.

Sachem's Head point became well known as a seaside resort half a century ago, and was for many years a fashionable summer watering place. A hotel, with accommodations for several hundred guests, was erected, and the grounds were finely laid out for the accommodation of the visitors. It was for many years largely patronized, but was de-

\*Captain Townsend.

stroyed by fire in June, 1865. After some years the locality became popular for seaside cottages, and is again growing much in favor.

Between Guilford and Sachem's Head points is a projection of land called Mulberry point; and at the sound extremity of Leete's Island is Leete's point. The name Leete's Island is applied to the southwestern part of the town, much of which is low land. Off shore from Guilford harbor, and some distance from it, is Falcon or Faulkner's island, which is a part of this town. After belonging to various parties it was sold in 1801 to the United States government for \$325, and a lighthouse has since been built on it, which has made this part of the sound comparatively safe.\*

The surface of Guilford presents a varied aspect. The northern part is elevated and broken by the northeastern extremity of Totoket mountain, which extends into its territory several miles, terminating in a bold bluff. Along Quinnebaug pond and extending south to North Guilford Center are also a series of hills, some of them very steep. South of this are elevations bearing the local names of Long hill, a high ridge on the west side of the West river; Moose hill, of less altitude, extending into the town of Branford; and Clapboard hill, the elevation between the East creek and East river. South of these the change to the lowlands is rapid, there being only small elevations, showing upheavals of granite rock, with a hard and compact soil. Much of the entire surface is of a stony nature, better fitted for woodlands than for cultivation. But along the shore are alluvial plains and along the streams are some intervalles having strong and generous soils, which with proper tillage yield profitable crops. Corn, wheat and the root crops have given bountiful returns and the agriculture of the town in its extent and products is not exceeded by an equal area in the county.

Along the sound and several miles back the lands are either swampy or are alluvial deposits, naturally very fertile, and are still further enriched by skillful fertilization. For many years this was the section first tilled by the Guilford settlers and before their coming had been the favorite planting ground of the Indians, who called it *Menunecatuc*. All the bounties of nature were here generously provided—a strong, fertile and easily cultivated soil, game and water fowl, fresh fish and sea food. These conditions, also, most naturally attracted the attention of the whites to this locality and led to the early purchase of the Indian lands.

That part of Guilford on the coast, lying between the East river (Ruttawoo) and the Stony creek (Agicomook), was purchased of the sachem squaw of *Menunecatuck*, Shaumpishuh, acting for the Indian inhabitants, who agreed to the sale September 29th, 1639. The commis-

\* At the general court at Hartford, October 18th, 1677, "Liberty was granted to Andrew Leete to purchase Falcon Island and Goose Island \* \* \* which said Islands lie before or near Guilford." (Col. Rec. of Conn., 1665-77.)

sioners for the whites were Henry Whitfield, Robert Kitchell, William Chittenden, William Leete, John Bishop and John Coffinge. The payment was a dozen each of coats, glasses, pairs of shoes, hatchets, hoes, pairs of stockings, knives, hats, porringers, spoons, fathoms of wampum, four kettles and two English coats. Most of the Indians now removed to Branford and East Haven, but a few received liberty to remain for a time at Ruttawoo.

"At the time of the above purchase it was understood that the deed for the land should remain in the hands of the above committee of planters until a church should be formed, to whom it should then be given and under whose superintendence the lands should be divided out to those interested in them. The English settlement was commenced immediately after this purchase on the ground where is now Guilford borough, the plain and some other lands near by having already been cleared by the natives and prepared for cultivation."\*

The first settlers were mostly emigrants from the counties of Kent and Surrey, in England, and came to America in 1639 in two vessels. They landed at New Haven and remained there a short time as a distinct company, and were not a part of the New Haven planters or company. Many of them were persons of position and influence in England and nearly all were farmers in that country. Their sole purpose in coming to the new world was that they might have greater religious liberty and the advantages of a community having a concordance of belief. Accordingly, while yet on ship-board, they organized themselves as a separate community and entered into relations which are expressed by the following covenant:

"We, whose names are hereunder written, intending by God's gracious permission to plant ourselves in New England, and if it may be, in the southerly part, about Quinnipiack: We do faithfully promise each to each, for ourselves and families, and those that belong to us; that we will, the Lord assisting us, sit down and join ourselves together in one intire plantation; and to be helpful each to the other in every common work, according to every man's ability and as need shall require; and we promise not to desert or leave each other or the plantation, but with the consent of the rest, or the greater part of the company who have entered into this engagement.

"As for our gathering together in a church way, and the choice of officers and members to be joined together in that way, we do refer ourselves until such time as it shall please God to settle us in our plantation.

"In witness whereof we subscribe our hands, the first day of June, 1639.

\* R. D. Smith.

“Robert Kitchell,	John Hughes,
John Bishop,	William Dudley,
Francis Bushnell,	John Parmelin,
William Chittenden,	John Mephram,
William Leete,	Thomas Norton,
Thomas Joanes,	Abraham Cruttenden,
John Jurdon,	Francis Chatfield,
William Stone,	William Halle,
John Hoadly,	Thomas Naish,
John Stone,	Henry Kingsnorth,
William Plane,	Henry Doude,
Richard Gutridge,	Thomas Cooke,
Henry Whitfield.”	

It is said that the vessel which bore this company was a ship of about 350 tons burden and, sailing from London about May 25th, 1639, entered New Haven harbor some time near the beginning of July. It is claimed that Whitfield's vessel was the first that ever cast anchor in the waters of the Quinnipiac. “The sight did so please the captain of the ship and all the passengers that he called New Haven harbor ‘the Fayre Haven.’” But for some reason it was changed to New Haven, and nearly two centuries later the very prosperous east part of the town was called Fair Haven.

After landing at New Haven they soon, under the friendly direction of Mr. Davenport and Mr. Eaton, selected Menuncatuc as the place for their plantation, and not long thereafter named the new town Guilford, after a city in their native Surrey.

The leader of these 25 gentlemen and yeomen\* was the Reverend Henry Whitfield, a gentleman of influence and wealth, both elements being freely used by him in establishing his plantation. In temporal as well as in spiritual matters he was the foremost of the “English planters of Menuncatuc,” and the first improvements were made under his direction. One of the first acts was to locate a town site, which was done by following the English fashion of laying out a market place or green of oblong shape and building around it. This being done, they commenced building homes for themselves, the houses of some of the planters being put up in a very substantial manner of stone, and also after the style of the better English farm houses of that period.

The famous old stone house of Guilford was built by Mr. Whitfield in 1639-40, and was probably the best in the village. It was made unusually strong, so that it would also serve as a means of defense against Indians. It is still standing, although in a remodelled condition.

\* The first planters were of these two ranks—gentlemen and yeomen. The former were men of wealth and bore the title of Mr. The commonality were spoken of without a title prefixed, or were called goodman or neighbor. But none of these planters were poor, and but few had servants.

Until 1868 the original form was preserved, and even now the large stone chimney and the north wall remain as they were put up, 250 years ago, making this the oldest English built house in the United States. It occupies a good site on slightly rising ground, which overlooks the great plain south of the village, and gives a fine prospect of the sound. Mr. Whitfield had a large family of grown children, and it is said that the first marriage in the town was here held, when Mr. John Higginson took to wife one of his daughters. The wedding feast was very simple, consisting of pork and pease.

The original Whitfield house was described, in 1859, by R. D. Smith, as follows:

"The walls are of stone from a ledge eighty rods distant to the east. The material was probably brought on handbarrows across a swamp, over a rude causeway, which is still to be traced. A small addition has in modern times been made to the back of the house, but there is no question that the main building remains in its original state, even to the oak of the beams, floors, doors and window sashes. \* \* \* \* In the recesses of the windows are broad seats. Within the memory of some of the residents of the town the panes of glass were of diamond shape.

"The height of the first story is seven feet and two-thirds, the height of the second is six feet and three-quarters. At the southerly corner in the second story there was originally an embrasure about a foot wide, with a stone flooring, which remains. The exterior walls are now closed up, but not the walls within.

"The walls at the front and back of the house terminate at the floor of the attic, and the rafters lie upon them. The angle of the roof is sixty degrees, making the base and sides equal. At the end of the wing by the chimney is a 'recess,' which must have been intended as a place of concealment. The interior walls have the appearance of touching the chimney, like the walls at the northwest end, but the removal of a board discovers two closets, which project beyond the lower part of the building.

"This noted residence was sold by Mr. Whitfield on his removal to England in 1652 to Major Thompson, of London, an important man in England during the commonwealth, and continued in his family until October 22d, 1772, when Mr. Wyllys Elliot, of Guilford, bought it for £3,000, Massachusetts money."

In 1890 this house and much of the original Whitfield plantation was the property of Mrs. Sarah B. Cone, and was in a well preserved condition.

Other stone houses were built soon after by Jasper Stillwell, on the lot north of Mr. Whitfield; by Mr. John Higginson, on the southwest corner of the green, on the south side of Bridge street; by Samuel Desborough, west, on the same side of the street. Opposite them lived planters Ward and Bishop. Mr. Robert Kitchell lived west of



the northwest corner of the green, and John Fowler lived on the opposite corner. Mr. William Leete was farther west, on the river, and Mr. William Chittenden was on the opposite side of the street, the lots being still occupied by his descendants. But no building except the Whitfield house remains.

The next step of the planters was to increase the area of the town, so as to have ample lands for every one. Additional purchases were made of the Indians by Mr. Whitfield, September 20th, 1641, when he bought of the sachem Weekwosh the territory along the sound eastward from the East river to Tuxis Pond, for a small consideration of clothing. The right of Weekwosh to sell this land being doubted, the title was perfected by another purchase of Uncas, the sachem of the Mohegans, who claimed the land by right of conquest of the Pequots in 1637, when the last of their warriors was slain by Captain Stoughton in the swamp at Fairfield. This purchase was made December 17th, 1641, by Mr. Whitfield, Robert Kitchell, William Chittenden and others of the English planters, and embraced the land on the sound between the points named and north through the township. The consideration was four coats, two kettles, four fathoms of wampum, four hatchets and three hoes.

In the meantime the remaining territory of the old town had been secured of the Indians by Colonel George Fenwick, of Saybrook, who was a personal friend of Mr. Whitfield and other planters of Guilford.

“Mr. Whitfield being desirous of extending the township still further eastward, made repeated application to his friend Fenwick to convey to his plantation a tract lying between Tuxis and Hammonasset rivers, which Mr. Fenwick had bought of Uncas, and in a letter dated October 22d, 1645, Mr. Fenwick gave this tract to Guilford, on conditions that the planters would ‘accommodate Mr. Whitfield with land to his content,’ and he was authorized to hold the land until the conditions should be fulfilled.

“This grant from Mr. Fenwick was accepted by Guilford, which made Mr. Whitfield several allotments of land, which he afterward deeded to the town, the 20th of August, 1650, for the consideration of £20, paid in wheat.”

Other purchases were made of Indian claimants, the last being in 1686, when much of what is now North Guilford was bought of the Indian Nausup, for £16 12s.

For many years the great concern of the planters was the proper distribution of the foregoing land. Some of it was held in commons many years, and others were fenced as common meadows, common ox pastures and common young cattle pastures. Before 1666 two allotments of land had been made; the third took place in 1667: another, including North Guilford lands, in 1691. Subsequently other divisions were made, there being in all more than half a dozen allotments, and the business of the proprietors was not closed up until 1831.

It is known that there were forty planters in 1639, but owing to the vagueness of the records their names cannot be given with any degree of certainty. In 1651 the following were the *freemen* of the town: Henry Whitfield, Jno. Higginson, George Hubbard, Mr. Samuel Disborow, Mr. Robert Kitchell, Mr. William Chittenden, Mr. William Leete, Thomas Jordan, John Hoadley, John Scranton, George Bartlett, Jasper Stillwell, Alexander Chalker, John Stone, Thomas Jones, William Hall, Thomas Betts, John Parmelin, Sr., Henry Kingsworth, Thomas Cook, Richard Bristow, John Parmelin, Jr., John Fowler, William Dudley, Richard Gutteridge, Abraham Cruttenden, Sr., Edward Benton, John Everts.

The following were planters in Guilford before this period, 1652, but had not yet been admitted as freemen; or, in other words, they were not accepted church members: John Bishop, Sr., Thomas Chatfield, Francis Bushnell, Henry Dowd, Richard Hues, George Chatfield, William Stone, John Stevens, Benjamin Wright, John Linsley, John Johnson, John Sheader, Samuel Blachley, Thomas French, Stephen Bishop, Thomas Stevens, William Boreman, Edward Sewers, George Highland, Abraham Cruttenden, Jr.

Some of the original planters had died before this period, or had removed. Among these were John Coffinge and Thomas Norton. Thomas Mills died in 1648, John Mephram in 1649, John Jordan in 1649, William Somers in 1650, and Francis Austin in 1646; the last named being one of the drowned on the ill-fated Lambertson ship, which sailed from New Haven that year.

Some of the foregoing planters did not come directly to Guilford, but were first located elsewhere. John Higginson came from Salem, Mass., in 1641; John Fowler and Edward Benton came from Milford, and George Hubbard was first at Wethersfield and later at Milford. Doctor Bryan Rossiter came in October, 1651, having purchased the holdings of Samuel Desborough. William Seward came from England to New Haven and from the latter place to Guilford in 1651. He was the first tanner and was also captain of the train band.

John Baldwin came from Milford in 1651; William Johnson from New Haven in 1653; John Hill, a carpenter, from England in 1654; John Graves from Hartford in 1657, and Thomas Clarke and Thomas Meacock came from Milford about 1659 or earlier. Richard Hubball was admitted a planter in 1654, and the same year John Hodgkin\* came from Essex, England.

In 1652 John Smith came from Fairfield as the blacksmith and took the oath of fidelity in 1654. A large tract of land was given him upon condition of his settlement, and that he follow his trade in the town five years. This he did, but for some cause did not remain much longer, removing, with others, to Killingworth in 1664. So urgent was the need for a smith that in 1675 Samuel Baldwin was invited to

\* This name was modified to Hotchkiss and still later to Hotchkiss.

come from Fairfield and liberal inducements were held out for him to settle, by giving him a site on the village green for his shop, and lands elsewhere.

In 1657 the following were the freemen and the dates of their subsequent deaths: William Leete, removed to Hartford as governor, died April, 1683; Robert Kitchell, removed to Newark 1666, died October, 1671; William Chittenden, February, 1660; George Hubbard, January, 1683; Mr. Bryan Rossiter, September, 1672; Mr. John Bishop, January, 1661; Abraham Cruttenden, Sr., January, 1683; William Dudley, March, 1684; William Johnson, October, 1702; Benjamin Wright, Sr., March, 1677; William Stone, November, 1683; Thomas Cooke, December, 1692; John Stevens, September, 1670; John Fowler, September, 1676; John Hill, June, 1689; John Parmelin, Sr., November, 1659; John Evarts, May, 1669; Thomas French; William Seward, March, 1689; William Stevens, January, 1703; Henry Kingsworth, July, 1668; Richard Guttidge, May, 1676; Henry Dowd, August, 1668; William Hall, May, 1669; John Scranton, August, 1671; Edward Benton, October, 1680; Daniel Benton, June, 1672; John Meigs, January, 1671; Richard Bristow, September, 1683; John Johnson, November, 1681; John Sheader, June, 1670; Richard Hubball, 1692; John Parmelin, Jr., January, 1687; Abraham Cruttenden, Jr., September, 1694; John Graves, December, 1695; George Highland, January, 1692; John Rossiter, September, 1670; John Baldwin, removed to Norwich, 1661; Thomas Clark, died October, 1668; Richard Hughes, July, 1658; John Stone, February, 1687; George Bartlett, August, 1669; Henry Goldam, 1661; Nicholas Munger, October, 1668; George Chatfield, June, 1671; John Bishop, Jr., October, 1683; Stephen Bishop, June, 1690.

Of the freemen in the former list a number had removed and a few had died. Francis Bushnell removed to Saybrook; John Linsley and Edward Sewers removed to Branford; a number removed to Killingworth, and a few returned to England. But a number of new planters and freemen were received into the town, so that in 1672, when the fourth division of land was made, the proprietors were more than a hundred in number. The list of freemen of that period embraced the names of 63 persons. Among these were Joseph Clay, Josiah Wilcox, Obadiah Wilcoxon, Joseph Hand, Jonathan Hoyt and Thomas Meacock. Edward Lee came about 1675; James Hooker, the first judge of the probate court, came from Farmingham before 1700; Peter Tallman, about 1684; Thomas Griswold, 1695; John Bailey, John Sargent, Matthew Bellamy and Ephraim Darwin came earlier. The latter resided near the rocks, at the head of Fairstreet, and owned considerable property at that place. Hence the name Ephraim Rocks. Another wealthy planter was Mr. Thomas Robinson, who bought the allotment of Thomas Coffinge, one of the original settlers. Along about 1700 among the admitted planters were Comfort Starr, Charles Caldwell, Abraham Kimberley, Jasper Griffing and Joseph Pynchon, all of

whom, and their descendants, became prominent in the affairs of the town.

North Guilford was surveyed and divided in 1705. Soon after this was done some of the planters began to improve their allotments, going from their homes, in the First Society, on Monday and returning on Saturday. During the week they had a common habitation in the new section, from which circumstance the place was first called *Cohabit*. Their numbers increased so rapidly that in 1719 they received liberty to organize as a separate society. This community has always been noted for its excellent class of citizens, many of whom were highly educated. A large proportion of the present inhabitants are the descendants of the following, who were among the early settlers of this locality, namely: Timothy and Nathaniel Baldwin, George and Daniel Bartlett, Ebenezer and Joseph Benton, Samuel and Ebenezer Bishop, Joseph Clark, Daniel and John Collins, William Dudley, Samuel and Joseph Fowler, William Hall, Samuel Hopson, John Hubbard, Benjamin Leete, Jonathan Robinson, Josiah and Joshua Stone, all of whom were from the lower part of the old town. Nathaniel Parks and Edward Parks, the latter a tailor from the East Guilford Society, were also among the first at North Guilford, as was Theophilus Rossiter, from the same society. Later settlers in that section were Ebenezer Talman and John Chidsey. In 1800 the official census gave the population of North Guilford as 540; and thirty years later it was only eight more. In 1850, or twenty years later, the population was even smaller, being only 495. In the same period the population of the First Society indicated a small but steady increase, being 1,629 in 1800, and 2,158 in 1850. About two-thirds lived in the borough, and in this society also the rural population has decreased.

The inhabitants of Guilford have always been characterized for their conservative views and fixed purposes. These traits, continued from generation to generation, have been the means of keeping a large proportion of the estates of the original settlers in the family name, or in the hands of the descendants, who cherish the traditions of the past. Hence, here a larger proportion of the old homesteads have been allowed to remain unchanged than in any other part of the county. There are in the town more than a hundred houses a century old, and at least thirty that are 150 years old. And so substantially have most of these been built that nearly all of them are in good repair. Some of them seem to have partaken of the nature of the occupants to change but very little, and are now substantially as they were a century ago.

The quarto-millennial celebration of the settlement of Guilford was held in Madison and Guilford borough, September 8th, 9th and 10th, 1889. The exercises arranged for the occasion were highly interesting and instructive in the history of the town, and the attendance of citizens and visitors from abroad was in keeping with the importance of the event.

It has been seen that the planters agreed that all public matters should be left in the hands of the six persons to whom the Indians deeded the land, to be held in trust until a church should be formed, when the management should be surrendered to that body. But in fact only four persons exercised the civil power until the church was organized, in 1643, viz.: Robert Kitchell, William Chittenden, John Bishop and William Leete. How they managed the affairs of the plantation in the interim, when Guilford was in reality an independent body, is not known, as no records of that period have been preserved. The church being formed they surrendered their trust, and that body now managed the affairs of the town.

As Guilford became a part of the combination forming the New Haven colony in 1643, the inhabitants now adhered to the agreement made in the Newman barn, in all their affairs, civil and religious.

“Their form of government was something singular. Like that of New Haven, it was a pure aristocracy, yet modeled and exercised in a peculiar way. They had one magistrate allowed them as part of the New Haven colony, of which he was one of the assistants and council, who was their head, and invested with the whole executive and judicial power. But the planters were allowed to choose annually three or four deputies to sit with him, in judging and awarding punishment in all civil cases, in courts held by him, called general courts. The inhabitants were divided into two classes or orders, by the names of freemen and planters. The freemen consisted of all the church members who partook of the sacrament, and no others were admitted. They were all under oath agreeably to their plan of government. Out of their number were those deputies and all public officers chosen; and by them was managed all public business that was regarded either interesting or honorable. The second class included all the inhabitants of the town, who composed their town meetings, which were styled, emphatically, general courts. It was, however, required that they should be of age (21 years) and have a certain estate to qualify them to act in said meetings. In these town meetings, or general courts, all divisions of land were limited and established, and all the by or peculiar laws, for the well ordering of the plantation, were made. And, in general, all transgressions of the town laws, relating to the buying or selling of lands, were punished, and fines and stripes were imposed and executed according to the nature of the offense by the judgment of said judicial court. Besides these general assemblies of the planters and the said magistrate's court, they appointed particular courts for the administration of justice, much like our justices' courts at present. These were held quarterly through the year. The magistrate presided in these courts and deputies were annually chosen to sit in council with him in these courts; also, by the freemen. Like New Haven, they had no juries in any trial; their deputies in some measure supplied that defect. From this court lay appeals, in allowed cases,

to the court of assistants at New Haven. Mr. Samuel Desborow was the first magistrate who held the courts. In general, their judgment was final and decisive. Town officers were annually chosen, viz., marshals, a secretary, surveyors of the highways, etc., much as in the present manner. Military order and discipline were soon established, and watch and ward were kept, day and night, under a very strict charge; and the punishments for defaults in this duty were very severe and exactly executed.\*

The early assistants of Magistrate Samuel Desborough, chosen by the freemen of the town, were William Chittenden, William Leete, Robert Kitchell, John Bishop, John Jordan, George Hubbard and John Fowler. Upon the return of Judge Desborough to England in 1651, William Leete was chosen magistrate and continued in that office until the union of the colonies in 1665, and several years thereafter.

A very good rule adopted by the planters of Guilford was that no man should put more than £500 into the common stock for purchasing and settling the town and that no person should sell or purchase his rights without leave of the town. After the attendant expenses were paid, lots of land were assigned in proportion to the money expended in the general purchase, and the number of members in his family. These rules prevented too great disparity in the circumstances of the people, and put the poor upon somewhat near the same plane as the rich. Another good provision was that all the planters should be present at the meetings of the general court (town meetings), where the second class or planters could be heard as well as the freemen, provided none of them should "continue speech longer by impertinences, needless repetitions or multiplication of words, which rather tends to darken than clear the truth or right of the matter."

The representatives or deputies of Guilford—Samuel Desborough and William Leete—first attended the general court of the New Haven colony jurisdiction July 6th, 1643, in the records of which session first appears, officially, the present title of the town. At this meeting Guilford was ordered to pay a tax of £5 "towards the charges about the combination." In this confederation Guilford took an important part and for many years furnished some of the principal officers. William Leete was the deputy governor from 1658 to 1660, and then governor until the colony ceased to exist.

In 1656 the town was agitated in consequence of a fear that the Dutch would make an incursion into this region, and that year Cromwell made an offer to such of the colony as desired, to remove to Jamaica, where he could better afford them protection. In answer to this proposition they said that, "for divers reasons they could not conclude that God called them to a present remove thither."

The union of Guilford with the Connecticut confederation was warmly advocated by some of the citizens of the town, especially by

\* Reverend Thomas Ruggles, Jr., mss. of Guilford, 1769.

Doctor Bryan Rossiter and his son, John, but was as bitterly opposed by others. As early as December, 1662, the former tendered their allegiance to Connecticut, and being encouraged by commissions, returned to vex and annoy those who did not favor the movement. So the matter was agitated until May, 1665, when the union was permanently concluded. In the meantime, Doctor Rossiter, tiring of his troublesome life, had moved out of the jurisdiction of New Haven colony, going to Killingworth in 1664. He returned upon the announcement of the union, but the idea of subordinating the church to the extent of giving every voter an equal voice in the affairs of the colony was so repulsive to Robert Kitchell and others, that they removed with Mr. Pierson, of Branford, to found the colony of Newark, N. J., upon the original New Haven idea.

The town having acquired titles to their lands from the Indians, or arranged for the same, now proceeded, under the act of 1684, to secure a patent from the colony for the same. At a meeting held November 4th, 1685, it was voted to secure a patent, and the following twelve men were designated as patentees, in behalf of the then ninety proprietors: Andrew Leete, Esq., Mr. Josiah Rossiter, Lieutenant William Seward, Deacon William Johnson, Deacon John Graves, Mr. John Collins, Mr. John Stone, Mr. Stephen Bishop, Sergeant Daniel Hubbard, Mr. Abraham Cruttenden, Sergeant John Chittenden and Mr. John Meigs. The charter was granted December 7th, 1685, and by vote of the town placed in the keeping of "Andrew Leete, William Seward and Josiah Rossiter for the town's use."

In 1688 the townsmen were empowered "to look after the town's bounds and to defend the town's rights against any that shall infringe them."

In 1722 the town ordered a saw mill built for the common good of the town. In 1724 the surplus funds of the mills were divided: £35 for a bell for Guilford; £8 for one for Madison; and £3 for one for North Guilford.

The towns of Branford, Guilford, Durham, Killingworth and Saybrook, having been constituted a probate district in 1719, with the seat of the court at Guilford, attempts were made at five different times, from 1718 to 1753, to form a Guilford county. In every instance the bill, after passing the house, failed in the senate. In 1739 the town voted £100 extra "for gaol and court house," if such a county should be ordered. As late as 1824 the ambition to be a shire town was cherished by Guilford, which was willing to be annexed to Middlesex county, if it could thus become a "half shire town." Failing in that, the town consented to the formation of Madison, in 1826, after having combatted the idea since 1699.

The action of the town upon other matters of public interest is detailed in the following pages.

Before the formation of the county courts, in 1666, probate busi-

ness was done by particular courts, called for that purpose. Subsequently the county courts had all the probate business, until the division of the county into probate districts. Guilford district was ordered in October, 1719, to embrace the towns of Guilford, Branford (except Northford, which belongs to Wallingford district), Killingworth and Saybrook. The latter two were set off in 1780 to form the district of Saybrook. Madison was created a separate district in 1834, and the Branfords were created another in 1850, leaving the Guilford district as it now is, confined to the town of Guilford.

The judges of the district, the years of their appointment and their places of residence have been the following: James Hooker, 1720, Guilford; Colonel Samuel Hill, 1740, Guilford; Colonel Timothy Stone, 1752, Guilford; Nathaniel Hill, 1765, Guilford; Aaron Elliott, 1772, Killingworth; Samuel Barker, 1780, Branford; Colonel Edward Russell, 1782, Branford; Henry Hill, 1810, Guilford; Major Samuel Fowler, 1834, Guilford; Reuben Elliott, 1835, Guilford; Joel Tuttle, 1838, Guilford; George Griswold, 1842, Guilford; John R. Wilcox (acting), 1843, Madison; George Landon, 1843, Guilford; Ralph D. Smith, 1844, Guilford; George Landon, 1846, Guilford; Ralph D. Smith, 1847, Guilford; George Landon, 1850, Guilford; Edward R. Landon, 1854 to 1882; Edwin C. Woodruff, 1882 to 1886; Henry H. Stedman, Branford (acting judge), May, 1886, to January, 1887; Charles H. Post, since January, 1887.

Among those who served many years as clerks were Colonel Samuel Hill, Henry Hill, Nathaniel Hill, John Elliott, William Todd, Ralph D. Smith, Edward R. Landon, Sylvanus Clark, William F. Isbell and George S. Davis, the latter serving in 1890.

The magistrates and justices of Guilford the first two hundred years were as follows: 1644-51, Samuel Desborough; 1644, Governor William Leete; 1670, George Hubbard; 1676, Andrew Leete; 1698, Josiah Rossiter; 1705, Abraham Fowler; 1712, James Hooker; 1734, Colonel Samuel Hill; 1746, Captain Andrew Ward; 1748, Colonel Timothy Stone; 1752, Nathaniel Hill; 1753, Samuel Robinson and Doctor Nathaniel Ruggles; 1772, Samuel Brown and Joseph Pynchon; 1774, John Burgis; 1778, General Andrew Ward; 1780, Thomas Burgis; 1781, William Starr; 1792, Henry Hill; 1794, Abram Chittenden; 1800, Nathaniel Rossiter; 1802, Nathaniel Griffing and Colonel Samuel Robinson; 1807, Samuel Fowler; 1815, Joseph Elliott; 1818, William Todd, Esq.; 1819, Timothy Stone, Esq., Reuben Elliott, Abraham Coan, William Spencer and George Griswold; 1821, George Landon; 1830, Samuel Elliott; 1832, Comfort Starr; 1833, George Hart and Samuel Scranton; 1834, Colonel George A. Foote and Ralph D. Smith; 1835, Doctor Anson Foote, Henry Loper and Samuel C. Spencer; 1838, S. C. Johnson, Amos Seward, Doctor Joel Canfield and A. S. Fowler; 1840, John Burgis; 1841, Reuben Stone; 1842, Walter Osborn, Alvah B. Goldsmith, Elisha Hutchinson, Horace Norton and Daniel Chittenden; 1843, S. A. Bar-



ker, William Kelsey and J. H. Bartlett; 1844, Samuel Robinson, Henry W. Chittenden, Edward R. Landon and Albert B. Wildman.

The North Guilford magistrates and justices for the first one hundred years and the times of their appointment were: 1749, William Dudley and Theophilus Rossiter; 1750, Samuel Hopson; 1769, Deacon Simeon Chittenden; 1772, Oliver Dudley; 1779, General Augustus Collins; 1800, Nathan Chidsey; 1814, Thomas R. Bray; 1818, David S. Fowler; 1820, Jared Scranton and Henry Elliott; 1829, Colonel Abel Rossiter; 1830, Richard Fowler; 1832, Samuel W. Dudley; 1836, Wyllys Elliott, Alfred Norton and Victor Fowler; 1839, William M. Dudley; 1840, Ammi Fowler; 1841, Benjamin Rossiter; 1845, John R. Rossiter; 1847, Augustus E. Bartlett and Whitney Elliott; 1848, Nathaniel Bartlett and Timothy Rossiter; 1849, Edmund M. Field and Stephen Fowler; 1850, John G. Johnson.

The town clerks of Guilford have been the following: 1639-62, William Leete; 1662-5, George Bartlett; 1665-8, Samuel Kitchell; 1668-73, William Johnson; 1673-85, John Graves; 1685-1706, Josiah Rossiter; 1706-7, Joseph Dudley; 1707-16, Josiah Rossiter; 1716-17, John French; 1717-20, Samuel Hill; 1720-1, Andrew Ward; 1721-52, Samuel Hill; 1752-71, Nathaniel Hill; 1771-6, Ebenezer Parmelee; 1776-99, Thomas Burgis, Jr.; 1799-1801, John H. Fowler; 1801-35, Samuel Fowler; 1835-8, Reuben Stone; 1838-43, Joel Tuttle; 1843-8, Henry W. Chittenden; 1848-83, Edward R. Landon; 1883-5, Edwin C. Woodruff; 1885-6, Wallace G. Fowler; 1886 —, Charles H. Post.

For more than a hundred years the meetings of the town were held in the meeting houses of the First Society. In 1773 the matter of building a town hall was discussed, but no definite action was taken. Thereupon a public hall was begun by private enterprise, which in April, 1775, the town voted "to take the house which hath been begun and partly finished by a number of subscribers, and to complete it." The sum of £90 had been expended, and the building was offered as a free donation, on condition that it be used for all public gatherings. It was not wholly completed until 1793. In 1801 the lower part was fitted up and leased for a "Store of dry and West India goods." In 1812 the upper part of the house was rearranged so as to hold more people, and Baptist and Methodist meetings were held there. In 1830 the hall was removed to its present site, where it still stands, antiquated and in a dilapidated condition.

In 1852 and 1856 futile attempts were made to build a new hall. A special meeting, in 1870, was also fruitless of action. In 1888 the matter was so far considered that Harvey W. Spencer, John W. Norton and George W. Seward were appointed a committee on a town hall. They reported, June 1st, 1889, that a site on the east of the green could be secured, and that a suitable hall, with town offices, would cost \$12,000 if built of brick, and \$8,000 if constructed of wood. In that condition the matter has since rested, although the town sadly needs a creditable hall.

The propriety of building an almshouse was considered as early as 1699, and liberty was given to set a small house on the green. But nothing further appears to have been done until 1790, when another unsuccessful attempt was made to put up such a building. Usually, in olden times, there were not many poor, and their care was generally sold to citizens of the town by the selectmen. As late as 1810 they were disposed of at public vendues "to whomever shall undertake to keep them the cheapest."

In 1814 a poor house was secured in the western part of the borough, at an outlay of \$2,080, in which from twenty to thirty persons were maintained annually until 1827. In the division of the town property, after Madison was set off, this property was awarded to that town, Guilford taking the town mill. In 1849 another almshouse, east of the village, was purchased and used until 1848, when it was sold and the present almshouse, near Jones bridge was secured. About \$1,000 per year is paid for the support of the poor at that place, and as much more for the proper care of the indigent outside of the almshouse.

The first interments in the town were made at Guilford village, and for more than 150 years the village green, in the rear of the meeting house, was the place of burial. These graves were neglected and unenclosed until about 1800. For many years the dead were borne thither on hand biers. In 1691 the town chose Joseph Dudley "for the making of coffins on all occasions of death." Joseph Tustin was soon after chosen grave digger and compensated at the rate of four shillings per adult grave and "three shillings for lesser persons."

In 1731 the town voted "that the palls or cloaths to cover the coffins of ye Dead, when carried to their graves, shall be purchased at town charge and paid for out of the earnings of the mill, and Each of the three Societies shall have the benefit of one cloath."

In 1817-18 the burial places on the green were vacated, many of those lying there being reinterred in the East cemetery, often called the Alder Brook burying ground, about a mile east of the green; and others found a more quiet spot in the West burying ground, in Guilford, about the same distance on the opposite side of the green. Both places are of easy access and of appropriate selection. The latter ground passed under the control of Joel Griffing, Joel Tuttle, Samuel Fowler, Friend Collins and others, as corporators, in October, 1818. In the fall of 1862 lands were bought of Bildad Bishop and Samuel C. Spencer to enlarge the cemetery; and at this time a new corporation was formed, which had among its members Doctor Alvan Talcott, John Hale, H. W. Chittenden and many others. In 1890 this cemetery presented a well kept appearance and had considerable area.

The Alder Brook or Guilford East cemetery also passed under the control of an association, incorporated September 26th, 1866, which had among its members Fitz-Greene Halleck, Thomas R. Pynchon, George E. Kimberly, Doctor Henry Benton and nearly one hundred

others. It is not as large as the West cemetery, but contains more old stones, some of which are quaintly inscribed. These inscriptions, of an earlier date than 1800, and others of the town, in the same period, have been published by the New Haven County Historical Society. Here is the grave of the poet, Fitz-Greene Halleck, born in Guilford July 8th, 1790, and who died in the town November 19th, 1867. On the 8th of July, 1869, a monument placed over his grave by loving friends and admirers, was dedicated. On that occasion his friend and brother poet, George Hill, read an original sonnet, and Bayard Taylor delivered an eulogistic oration. The monument is plain and unpretentious, but is much visited. The cemetery is substantially enclosed.

A place of burial was opened on Moose hill in 1801, and one on Nut plains, in 1817. Both are small and less used now than formerly.

The cemetery at North Guilford, opened soon after the settlement of that part of the town, has a most beautiful location, on a hill near the church edifices, and commands a view of much of the surrounding country. It contains several acres and is well kept. There are hundreds of headstones to the memory of many of the former inhabitants of this part of Guilford. Some have inscriptions which flavor of quaintness, while others are decidedly pathetic, as, for example:

ON A FRIENDLY VISIT  
DOCT.  
DANIEL LYMAN  
DIED SEPT. 28, 1795;  
IN THE 27 YEAR  
OF HIS AGE.

In his profession very judicious and useful. His early death is greatly lamented.

Thus pain and prospects pain our years,  
We meet to mingle groans and tears  
And bid the painful last farewell.

Burials were made at Leete's Island at an early day by the people of that locality. With the increase of population more attention was paid to this place of interment, and it has recently been enlarged. In 1885 it passed under the control of an incorporated body, which has improved the appearance of the cemetery.

The East river was ordered bridged in 1649, and since that time bridges have been maintained on the various roads where they cross the streams, which are small. The oldest road is the main thoroughfare from New Haven to Saybrook, and was used since the settlement of the town. It followed, in a general way, the shore trail of the Indians. Although never improved as a turnpike, it has, in the main, always been good. In May, 1794, it was made a part of the great mail route of the states, from Maine to Georgia, and stages used this thoroughfare until forty years ago. In 1818, the Pettipauge & Guilford Turnpike Company was authorized to build a road from the former place, in Saybrook, to the stage road in Guilford.

The Guilford & Durham Turnpike Company was authorized in 1824. A road from Guilford green was built northward,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  miles, to a point on the New Haven and Middletown road. From Guilford the road was extended to Sachems' Head harbor, four miles more. As this turnpike followed the intervals of the stream much of the way, it had a fine location, and for many years was much used. It has long since been a public highway.

The New Haven & New London railway was chartered in 1848 to construct a road through the towns on the shore of the Long Island sound. The construction was commenced in 1851, and the first passenger train was run over the road, from New Haven to the Connecticut river, July 1st, 1852. This road and eastern connections were re-organized as the Shore Line railroad; and as a division by that name it is now a part of the consolidated system of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company. It was leased to the latter company in 1870. The train service is very good. Stations are maintained at Guilford village and Leete's Island.

Nearly all the first inhabitants of the town were planters or farmers, and it is said that for many years some of the mechanic arts were not carried on, which resulted in many inconveniences to the community. However, in time, most of the necessary tradesmen were secured, and thence for a century the town was almost exclusively devoted to agriculture; and even to the present time that pursuit principally occupies the attention of the inhabitants. Hence in Guilford, more than in any other town in the county, are found the customs and practices which years ago characterized rural New England, and which have been promotive of the full development of a sturdy, self-reliant and intelligent class of people.

The usual grain and lumber mills were early provided, and have been continued to serve the wants of the people as confined to their local demands. In early times the cutting and shipment of cedar lumber was so actively carried on that the town issued an order of prohibition, lest that timber should be altogether exhausted.

The first grain mill was commenced in 1643 and completed two years later. It was begun by Mr. Whitfield, on a contract to build and operate a tide mill for certain privileges, but was finished and first operated by Robert Kitchell. After vain attempts, several years, to make the tide mill work satisfactorily, the site was abandoned and a site on the lowest power of the West river sequestered by the town, on which the mill was built with better results. The town has retained the ownership of the property, and the mill has been rebuilt a number of times. The present frame was put up in 1854. The power is sufficient to operate three runs of burrs.

Higher up this stream a site for clothiers' works was granted to Samuel Johnson in 1707. At first little else was done than fulling the cloth, but later weaving and dressing machinery was added. The

Johnsons carried it on until about fifty years ago, the last owner also being a Samuel Johnson.

Other mills and small works were established, so that in 1838 the town had four saw mills, three grain mills, three fulling mills and four tanneries. About this period, after the manner of those times, large quantities of shoes were made, in different parts of the town, and shipped to markets outside of the state. Previous to this time Daniel Hubbard had in successful operation an extensive carriage-making establishment, whose business declined, after 1837, and later that industry in the town was carried on in a limited manner only. In more recent years George A. Hull & Son have been carrying on a hub and spoke factory on the West river, near the old fulling mill. Water and steam power are used and half a dozen men are employed. In 1850 Samuel Jones had a shop for making carriage parts.

In the same locality, some time about 1857, E. C. Bishop and others had an iron foundry, where they made grindstone castings, etc., and among their products, for a time, were also castings for the street car works of John Stephenson, of New York. The industry was not long continued, but Reuben Bull & Co. were there later.

The building of small sailing craft was carried on from the beginning, and later larger vessels were built. A shipyard, in which many men worked, was many years maintained at Jones' bridge, where among the best known builders were Nathaniel Griffing, Frederick Griffing, George Graves and William W. Baldwin. The latter discontinued sometime about 1849, but here built a fully-rigged schooner, which sailed for California, carrying out some of the argonauts. It is said that some Guilford men were on board of that vessel. At this point a saw mill was also operated. On the East river was another shipyard, where sea-going vessels were built by Eben S. Hotchkiss, William H. Caldwell and others. In more recent years small craft only were there built. When business was at its best as many as fifty men were employed at that yard. Some of the craft built were owned by inhabitants of the town, who were engaged in the coasting trade, and a few vessels of this kind are still kept in Guilford. A few of the inhabitants of Guilford were also engaged in the West Indies trade.

About 1847 O. B. Fowler and Charles Bishop bought out the Hull Foundry, at Clinton, and removed it to Guilford, setting it up at the wharf by Jones' bridge. They made plow castings and general work. Bishop, who had come from Meriden, sold out to Fowler the following year, and returned to that city. The foundry was now moved to the Nausup brook, where it crosses Fair street, where a large building was put up and the manufacture of sad irons added. In 1854 the place was called the "Nausup Foundry and Machine Shop," and O. B. Fowler was the agent in charge. The property was soon after sold to Israel S. Spencer and his son, Christopher. Later another son, George B., was added to the firm, which became, after the father's death in 1867,

I. S. Spencer's Sons, and has since so continued. The Spencers began making plows complete and made other castings to which wood work was here added, so that it became necessary, as the products were increased, to enlarge the factory from time to time. In 1869 a brick foundry, 60 by 100 feet, was built, in which was a cupola having a capacity for five tons. Castings for school furniture and sewing machines were extensively made. In March, 1872, the part of the works fronting on the street was burned, when a two-story brick shop, 66 by 110 feet, took its place. In 1880 the works were further enlarged and a seven-ton cupola built. The manufacture of scales of all kinds was now begun, using the patterns of the Universal Scale Company of New Haven. In 1883 a brass foundry was added. Steam power was supplied in 1872. The works manufacture a large variety of products, and have become the most important industry in the town. Nearly one hundred men are employed.

In the spring of 1849 a joint stock corporation was organized, as the Guilford Manufacturing Company, of which Harlow Isbell was the president, and which had among the directors Jonathan Bishop, Samuel C. Spencer, George Bartlett, Horace Norton, Rufus N. Leete and Alvah B. Goldsmith. The company purchased in May, 1849, the Baldwin shipyard and other property at the Jones Bridge wharf, and established a fine plant on its five and a half acres. Steam engines and heavy machinery of various kinds were manufactured, which were shipped by boat from this place. In the fall of 1850 the company bought out Junius S. Norton's lock and knob manufactory, on High street, which had been erected a few years previous. A part of this building was occupied by Ransom Gaylord, in the manufacture of gimlets, which business he also sold out to the company in 1851. On the plant near the bridge E. L. Ripley had *papier maché* works the same time, and business appeared to prosper on all hands, when reverses came which resulted in the failure of the corporation. The manufactured goods and the machinery were sold at a sacrifice, and for some years the property stood idle. After the war one of the buildings at the wharf was removed to the north side of the green, where it now serves as Music Hall. Other buildings on that site were converted into tenements.

In 1868 the old lock and knob works were occupied by J. W. Schermerhorn & Co., for the manufacture of school furniture and apparatus, which here developed into an important industry. Many men were employed and large quantities of goods were shipped to all parts of the Union. The money stringency in 1877 affected this line of manufacture, which was here discontinued that year.

After being idle a few years the property passed to the Guilford Enterprise Company, composed of Amos Gates, H. E. Norton and others, who manufactured vegetable ivory buttons, etc. The old works burned down, and about half a dozen years ago a good brick factory

was located in its place. That business was last carried on by Edwin C. Woodruff, E. H. Butler and others. In February, 1888, the plant became the property of the Guilford Savings Bank, and in 1890 it was leased to the Paragon Novelty Company, transferred to this place from New Haven.

In spite of these reverses the town deemed it proper to encourage the spirit of manufacturing, and October 6th, 1884, "Voted, that the selectmen be instructed to abate the taxes on all the property owned by any manufacturing company, or company coming into the town for the purpose of carrying on business."

Since that time several enterprises have been set on foot. Early in 1886 the citizens of Guilford united in raising a fund of \$25,000 for the purpose of establishing a manufacturing plant for the production of textile goods. This fund was placed in the care of E. H. Butler, Alvan Talcott and S. W. Landon as trustees. A lot of ground near the railway station was donated by A. G. Sommer, on which was built a large, fine frame mill and an engine room, in which a good Harris-Corliss engine was placed. The mill was stocked with machinery for spinning weaving silk, by William O. Atwood, and about sixty operatives were employed. After two years Atwood failed, and the mill, after being idle a year, was operated a year by Singleton & Co. The next lessees were George H. Rose & Co., who operated until May, 1890, since which time the mill has again been idle.

Within the past six years the cultivation of tomatoes has become an important industry in the town, and several canning establishments have been started. The Guilford Canning Company, composed of Messrs. Griswold, Dudley, Hubbard and others, put up a large cannery in the northern part of the village, which was extensively operated two years. On Water street is the cannery of the Sachem's Head Canning Company, which has a capacity of 20,000 cans per day. Since 1886 L. N. Benton has been the proprietor. In mid-season more than one hundred people are employed. The products have a most excellent reputation, widely advertising the name of the town.

The latest industrial venture is the Guilford Creamery, established in March, 1889, by a joint stock company, of which E. C. Bishop was the president. The creamery has a working capacity for 500 cows, and is fitted with modern machinery.

In 1837 the quarrying of granite for export was begun on an extensive scale in the southeastern part of the borough, near East river. The material for a number of public buildings in New York was here procured. In recent years the quarry has become subordinate to the one at Leete's Island, where building stone of superior quality abounds. It was opened about twenty years ago by John Beattie, and by him has been successfully developed into one of the most extensive and important industries in the town.

At Mulberry point were formerly fish oil works, carried on by Messrs. Fowler & Colburn, which have been abandoned.

Nearly eighty years ago the Farmers' Wharf was an important place in the town. It was built in 1812 on the East river, at the foot of Harbor street (laid out as early as 1665, to the tide mill formerly at that point), by the Farmers' Wharf Company, incorporated January 20th, 1812. Land for the wharf was purchased of Samuel Fowler. The company was composed of Samuel Elliott, William Hubbard, Joel Tuttle, Reuben Elliott & Co., Solomon Stone, Jr., Timothy Johnson, Daniel L. Benton, Peletiah Leete, William Landon, Jonathan Bishop, Abraham T. Chittenden & Co., Charles Chalker, Isaac Benton and Frederick Lee, of Guilford; and Silas Benton and Silas Benton, Jr., of Branford.

These parties not only used the wharf themselves, but gave that privilege to others, the charter permitting the charge of wharfage. It has long since been abandoned, although small sloops still touch there and at other wharves in the town.

The village of Guilford was incorporated as a borough in October, 1815, and Jonathan Todd authorized to call the first meeting. It was held December 5th, 1815, when the following were elected: Warden, Joel Griffing; burgesses, William Todd, Reuben Elliott, Thomas Burgess, William Spencer, Abraham Coan, Jonathan Bishop; clerk, Samuel Fowler; treasurer, Timothy Stone; bailiff, Reuben Stone.

Extensive by-laws were passed January 12th, 1816, and the streets were officially named that year.

On the 17th of July, 1874, the charter of the borough was greatly amended, and the bounds as then set forth, in a general way, embraced the territory east of the West or Menuncatuc river, and as high up that stream as the ancient Bradley ship yard, thence up the stream to North Guilford road, thence eastward to the Alder brook, and down to the East river, thence down that stream to the Sawpit bridge, thence in straight line to the eastern part of the old Farmers' wharf, on the bank of the East river, and thence to the place of beginning, at Hog-head point.

This embraces the major part of the "Great Plain" of the early settlers, having a length from the sound northward of nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, and an average width from east to west of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles. It contains all the public buildings of the southern part of the town and most of the population and wealth.

The privileges conferred by the charter are not fully realized, as most of the action of the borough has pertained to the restraining of live stock and seeking protection against fires. In 1851 the borough purchased a New Haven engine to displace an old small engine, previously used, and which had become worthless. At Guilford the latter machine became Engine No. 2, and a company was organized to



properly man it. In 1890 the fire inspectors were: D. A. Benton, William E. Weld, A. Hinckley, George W. Hill and Charles Griswold.

The following have been the wardens of the borough: 1816-8, Joel Griffing; 1819-20, William Todd; 1821, Nathaniel Griffing; 1822-4, Samuel Elliott; 1825-7, William Todd; 1828-9, Jedediah Lathrop; 1830-1, William Todd; 1832, Samuel C. Johnson; 1833-4, George Griswold; 1835-6, Samuel Scranton; 1837-8, George Hart; 1839-40, Anson Foote; 1841-2, Miles Munger; 1843-4, Elisha Hutchinson; 1845-8, Joel Tuttle; 1849-52, Ralph D. Smith; 1853-4, James A. Norton; 1855-7, Edward R. Landon; 1858-9, Russell Benton; 1860, Franklin C. Phelps; 1861, Reuben L. Fowler; 1862, William C. Dudley; 1863-8, Reuben L. Fowler; 1869-71, Russell Crampton; 1872-3, Reuben L. Fowler; 1874-7, George B. Spencer; 1878, E. C. Bishop; 1879, George B. Spencer; 1880, John Graves; 1881-5, John S. Starr; 1886-90, William T. Dowd.

In the same period the following have been the clerks: Samuel Fowler, Reuben Stone, Abraham Fowler, Amos Seward, Samuel Fowler, Jr., George C. Griswold, William Hale, Richard Weld, Roger Griswold, Charles W. Landon, Sylvenus Clark, Edward R. Landon, Beverly Monroe, John S. Elliott, John A. Stanton, Charles Griswold, L. O. Chittenden, H. Pendleton, Jr., Henry W. Spencer, George W. Seward, F. C. Spencer.

The borough is sixteen miles east of New Haven, and since 1852 has been a station on the Shore Line railroad. The situation is very pleasant, and the surroundings have been much improved by the planting of trees and the laying out of lawns, which give the village a quiet and restful appearance. Nearly all the buildings are of wood, many of them being large and substantial, their erection ante-dating the present century. Here is also the famous old stone house, built by the founder of the village, Reverend Henry Whitfield, in 1639, thus being the oldest English built house in America. There are two Congregational meeting houses, and Episcopal, Catholic and Methodist churches; a public hall, a savings bank, several manufacturing establishments and a dozen other business places. Within the limits of the borough are several thousand inhabitants.

When the town was first settled and the village established in the upper part of the plain, the custom of these times was followed, and a market place or public square set aside, on which the meeting house and other public buildings were to be set. Around the square the homes of the planters were to be placed. The tract thus reserved embraced nearly twelve acres of woodland, about half as wide as long. Its surface was broken by hillocks, rocks and depressions, forming pond holes or basins of stagnant water. Some of the trees were cut down when the first meeting house was placed upon the square, but measures were early taken to protect them, and they were ordered to be left standing. Other trees along the highways were preserved, because they were found by experience to be of public benefit and advan-

tage, therefore, for promoting the same, the selectmen are to mark them with a G, and then there is a penalty following their being cut down." In other ways, however, the square was allowed to become a nuisance. The public buildings were placed on it without regard to system, and the central part was unwisely used as a place of burial. Other parts, and even the sacred resting place of the dead, became the favorite haunt of hogs and cows, who revelled among rank weeds and garbage until the place looked very forbidding indeed, at the beginning of the present century. At night, when the sun set, the cows lowed, the geese screeched, and the swine lay off in sonorous sleep. Smartweed and milkweed had their rights there, and the scraggy sides of poplars and willows were polished by the scrawny hides of itching cattle. The gouty land rose in humps and knolls, and the water oozing out formed natural cisterns, partly drained by those camp followers, the hogs and cows. At the upper end stood the already aged town house and the academy, where Mistress Halleck, the poet's mother, once wielded the ferule. There was the whipping post, too, for larger children.

But soon after the public sense was quickened by the evil appearance of this spot, and its improvement began. The burial places were vacated in 1817 and new cemeteries begun about a mile away, on either side of the village. The rocks were removed, the low places filled up, and the unsightly poplar trees gave place to the more graceful and honored elms. The removal of the public buildings followed. The Congregational meeting house found a more suitable site north of the green in 1830, and the same year the town house and the old academy were removed to lots in the rear of that building. The last building removed was the Episcopal church, in 1838, which found a new site on the east of the green. The preceding year the ground was enclosed by a simple white railing, and it now began to develop into the beauty spot which is justly an object of pride of all good citizens. Much of the later embellishment was produced by the efforts of the ladies' society of "United Workers," formed in 1874, which has directed its further improvement with good taste and loving hands.

The green now has the appearance of an attractive green sward, studded with stately elm trees, whose grateful shade extends comfort and rest. But at stated periods, on important occasions, its quiet beauty is disturbed by gatherings of citizens, which give life and animated aspect to its precincts. Near the center of the green a soldiers' monument has been erected, whose natural beauty is much enhanced by its sylvan surroundings.

The Guilford Savings Bank was organized October 1st, 1875. Its first officers were: Edward R. Landon, president; Alfred G. Hull, vice-president; Beverly Monroe, treasurer; Henry E. Fowler, secretary. Christopher Spencer succeeded Landon as president, and in 1884 was succeeded by Lewis R. Elliott, who has since been at the head of the

institution. Charles Griswold was elected secretary and treasurer of the bank in 1883, and so served until July 1st, 1889, when he was succeeded by the present incumbent, H. W. Spencer. E. H. Butler is the present vice-president. There are 25 trustees. The bank was opened for business in Beverly Monroe's store, moving to its present house in 1883. The deposits, January, 1890, were nearly \$142,000, and there was a surplus fund of \$5,000.

The first periodical published at Guilford was the *Clionian Banner*, a small paper issued by the members of the Clionian Literary Society of Guilford village. It had a limited circulation and a short existence.

The first general newspaper was the *Shore Line Sentinel*, whose first issue bore date March 8th, 1877. The office of publication was in the old Chamberlain building and the paper was here continued about a year, when for want of proper encouragement it was removed to the interior of the state. It was a large, handsome sheet, devoted to the local interests of the shore towns, and W. F. Hendrick was the editor and publisher.

In more recent years the *Guilford Item* was published as a more distinctly village local weekly, but it, too, was short-lived. The office was in the Kelsey building, on Whitfield street, and the material was removed. Since that time several small job printing offices have been set up in the village.

The post office at Guilford village was established in 1789. In May, 1794, the office was supplied by the great mail route from Boston to New York. After 1837 the stages furnished a daily mail supply. The service since 1852 has been by railway and embraces several mails per day. Medad Stone was an early postmaster, as was also Reuben Elliott, the latter keeping the office many years on Boston street. Amos Seward, a later postmaster, lived on the west side of the green. George Hart, Albert Wildman, Elisha Hutchinson and Franklin C. Phelps were postmasters up to the close of the civil war. Henry E. Norton followed; and for sixteen years prior to 1885, Captain Charles Griswold was the postmaster. Then came Henry W. Spencer, four years, succeeded in 1889 by the present incumbent, George N. Bradley. Since the war of 1865 a post office has been established at Leete's Island, and for a longer period there has been an office at North Guilford.

Formerly the town had hotels of good repute, the Bradley inn, opposite the northwest corner of the green, being favorably known until after the building of the railway. The house was large and had pillars extending through both stories. It has been converted into a residence. Before the period of stage lines, in 1794, the town had ordinaries and inns, but they did not attain any special importance. Indeed, the custom of the town did not favor it. We are told that there was "no such thing as tavern haunting and little

wasting of time in drinking and fruitless diversion." These habits of sobriety and industry are largely continued to the present time. Along the shore a number of hotels were formerly maintained; the Harbor House, at the foot of Harbor street; the Pavilion Hotel, on Guilford Point, by Robert Hunt, and still continued as a summer hotel; the Sachem's Head House, by Samuel Barker, burned in 1865; and the Walnut Grove House, on Leete's Island, by H. Ives, being the principal ones. At Sachem's Head, summer hotels have more recently been opened.

Among the merchants of the village are remembered the Chittendens, the Elliotts, and a few others of half a century ago. The Hales were in trade many years, Henry Hale continuing since 1856. J. Monroe & Son established a trade many years ago, which is also still carried on by Beverly Monroe. Russell Clark merchandised here before removing to New Haven.

At North Guilford stores have also been kept the greater part of a century, among those later in trade being Edmund Field, Charles Lane, and at that stand in 1890 was Jerome Coan. Half a mile north was the store of Baldwin C. Dudley, where was also kept the North Guilford post office. More recently stores have been opened at Leete's Island.

Prior to the revolution some members of the Masonic order resided at Guilford, who complained of the long distance they were obliged to travel to attend the meetings of the order. Desiring that a Lodge be established in their town, they made application to the Provincial Grand Lodge of North America for that privilege, and that body granted them a charter July 10th, 1771. The petitioners were Timothy Ward, Bilious Ward, David Landon, Timothy Ludinton, Eber Waterhouse, Asher Fairchild, Benjamin Stone, Giles Trubee and William Johnson. In due time the organization of St. Alban's Lodge, No. 38, F. & A. M., was effected, with Bilious Ward as the first master. He was also at the head of the Lodge the next two years. In 1774-5 the master was Eli Foote. The names of those who presided from 1775 to 1797 cannot be given, as the records of that period were burned in the fire of 1862, when Music Hall, where the Lodge held its meetings, was destroyed. Prior to the occupancy of that building the Lodge met in the old academy building. The present Masonic hall is in the upper rooms of Henry Hale's block, which has been neatly fitted up for that purpose.

The Lodge met steadily until 1827, when its charter was revoked, and was not restored until 1851, when the Lodge was revived, and has in the main since had a fair degree of prosperity. In the fall of 1890 one hundred members were reported.

Besides the masters named the following brethren have served in that position: 1797, Isaac Chalker; 1798, George Cleveland; 1799, Oliver Bray; 1800, Jedediah Lathrop; 1801, George Cleveland; 1802-3, Joel

Griffing; 1804-6, Jeremiah Parmelee; 1807, William Spencer; 1808-9, Peletiah Leete; 1810, Thomas Powers; 1811, Jeremiah Parmelee; 1812-13, Jedediah Lathrop; 1814, Abraham L. Chittenden; 1815-16, Joseph Griffing; 1817-19, Jedediah Lathrop; 1820-3, Amos Seward; 1824, Merritt Foote; 1825-6, Jedediah Lathrop; 1827, Amos Seward; 1851, Charles A. Ball; 1852, C. L. Crowell; 1853, Charles W. Miller; 1854, C. L. Crowell; 1855-62, Asahel B. Morse; 1863-6, Henry B. Stannard; 1867-9, William T. Dowd; 1870-1, Henry B. Stannard; 1872-3, William T. Dowd; 1874-5, C. H. Norton; 1876, William T. Dowd; 1877, C. H. Norton. And since that time, in the order named, Hart Landon, A. B. Palmer, George S. Davis, Charles W. Walkley, S. J. Griswold and Samuel W. Landon.

Halleck Chapter, No. 4, R. A. M., was instituted at Guilford, October 3d, 1883, with H. I. Fisk as the first high priest. In that office he was followed by C. H. Norton, E. S. Bishop, C. W. Walkley and George S. Davis. Other officers in 1890 were: K., Nelson S. Leete; S., Francis Beattie; secretary, C. H. Norton; treasurer, J. T. Wildman; C. H., Charles H. Post; P. S., J. W. Oughton; R. A. C., Edwin S. Spencer. This is the only Chapter on the coast between New Haven and New London, and has 25 members. Its convocations are held in Masonic Hall.

Menuncatuck Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F., was organized in 1849. Among the charter members were Reuben L. Fowler, Asahel B. Morse, Russell Crampton, Henry B. Stannard, Horace Fowler, Edward R. Benton, Amos Griswold and Alpha Morse. After an existence of a number of years the meetings were allowed to lapse and the Lodge went down. But on the 25th of February, 1880, it was resuscitated, with the foregoing charter members and these additional: H. Pendleton, Jr., Henry W. Leete, Charles W. Walkley, Richard E. Benton and Edwin H. Griswold. In May, 1890, the Lodge had 76 members and an accumulated fund of \$1,200, which was in care of trustees: E. H. Butler, George W. Walkley and George P. Rolf. The meetings were held in Masonic Hall.

Whitfield Council, No. 1034, Royal Arcanum, was instituted April 19th, 1887, with 27 charter members. In October, 1890, the Council had 45 members. It has had a continued growth and but one death, that of S. W. Landon, in the summer of 1890. The \$3,000 benefit was paid to his heirs within a month of his decease. The first regent of the Council was H. S. Wedmore, and that office was filled in 1890 by F. P. Knowles. The trustees at this time were: George S. Davis, E. H. Griswold and H. S. Putney. The meetings of the Council are held in Masonic Hall.

Parmelee Post, No. 42, G. A. R., was instituted June 17th, 1873, with the following charter members: Alfred N. Wilcox, Charles Griswold, Henry B. Dudley, Joel Griswold, Eber S. Fowler, John Coulter, Henry H. Mack, Julian F. Watrous, H. Lynde Harrison, Samuel J. Griswold, Edward Griswold. The Post has mustered a number of members, and

had in the fall of 1890 65 comrades belonging. Captain Charles Griswold was the first commander. The other commanders, in the order of their service, were: H. Lynde Harrison, Alfred N. Wilcox, William H. Harrison, Julian F. Watrous, Edward R. Benton, L. Odell Chittenden, Joel C. Page, Adolph G. Sommer, E. Roger Davis, Edson S. Bishop, John W. Oughton, Hart Landon, Sylvester R. Snow, Charles Griswold and L. Odell Chittenden. The Post was instrumental in the building of the soldiers' monument, and has promoted the decoration of the graves of deceased comrades.

A Woman's Relief Corps was organized in March, 1888, as an adjunct of the above Post, Mrs. Charles Griswold being the first president and Mrs. Hart Landon the present. The original membership of 17 has been increased to more than 30.

The United Workers for Public Improvement, more commonly called the "U. W. P. I.," was organized February 9th, 1874, by some of the energetic, public-spirited ladies of Guilford, to beautify and improve the village. The society has been maintained in the spirit in which it was organized, ever embracing in its membership the leading ladies of the community. Their efforts have led to the material improvement and embellishment of the village in the way of having trees planted, sidewalks built, streets lighted, and properly caring for the public grounds. As an incidental feature in the accomplishment of these objects, the society published in 1877 the MSS. History of Guilford, prepared by the Hon. Ralph D. Smith, under the direction of its committee, Miss Nettie Fowler and Mrs. Ripley Baylies, and devoted the proceeds from the sale of the book to the prosecution of its work.

The public efforts of the ladies have stimulated private and individual improvement to such an extent that much of old Guilford has been clothed with a new dress, presenting a clean, orderly and well preserved appearance.

The Guilford Agricultural Society, as a temporary body, was formed a few years after the war. Its permanent organization took place in 1872, and June 25th, 1874, it was incorporated with the following membership, who had before sustained a voluntary relation to the society and Farmers' Club, viz.: John Elliott, Lewis R. Elliott, Henry Fowler, William T. Foote, William W. Fowler, Sidney Leete, J. W. Norton, Richard Wilcox, William E. Weed, J. S. Benton, Sylvester Snow, Henry R. Spencer, William D. Hull, Edwin O. Davis, Henry N. Davis, D. L. Davis, Lewis Fowler, Samuel Crnttenden, Charles F. Leete. To these were soon added Jerome Coan, George B. Spencer, Richard H. Woodruff, Richard W. Starr, Arthur S. Fowler, E. Roger Davis, Charles L. Benton, Dudley Chittenden, Everett L. Dudley, Daniel L. Spencer, Roger C. Leete, H. Francis Dudley, William H. Lee, Henry H. Griswold, George W. Dndley, Wilbur F. Rossiter, Richard F. Kelsey, and many others.

The society succeeded in awakening an interest in agriculture, which had been languishing, and has been carried on with general good results. Under its auspices more than a dozen of very successful agricultural, mechanical and industrial exhibitions have been held, which have stimulated competition and attracted large numbers of people annually. Usually these shows are held in the public green and in Music Hall. On these occasions the display of the famous Guilford red cattle is especially fine, affording a sight seldom witnessed in any other town in the county, hundreds of yokes sometimes being in the grand parade, preliminary to the competitive examination.

The society has a large membership, and in 1890 had the following officers: President, Robert E. Davis; vice-presidents, S. R. Snow, D. R. Spencer; secretary, George L. Griswold; treasurer, George B. Spencer; directors, George W. Dudley, Charles H. Davis, E. J. Chittenden, E. G. Davis, John Benton, William S. Leete, William H. Lee, George Rolfe, R. H. Woodruff, R. T. Kelsey, J. C. Potter, R. C. Wilcox, George Carter, Charles Walkley, R. L. Parker.

Guilford Grange, No. 81, P. of H., was organized April 6th, 1888, with 15 members. In May, 1890, those belonging numbered 50. Meetings of great interest are held semi-monthly in Armory Hall. The executive committee in the summer of 1890 was John B. Hubbard, George W. Dudley and J. W. Norton.

North Guilford Grange, No. 104, though but recently organized, has attained considerable prosperity. Its membership is mainly in the northern part of the town, where the Grange is looked upon with favor as an educational and social factor.

Undoubtedly the "great design" of the early settlers of the town was religion and the formation of a church in which they might enjoy Gospel privileges as best suited themselves. They clearly express this purpose in their "Plantation Covenant," June 1st, 1639, even before their place of habitation had been selected, when they speak of being gathered together "in a church way after such time as it shall please God to settle us in our plantation." The latter object having been secured, they now turn to the accomplishment of the purpose which primarily led them into the new world, where they might better seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; or, as they emphasized the purpose in 1643, "The mayne ends which were propounded to ourselves in our coming hither and settling down together are, that we may settle and uphold the ordinances of God in an explicit Congregational church way, with most purity, peace and liberty for the benefit both of ourselves and posterity after us." This idea was fully consummated June 19th, 1643, when

The Guilford Congregational Church was formally organized. The method they pursued was the same as had been adopted by the New Haven and Milford churches: "Seven Pillars" were chosen as the basis

of the organization, and to these the remainder of the company joined themselves to constitute the church.

These seven pillars were: Mr. Henry Whitfield, Mr. John Higginson, Samuel Desborough, William Leete, Jacob Sheafe, John Mephram, and John Hoadly. They now drew up a "Doctrine of Faith," which was used in an unamended form until 1837, to which they first formally assented, then entered into covenant relations with each other. After this others of the planters were added, upon similar confession of faith and expression of covenant belief, and being approved church members were also dignified as freemen. This gave them the right to fully participate in the affairs of the plantation. Here as in New Haven only church members could vote or hold office, until after the union of New Haven colony with other colonies in the state in 1665. How many of the planters were excluded by this provision is not known, as the early church records have not been preserved. For many years no deacons or ruling elders were elected, and the temporalities of the church were managed by three men chosen annually.

"To the church thus constituted the four planters—Robert Kitchell, William Chittenden, John Bishop and William Leete—who had been entrusted with the control of affairs until a church should be gathered, resigned their trust, and by the church thus organized the civil polity of the plantation was thereupon established."\* The church, it will be seen, thus became the all important factor in the community, and for many years everything else was subordinated to it.

It appears strange that a community which placed such an estimate upon the church relation should not have been organized into that form earlier; but it is probable that there was some cause for the delay, or the need may not have been so apparent since, no doubt, they regularly maintained worship. Mr. Whitfield had been the pastor of some of the members in England, and at least one of them, Thomas Norton, had been a warden in his church at Ockley. That there may have been some temporary organization appears from the fact that in 1641 Mr. John Higginson had been secured as a teacher, and both were continued by the church in their former relations; and as Mr. Whitfield had been ordained in England, that formality was not here followed by the new church.

It is probable that the first meetings were held in the stone house of Mr. Whitfield, built in 1639, which was first "fitted up with folding partitions" to afford the necessary room. But a stone meeting house, with a thatched roof, was soon built on the northwest part of the green. It may have been completed in 1643, at the time the church was organized. In 1651 it was ordered to be rethatched "and clayed before winter," which would indicate that it was perhaps hurriedly finished. Its capacity was increased in 1668, when a gallery was built

\* Reverend Cornelius L. Kitchell.



across the west end or side, for the building was about 25 feet square, and the sides of the roof, which were now covered with lumber, came to a point in the center. In 1672 a porch was added and in 1679, more room being wanted, it was agreed to build galleries on all the sides and a porch on the south side. Again it was enlarged in 1681, and in that manner was used until 1712.

Notwithstanding the parish of East Guilford had been formed in 1703, the attendance at church was so large that a new meeting house was demanded and secured in 1713. This was a large wooden structure, 46 by 83 feet, and three stories high, so as to afford double galleries. At the west end a steeple, 120 feet high, was added, in which a bell was placed about 1725; and about the same time a clock was made for it and given to the society by Ebenezer Parmelee, a skillful mechanic of the town. It is said that this was the first meeting house in the state thus equipped. In a repaired condition the old clock is still in use in the present church spire. Up to 1726 the drum was used to warn the people to attend meetings, according to the custom of those times. In the old meeting house the men sat in one part and the women in another; and in the new building it was ordered, in 1713, that "men and women sit together in the meeting house in the pews;" which were assigned to families according to age, social position and the property list. This meeting house, which stood near the center of the green, was used about 117 years.

Early in 1828 it was determined to build a new meeting house, and after some effort to raise the necessary means, thirty members of the society agreed to build the house, taking the risk of being reimbursed from the sale of pews. A lot opposite the north end of the green was selected, on which the corner stone of the present edifice was laid June 5th, 1829. It is 60 by 80 feet, with a pulpit recess of six feet, and originally cost more than \$7,000. As dedicated May 19th, 1830, it was a large, imposing frame building, and for those times was deemed very complete. The old house was now demolished and removed from the green. In 1861 the present meeting house was very materially improved and modernized, especially the interior. In 1868 Mrs. Mary G. Chittenden presented the society with a superb organ. Recent repairs have made this building and the parsonage adjoining attractive and comfortable. On the 20th of May, 1830, the pews of the meeting house were sold for more than enough to pay all the bills contracted in its erection, and the ownership remained in the purchasers until 1850, when they were deeded back to the society, which has since annually rented them.

The Reverend Henry Whitfield continued his pastoral labors until October, 1651, when he returned to England. His congregation had become greatly attached to him, for he was not only a pastor, but, in the words of Mr. Ruggles, "He was properly the father of the plantation; lov'd his flock tenderly and was extremely below'd

by them." His preaching had been most acceptable, "delivering himself with a peculiar dignity, beauty and solemnity." Hence when the time came for him to leave his church the people of the town "followed him to the water's side with many tears," and bade adieu to him who had in all things amongst them been the foremost. Coming to Guilford with what seemed great means, his estate had become much exhausted by helping his people and supporting his large family, so that when a living was offered him in England, under the protectorate, he felt it his duty to return; and he ended his life in the ministry in the city of Winchester.

Henry Whitfield was the son of a lawyer and was designed by his father for that profession. But he became a minister of the established church of England and served at Ockley, in Surrey. For twenty years he conformed to the church of England, when, through his acquaintance with some distinguished non-conformists, as Hooker, Davenport and Eaton, he also became a non-conformist, among whom, on account of his ability and wealth, he took a prominent place. From the fact that his family remained in Guilford some eight years longer, it has been inferred that it may have been Mr. Whitfield's purpose to return, but in 1659 all the remaining members, including his son-in-law, the Reverend John Higginson, left the town, and his landed property passed into other hands.

While the church mourned the loss of its beloved pastor, it was soon called upon to suffer a still further loss in the departure of two more of its seven pillars: Mr. Samuel Desborough, who returned to England in 1651, and Mr. John Hoadley, who went two years later. In the meantime the teacher of the church, Mr. John Higginson, continued to preach, and September 5th, 1653, was settled as the pastor. He remained until 1659, when he also purposed to return to England. Sailing for England, contrary winds forced the vessel back into Salem, where his father had been settled in the ministry in 1629 as the first pastor of that church. The pulpit being vacant, he was persuaded to settle there as the pastor, and was installed August 29th, 1660. He continued until his death, December 9th, 1708, in the 93d year of his age, after having been in the ministry 72 years. In his twenty years' stay in the town he aided largely in forming the character of the community, and was respected both as a teacher and as a preacher.

The departure from Guilford of Reverend John Higginson marked an ebbing period in the history of the church, and for several years matters were in a confused condition. Reverend John Cotton, who had married a daughter of Doctor Bryan Rossiter, was here part of the time, as was also Reverend John Bowers, who was afterward the pastor of the Derby church. A call was extended to Reverend Increase Mather in 1663, and the town was much elated at the prospect of his acceptance; but he declined the call the next spring. In this state of affairs some of the planters removed and the town suffered in consequence.

"After they had waded through these troublesome times Providence provided for them a pastor after God's own heart to feed them with knowledge and understanding. For about the year 1664 or 1665, the renowned Mr. Joseph Eliot, son of the famous and pious Mr. John Eliot of Roxbury (the Indian New England Apostle) was called and ordained to the pastoral office in this church." "The church and town greatly flourished under his successful ministry. After this burning and shining light had ministered to the good people about thirty years, he deceased May 24th, 1694, to the inexpressible grief of his beloved flock whose memory is not forgotten to this day."\*

The Reverend Thomas Ruggles was settled as the next pastor November 20th, 1695, "and after he had faithfully fed the flock, he deceased June 1st, 1728, in the 34th year of his ministry and the 58th year of his age." His son, Thomas Ruggles, Jr., succeeded him in the pastorate March 26th, 1729. His accession was attended by an unfortunate disagreement which caused the formation of the Fourth church. And yet Mr. Ruggles acquitted himself a careful, prudent pastor, "a lover of good men and a friend to mankind." He died November 19th, 1770. His powers having failed, Reverend Amos Fowler was settled as his colleague June 8th, 1757, and after his death became the pastor. He was also a native of Guilford, and graduated from Yale in 1753. He died, greatly respected, February 10th, 1800. Reverend Israel Brainerd, of Haddam, was installed as the next pastor June 11th, 1800, and was dismissed six years later. In this period there was much unrest in the congregation and the spiritual life of the church was very low. He could not yield himself to the demands of his people, and after a vain effort to quicken them, left the town.

The church was now without a pastor six months, when, December 10th, 1806, Reverend Aaron Dutton was settled as the minister. At the time he was installed there were less than thirty active members, but so successful was his ministry of 36 years, that at its close, June 8th, 1842, there were more than 400 members. He was a man of marked character and ability, and "resigned his pastorate chiefly on account of the difference of opinion between himself and many of his congregation on the subject of negro slavery in the United States." He left the parish for the sake of harmony, but the continued agitation of the subject resulted in the organization of the present Third church. It is to be regretted that efforts to unite the two churches, made after the cause of the separation had been removed and forever settled, have not been attended with more encouraging results. The united congregations would constitute one grand and powerful church.

Since the pastorate of Mr. Dutton the following have been the ministers: Reverend E. Edwin Hall, settled October 25th, 1843, dismissed July 24th, 1855, at his own request, to make a visit to Europe; Henry Wickes, May 22d, 1856, to July 21st, 1858; William S. Smith, May

\* Ruggles mss., 1769.

3d, 1859, to July 3d, 1865; Cornelius L. Kitchell followed the Reverend E. Edwin Hall, who had supplied the pulpit, and was settled April 13th, 1870, resigned March 24th, 1873. October 4th, 1873, Reverend Theodore L. Day became acting pastor, and remained until May 4th, 1876. The pulpit was now supplied by the Reverends H. R. Harris, Andrew W. Archibald and George S. Thrall. January 2d, 1879, Reverend Henry Fink became the acting pastor, until his death, August 27th, 1879. March 10th, 1880, Reverend Frank H. Taylor was installed, and was dismissed September 3d, 1883, when Reverend S. M. Keller supplied the pulpit. In May, 1884, Reverend E. M. Vittum was here ordained, and was dismissed December 15th, 1888. On the 1st of August, 1889, Reverend Charles H. McIntosh became the supply for one year, and continued in the summer of 1890.

In the town have been raised up as ministers, among others, the following in the First Society: Jared Eliot, Timothy Cullins, Bela Hubbard, D.D., Thomas Ruggles, Timothy Stone, Thomas Ruggles, Jr., William Leete, Jr., Edwin H. Seward, Beriah Hotchkin, Henry Robinson, S. W. Dutton, D. D., Henry L. Hall, Daniel Collins, Edmund Ward, Samuel Johnson, D. D., William Seward, Andrew Fowler, Joy H. Fairchild, Thomas Dutton, Theodore A. Leete, John H. Fowler, Sherman Griswold, Martin Dudley, Edward C. Starr, John W. Starr.

From the North Guilford part have gone Nathaniel Bartlett, Amos Fowler, Aaron C. Collins, Lyman Beecher, Angus B. Collins, Jared Tyler, Abraham C. Baldwin, John E. Bray, Stephen A. Loper and others.

Several new churches have from time to time been formed as off-shoots from this church; the Congregational church of East Guilford, now Madison, in 1703; the Congregational church in North Guilford, in 1719; the church in Guilford called the Fourth church, in 1731, now disbanded; the Congregational church in North Bristol, now North Madison, in 1757; and the Third Congregational church of Guilford, in 1843. The Episcopal church of Guilford, in 1743, and the Methodist church of Guilford, in 1836, also received, at their organization, several members from this church.

The members in 1890 numbered 332, belonging to 185 families in the parish.

The following were chosen and served as deacons of the church: George Bartlett, 1664; John Fowler, 1664; John Graves, 1666; William Johnson, November, 1673; John Meigs, 1696; Samuel Johnson, 1713; James Hooker, 1702; Thomas Hall, 1727; William Seward, 1730; Timothy Stone, 1742; Doctor Nathaniel Ruggles, 1751; Ebenezer Bartlett, 1765; John Burgis, November 2d, 1775; Thomas Burgis, November 5th, 1794; Samuel Chittenden, June 19th, 1799; Abraham Chittenden, July 2d, 1799; David Bishop, April 29th, 1802; Ambrose Leete, December 2d, 1807; Thomas Hart, March 29th, 1809; Anson Chittenden, March 29th, 1809; William Starr, December 3d, 1813; John B. Chittenden, October

3d, 1823; Comfort Starr, August 30th, 1827; Jason Seward, August 30th, 1827; Abraham Dudley, August 30th, 1827; Samuel Robinson, May 3d, 1832; Albert A. Leete, May 3d, 1832; Edward L. Leete, November 14th, 1852; Eli Parmelee, November 14th, 1852; \*Edwin O. Davis, January 8th, 1871; \*John Graves, March 30th, 1877; \*John W. Norton, March 30th, 1877; \*E. Walter Leete, November 25th, 1883.

The North Guilford Congregational church was formally organized in 1725. For a number of years the settlers of this part of the town attended worship at Guilford village, going thither at much inconvenience. Application was then made for the means of winter preaching, and in May, 1720, the general assembly incorporated the inhabitants into a society,† to enable them to build a meeting house at some suitable place in their midst. A plain house was put up in 1723, which was, with repairs, made to do service until it was replaced by the second or original part of the present house, built in 1814. This meeting house has been materially changed, and the repairs at different times have made it an inviting place. Its location is most charming, being on a hill, overlooking the greater part of the North Guilford section. Near by is a comfortable parsonage, and on the opposite side is the new and attractive parish house. The latter reflects great credit upon the enterprise, taste and forethought of the community. It was carried to completion largely through the instrumentality of pastor Frank R. Kahler and Augustus Bartlett, the latter donating \$500 for that purpose. Other generous friends contributed the balance, the entire cost being about \$1,600. The house has room for general church and social meetings, a school room and a library. It was occupied in the fall of 1888.

At the formal organization of the church, June 16th, 1725, Reverend Samuel Russell became the pastor. He was a son of Reverend Samuel Russell of the Branford church, and graduated from Yale in 1712. His service as pastor continued until his death, January 19th, 1746, but as the records of that period have not been preserved, it is not known how largely he augmented the church membership.

After several years Reverend John Richards, of Waterbury, who graduated from Yale in 1745, was ordained in November, 1748, and was dismissed at his own request December, 1765. In his ministry 85 persons were added to the church.

The third pastor was Reverend Thomas Wells Bray, a native of Branford. He graduated from Yale in 1765, was ordained pastor of this church December, 1766, and died in the service of the parish April 23d, 1808. He was a pious, exemplary and successful preacher, and 167 members were admitted as the result of his labors.

Reverend William Fowler Vaill was ordained as the pastor December 21st, 1808, and served in that office until April 20th, 1820, when he left to become a missionary in Arkansas. He graduated from Yale in

\* Present deacons. † Known as the "Third Society in Guilford."

1806, and here fitted quite a number of young men for that institution. He also added about thirty persons to the church membership.

In September, 1821, Reverend Zolva Whitmore was settled in the pastorate, and continued until August, 1846. Then, for several years, the pulpit was supplied.

Reverend John L. Ambler was the acting pastor in 1848, and the Reverend Henry Eddy served in the same way from January, 1849, to March, 1851. Reverend Fosdic Harrison was the acting pastor from November, 1851, to November, 1854, and in the summer of 1853 had a good revival, eleven persons being added by profession of faith. Reverend Abraham C. Baldwin was next the acting pastor, from December 1854, until October, 1855. In this period the church edifice was repaired.

Reverend Thomas R. Dutton began an acting pastorate December 9th, 1855, which was continued to May 1st, 1859. In the spring and summer of 1858 there was a notable revival, which added 24 to the membership, and in all 37 were added during his pastorate.

Reverend Richard Chittenden began supplying the pulpit in July, 1859, was ordained to the pastorate August 1st, 1860, and dismissed in 1864. The next minister was Reverend William Howard, who was installed December 20th, 1865, and who, after an acceptable ministry, was dismissed in 1875.

Since that time the pulpit has been supplied or filled by acting pastors, among them being the Reverends William B. Curtis, Frank R. Kahler, until the fall of 1888; and since March, 1889, Reverend Harry C. McKnight. At this time the church had on its rolls 118 members, 11 of whom lived outside of the town. The families in the parish numbered 86, and an invested fund helped to support the Gospel work.

From all accounts the deacons at the organization of the church were George Bartlett and William Dudley. Subsequently those in the deacon's office were: Theophilus Rossiter, Simeon Chittenden, Selah Dudley, John Bartlett, Robert Griffing, Joel Rose, Levi Chittenden, Timothy Rossiter, Benjamin Rossiter, William R. Collins, Samuel W. Dudley, John R. Rossiter and M. L. Chittenden, the latter being the clerk.

The Fourth Society in Guilford may here be appropriately noted. The elder Ruggles, pastor of the First church, died in 1728, and was succeeded in 1729 by his son, Thomas Ruggles, Jr. His settlement gave cause for dissatisfaction to 29 of the 80 male communicants, who protested that he was "not such a distinguishing, experimental and animating preacher as they desired." They and others, more than fifty in all, withdrew and set up separate worship, building a small meeting house in 1730, on a lot facing the north end of the green, after all efforts at reconciliation had failed. Although the dissenters were but few in number, they were not without influence, and

succeeded, after several attempts, in being incorporated in 1733 as a separate society, with the same bounds as the First society, in spite of the vigorous protest of that body. They now had Reverend Edmund Wood, who had preached for them as a candidate for the ministry, ordained September 21st, 1733, as their first pastor. Mr. Wood was a native of the town, graduated from Yale in 1727, and served as pastor until 1735, when he was dismissed and deposed by a council called for that purpose. He subsequently became an Episcopalian, but never took orders in that church. He died in 1779, aged 73 years.

The society was without a pastor for eight years, and being determined to maintain its organization, in spite of legislative and other efforts to unite them to the parent society, ordained Reverend James Sproat as its second pastor, August 23d, 1743. He was dismissed October 18th, 1768, and not long thereafter was installed over the Second Presbyterian church of Philadelphia. His learning and ability secured for him the title of D. D., which he fitly honored. He died in Philadelphia in the fall of 1798, himself, wife and several children being victims of the yellow fever scourge.

The successor of Doctor Sproat at Guilford was Reverend Daniel Brewer, who was settled as the pastor September 18th, 1771. In the course of a few years he became a believer in the doctrines of the Sandemanians, or that none but Christ and his apostles should be admitted as preachers, and of course no longer preached himself. He was dismissed in 1775.

The last settled minister was Reverend Beriah Hotchkin, who was ordained as pastor August 17th, 1785, and was dismissed in March, 1789, to become a missionary in the wilds of New York. He was a native of the town, and from his boyhood was devoted to religious thought.

After the removal of Mr. Hotchkin the Fourth church rapidly declined, until but few members remained. In 1810, by legislative enactment, sixteen members were returned to the First church, which practically ended the existence of the Fourth society, which had for so many years been an unhappy factor in the community; and thenceforth, for many years, the First church was again supreme.

The following were elected as the deacons of the Fourth church: 1733, Samuel Cruttenden; 1740, Daniel Benton; 1755, Peletiah Leete and Seth Morse; 1766, Daniel Leete; 1768, Joseph Bartlett; 1772, John Davis; 1773, Peletiah Leete, 2d; 1776, John Hall; 1786, Ambrose Leete and James Corwin.

The Third Congregational Church in Guilford is also an offshoot of the First church. Toward the close of the pastorate of Reverend Aaron Dutton the congregation was much distracted and divided by the agitation of the subject of American slavery, with a result that a considerable proportion of those who were opponents of slavery withdrew to form a separate congregation. These avowed friends of the

African slave, to the number of 123 persons, were organized as the above body by an ecclesiastical council held in Guilford, November 23d, 1843.

It was at once determined to build a meeting house, and December 19th, 1843, William Hart, Jonathan Bishop, Samuel Seward, Jonathan Parmelee and George Bartlett were appointed in behalf of the congregation to carry on the work. The corner stone was laid July 17th, 1844, upon a lot on the east side of the green, which was secured with some difficulty, as many citizens were opposed to the building (as they called it) of "an abolitionist meeting house." However, the house was rapidly pushed to completion, and was dedicated January 1st, 1845, when the first pastor was also installed. In the summer and fall of 1862 this house was remodelled at a cost of \$2,600. A suitable organ was supplied in 1873, a chapel built in 1879, and an infant class room added in 1880. More recent repairs have made this a comfortable place of worship.

Reverend David Root, who became the first pastor, January 1st, 1845, was an experienced minister, and came to this church from the First Congregational church at Waterbury. He gave the church faithful service, and was relieved at his own request, April 6th, 1851. He died in Chicago, Ill., at the residence of his son-in-law, Horace White, August 30th, 1873, aged 82 years, but was brought to Alderbrook cemetery for interment.

Reverend Richard Manning Chipman, the second pastor, was inducted into that office January 14th, 1852, and remained until May 19th, 1858. He was an able preacher and writer, numerous publications bearing testimony to his skill and diligence. During the war he was active in the interests of the freedmen.

The third pastor of the church, Reverend George I. Wood, was installed November 30th, 1858, and remained until October, 1867, when physical ailment compelled him to resign.

Reverend George M. Boynton, the fourth pastor, was born in 1837, in Brooklyn, N. Y., graduated from Yale in 1858, was installed pastor of this church, June 24th, 1868, and was dismissed December 1st, 1872, to become the pastor of a Congregational church in Newark, N. J.

The next and the present pastor, Reverend George W. Banks, was here installed June 18th, 1874. His long pastorate has been peaceful and prosperous. He was born in 1839, graduated from Yale in 1863, and from its Theological Seminary in 1866, and prior to his settlement at Guilford served the Bethlehem church.

In 1890 the parish of the Third church contained 213 families, and there were 310 resident members. The Sabbath school had an average attendance of 200 members, and Clifford F. Bishop was its superintendent. Beverly Monroe was the church clerk, and George W. Hill the treasurer.

Those elected as deacons have been the following: 1843, Asher



Dudley; 1844, Leverett Griswold; 1844, Julius A. Dowd; 1852, Alfred G. Hull; 1877, James D. Hall; 1877, Henry E. Norton; 1880, Edwin A. Leete, 1881, Lucius Dudley; 1881, Richard Bartlett; 1882, Calvin M. Leete, 1883, George W. Hill. The three last named were the active deacons in 1890.

Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal) had its origin in a society of conformists to the Church of England, which was organized September 5th, 1744, under the auspices of the London "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts." Among these conformists living in the parish of the First society, were, in 1746, Samuel Collins, Nathaniel Johnson, Edmund Ward, Ebenezer Bishop and John Collins. About this time they voted to build a church, which was raised in 1747, and consecrated in March, 1750, by Reverend Samuel Johnson, of Stratford, a native of this town. The Liturgy of the Church of England was now regularly employed, there being lay services or preaching by missionaries of the above society—by Reverend Ebenezer Punderson, and from 1764 until 1767 by Reverend Bela Hubbard, another native of the town, but serving as a missionary at New Haven. He was born in 1739, and died highly respected, in 1812. Other missionaries were Reverends Roger Viets, in 1770; Abraham Jarvis, in 1773; Ashbel Baldwin, in 1790, and David Butler for a few years after 1792. The preaching services were at long intervals, and the membership consequently remained small.

In 1801 the church had its first rector in the person of Reverend Nathan B. Burgess, who was at the same time the rector of the parishes of Branford, North Guilford and Killingworth. His service continued until September, 1805. In November, 1806, Reverend David Baldwin began preaching in all the foregoing parishes except Branford and became the settled minister in March, 1807, but was not ordained as the priest until April, 1809. After 1824 he confined his labors almost wholly to the two parishes in Guilford until 1834, when he resigned his rectorship of Christ church, but continued serving St. John's, or North Guilford parish, in connection with the Zion parish in North Branford and others, until 1851. At the beginning of his ministry the church membership was greatly augmented and the parish first began to assume the position which it has since retained among other religious bodies of the town. Mr. Baldwin died in the 83d year of his age and was buried in Alderbrook Cemetery. His grave is marked by a monument: "Erected to his revered memory, in recognition of his valued ministrations, by grateful parishioners and other friends in Guilford and the adjoining parishes, where he officiated more than half a century." For a quarter of a century he was the only resident Episcopal minister on the sound shore between New Haven and New London.

From July, 1834, until Easter, 1835, the parish had the entire service of Reverend Lorenzo T. Bennett, when he resigned to become asso-

ciated with Doctor Crosswell, of the Episcopal church of New Haven. Subsequently the ministers were: May, 1835, to October, 1835, Reverend William N. Hawks, who resigned on account of ill health; in March, 1836, Reverend Levi H. Carson became the rector and served the parish two years, when, in April, 1838, Reverend Edward J. Darken became the rector and also remained two years.

In the last two rectorates the present Christ church was built and occupied. The old house on the green, which had been in use since 1750, had become unfitted by age and no longer served as a proper place of worship. Early in 1836 the parish, which had at that time 67 communicant members, began to build the new church on a lot east of the old house. The corner stone was laid June 24th, 1836, and December 12th, 1838, the church was dedicated, when the old church was removed from the green, and was the last building taken off that public ground. The church was built in the Gothic style, of native granite, 44 by 64 feet, and cost originally \$7,500. In 1872 a recess chancel was added and improvements made at a cost of \$5,000 more, which have made the church very attractive. It is also the most substantial in the eastern part of the county.

The rectorship of Reverend Lorenzo T. Bennett, D.D., was the most important in the history of the parish. Born in 1805, he graduated from Yale in 1825, and was ordained to the diaconate in 1834. He became rector of Christ church July 12th, 1840, and continued solely in charge until July 12th, 1880. He was then made rector *emeritus* by order of the parish and so continued until his death, September 2d, 1889. He was thus, with his first service at this church, connected with the parish more than fifty years, and was much revered for his qualities of mind and goodness of heart, not only by his parishioners but by the citizens in general. He died very suddenly at the railway station, where he had gone to take passage on an early train.

On the 24th of April, 1881, Reverend William G. Andrews, D.D., became the rector of the parish and has in every way acquitted himself a worthy successor of Doctor Bennett. The affairs of the parish remain in a prosperous condition, there being, in the fall of 1890, 110 families and 163 communicant members. The Sunday school had 108 members.

The parish has a fine fund for the promulgation of its work. Legacies were given by Charles Collins, \$1,000; William H. Hubbard, \$10,000; Franklin M. Hill, \$300; and Captain William Tyler, \$5,522. The Hubbard bequest was not realized in full in consequence of losses to his estate in Virginia during the rebellion.

The following have been wardens of the parish: 1799, Thomas Powers, Charles Collins; 1820, Abraham Coan, Jedediah Lathrop; 1824, Erastus C. Kimberley; 1825, Thomas Burgis; 1833, Henry Loper; 1840, Thomas Burgis; 1854, John H. Bartlett; 1861, George A. Foote; 1863, E. C. Kimberley; 1872-90, George B. Spencer; 1874, Henry Hale;

1876, George C. Kimberley; 1881, William Skinner; 1890, George S. Davis.

George C. Griswold was the parish clerk from 1845 to 1889, when John S. Elliott was elected.

St. John's Church (Protestant Episcopal) of North Guilford was organized in 1747. There were at first but a few families conforming to the church of England, but these were united, and in 1748 they built a small, plain house of worship on the south slope of the hill, about forty rods south of the present St. John's church. Here public worship was stately held by the ministers of the foregoing church. In 1765 the male members—George Bartlett, John Hubbard, John Fowler, Nehemiah Griswold, Abraham Hubbard, David Fowler, Jared Scranton, Eber Hubbard, Abner Fowler, James Pelton and George Bartlett—agreed to pay Reverend Bela Hubbard £20 for his services as a minister part of a year; and these were probably the principal early members of the church.

The old house having become dilapidated, a new one was begun in 1812, which was several years in building, and was consecrated June 7th, 1817, as St. John's church, by Bishop John Hobart, of New York. About 1860 a chancel was added to the original building and the other property of the parish was also thoroughly repaired, mainly through the efforts of Reverend Oliver Hopson, then rector. In more recent years the church building has again been modernized and has been made fairly comfortable. The church has an attractive location and in the same neighborhood is the rectory, on a tract of six acres of land. This parish also has an endowment fund of several thousand dollars. In 1890 there were 21 families and 45 communicant members. A small Sunday school is also maintained.

Reverend David Baldwin was the beloved rector from 1809 until 1851, and was followed in 1853 by Reverend Alpheus Geer and later by Oliver Hopson. The last rector was Reverend W. H. Dean, who began in 1889 to serve this and the North Branford parish.

At this time George W. Dudley and Albert B. Potter were the wardens, and P. K. Hoadley, E. W. Leete and Norris Hubbard the vestrymen.

Among the early church officials were, in 1761, Jared Hubbard, Ebenezer Talman and Nehemiah Griswold, committee; George Bartlett, Jr., parish clerk; in 1781, Nehemiah Griswold and Abraham Hubbard, church wardens; John Fowler, Sr., George Bartlett and David Fowler, vestrymen; in 1789, Abraham Hubbard and Jared Scranton, wardens.

The Guilford Baptist Church was organized in 1808. Baptist services were first held some time after 1800, by Reverend John Gano Whitman, of Groton, who occasionally preached in the town. This led to the organization, June 30th, 1808, of the above church. There were 19 constituent members, some of whom withdrew from the

First Congregational church, and others had been members of the dissolved Fourth society. The meetings were held in the old academy building. February 24th, 1823, Alvah B. Goldsmith was ordained as the first regular pastor, and at the same time his father, Joshua Goldsmith, was ordained as the first deacon. These appear to have been the only prominent officials of the society, which never became strong. Its maximum membership (36) was reached in 1826, and thereafter the church declined until its dissolution took place before 1840. Elder Goldsmith remained in the town and was a much respected and trusted citizen. In the latter years of his life his professions were those of a Quaker. He died in June, 1863.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized about 1838. It is probable that Jesse Lee preached the first Methodist sermon in the town. He held a meeting in the house of Ebenezer Hopson, on Boston street, as early as 1789. In 1811 Bishop Asbury also visited Guilford and preached here, but no attempt was made to form a church until many years later. The efforts which led to an organization were made by Reverend Nathan Kellogg, who preached a number of times in the private houses of such as were favorable to the movement. In 1836 Reverend Charles Chittenden was assigned to this place by the New York Conference, and his missionary labors and the fruits of a revival, in the winter of 1837-8, enabled him to organize the present church. He was a very devoted, energetic man, and began the building of a house of worship on a lot secured on the west side of the green. William Hale offered to donate the timber, and Mr. Chittenden led some of his members in the work of preparing the material, and helped to fell the first tree. In 1838 he was succeeded by Reverend Hart P. Pease, during whose pastorate the house was completed and dedicated. It was originally a frame house, 36 by 48 feet, but its appearance has since been changed and improved. The first board of trustees was composed of John Hale, William Hale, Henry Griffin, Samuel Leete, Samuel A. Barker, Lucius Elliott, F. C. Phelps and A. Kelsey.

Succeeding Mr. Pease, among others before 1850, came Reverend R. W. Raymond, who received 90 members on probation. At the same time an extensive revival swept over the village, about two hundred professing religion. Reverend Benjamin Pillsbury was here in 1850-1, and Reverend John L. Peck, an interesting preacher, in 1855-6. Another well known appointee was John L. Hough. Some of the appointees of the conference failed to appear on this field of labor, and their places were supplied. But few of the appointees remained more than a year. Among the later regular appointees were the following: 1870, Reverend C. W. Gallagher; 1872, E. A. Blake; 1874, John S. Wilson; 1881, W. A. Thomas; 1883, O. J. Range; 1887, J. H. Crofut; 1888, E. L. Fox; 1889, S. G. Neil. The latter serves both Guilford and Madison churches, the former having 55 and the latter 85 members. The

Sabbath school at Guilford had 56 members in 1890, and Lewis Williams was the superintendent.

Catholic services were established in the town about 1854, by the parish of St. Patrick of New Haven. The first mass was said to a few persons in the old Whitfield house. These missionary services being continued, produced permanent results. In 1860 a small store on Whitfield street was bought and fitted up for a chapel, and in which the first service was held March 4th that year, probably by Father James Bodan. Thenceforth Catholic meetings were regularly held in a house owned by that denomination, and the membership steadily increased.

In January, 1861, there were, according to George Hill, who took a census of this nature, 75 Catholic persons in Guilford. He himself was a convert to this faith, and was instrumental in building up the parish. He organized and taught in the Sabbath school which had at first less than a dozen children in it.

In a short time Guilford and other shore towns east of New Haven were erected into a parish, and the work prospered. In this town the number of families increased so much that Guilford, Madison and Clinton were constituted a new parish, and March 1st, 1867 Father John H. Dolan took charge of it as the first resident priest. He was young and energetic, and earnestly applied himself to the development of his work, when death put an end to his brief ministry, July 3d, 1888. He was buried in the center of the new cemetery which had but a short time before been opened a mile and a half northwest of the church. It embraces two acres properly enclosed, and it was consecrated May 30th, 1889. A year later a monument was erected over the grave of Father Dolan.

The second resident priest was the present pastor, Reverend James J. Smith, whose ministry here began July 21st, 1888. Under his care the parish has continued to grow, there being in the summer of 1890, in all 58 families—in Guilford, 41; in Madison, 7; in Clinton, 5; and at Stony Creek, 5. The latter attend worship mainly at Leete's Island, where mass is said in the hall built in the fall of 1888, by John Beattie. Here reside 9 Catholic families, and many of the workmen in the quarries are of that faith. A Sunday school has been established at Leete's Island.

The old chapel, becoming too small, the lot on the corner of High and Whitfield streets was purchased, upon which a new church edifice was erected. The corner stone was laid in October, 1873. It was occupied soon after, and has since been improved as St. George's church.

The establishment of schools went hand in hand with the formation of churches in the different parts of the town, and both were supported by the rates collected from the inhabitants. John Higginson was the first teacher of the school at the village and also preached the

half of the Sabbath. He lived at the southwest corner of the green, and was in Guilford from 1641 until 1659. Tuition was reckoned at the rate of 4 shillings per quarter for "each child put to school."\* A school house was built on the green as early as 1645, which was displaced by a new one in 1671. Both were very plain. Until after 1700 the town had but this one school house, but others were built soon after. In 1702 the "East Farmers" were given liberty to have a school, and the same privilege was given the "North Farmers," not many years later, after that section was settled.

After Mr. Higginson left the town, other teachers were employed, a few only remaining for more than several years. These were paid salaries of from £20 to £30 per year. Among other teachers who were appointed were: In 1671, Matthew Bellamy; 1675, Jonathan Pitman; 1682, John Collins; 1690, Thomas Higginson; 1694, Mr. Elliott; 1700, John Collins; 1701, Captain Andrew Ward; 1706, James Elliott; 1720, Doctor William Johnson; and thence for about three-quarters of a century the Johnson family supplied the teachers.

The state of Connecticut adopted the district system in 1794, and under this plan the town was divided into more than one district. In the period about 1800 four schools were at the village. These occupied one building, standing on the green, and were not in four separate school houses, on that plot of ground, as may be inferred from the account of President Dwight on his visit to this part of the county. About 1830 this building was removed from the green to its present site on the North Guilford turnpike.

In 1824 the Lancasterian system was applied to the schools, and continued five years. Under this method all the schools in the village were taught in the town house. In the meantime an academy or select school was taught in the old school house, among the teachers being Alvan Talcott and Samuel Robinson. In 1829 the village public school was divided into four classes, of which the highest, or academic, was taught from 1831 to 1834, by R. D. Smith. He was followed by Luman Whedon, Julius N. Dowd and others. In 1837 the village part of the town was divided into four sections and school houses built for their accommodation. The northwest section used the academy. A part of the building was occupied by a Mr. Dudley for his high school in 1838 and later. Schools of this nature continued to be taught until the Guilford Institute supplanted them.

In the course of time the four districts at the Center and another near by were merged into a "Union" district. In 1890 there were in the town, including the Union district, in all ten districts, in which there were 512 children of school age. From this number 322 pupils

\*An effort was made in 1660 to establish a grammar school in the jurisdiction of New Haven, in order that "learning might be promoted as a means for the fitting of instruments for publique service in church and commonwealth." To encourage this plan, which at that time failed, the inhabitants of Guilford offered the Whitfield stone house as a seat for the school.

were secured. The schools are maintained at a cost of nearly \$5,000 per annum, half of which is raised by town taxation. In the North Guilford part of the town there are four schools, viz.: The North, the South, the Bluff and the Center. These have an attendance of about 75 pupils. The school at the Center has been graded. The Leete's Island school had an enrollment of 40 pupils. At this time the school visitors were: Henry R. Spencer, Henry M. Rossiter, Daniel R. Spencer, Reverend W. G. Andrews, Jerome Coan, L. A. Kimberley, Doctor G. H. Beebe, Reverend G. W. Banks and Reverend L. T. Bennett. The latter resigned June 11th, 1889, after having served the cause of education in this town about half a century.

The Guilford Institute was erected and endowed through the munificence of Mrs. Sarah Griffing, the widow of Hon. Nathaniel Griffing, and Hon. Simeon B. Chittenden, of Brooklyn, N. Y. The former deeded the land on which to build the institute, near "Ephraim's Rocks," in the northwestern part of the village, August 21st, 1854, and also gave the sum of \$10,000. The latter set aside \$10,000 for an endowment fund, October 12th, 1855. Mrs. Griffing stipulated that the ministers of the First Congregational church should be members of the board of trustees, *ex-officio*, and that while the school should be non-sectarian, that "the Bible should always be used in said school as the foundation of all education for usefulness and happiness."

The first board of trustees was incorporated in August, 1854, and was composed of Reverend E. Edwin Hall, Henry W. Chittenden, Ralph D. Smith, Abraham C. Baldwin, Sherman Graves, Simeon B. Chittenden and Alvan Talcott. The latter continuously served until 1890. Others associated with him on the board at that time were Reverends George W. Banks and C. H. McIntosh, E. Walter Leete, Henry D. Coan, Samuel B. Chittenden and Charles Griswold.

The corner stone of the building was laid September 13th, 1854, and a year later the substantial stone structure was ready for occupancy. The first term of the institute was opened September 3d, 1855, with appropriate public exercises, and Eli T. Mack as the first principal. There was considerable interest in the school, and in the first years of its existence the attendance was very good, not only from Guilford, but from the surrounding towns. Among the pupils thus coming from Madison was an active, promising youth, who became distinguished as W. H. H. Murray. The institute appears to have served its purpose in the first twenty years, and since 1875 has been occupied as the high school of the town, an arrangement to that end having been made with the trustees.

The principals of the school have been the following, in the order of their appointment: 1855, Eli T. Mack; 1858, Augustine Hart; 1860, J. Wilson Ward; 1862, Henry S. Barnum; 1863, Joseph L. Daniels; 1864, Winthrop D. Sheldon; 1865, W. A. Ayres; 1866, Edwin H. Wilson; 1867, James P. Hoyt; 1869, F. S. Thompson; 1871, Charles E. Gordon; 1872,

John P. Slocum; 1875, Jairus P. Moore; 1879, Melville Stone; 1880, Charles H. Levermore; 1883, W. H. Buell; 1884, Carl A. Lewis; 1887, Hart Lewis; 1888, Charles L. Wallace; 1889, Arthur M. Hyde.

“The people of Guilford have always been well educated, and the Triennial Catalogue of Yale University counts over 160 names of Guilford men; while part of the college was situated in the old town in its early years, when the tutors, John Hart, of Madison, and Samuel Johnson, of Guilford, lived at home and had their classes with them.”\*

The cause of education had a valuable adjunct in the public libraries which were early established. In 1737 some of the inhabitants of Guilford and others living in the towns on the east formed a library which was quite valuable in those days. When the company was dissolved, before 1800, the library contained about 400 volumes, having among them a number of standard and valuable books. A new library was now formed in Guilford village, to which some of the books of the old library were transferred. Another library was soon after formed by the young people of the same community and in May, 1823, these were united to form the Union Library. In 1838 it had 600 volumes. Not many years thereafter, for want of proper care, it went down and for many years the remaining books were stored in an old loft. In 1880 they were removed and incorporated with the Institute Library.

In 1760 a public library was formed in North Guilford, which was nearly destroyed by fire in 1794. New books were added until there were 185 volumes. In 1838 only about 100 books remained and the library was soon after dissolved. In 1887 a Young People's Literary Society was formed, which raised funds for another library. In the fall of 1890 it contained about 200 volumes and was kept at the house of Mrs. Scranton.

The North Guilford select school, taught many years in a small building which stood in the new addition to the cemetery, served a noble purpose after 1800 and for about fifty years. John E. Chandler, who afterward became a missionary to India, was one of the teachers. Deacon John R. Rossiter taught for twenty years. The building was removed in 1876.

Not a few treasures in the literary storehouses of this country were gathered or contributed by inhabitants or descendants of the founders of Guilford in periods reaching from the settlement to the present time. One of the latter class† quaintly says: “Guilford was born with a book in her hand,” and gives the credit of the first authorship to the founder and leader of the Guilford colony, the Reverend Henry Whitfield. Some of his sermons and letters were published, as

\* Bernard C. Steiner.

† Henry P. Robinson (of Reverend Henry Whitfield, 1639) in his discourse on Literature in Madison and Guilford, anniversary 1889.



were also the sermons on important subjects of Reverends John Higginson, Joseph Eliot and John Cotton, his successors as ministers of the First church.

Reverend Jared Eliot, son of Reverend Joseph, who preached in Killingworth, but who followed the art of agriculture in Guilford, was a pioneer writer in a field which has since been extensively covered. Beginning in 1747, he wrote a series of "Essays upon Field Husbandry in New-England," which proved very popular and brought to his acquaintance and friendship scientists of this and foreign countries. He died in 1763. One of his pupils was Reverend Samuel Johnson, a very bright, witty and learned man. In 1767 he published a small Hebrew grammar, and some of his other books were issued at an earlier day. He was born in Guilford in 1696, and after graduating from Yale College in 1714, he was for several years one of its tutors and had his classes in the town. Becoming a minister of the established church, he later became a Churchman and a profound theologian. He was elected the first president of Columbia College. He died in 1772.

Another bright man of that period was Reverend Thomas Ruggles, Jr. In addition to the publication of some of his sermons his authorship embraced a manuscript history of Guilford up to 1769, most of which has been printed. He died in 1770.

Other ministers of the town who contributed to the literary life in the periods in which they lived, were the following: Reverend Jonathan Todd, of the Madison Society, in 1749; John Eliot, of the same society, in 1810 and earlier, who was a very scholarly man; David Dudley Field, born in Madison in 1781, graduated from Yale in 1802, and who died in 1867, author of a number of books on local history and other works; Aaron Dutton published a notable sermon in 1815; Abraham Chittenden Baldwin, born in North Guilford in 1804, died in 1887, was the author, among other admirable works, of a prize essay, "Letters to a Christian Shareholder," published in 1857; S. W. S. Dutton, born in Guilford in 1814, and who deceased in 1866, was a prolific writer on theological and contemporary subjects; Samuel Fiske, of Madison, who died in the army May 22d, 1864, wrote letters for the press as "Dunn Browne," which were "as graphic, genial and bright as the man himself."\*

A number of laymen also gave expression to rich literary thoughts which entertained and ennobled. Among those of minor nature may be noted the Nortons, Elijah and Colonel Rufus, the latter being a writer of short hymns and poems, which did not pass out of the manuscript state; John P. Foote, of Cincinnati, a native of the town, was a clear writer and biographer.

Ralph D. Smith, a lineal descendant of John Smith, who came to Milford in 1640, was born in Southbury in 1804, graduated from Yale in

\* Robinson.

1827, was admitted to the bar in 1831, in November of which year he came to Guilford, where he died September 11th, 1874. Besides being a lawyer of good reputation and practice extended beyond the limits of his village, he was an industrious and painstaking author. He wrote sketches of the graduates of Yale College from 1702 to 1767, and other sketches pertaining to the university, of which institution his sons, Walter H. and Richard E., were also graduates in 1863 and 1866, respectively. His researches in the local history of Guilford have been very valuable. After his death some of his manuscripts on Guilford were published.

Doctor Alvan Talcott also prepared a valuable genealogy of the citizens of Guilford. In May, 1890, his manuscripts embraced 30,000 names, 1,700 belonging to the Norton family. He noted 100 families fully and 78 more not so completely. This exhaustive work was donated to Yale College, from which the doctor graduated in 1824, and from the medical department in 1831.

The town has produced several poets of national reputation. The foremost of these, Fitz-Greene Halleck, occupied a position which brought him the honor of having the first bronze statue in a public place erected to the memory of an American poet. This figure, of heroic size, is in Central Park, New York, near the statues of Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott.

Fitz-Greene Halleck was the son of Israel and Mary (Eliot) Halleck, and was born in Guilford, July 8th, 1790. When but a lad his poetic nature found expression in verses of promise and merit, which are still extant. At the age of 15 he became a grocer's clerk at Guilford, and so continued until 1811. He then went to New York and entered the banking house of Jacob Barker, also as a clerk. Visiting Europe in 1822, he formed the acquaintance of many literary men of the Old World. In 1832 he entered the service of John Jacob Astor, and in his banking house he remained until Astor's death, in 1848. He received an annuity of \$200 from the elder Astor, to which was added a gift of \$10,000 by William B. Astor. In 1849 Halleck returned to Guilford, where he continued to reside until his death, November 19th, 1867. For many years his home was in the old house opposite the southwest corner of the green, and he was a well known personage to many of the present inhabitants of the village, where he was beloved as much as he was admired abroad.

George Hill, a brother poet, was born in Guilford, January 29th, 1796. After graduating from Yale College, in 1816, he was in public service at home and abroad until about 1856, when he retired to private life, taking up his residence at Guilford, where he died December 15th, 1871. At that time his volume of short poems had passed several editions. They were carefully written and show fine poetic taste. In the last years of his life Mr. Hill was very unobtrusive and retired in his habits, but his gentle manners caused him to be much esteemed.

Abraham Bradley, 3d, who was born in Guilford, December 11th, 1731, and who in the latter years of his life was a deputy postmaster general, was also a poet of some merit, and his verses on pioneer life in Guilford are fairly descriptive and entertaining of a period which always awakens interest.

Many of the settlers of the town and their descendants became distinguished in civil and other avocations of life. Samuel Disbrowe or Disborough, who came with Whitfield, a young man of 24, was one of the "seven pillars" of the church, and served as magistrate of the plantation from 1643 until 1651. In the latter year he returned to England, where he became one of the principals in the Cromwell accession, and held many important trusts in England and Scotland. He died in the latter country in 1690.

Another of the "seven pillars," Reverend John Hoadley, while not so active in civil affairs, became noted after his return to England, as the ancestor of two of the most distinguished prelates of their times. In 1642 he was married in Guilford to Sara, daughter of Francis Bushnell, one of the foremost of Guilford's planters, and their grandsons John and his brother Benjamin, attained the highest ecclesiastical honors.

The male descendants of Francis Bushnell were prominent in every generation in the ordinary walks of life,\* and another daughter, Elizabeth, married William Johnson, another of the leading planters. Their son, Samuel, was the father of the Reverend Samuel Johnson, D. D., who was the president of King's (Columbia) College, from 1754 until 1763. His son, William Samuel Johnson, was the first United States senator under the national confederation, serving from 1789 until 1791. He was also one of the most learned men of his times. The University of Oxford conferred upon him the degree of D. D.

William Chittenden was another of the foremost planters of Guilford, and being a brother-in-law of Whitfield, had one of the choicest locations on the Menuncatuc river, in the northwestern part of the first settlement, which is still owned by descendants. He was the military leader of the community, and also held civil offices. One of his grandsons, Ebenezer, married a sister of Reverend Samuel Johnson, and settled in Madison. Their eldest son, also called Ebenezer, moved to New Haven, where he became a mechanic of great skill. A younger son, Thomas, born in 1730, at the age of 20 left his paternal home and removed to Salisbury, and in 1774 to the Onion River locality in Vermont. He was elected the first governor of that state in 1778, and continued to hold that office 18 years. He died in 1797. Subsequently his son, Martin, twice occupied that office. Of the Chittenden stock which remained on the Guilford homestead, Simeon B. Chittenden was a descendant. He was born March 9th, 1814, and remov-

\*Cornelius S. Bushnell, a native of Madison, was instrumental in furnishing Captain Ericsson the means to complete his monitor in use in the civil war.

ing to New York, became one of the merchant princes of the metropolis. His benefactions in the town and the county are well known. Through his liberality the erection of the fine library building on Yale campus, lately occupied, was made possible.

The Leete family has ever been one of the most important in the annals of Guilford. The first of that name and one of the founders of the town, rose to the rank of a colonial statesman, and was a worthy peer of Thomas Hooker and John Winthrop, Jr., in the early history of Connecticut. William Leete was born of a good family, in 1613, and was, therefore, 26 years of age when he came to Guilford. He was bred to the law, and was a clerk in the Bishop's Court in England. In the old country he was a neighbor of Disborough, and succeeded him here as the first magistrate. He was chosen deputy governor of the New Haven colony from 1658 to 1661, when he was chosen governor of that colony, serving until the union with Connecticut in 1665. Four years later he was elected deputy governor of the united colonies, in which office he served until 1676. He was then elected governor and was reëlected until his death in 1683. He thus served in a magisterial capacity forty years, and was one of the best trusted men in the colony. He was buried at Hartford, and his grave was for a long time unknown, but was discovered about 1830, in the ancient burial ground of that place.

He left a numerous family in Guilford, and his eldest son, John, who died November 25th, 1692, is said to have been the first white child born in the town. Another son, Andrew, was active in the management of the affairs of the colony and the town. He was married to a daughter of Thomas Jordan, Esq., and after the return of his father-in-law to England, about 1660, lived on his estate, on the north-west corner of the green. It is said that he here kept for a time the charter of the colony, which he was instrumental in recovering, in the period when Major Andross had usurped the government.

The Guilford home of Governor William Leete was opposite the Chittenden place, on the east bank of the West river, where he had a store or warehouse, in the cellar of which he secreted the Judges Whalley and Goffe, some time between June 11th and June 20th, 1660. They spent about a week here and at Mr. Rossiter's, being supplied with victuals from the governor's table. This property passed to Caleb Stone in 1714, was long owned by Timothy Stone, and is now the property of Leverett C. Stone. The old store building has long since disappeared, but the cellar in which the judges were hidden remains practically as built, and is now covered by a barn. In other parts of the town descendants of William Leete remain, and his name has been ineffaceably affixed to the southwestern part of Guilford.

Doctor Bryan Rossiter came to Guilford in 1651, upon the departure of Samuel Disborough, whose large estate he purchased. As Leete was the first lawyer, so he was the first physician, and like his

professional neighbor, was a man of great force of mind and character. He was, moreover, a physician of ability, and it is claimed that he made the first *post mortem*, that is a matter of record, in Connecticut, in Hartford, in 1662.\* Doctor Rossiter was very warmly interested in bringing about the union of the Connecticut colonies in 1665, and his action in this matter caused offense to some of the New Haven colonists. He died at Guilford September 30th, 1672. His son, Josiah Rossiter, who died in 1716, was actively interested in the affairs of the town and the county. A daughter married John Cotton, and their descendants became distinguished in Massachusetts affairs. Descendants of the Rossiter family have remained in the town, and have always held an honored place in the estimation of the inhabitants.

Samuel Baldwin, the blacksmith, was the founder of another family, which is greatly esteemed in the town and especially honored in North Guilford, from which have gone some of its best representatives. He was the ancestor of Abraham Baldwin, who was born in North Guilford, November 6th, 1754. Graduating from Yale College in 1772, he was a tutor from 1775 to 1779. He studied theology, and was a chaplain in the continental army several years. In 1784, at the request of his friend, General Greene, he removed to Georgia, was admitted to the bar, and was elected a member of the continental congress. As a member from Georgia of the constitutional convention, in 1787, he drafted the constitution, which was finally adopted, and has been called the "Father of the Constitution." He was also instrumental in founding the University of Georgia, having been placed at the head of the system of education in 1785. He died at Washington, March 4th, 1807, as a United States senator from Georgia. His brother, Henry, became a distinguished justice of the United States supreme court; and their sister was the wife of Joel Barlow, the author and diplomat at the French court.

Doctor Stephen C. Bartlett was another brilliant native of North Guilford, where he was born April 19th, 1839. He was thoroughly educated in the medical profession, and after practicing at Naugatuck settled at Waterbury, where he died at the early age of 40 years, but not before he had given abundant evidence of his great medical skill.

James Hooker, Esq., the first judge of the probate court, was a son-in-law of William Leete, Esq. He lived in the town about 40 years, dying in 1740. His successor, Colonel Samuel Hill, who was one of the principal public men of his time, was then elected judge, and served in that position until his death in 1752. He was also for a time judge of the county court. His son, Nathaniel, and grandson, Henry, also became eminent in public affairs. So also were Colonel Timothy Stone, General Andrew Ward, Nathaniel Griffing, etc., who enjoyed the highest honors in the gift of the town. In the same connection may be given the name of General Augustus Collins, who had been

\* Colonial Records, Vol. I., p. 396.

in the revolution. He served in 64 consecutive sessions of the legislature of the state, before 1813. His sister, Lorain, married Oliver Wolcott, the first secretary of state under President Washington, and who was one of Connecticut's signers of the declaration of independence, and afterward governor of the state.

Among other notable men, as natives who attained distinction elsewhere, was Doctor David Dudley Field, born in Madison in 1771, son of Captain Timothy Field of the revolutionary army. He was the father of the famous Field sons, David Dudley, Cyrus West, Stephen and Henry Martyn, all of them men of national reputation. Doctor Bela Hubbard, born in Guilford in 1739, became a distinguished Episcopal minister in the county, dying in New Haven in 1812. Reverend Andrew Fowler, born in 1765, became an Episcopal missionary, and died at Charleston, S. C., in 1851. The names of other and later public men are found in the civil lists of the town and county.

The physicians of the town have been the following:

At Guilford village.—Doctor Bryan Rossiter, died at Guilford September 30th, 1672.

Doctor Anthony Labore, died at Guilford March 19th, 1712.

Doctor Nathaniel Ruggles, died at Guilford 1794, æ. 82 years.

Doctor John Redfield, born at Guilford 1813, æ. 78 years.

Doctor Thomas Ruggles Pyncheon, died at Guilford 1796, æ. 36 years.

Doctor Jared Redfield, died at Guilford 1821, æ. 50 years.

Doctor Seth H. Rogers, died at Guilford 1807, æ. 35 years.

Doctor Lewis Collins, removed.

Doctor David Marvin, removed, 1811.

Doctor Elias Shipman, removed to New Haven.

Doctor Lyman Strong, removed to Hebron.

Doctor Anson Foote, died at Guilford 1841, æ. 57 years.

Doctor Joel Canfield, died at Guilford 1877. Had located in North Guilford in 1824 and in Guilford village 1825.

Doctor Elias Hutchinson, located 1838, removed 1849.

Doctor Alvan Talcott, graduated from Yale, Medical Department, 1831, located at Guilford in 1841; was in active practice until 1886, when he was one of the oldest physicians in the county. He died January 17th, 1891, in his 87th year.

Doctor Gideon Perry Reynolds located in 1870, and still continues in practice.

Doctor Frederick P. Griswold was in practice from 1878 to 1883; Doctor Charles H. Hamilton from 1883 to 1886; Doctor George H. Beebe located in 1886, and continues in practice; so also does Doctor H. I. Fisk, an eclectic physician.

At North Guilford were, at different times after 1800, the following:

Doctor David Brooks, removed to New York, where he died, in January, 1826.

Doctor Samuel Fitch, died August 8th, 1847, aged 71 years.

Doctor Joel Canfield, from 1824 until 1825.

Doctor George Kirtland, died 1825, aged 25 years.

Doctors Julius Willard, Richard Dennison and Justin W. Smith removed after short periods of practice.

After the death of Doctor Rossiter, and for about 50 years later, the town purchased medicines and distributed them out of the common stock. July 3d, 1679, a meeting was held to consider whether the inhabitants would buy "Mrs. Cosster's physic and physical drugs," "and was answered by a unanimous vote that they would buy them." Subsequently, August 28th, 1679, "Lient. William Seward was chosen and appointed to fetch or procure the Physic and Physical drugs bought of Mrs. Cosster, brought to Guilford and deliver them into the hands of Mr. Joseph Elliott for the town's use."

The mortality was at first not great, and there were for many years no epidemic diseases. Later the death rate was greater, being about one death to every 69 persons in the course of a year.

The staid habits of the people of the town, with its fixed population, gave little occasion, the first 150 years, for the employment of a lawyer. Ralph D. Smith was one of the first after William Todd to devote himself almost exclusively to the legal profession. He settled in Guilford in November, 1831, and remained in the town until his death, in 1874. Previous to that time Edward R. Landon, who had read law with him, was also a practicing attorney, and was thus engaged until his death, in 1883. H. Lynde Harrison lived in the town a number of years, but his practice was mainly in New Haven. William Kelsey, after being here a while, removed to Cheshire. Edwin C. Woodruff died in the town in May, 1886, and Hollis T. Walker has since been the attorney.

While the people of the town were not warlike, provision for defense was early made. A train band was organized, which had in 1665 William Seward as its captain; George Bartlett, as lieutenant; and Samuel Kitchell, ensign. At that time the town stock of ammunition was reported as 140 pounds of powder and 235 pounds of lead. In 1672 the "town's arms were mended" by a mechanic, who came from Hartford for that purpose, so as to be ready in case of Indian attack. Up to this time there had been but little fear on account of the local Indians, and there never was any hostility between them and the whites. The danger apprehended was from Indian incursions.

In the period of King Philip's war the town was active. In 1676 it voted to fortify two houses, and all males over fourteen years of age were pressed into the work of speedily building them. The town voted "that all damage to housing by enemies shall be borne and made good by the towne in generall;" and also voted "to grant tenn acres of land to every soldier from Guilford" serving under Major

Robert Treat and Mr. John Talcott. It thus anticipated the bounty land warrant system of the United States.

In 1690 Reverend Mr. Eliot's house was again fortified, and it was voted that "the great guns be set up on carriages and fitted for service." In 1697 these guns or cannon were desired by Connecticut, but the town refused to give them up, "as they wanted them for their own defense against the common enemy." They were finally sold in 1739. But a company of artillerists has almost continually been a feature of the military life of Guilford. In the present century there was a company of "Flying Artillery," of which Joel Griswold was the captain. In the rebellion 36 men were in the First Light Artillery of Connecticut Volunteers. Since the war a section of artillery has been maintained in the town, which has been united with the platoon in Branford in forming a company—Battery A—of which, in 1890, Arthur S. Fowler, of Guilford, was the captain.

In 1705 a train band was formed in East Guilford, and in 1728 another at North Guilford.

In 1745 Colonel Andrew Ward, of Guilford, commanded a company at Louisburg, in which were some Guilford men; and in the expedition at Fort William Henry, Oliver Dudley and Nathaniel Johnson had companies of Guilford soldiers.

In the second French war there were also two companies of Guilford men, commanded by General Andrew Ward, son of the above Colonel Andrew Ward, and Colonel Ichabod Scranton, of East Guilford, and were at the battle of Lake George. It is said that an Indian picket attached to the Guilford troops found the wounded Baron Dieskau and carried him as a prisoner into the English lines. In this excursion Enos Bishop, of North Madison, served as a lieutenant.

In the war for independence Guilford took a patriotic position, a few only adhering to the cause of the royalists. The acts of the continental congress were endorsed as early as December, 1774. The following spring 45 men, under Colonel Noah Fowler, and 23 under Ensign Jehiel Meigs, held themselves ready to move after the alarm at Lexington. General Ward was at Valley Forge with some Connecticut troops, and others of Guilford's sons distinguished themselves on fields of battle elsewhere.

From the fall of 1776 until the close of the war the town maintained a watch upon its coast, a guard of 24 men being set nightly, and received but little aid from the state. In 1777 a bounty of £10 was voted to soldiers enlisting for three years, and this offer was thrice renewed later. In 1779 these bounties and other taxes caused the rate to be five shillings on the pound, payable in such things as the selectmen might deem necessary.

Some of the movements of the war were performed on Guilford soil. "May 29th, 1777, Col. Return J. Meigs, of Guilford stock, led an expedition from Sachem's Head in three sloops and thirteen whale



boats. In twenty-four hours, with one hundred and seventy men, he crossed the Sound to Sag Harbor; broke up a depot of the British there, destroying much property; took ninety-six prisoners without losing a man; and returned safely to Sachem's Head. For this service Congress voted him a sword."\*

The British, however, soon retaliated. On the 17th of June following a party from three ships landed at Sachem's Head and burned the house of Solomon Leete and two barns. In the following December the house of Timothy Shelley was burned. But the most serious attack was made at Leete's Island June 18th, 1781. A party of British and Tories, in all about 150 men, from two brigs and a schooner, landed at that point, burned the guard house built by Deacon Pelatiah Leete and a house and barns of Daniel Leete. They now made a movement toward the village of Guilford, but were met by the company of Captain Peter Vail, who took shelter behind rocks and fences and opened a spirited attack. Captain Vail became exhausted from the heat and soon afterward died from the effects. The Guilford men, under command of Lieutenant Timothy Field, succeeded in driving the enemy to its boats, with the loss of several men. Simeon Leete and Ebenezer Hart were mortally wounded.

The last incursion of the British was made near the East Wharf, in Madison, in 1782. The militia, under Captain Phineas Meigs, succeeded in repelling their advance, but not until Captain Meigs had been killed. He was shot through the head.

In 1783 Samuel Lee, Jr., who had been a lieutenant in the Guilford company, was commissioned its captain and the company became a part of the 28th Regiment.

In the summer of 1780 a young man by the name of Tucker worked as a farm hand for Deacon Daniel Leete, who resided at Leete's Island. In the fall he left, but received the idea (probably a correct one) that Deacon Leete had considerable money. About this time marauding parties from within the British lines were in the habit of plundering along the coast; consequently all the inhabitants able to bear arms were enrolled as a coast guard and detailed in squads of from ten to fifteen, under a sergeant, and stationed at different exposed points as a protection to the inhabitants. Leete's Island was one guard station, but no guard had been regularly kept there during Tucker's stay. After he left a small guard was maintained at the guard house, and a sentry stood at his post every night, though the season was so far advanced that no one expected an enemy. About 3 o'clock one morning near the last of October, a boat with about a dozen armed men landed at a little harbor about half a mile west of Deacon Leete's house, where an old man was making salt. They inquired if a guard was kept at the guard house. He told them he believed not; so they compelled the old man to go with them to find Deacon Leete's. When they ar-

\*Bernard C. Steiner.

rived they stationed part of their number at the west kitchen door, while others endeavored to find the front door. The party at the kitchen door knocked loudly for admittance and Ambrose, one of the deacon's sons, ran to the door and opened it, to learn the cause of the disturbance. One of the gang made a blow at him with a cutlass, but it being dark he struck too high, and the casing over the door received the force of the blow, though his neck received a slight incision. As he drew back another of the party fired his gun at him, the ball passing under his arm and lodging in the wall. The report alarmed the guard and they turned out. The enemy heard them and drew off some eight or ten yards for consultation. In the meantime the sentry, who had been dozing in the deacon's wood pile, awoke and hearing some talking, listened a moment and heard a voice, which he recognized as Tucker's, say, "You may do as you please, I'll be d——d if I go till I make Deacon Leete's money jink." It was so dark the sentry could see nothing, but he fired his gun in the direction of the voices. The party at once drew off and the guard was too small to feel it safe to pursue. On the next day the dead body of Tucker was found in a small brook a few rods west of the house, with two bullets through his head. The body was rolled in a blanket and buried in a hole below high water mark, at the head of the Island bay, so-called.

While but few men of Guilford were killed outright in the war of the revolution, a number died from exposure and sickness contracted in the service. Doctor Alvan Talcott placed the number at twenty and gave the following as their names: Timothy Barnes, William Fairchild, Lewis Fairchild, Eber Hall, Timothy Luddington, Seth Morse, Bridgeman Murray, Captain Phineas Meigs, Abel Saxton, William Sabine, David Field, Joseph Hotchkin, Ebenezer Hart, Abner Leete, Simeon Leete, Captain Jehiel Meigs, Wait Munger, Samuel Stevens, Daniel Stone, Samuel Ward.

The war of 1812 did not produce any stirring events in the town. A volunteer artillery company was raised, which had two brass field pieces, kept in the town house; and an iron cannon was kept in Madison, to be used as was the one in the revolution, to give the signal of invasion. A company of state troops, formed in this town and Branford, commanded by Abraham I. Chittenden, Abraham Rogers and William Todd, was in service a short time as a reserve corps at New London and New Haven.

The War for the Union—1861-5—awoke the spirit of patriotism in Guilford to a wonderful extent; and at no stage was there any lagging of ardor to prosecute it, so far as the town was concerned, to a successful issue. Beginning with the special meeting held April 30th, 1861, until the close of war, action to that end was taken at the regular meetings and at seven meetings called especially for that purpose. In all, Guilford contributed 308 men and \$21,166 in money, besides the

amounts raised by the Christian and Sanitary Commissions, aggregating about \$10,000 more. With scarcely any exception, the leading citizens were all active in this cause. Before the close of the war 60 of the heroic sons of Guilford had laid down their lives. After many years their bravery was fitly commemorated.

A movement to build a Soldiers' Monument, begun in 1872, met with but indifferent success and was abandoned. Several years later the matter was again taken up, when Ed. Griswold and others were appointed a soliciting committee, which raised a fund of about \$1,300. This encouraged those interested to adopt plans for a monument, by modifying one of the designs prepared by J. G. Batterson, of Hartford, consisting of a base, die and pedestal, surmounted by a figure. The contract for all but the latter was awarded to John Beattie, the material selected by him being Leete's Island granite.

The base was laid with ceremonies May 30th, 1877, on which occasion W. H. H. Murray delivered the oration. In 1879 the die, on which were cut the names of many soldiers who fell in the service, was placed upon the base, and thus for eight years the monument was left standing in an incomplete condition. In 1884 the work was revived and the matter was placed in the hands of an executive committee composed of J. Lynde Harrison, Miss Kate Foote and Charles Griswold, who raised the necessary funds to complete the monument. In this they were much encouraged by Hon. Simeon B. Chittenden, of New York, and Mrs. Sarah B. Cone, also a native of the town. A contract was made with Thomas Phillips & Sons, of New Haven, to cut out of Quincy granite the statue of an infantry soldier, standing at rest, which was to be placed upon the pile already standing in the center of the green. This figure was ready to place in position the following year, and the monument was dedicated June 2d, 1887. Among the throng in attendance were Governor Lounsbury and staff, Senators Hawley and Platt, and a number of Grand Army Posts from neighboring towns. Charles Griswold was the marshal of the day.

The monument as it stands is about fifteen feet high and has attractive proportions. Its entire cost was about \$2,500. On one of the faces of the die are engraved the words:

"In memory of the men of Guilford who fell, and in honor of those who served in the war for the Union, the grateful town erects this monument, that their example may speak to coming generations."

Also are inscribed, on the pedestal, the names of the important battles in which they participated, viz.:

"Antietam, Fredericksburg, Port Royal and Gettysburg."

It reflects credit upon the town in spite of the fact that it took ten years to complete what should at once have been finished.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

John W. Barker, born in 1828, is a son of Samuel A. and Mary Ann (Kirkum) Barker, grandson of Joel, great-grandson of Jacob, and great-great-grandson of Daniel, whose father, Daniel, was among the early settlers of North Branford. Mr. Barker is a carriage maker by trade. In 1877 he built the Sachem's Head House, which he has kept open to the public since that time as a summer hotel. He married Mary A. Serry. Their children are: Charles A., Nettie M., Lottie M. (Mrs. E. J. Parmelee), William S. and Edward B.

Cyrus Olcott Bartlett, born in 1829, is the eldest son of Nathaniel and Bertha (Cook) Bartlett, grandson of Samuel and great-grandson of John Bartlett. Mr. Bartlett is a farmer. He married Frances H., daughter of Austin Fowler. Their children are: Amy F. and Charles O. They lost one daughter, Mary F.

David Bartlett, born in 1815, is a son of Stephen and Nancy (Fowler) Bartlett, and grandson of John, whose father, Henry, was a son of George Bartlett. Mr. Bartlett is a farmer, and has held several town offices. In 1877 and 1879 he was representative to the legislature. He married Ruth Frances, daughter of Erastus Dudley. She died in 1889. They had two children: James D. and one that died, Melzar F.

Edwin W. Bartlett, born in 1839, is a brother of Cyrus O. Bartlett. He is a farmer. He married Annis S., daughter of Nathan C. Dudley. Their children are: Bertha, Edwin N., Mary and Erastus D. Mr. Bartlett was selectman eleven years.

JOHN BEATTIE, the well known quarryman and contractor, of Leete's Island, Guilford, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 18th, 1824. His father was John Beattie,\* a freeman of that city, who was a direct descendant of the noted Beattie family of Eskdale Moor, in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, whose ancestry has been traced back more than six centuries, and whose valor and exploits in peace and war have been celebrated in the story and song of that country, by Sir Walter Scott and others. On the paternal side his grandmother was Nanes Armstrong, a descendant of the Johnson family, of Dumfriesshire, also prominent in the affairs of Scotland. The mother of John Beattie was Ann Richardson, a daughter of John Richardson, whose wife was Catherine Tate, and both families belonged to Haddington, Scotland.

In 1830, when John Beattie was about six years of age, his parents removed to America and settled at Newport, R. I., where his father carried on his trade as stone mason and contractor, and at that place the paternal home in this country was established, on a small farm. Here the son was sent to school for a short time, but his robust nature rebelled against the restraint imposed upon him by such a life, and he preferred to work in the fields on his father's farm. Subsequently, in

\*From time immemorial the oldest son of each generation of the Beattie family was named John.



*John Beattie*



Nova Scotia, he attended with profit, for a few terms, the school of an excellent man, the Reverend Mr. Morrison, his school days being thus limited to these brief periods. In the meantime his father had removed from Newport to Nova Scotia, where he was engaged as the contractor in the construction of the masonry work on a canal from Halifax to Pictou.

After a few years residence in the former town, when John would no longer attend school, his father purposed to indenture him to learn the trade of a shoemaker, and had selected a master for him, whereupon the independent lad gave so emphatic a demonstration against such a step that the plan was summarily abandoned. This opposition was probably the act in his life which led him into the avocation in which he has for so many years been most successfully engaged. Being now thirteen years old, strong and healthy, with a love for out-door occupation, his father was persuaded to allow him to learn the trade of stone cutting, which work John took up with great spirit. In the course of a few years the failure of the canal company induced the Beatties to return to their home at Newport, when the father and John went to New York to work at their trade. A year later they went to Boston, and not long after to Newport, where the father died when John was 16 years of age. The care of the family, consisting of his mother and four children, the next oldest being ten years, devolved upon John, who, deeply feeling the responsibility placed upon him, now entered upon his life-work with an earnestness of application that was bound to bring success. He became very skillful in his trade, and was a rapid and thorough workman. The next four years he was engaged at Fort Adams, R. I., having, when he was 18 years of age, his first contract to do work for the United States government. At the age of 20 years he was appointed foreman mason of the bridge builders on a section of the Boston & Troy railroad, where for two years he had his first experience in overseeing large numbers of men. In 1846 he returned to Fort Adams, where he was appointed master stone cutter by General W. S. Rosecrans, and superintended the preparation of the material used in that fortification until work was suspended by order of Jefferson Davis, at that time the secretary of war. Again, for a year, he was with the Boston & Troy Railroad Company in his old capacity, when he went to California as a gold miner, and for two years and two months had the experience of that occupation, without realizing any of the rewards sometimes associated with it. Returning to the East, poor in purse and with impaired health, his next work was building the stone towers for the suspension bridge across the Kentucky river, at Pleasant Valley. His health continuing poor he and his brother, William, next opened a stone cutter's yard at Newport, in which he worked a year with beneficial results to his health.

In 1855 he built the towers for the great bridge across the Ohio, between Cincinnati and Covington, after which he had an interest in

the construction of Section 1 of the Brooklyn Water Works, at Jamaica, N. Y. That being completed, at a loss to him, he next spent some time building bridges on the Wabash railroad in Indiana, after which he again returned to Jamaica, N. Y., and contracted for the construction of another section of the water works. This job he personally superintended, and to such great advantage that he and his partner cleared \$20,000 in eighteen months. After this he executed many contracts for mason work in bridges, on railroads, warehouse docks and lighthouses. He built bridges on the Worcester & Nashua railroad, on the Old Colony Line, and the Warren & Fall River railroad. He constructed the piers for the bridge at Warehouse Point and the Old Colony dock at Newport, all large public works.

In 1865 he purchased the Harrison Quarry, at Fall River, but after operating it one year left it in charge of his brother William and son John, and opened another quarry at Niantic, Conn. In a few years he disposed of that interest, and in February, 1869, came to Guilford, where he bought 16 acres of land at Hoadley's Point, upon which were very fine ledges of excellent granite. The following season he built several houses upon this tract, doing at the same time the mason work of the Newport & Wickford railroad. On the 22d of August, 1870, he removed permanently to Leete's Island, which has since been his home, where he has developed the large quarrying interests at that place, until the industry has become one of the largest of the kind in the state. His granite lands and real estate at Leete's Island have been increased to more than 400 acres of land. He employs from 125 to 600 men, their operations being conducted in a systematic manner and aided by modern appliances. The products are readily transported to many different localities by the Shore Line railroad, running through his lands, and by a fleet of vessels owned by him and laden at his own docks, at Hoadley's Point. The granite of his quarries is of several qualities: blue, pink and white—which are here cut, carved and polished into any desired forms—and a coarse-grained gray, having a carrying capacity of 18,000 pounds to the square inch, which is much used for building purposes. A large quantity was thus supplied for the construction of the roadway of the New York & Harlem railroad, from the river to the Grand Central depot, in New York city. Much of the stone in the Brooklyn bridge was procured at Leete's Island, and the granite pedestal for the statue of "Liberty," on Bedloe's Island, in New York bay, was furnished from these quarries.

Mr. Beattie has a thorough, practical knowledge of every department of work carried on by him, and having great industry, pluck and fine executive ability, he has prospered in his affairs and has earned the distinction of being one of the foremost business men in the eastern part of the county. He has a strong physique and is liberally endowed with many of the distinguishing characteristics of the Scottish race. He was twice married; first to Ann Kelly, in 1842, by whom he



had four children: John, living at Fall River, Mass., the inventor of the Amalgamated Battery Compound; Frank, superintendent of quarries at Leete's Island; George, deceased in 1887; and Isabella, married George Sanborn, of Leete's Island. For his second wife he married, in 1870, Mary Gay, of Guilford, and the children by this union were: Elizabeth, who deceased in 1878; and two sons, Peter and Thomas, residing with their father at his pleasant home on Hoadley's Point, Leete's Island.

Dan L. Benton, born in 1810, is a son of Dan L. and Betsey (Seward) Benton, and grandson of Silas and Abigail (Linsley) Benton. Mr. Benton is a farmer. He married Marietta, daughter of Montgomery Norton. She died, leaving one son, Darwin N. His second marriage was with Elizabeth A., daughter of Sacket and Polly (Bassett) Blaksley, and granddaughter of Joel Blaksley. Their children are: Herbert L., Charles L. and Edward W.

Darwin N. Benton, born in 1834, is a son of Dan L. and Marietta E. (Norton) Benton. He was a grain merchant since 1872, and since 1881 has been engaged in canning fruit in Guilford.

Richard H. Benton, born in 1823, is a brother of Dan L. Benton. He is a farmer. He married Charlotte, daughter of Beverly and Parna (Gould) Parkis. Their children are: Hattie E. Mattie S. and Richard B. They lost one daughter in infancy.

Elisha C. Bishop, son of Jonathan and Polly Maria Bishop, was born in 1824. His grandfather, Jonathan, was a son of David, whose father, David, was a son of John, whose father, John, was a son of John Bishop, who came from England in 1639, and was one of the original settlers of Guilford. Mr. Bishop is now a farmer. He represented the town in the legislature in 1882, and has served several terms as selectman. He married Charlotte G. Fowler in 1846. She died in October, 1885. Their children were: Frederick C., who died in infancy; Frederick C., Robert D., who died in infancy; Robert A., Edward F., Mary C., Frank H., Ida and Eva, twins; Richard M., died in infancy; Marilla C. and Ernest S. His present wife is Cornelia, a sister of his first wife.

Walter G. Bishop, born in Meriden in 1827, is a son of Martin and Sylvina (Bradley) Bishop, and grandson of Benjamin Bishop, of North Haven. He is a moulder by trade. In 1871 he came to Guilford, where he has followed farming. His first wife was Dorcas J. Hungerford, of Harwinton. His second marriage was with Nancy M., daughter of Rufus N. Leete, of Guilford, who died, leaving three children: Dexter L., Burton W. and Grace S. His present wife was Ellen L. Leete, sister of his second wife.

Albert C. Brewer, born in 1864, is a son of Alva G. and H. Alice (Palmer) Brewer, and grandson of Thomas Brewer, who came from England when a young man, and about 50 years ago settled where Albert C. now lives. Alva G. Brewer was a farmer, and died in 1887,

aged 49 years. His children were: Nellie (Mrs. Richard H. Woodruff), Albert C., Fannie, Elizabeth (Mrs. William Blatchley), Angeline, Harry, Mary and Hattie.

Elisaph H. Butler, born in 1848 in Norfolk, Conn., is a son of Levi and Clarinda E. (Sanford) Butler, and grandson of Elisaph Butler. Mr. Butler came to Guilford in 1854. In 1870 he became one of the hardware firm of S. Robinson & Co., succeeding Chester Buckley in the business. In 1887 Mr. Butler bought the interest of his partner, and now conducts the business in his own name. He is vice-president of the Guilford Savings Bank, has been several years burgess of the borough, and is now justice of the peace. He married Fannie E., daughter of Stephen Robinson. Their children are: William S., Jennie C., Hattie M. and Robert B. They lost four children.

David D. Carter, born in 1821 in Clinton, is a son of Jared and Polly (Dibbell) Carter. He came to Guilford in 1843, where he has since been a farmer. He married Mary J., daughter of William and Betsey (Dudley) Chittenden. Their son, George W., married Alice Wilcox, and they have two children: George E. and Harry W.

David D. Chittenden, born in 1817 and died in 1890, was a son of David D., grandson of Simeon, and great-grandson of Simeon Chittenden. Mr. Chittenden married Abbie Ann, daughter of Erastus and Ruth (Fowler) Dudley, who survives him. Their children are: George M., David Dwight, Ruth F. (deceased), Dudley, Frederick and Lucy F.

Dudley Chittenden, born in 1851, is a son of David D. Chittenden. He is a farmer. He married Mary E., daughter of Darwin Page, and has three sons: George D., David D. and Harold.

Simeon Chittenden was a son of Simeon, and grandson of Simeon Chittenden. He had six children: Henry W., William V. and Jerusha, deceased; and Parnel F., Martin Luther and John D. Henry W. was born October 14th, 1817, and had four children, of whom Charles R., Henry and Maria Louise deceased, and one, Charles R., is living. William V. was born November 28th, 1822, and had four children. Three are deceased—Henry Scott, Emily L. and William H. The survivor is Simeon D. Jerusha Chittenden was born June 12th, 1826, and died June 18th, 1826. Parnel F. married E. Frank Dudley. Martin L. Chittenden owns and occupies his father's homestead. John D. married Lucy A., daughter of Timothy Rossiter. Their children are: Sarah T. and Charles F., and two that died—William H. and Franklin F. J. William H. was a young man of much promise. He graduated from the medical department of Yale College in 1883, and began practice at Branford, but on account of failing health was obliged to return home, and died October 18th, 1884, aged 26 years.

Jerome Coan, born in 1834, is a son of John and Elizabeth (Hart) Coan, and grandson of John, who was a revolutionary soldier, who was a son of John, and grandson of John, whose father, Peter, was born in 1697, in Germany, and in 1715, with his parents and two younger

brothers, George and Abraham, came to America. In 1736 Peter settled at North Guilford, near where Jerome now lives. Mr. Coan is a merchant. He served three years in the late war in Company E, 15th Connecticut Volunteers. He married Frances D. Griswold, who died in 1859. He married for his second wife Mary F., daughter of Henry Judd. Their children are: Joseph F. and Fannie L.

Owen Cunningham, son of Dennis Cunningham, was born in Ireland in 1832, and came to America in 1838. He learned the copper-smith trade in Buffalo, N. Y., and at the age of 20 went to Chicago, where he lived until 1880, when he came to Guilford. He served in the war of the rebellion in Company K, 23d Illinois Volunteers, for about three years. He married Ann Driscoll.

Deacon Edwin O. Davis, born in 1825, is a son of Joel and Polly (Loper) Davis, and grandson of James Davis, who was a revolutionary soldier, and came from Southold, L. I., to Guilford, where he married Ruth Griswold and had nine children. Mr. Davis is a farmer. He married in 1849, Martha S., daughter of Dan L. Benton. Their children are: Anna S., now Mrs. J. P. Slocum; Robert E., who is a farmer with his father; and Martha E., now Mrs. Frank E. Fowler. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have 11 grandchildren.

George S. Davis, born in 1854, is the eldest son of George W. and Cornelia (Smith) Davis, and grandson of Joel Davis. Mr. Davis was eight years in Hartford as merchant's clerk, and was then four years clerk in the Guilford post office. Since 1883 he has been a grocery merchant. He is now serving his sixth term as town treasurer, and in 1889 he represented the town in the legislature. He married Anna G. Fowler. They have one daughter, Elizabeth G. They lost one son in infancy.

Sherman W. Davis, born in 1826 in Killingworth, was a son of Zina and Amanda (Stephens) Davis. He is a farmer. He married Emma J., daughter of Nathan Aldrich. Their children are: Ella (Mrs. Frank Hill), Mrs. Phebe J. Dudley and Mrs. Flora E. Dudley.

Emily G. (Davis) Demarest is a daughter of Joel and Polly (Loper) Davis. She married first Samuel Madden, a furniture dealer of New York, who died in 1869, aged 50 years. They had eight sons: Oscar E., Samuel C., Joel D., Albert F., Harry G., Lewis A., Allen E. and Charles W. They lost one daughter, Ella P. Mrs. Demarest has her home in Guilford, near the place of her birth.

Julius A. Dowd, born in 1806, was the eldest of twelve children of Julius and Clarissa (Stone) Dowd, grandson of Ebenezer, and great-grandson of Ebenezer, whose father, Thomas, was a son of Thomas, and a grandson of Henry Dowd, who came from England in 1639 and died in Guilford in 1668. Mr. Dowd is a shoemaker by trade and has followed the business through life except 20 years, during which time he was a farmer. He married Mrs. Nancy Terry, who died leaving one daughter, Mary C., now Mrs. Virgil Hotchkiss. His second mar-

riage was with Mrs. Abigail Tibbles, daughter of Doctor Jonathan Todd, of Madison.

William T. Dowd, born in 1828 in Madison, is a son of Rufus and Rebecca (Bishop) Dowd, and grandson of Moses Dowd. He is a joiner by trade. He is now filling his fifth term as warden of the borough. He married Mary J. Pomeroy. They have two children: William H. and Mary, now Mrs. Louis P. Anderson.

Ebenezer F. Dudley, born in 1819, is a son of Erastus and Ruth (Fowler) Dudley, grandson of Luther, and great-grandson of Jared, whose father, William, was a son of Joseph, and grandson of William Dudley. Mr. Dudley, like most of his ancestors, is a farmer. He married Nancy A., daughter of Timothy Fowler. She died in February, 1890, leaving two sons: Baldwin C. and Ira F.

George C. Dudley, born in 1842, is a son of Samuel W. and Lucy A. (Chittenden) Dudley, and grandson of Ambrose Dudley. Mr. Dudley is a farmer on the homestead of his father and grandfather. Samuel W. Dudley was a farmer, was for a number of years representative in the legislature and one term state senator. He had six children: Charles S., Henry C., who died in the army; Elizabeth, James A., George C. and William R., who is a teacher at Cornell.

John Hooker Dudley is a son of Hooker and Mary (Evarts) Dudley, grandson of John, and great-grandson of Nathaniel, whose father, Caleb, was a son of Caleb, grandson of Joseph, and great-grandson of William Dudley. Mr. Dudley is an enterprising and successful farmer, owning and occupying the homestead of his father.

Lucian W. Dudley, born in 1830 in Guilford, is a son of David and Abigail (Stevens) Dudley, grandson of Roswell, and great-grandson of Lutenant, who was a son of Deacon David Dudley. Mr. Dudley was a manufacturer of turned wood in Madison several years, and he was for 14 years engaged in mercantile trade in Norwich. Since 1884 he has been a farmer in Guilford. While in Madison he held several town offices. He married Mary E., daughter of Erastus Page. Their children are: William H., M.D., and George W., who is a farmer with his father.

Nathan C. Dudley, born in 1821, is a son of Erastus and Ruth (Fowler) Dudley, and grandson of Luther, whose father was Jared Dndley. Mr. Dudley was a tanner and farmer until 1875, and since that time has lived retired. He married Annis S., daughter of Benjamin Rossiter. Their children are: Annis S., now Mrs. Edwin W. Bartlett; Erastus, Lucy E., Catharine B. and Mary R., deceased June 23d, 1883.

Harvey Elliot, born in 1830, is a son of Willis and Lucy (Camp) Elliot, grandson of Timothy, and great-grandson of Abial, whose father, Reverend Joseph, was a son of John Elliot, the apostle to the Indians. Mr. Elliot is a farmer. He married Jane Coulter, who died in Febru-

ary, 1887. They had four children: Frederick W., Harry L., Jennie L. and Fannie L. Frederick W. has charge of the home farm.

Lewis R. Elliot, born in 1819, is a son of Charles and Chloe (Pardee) Elliot. He is president of the Guilford Savings Bank. He is a farmer, though the more laborious part of the work he has surrendered to his son. His house stands on the site where, in 1664, Reverend Joseph Elliot built his first residence in the town, and the family have owned the place continuously since that time. His first marriage was with Fannie Griswold. She died leaving one daughter, Fannie, now Mrs. Herbert Benton. His second wife was Catharine Graves. They have two children: Edward and Elizabeth.

Arthur S. Fowler, born in 1844, is a son of Captain Harry B. and Caroline (Williams) Fowler, and grandson of Bildad Fowler. Mr. Fowler is a farmer. He is now serving his second term as assessor. He married Charlotte A., daughter of John J. Bartholomew, of Branford. They have one daughter living, Annice B., and lost one, Bessie I. Mr. Fowler enlisted as private in Battery A, C. N. G., in May, 1874; was promoted to corporal 1877; to sergeant 1879; to second lieutenant December 5th, 1881; to first lieutenant January 22d, 1883; to captain March 11th, 1886, which position he now holds.

Charles Griswold was born July 26th, 1841, at Guilford, Conn., the youngest in a family of nine. His father, Joel Griswold, was one of the staunch New Englanders of the old school, a man of influence in town affairs. Charles Griswold worked on his father's farm until he was 21, attending school during the winter at the Guilford Institute. At his father's desire, he planned to study civil engineering, and with this in view, so shaped his winters' studies as to fit himself to enter the Sheffield School at Yale. But the wise men of the town said there would be no more railroads built, and such a course of study would not be profitable. About this time the war broke out, and the young man enlisted as soon as he attained his majority. He served first as private, then as sergeant in the 15th Regiment, and participated in the battles of Fredericksburg, Suffolk Road, etc. After 18 months of this service, he was made captain in the 29th Connecticut Volunteers (colored), in which capacity he served until the close of the war, about two years, experiencing some hard fighting in Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina and Texas. He was present at the surrender of Richmond, his regiment being one of the first to enter the city. Since the war he has been identified with Guilford interests in many forms. For several years he was a merchant, for 17 years postmaster, for ten years treasurer of the Guilford Savings Bank, served on the school board as secretary or president for 25 years, represented the town in the legislature of 1887; in fact, has held almost every office which falls to the lot of public-spirited and popular citizens of a New England town. In June, 1889, he was appointed bank commissioner of Connecticut, which office he still holds. Mr. Griswold is a member of the

First Congregational church, Guilford. He was married in 1864, to Mary E. Griswold, of Guilford. He has two children, both of mature age. He was assistant quartermaster general of the department of Connecticut, G. A. R., for one term, and served as commander of the Grand Army Post in his native town for three years.

Henry H. Griswold, born in 1847, is the only son of Russell M. and Polly F. (Hill) Griswold, grandson of Jacob, and great-grandson of Nathan Griswold. Mr. Griswold is a farmer. He married Frances, daughter of E. Frank and Parnella (Chittenden) Dudley.

John E. Griswold, born in 1825, is the eldest son of Henry and Nancy (Elliot) Griswold, and grandson of John Griswold. He is a farmer. He married Mary Deborah, daughter of Daniel Goldsmith. Their children are: Henry D., Lydia G. (Mrs. Robert Davis), Frank R., Edward E., John L. (deceased), Walter S., Minnie M., Russell (deceased), and Jennie, who died in infancy.

Orrin Hoadley was born in Branford in 1788, and died May 29th, 1864. For 16 consecutive years he was warden of Trinity church, Branford, and he was selectman several terms. He learned the blacksmith trade when young, and later became a farmer, owning at the time of his death 200 acres of land. He had one brother, Alvin, a blacksmith, who settled in the town of Tinmouth, Vt. Orrin Hoadley married, first, Hannah Frisbie, who had two sons—Alonzo and Lorenzo. His second wife was Julia Tyler, who had eight children, only two of whom are living—Ann and Paschal Kidder. His third wife was Sarah Wetherholt, of Terre Haute, Ill. Paschal K. Hoadley, born in 1845, came, in 1868, from Branford to North Guilford, where he is a farmer. He married, first, Jane Honce, who died, leaving one son, James Morgan. His second wife was Sarah, daughter of Joseph Hubbard. Their children are: Alvin and Lucy Alvena (were twins), Mary A., Grace W., Ethna E., Ralph L. and Homer R. Alvin died, aged nine months.

John Hubbard, born in 1804, is the youngest son of Daniel and Hannah (Fowler) Hubbard. His grandfather was Daniel, whose father, grandfather and great-great-grandfather bore the same name, and back of the last mentioned Daniel was George Hubbard, born in England in 1595, came to Guilford in 1650, and settled where John now lives. Mr. Hubbard has been a farmer and drover. He married Mary Linsley, who died, leaving one daughter, Mary L. His second marriage was with Charlotte Rose. They have five children: Hannah, William H., Ellen, James R. and John B.

George W. Hull, born in 1839, is the only son of E. Willis and Rohama (Davis) Hull. Mr. Hull is a farmer. He married Eugenia, daughter of Asa Morse. Their children are: George W., Jr., and Lanette R.

James M. Hunt, son of Robert Hunt, was born in Hartford county in 1823, and came to Guilford in 1844 with his father, who at that time

took charge of the Guilford Point House, purchasing the property three years later. Mr. Hunt succeeded his father as proprietor of the house, and is its present owner. He married Lucy A., daughter of Horace Norton. They have one daughter, Harriet L., now Mrs. S. M. Bryant. They lost one son, Robert N.

RUFUS NORTON and CALVIN MINER LEETE, brothers, two of the oldest and most respected citizens of Leete's Island, are lineal descendants, in the seventh generation, of Governor William Leete, the progenitor of most of the Leetes in America. The prominence of Governor Leete in the Menuncatuc plantation and town of Guilford, and his official relation to the colony of New Haven, and later the United Connecticut colonies, are fully noted in the foregoing pages. He died in the service of the state, April 16th, 1683, after having resided in this country about 44 years. His oldest son, John, born in Guilford in 1639 (and said to be the first white child born in this town), married, in 1670, Mary, daughter of William and Joanna (Sheafe) Chittenden, and their fifth child, Pelatiah, born March 26th, 1681, was the great-great-grandfather of the subjects of this sketch.

On the 1st of July, 1705, Deacon Pelatiah Leete married Abigail, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth (Bartlett) Fowler, and soon after they removed to Leete's Island, where no settlement had before been made. But the land had been allotted to his grandfather, Governor William Leete, after proper purchase from the Indians, and the title for the greater part of this soil has never been out of this family. Upon these ancestral acres six generations of Leetes have resided as farmers, members of each one being content to remain and follow the occupation of their forefathers, most of them with success and profit. Originally the soil here was very fertile, and it is said of Deacon Leete that he farmed so successfully that he did not consider a hundred bushels of shelled corn to the acre more than an average yield. He also had a herd of 100 head of neat cattle. In 1735 he erected a large house on a commanding spot of his farm, overlooking the waters of the sound, in which he lived until his death, October 13th, 1768. His widow died October 22d the following year. They had lived together 63 years. This house was a noted landmark in the time of the revolution,\* and was later occupied by descendants in several generations. In 1874 it was demolished, and upon its site was erected the present residence of one of the foregoing brothers, Deacon Calvin M. Leete.

The eldest son of Deacon Pelatiah Leete, Daniel, born October 14th, 1709, also became a deacon of the Fourth Congregational church. He married June 14th, 1738, Rhoda, daughter of Caleb and Sarah (Meigs) Stone, and resided at Leete's Island, where he died October 1st, 1772. His wife had deceased earlier, December 23d, 1769, at the age of 50 years. Their third child was Ambrose, the grandfather of the brothers, whose portraits are here given.

\*See account of the revolution.

Like his father and grandfather, Ambrose Leete was also a deacon of the Congregational church. He was chosen to that office in the Fourth church in 1786, and by the First church in 1807. He was born January 19th, 1748, and November 10th, 1773, married Miranda, daughter of William and Rachel (White) Chittenden. He died February 14th, 1809, but his widow survived until September 16th, 1838, when she deceased at the age of 91½ years. Their third child was Miner, the father of Rufus N. and Calvin M. Leete.

Miner Leete was born June 30th, 1779. He was married November 17th, 1807, to Lucinda, daughter of Colonel Rufus and Hannah (Cook) Norton, who was born in Guilford, November 18th, 1780. They lived and died at Leete's Island, he deceasing November 7th, 1826, and she August 28th, 1848. Of their five children the youngest was the only daughter, Louisa Maria, born August 20th, 1822, died unmarried, July 29th, 1855. The sons were: Edward L., Rufus N., Theodore A. and Calvin M. Deacon Edward Lorenzo was born June 28th, 1810, and married April 29th, 1833, Sylvia, daughter of Daniel and Lucy (Chittenden) Fowler, born in North Guilford, May 2d, 1807. He died at Leete's Island, May 3d, 1884, leaving two children, Edward Walter and Lucy Louisa. Deacon Leete was very active in the affairs of the town, taking especial interest in the cause of education. He was a very useful man in this community, and "had the respect, esteem and confidence of all who associated with him, and all justly considered him a personal friend." In the latter years of his life he compiled the Leete Genealogy, from which many of these facts have been taken.

The third son, Reverend Theodore Adgate, was born May 18th, 1814. He graduated from Yale College in 1839, and subsequently from the Yale Theological Seminary. From 1845 to 1859 he was the pastor of the First church in Windsor, Conn. Later he removed to Long Meadow, Mass. He was married to Mary C. White, of that place, and had three children: Ella Louisa, Reverend William White and Theodore Woolsey. His death occurred April 28th, 1886, at Long Meadow, Mass.

Rufus N. Leete, the second son of Miner and Lucinda (Norton) Leete, was born August 17th, 1812, and was reared on his father's farm at Leete's Island. Upon reaching manhood he adopted that occupation, and has intelligently followed it to the present time, his industry being rewarded by an encouraging measure of success. In 1848 he built and occupied his present home on Leete's Island proper. He was married October 23d, 1833, to Sarah, daughter of Ezra S. and Abigail (Norton) Bishop, and six children were born to them, namely: Nancy Maria, October 23d, 1834, married, February 12th, 1862, Walter G. Bishop, of Meriden, and died in Guilford, April 4th, 1886; Richard Miner, born November 20th, 1836, married, November 14th, 1861, Mary E., daughter of Anson and Fanny Norton; Roger Calvin, born August 30th, 1838, married, October, 1869, Helen A. Park, of Sheshequin, Pa.;





*Refus V. Lette*



Ellen Lucretia, born August 20th, 1840, married, February 22d, 1887, W. G. Bishop; Rufus Burton, born June 22d, 1843; Margaret Elizabeth, born March 11th, 1846. The latter two reside with their parents, on the homestead, and the remaining members of the family also live in the town of Guilford.

Rufus N. Leete has a retiring disposition, but is esteemed by those who know him as a man of strict integrity, and honorable in all his actions of life. He is very steadfast in his convictions, and consistently maintains them in politics and religion. He has remained attached to the principles of democracy in spite of continued adverse majority against his party in this town, hence was not called to serve in public capacity. During the existence of the Baptist society in Guilford he was a member of that body, and warmly supported its work. In these professions and acts he is a conscientious and just man. Mr. Leete has been interested in the industrial development of his native town, aside from his farm pursuits. He was a large stockholder of the Guilford Manufacturing Company, and discharged his obligations to that unfortunate enterprise in a manner creditable to his integrity and honor as a man. For a number of years he has been an efficient member of the board of trustees of the Guilford Savings Bank, and his sound judgment in business matters is much esteemed.

Deacon Calvin M. Leete, the youngest son of Miner and Lucinda (Norton) Leete, was born on the homestead now occupied by him, October 18th, 1816. After having attended the common schools he began work on his father's farm, but was obliged, when 19 years of age, to seek another locality, on account of his health. He spent several years in Meriden, when he returned much improved, and thenceforth followed the pursuit of farming on a place where four generations of his ancestors had previously cultivated the soil. His industry, thrift and intelligent application enabled him to prosper and succeed in his chosen avocation. These same characteristics, exercised in his other affairs, have been attended with equally gratifying results, and he thus became one of the foremost men of the town. Although averse to holding office, he was elected as one of the representatives of Guilford in the state legislature in 1856, again in 1862, and for the third time in 1878. He also served the town in other capacities, and has always taken a warm interest in its affairs.

Early in life he became deeply interested in the human rights of man, and warmly espoused the cause of the blacks in the South. He cast his vote for Birney and Hale, on the abolition tickets, voted for Van Buren in the free soil movement, and since that time has been a republican. In 1839 he became a member of the Congregational church in Meriden, from which he was transferred to the Third church in Guilford. Of this church he has long been a leading member, serving as a deacon the past ten years. His worthy and consistent life in this

relation, added to his other good qualities as a citizen, has caused him to be sincerely respected and esteemed by all who know him.

Deacon Calvin M. Leete was married, February 7th, 1866, to Lucy M., daughter of Morris A. and Clarinda (Graves) Leete, and the fruit of this union was one son, Calvin Morris, born January 11th, 1867, now living in the paternal home.

Edward Walter Leete, born in 1834, is the only son of Deacon Edward L. and Sylvia (Fowler) Leete, grandson of Miner, great-grandson of Ambrose, and great-great-grandson of Daniel, whose father, Pelatiah, was a son of John, and a grandson of Governor William Leete. Mr. Leete, like his ancestors, is a farmer. He has held the offices of assessor, tax collector, justice and member of the board of education. Mr. Leete is also a deacon in the First Congregational church in Guilford, a trustee of the Guilford Institute, and the manager of several fiduciary trusts. His wife, Harriet, is a daughter of Daniel L. Rogers, of Cornwall, Conn. Their children are: Abbie L., Edward R., William S., Sarah T., died October 25th, 1891; and one son that died in infancy.

George E. Meigs, born in Guilford, is a son of Erastus, and grandson of Isaac Meigs, both seafaring men. Mr. Meigs' mother was a Walkley. She left eight children: Anna E., George E., Clara, William, Sarah, Charles, Richard and Walter. Mr. Meigs has spent the greater part of his life in mercantile trade in Guilford.

Asahel B. Morse, born in 1827, is a son of Alpha and Phebe (Norton) Morse, and grandson of Jonathan Morse. Mr. Morse spent his early life in coasting and fishing, and after keeping the town farm six years, took charge of the town mill in 1861, and has operated it since that time. He was for six years selectman and has held minor town offices. He married Martha Ray. Their children are: Eugenia, Mary, Anna, Fred, Harry, and Kate, deceased.

Henry A. Norton, born in 1846, was a son of Billy and Mary (Dudley) Norton, and grandson of Abel, whose father, Charles Norton, came to North Guilford and married Mary Gould, whose father owned the farm where Mr. Norton spent his life. He was a farmer and died in 1872. He married Annette E., daughter of Theophilus and Eliza A. (Chittenden) Rossiter. They had one son, Roland B.

John W. Norton, born in 1839, is a son of John and Ruth (Dudley) Norton, grandson of Eber, and great-grandson of Reuben, whose father, Thomas, was a son of John, whose father, Thomas Norton, was born in 1582, came to America in 1639, and died in Guilford in 1648. Mr. Norton is a farmer. He has been three years selectman, two terms representative and is now one of the board of assessors. He was married in 1839, to Adalaide E. Kimberly, who died leaving one son, Wallace D. His present wife was Elizabeth R. Dudley.

Eli Parmelee, born in 1808, was a son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Hart) Parmelee. Mr. Parmelee was a farmer. He died in Guilford in 1882. He married Betsey A., daughter of Dan L. Benton, in 1830.



*Calvin M. Lette*



They had two children: Annie Elizabeth, now Mrs. Edward Griswold; and Ellen C., who died aged six years.

Henry E. Parmelee, born in 1830, is the youngest son of Jonathan and Maria (Dudley) Parmelee, and a grandson of Jonathan Parmelee. Mr. Parmelee is a farmer. He has served the town as assessor and selectman, and in 1889 was representative in the legislature. He was in the war of the rebellion in Company I, 14th Connecticut Volunteers, from August 7th, 1862, to December 23d, 1863. He married Georgianna, daughter of Theophilus Rossiter. Their two sons, Herbert E. and Edgar P., are both married, and follow the vocation of their father.

G. Perry Reynolds, M.D., born in February, 1829, in Norwich, Conn., is a son of Henry B. and Amanda (Merriss) Reynolds, and grandson of Jonathan Reynolds. Doctor Reynolds attended the public schools of Norwich and Lyme, and the Essex Academy, and after studying with Doctor William A. Babcock, graduated from New York Medical University in 1852. He began practice in Berlin, Conn., and subsequently went to Sprague, from which place he entered the United States service in the 11th Connecticut Volunteers as surgeon in 1863, serving until the close of the war. He then began private practice at Killingworth, Conn., where he remained until 1870, when he came to Guilford, where he has since practiced. He married Mary A. Rogers in 1852. She died May 24th, 1879, leaving two children: Herbert S., M.D., of Clinton; and Edith E., a teacher in Meriden, Conn.

George P. Rolf, born in 1849 in England, is a son of Henry Rolf. He came to Madison when one year old, and in 1870 came to Guilford, where he followed the mason's trade until 1881, when he bought a livery business of George Davis, and formed a partnership with Mr. Redfield, under the firm name of Rolf & Redfield, which business they conducted until January 1st, 1891, when he bought out Mr. Redfield and carried on the business in the name of George P. Rolf. He married Mary, daughter of William Storer. They have one son, Fred.

David B. Rossiter, born in 1819, is a son of Benjamin and Catharine L. (Brooks) Rossiter, grandson of Timothy, and great-grandson of Benjamin Rossiter. Mr. Rossiter is a farmer. He has held various town offices and was representative in 1867. He married Carile M., daughter of Theophilus Rossiter. Their children are: Daniel W., Susan A., Erwin W., Wilbur T., Eliza A., Ellen S., Jennie A. and an infant son, all of whom are deceased except Erwin W. and Wilbur T., who are farmers at North Guilford.

Edgar P. Rossiter, born in 1826, is a son of Theophilus and Eliza A. (Chittenden) Rossiter, grandson of William, and great-grandson of Theophilus Rossiter. Mr. Rossiter is a farmer. He has held various town offices, and in 1885 he was in the legislature. He married Mrs. Elvira C. Rossiter, daughter of Augustus Bishop. They have had two children: Grace E. and Edgar E., both deceased.

John R. Rossiter, born in 1817, is the eldest son of Benjamin, grandson of Timothy, and great-grandson of Benjamin, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of Joseph and grandson of Doctor Bryan Rossiter. Mr. Rossiter is a farmer. He served four terms as representative, has been about 40 years on the school board and 30 years acting school visitor. He married Frances C., daughter of Eber Crittenden. Their children are: Benjamin, Adeline, John, Catharine (deceased), Lois, Frances, Mary, Anna and Ruth F. (deceased). Mr. Rossiter has been for 40 years deacon of the North Guilford church.

Christopher Spencer, born in 1831, is a son of Isaac S. and Charlotte B. Spencer. His early life was spent on a farm with his grandfather, Samuel Spencer. He left the farm to enter the employ of the Guilford Manufacturing Company, where he served his apprenticeship in company with ex-Governor H. B. Bigelow and others. There he remained until the failure of the company. He afterward held important positions in stores in New York and Ravenna, Ohio, returning from the last named place to Branford, Conn., where he took the position of superintendent of the foundry of the Squires & Parsons Manufacturing Company, now Branford Lock Works. Leaving there in 1857, he came to Guilford and began business with his father in the firm now known as I. S. Spencer's Sons, of which firm he is the senior member. Mr. Spencer married Jane E., daughter of Jonathan Collins. They have three sons: Frederick C., Edwin S. and Walter T.

George B. Spencer, born in 1841, is one of seven children of Isaac S. and Charlotte (Brickell) Spencer, and grandson of Samuel Spencer. Mr. Spencer has been engaged in manufacturing in Guilford since 1857. He is now one of the firm of I. S. Spencer's Sons. He was representative in 1874, selectman one year, warden of the borough four years, and several years burgess. He married Emma F., daughter of Chester Bickley. They have two sons: Samuel and Chester S.

Leverett C. Stone, born in 1819, is a son of Reuben and Lucinda (Camp) Stone, and grandson of Timothy, whose father, Reuben, was a son of Caleb, he a son of Nathaniel, whose father, John, was a son of Reverend William Stone of England. Mr. Stone, like most of the people of Guilford, has been a farmer. He married Adaline, daughter of Charles and Chloe (Pardee) Elliot. Their two children are: Anna Mary and William L., who married Elizabeth Morrill, and has two children: Adaline E. and William M.

Alvan Talcott, M. D., born in Vernon, Conn., in 1804, was a son of Alvan and Philomela (Root) Talcott, and grandson of Benjamin Talcott. Doctor Talcott fitted for college in his native town, under the instruction of Reverend William Ealy, entered Yale in 1820, and after graduating in 1824, taught different academies for a few years, and in 1831 graduated from Yale Medical School and began practice in his native town. In 1841 he came to Guilford, where he practiced until a few years ago, when he retired. He married Olive N., daughter of



Abel Chittenden. She died in 1882. Their three children were: William H., who was lost at sea in 1856; Sarah, who died in 1866; and a daughter that died in infancy. Doctor Talcott died January 17th, 1891, leaving valuable genealogical manuscripts to the New Haven Colony Historical Society. A short time before his death he gave Yale College \$25,000 to endow a Greek professorship.

Levi W. Thrall, born in 1825, in Torrington, Conn., is a son of Lawrence and Sarah (Dutton) Thrall, and grandson of Levi Thrall. He came to Guilford in 1867, where he has since been engaged in raising fruit and garden truck. He married Amelia Beecher, who died, leaving nine children: Sarah, Martha, Laura, Beecher, Charles, Henry, Anna, Walter and Levi. His present wife was Antoinette Cole.

JOEL TUTTLE was born in Guilford, May 8th, 1792, and died one of the most respected citizens of that town, May 1st, 1855. He was the youngest child and only son of Joel and Elizabeth (Fowler) Tuttle, the other members of their family being five daughters. His mother belonged to one of Guilford's oldest families, and died September 26th, 1842, aged a little more than 91 years. His father was a son of Joel and Rebecca Tuttle, of New Haven, where he was born, September 1st, 1746. About the beginning of the revolution he removed to Guilford, where his first wife, Anna Crawford, died, in October, 1775, and where, in October, 1778, he married Elizabeth Fowler. He deceased November 30th, 1822. The Tuttle's were lineal descendants of William Tuttle, who settled on Stony Creek, in East Haven, about 1645, and from that place members of his family removed to various parts of the county, where they prospered and became influential citizens.

The boyhood education of Joel Tuttle, the subject of this sketch, was limited to the instruction imparted in the common schools of his native town, but he was a great reader and diligent student in his later years, becoming remarkably well self-educated. He early showed an inclination for business pursuits, and he was trained for mercantile trade, which avocation he successfully followed until about 1850. His store was on Broad street, west of the new residence which he occupied as a homestead in the latter days of his life.

He was very energetic and industrious, prospering in his affairs, and became one of the leading business men of this part of the county. The care of a farm also received his attention, and he was much interested in the construction of the Shore Line railroad. He had a clear judgment and his integrity was unsullied. Hence his advice on business matters was often sought, and many safely rested on his counsels. He manifested a warm interest in the affairs of the town, and his fellow-townsmen appreciated his worth by electing him to various positions of honor and trust. He was a judge of the probate court, and served as a representative from Guilford in the state legis-

lature. Although not a member of any Christian church, he lived a life of the strictest morality, and was esteemed a just and upright man.

Joel Tuttle was married April 23d, 1851, to Lucy E., daughter of Isaac and Harriet Sage, of Cromwell, Conn., and two children were born to them: Joel Edward, March 8th, 1852, died August 29th, the same year; and William Sage, December 28th, 1853, who died July 27th, 1867. He was a youth of unusual promise, and his intellectual development was, for one of his years, very brilliant. His mother fitly perpetuated his memory by giving the Olivet, Michigan, College a memorial library fund of \$15,000. Mrs. Tuttle was a woman of many excellent qualities, and, like her husband, was much esteemed in this community. The Tuttle homestead is now occupied by her sister, Miss Clara I. Sage.

Charles W. Walkley, born in 1837, is a son of Roswell S. and Jerusha B. (Stone) Walkley, grandson of William, and great-grandson of William Walkley. Mr. Walkley is a fisherman and farmer. He married Jane E., daughter of Henry W. and Eliza A. (Morse) Lee, and granddaughter of Frederick W. Lee. They have two adopted daughters: Addie S. and Louie H.

William E. Weld, son of George and Mabel (Fowler) Weld, grandson of Edmund and Charlotte (Stone) Weld, and great-grandson of Joseph Weld, was born in 1815. In early life he was a carpenter, lumber dealer and builder, but now devotes his attention to farming. He married Myrta M. Holcomb. Their children are: Jennie C. (Mrs. Charles Shelton), William Edwin, and Julia A., who died in infancy.

Richard C. Wilcox, born in 1846, is a son of Almon O. and Ruth D. (Kennedy) Wilcox. Mr. Wilcox is a farmer. He married Lucy, daughter of Edgar and Jane (Robinson) Page. Their children are: Lewis C., Elmer E., Edgar A. and Richard L.

Eleazer Woodruff, born in 1819, in Killingworth, is a son of Alonzo and Hannah (Davis) Woodruff. Mr. Woodruff is a farmer. He kept the Guilford town mill for 23 years. He married Harriet A., daughter of Christopher B. Davis. She died December 14th, 1890. Their children are: Richard H., Lucy and Edwin C. Richard H. married Isabell Parmelee, November 1st, 1882. She died April 27th, 1885, at the age of 26 years, leaving one son, Henry. He afterward married Nellie R. Brewer, and has two children, Hattie and Alva. Richard H. is a farmer. Lucy, now Mrs. Frank Griswold, has one son, John. Edwin C. was a graduate of Yale College, class of '72, graduating at the age of 20 years. He married, July 15th, 1884. He died May 17th, 1886, at the age of 34 years. He was town clerk and judge of probate in the town of Guilford at the time of his death.



*Joel Tuttle*



## CHAPTER IV.

### THE TOWN OF MADISON.

Location and Description.—Settlement and Settlers.—Old Houses.—Civil Organization and Civil Officers.—Madison Green.—Highways.—Industrial Interests.—East River.—North Madison.—Madison Village.—The Beach.—Physicians.—Educational and Religious.—Lodges.—Cemeteries.—Military Affairs.—Biographical Sketches.

THE town of Madison occupies the southeastern part of the county. It extends north from the sound, between the East and the Hammonassett rivers, about nine miles, and averages about four miles in width. The northern part is very broken and a considerable portion still remains as woodland. Along the coast the soil is sandy, but has been made fairly fertile by the use of guano and menhaden fish, of which large quantities are ploughed under annually. This system of fertilization was begun in 1798.

The streams of the town are small and unimportant. Near the southern central part is Tuxis pond, which has a small and sluggish outlet. Off the shore is a small island by the same name. At various points near the shore are upheavals of rock, which have been quarried for flagging stone, and large quantities have been shipped out of the town. The shore presents a few irregularities, but is mainly an unbroken beach. The principal points are Hogshead, in the southwest, and Hammonassett, in the southeast. The East river at the lower end divides Madison from Guilford, and the sound forms a long neck of land, which is a part of Madison. The river between the railroad to the sound is a natural bed for oysters and clams, both of which are finely flavored and often numerous. Of their value a citizen has recently said, that he "would rather own the river than the whole town of Madison." The fishery gives occupation to about a score of regular oystermen.

Title to the Indian lands in the town was early acquired by the "English Planters of Menuncatuck," as is related in the account of Guilford, of which Madison was a part more than a century and a half. Under the direction of Guilford the first settlements were made. As early as 1645 a part of what is now Madison was improved as a common field for the planters, and regulations were made concerning it. In this territory the Indians had cleared a large tract, upon which the planters were encouraged to settle. In 1656 some of the uplands of the town were surveyed and divided according to the proprietors' list.

In 1666 the meadows in the East Quarter were divided; and in 1675 all the lands at that place were fenced as a common field.

John Meigs was one of the first settlers of the town. He came from New Haven and bought a hundred-pound allotment at Hammonasset in 1653, but did not remain permanently in the town. His father, Vincent Meigs, an old man, was with him and died in the town in 1658. Not long thereafter John Meigs removed to Killingworth, but his son, John Meigs, Jr., afterward came to East Guilford, and from him have descended the numerous family bearing that name in Madison, for more than two hundred years. In the war of the revolution the Meigs family rendered valiant service.

Nathan Bradley and his brother, Stephen, came from England before they had attained their ages. They had intended to land at New Haven, but were obliged to land at Saybrook, and starting for their point of destination through the wilderness, concluded to remain in Guilford. In 1658, when their names first appear in the town records, Nathan was twenty and Stephen but sixteen years of age. The former settled in the eastern part of the town, near the Killingworth line; the latter lived on Neck Plain. Nathan Bradley became a great hunter, and in pursuit of game was the first to ascend the Hammonasset to its source in the small lake, which was called in his honor, Nathan's pond. It is said that in his lifetime he killed several hundred deer and bears, besides many other smaller wild animals. He lived to an advanced age.

Another early settler on Neck Plain was Dennis Crampton, who, prior to 1660, lived on South lane, in Guilford. In his new home he became wealthy and the descendants numerous.

Before 1672 Joseph Hand came from East Hampton, Long Island, and joined the East farmers; and later, Jonathan Hoyt, of Windsor, who received liberty, December 9th, 1671, to remain in Guilford over winter, became a part of the same community.

"In 1672, as appears from an official letter of that period, the following persons resided in what is now Eastern Madison: Ebenezer Thompson, Nathan Bradley, William Leete, John Scranton, James Hill, John Meigs, Joseph Hand, Thomas Cruttenden and Thomas Willard. The latter came from Deerfield soon after. Still later came Joseph Wilcox, from Middletown. In Liberty street Thomas Dowd was an early settler.\*

"In the Neck, were Benjamin Stone, Stephen Bradley, Daniel Blatchley, Caleb Parmelee, and Dennis Crampton, in about 1660 or earlier, and afterwards Josiah and Caleb Bishop, James Lee, Ebenezer Chittenden, and Samuel Leete, all from Guilford; also, Thomas Wilcox, from Middletown; Jonathan Bassett, from Chester; and Seth Stone, from Guilford, about 1760. John Scranton, John and Ebenezer French,

\*From the Reverend James A. Gallup's Historical Discourse, November 16th, 1877.

John French, Jun., John Grave, Nathaniel Evarts, Cornelius and John Dowd, and Thomas Hotchkin, from Guilford; Jonathan Hoyt, from Windsor; and Ebenezer Field, from Deerfield, Mass., were among the first settlers in the central part of the town; also, Nathaniel and John Alis, from Bolton; and Jonathan Judd, from Farmington.

"Jonathan Murray came from Scotland, and settled about 1688 in the neighborhood called Scotland, which took its name from him; John Bishop, from Guilford, also located there.

"Benjamin Hand located north of 'Short Rocks.' John Hotchkin and Ebenezer Dudley, from the Center; and Jedediah Coe, from Durham, settled in the neighborhood of the 'Horse Pond.' In the Woods District were John Wilcox, from Middletown; Moses Blatchley, from Guilford; Nathaniel Stevens, from Killingworth; Joseph and Janna Hand, Jared Willard, Samuel Field, Joseph and Hull Cruttenden, sons of settlers in the south part of the town; also Christopher Foster, from South Hampton, L. I., in 1745. West of the Woods School House were Abraham Dowd and Josiah Dudley, from Guilford; John Grave, from Hartford; and David Field, son of Ebenezer Field.

"John Munger, grandson of Nicholas Munger, John Pierson, from Killingworth; and William Bartlett, an Englishman, immediately from Barbadoes, settled in 'Flanders.'

"In the 'Copse' were Ebenezer Grave, son of John Grave, the elder; Ebenezer Field, 2d, and Josiah Everts. North of these was Jonathan Lee, from Guilford; and to the west, over Neck River, was Ebenezer Munger, brother of John Munger.

"Nicholas Munger, who came from England when a youth, settled north of Neck River, on the public road, as soon as 1651. Samuel Stone settled near him, and Reuben Norton a little west; they were both from Guilford.'

"At the Quarter were James and Jonathan Evarts, Bezaleel Bristol, and at an early period Samuel Chittenden."

The same writer says: "From the famous ship's company, East Guilford appropriates the names of Bishop, Chittenden, Leete, Stone, Dudley, Norton, Cruttenden and Naish," and added in honorable array later "the names of Munger, Willard, Meigs, Smith, Crampton, Kelsey, Hill, Hart, Todd, Grave, Hoyt, Hull, Bradley."

"The name of Field is an East Guilford trophy," that famous family having a clear Madison origin; so also honor is reflected upon the town by the names of Hand, Scranton, Bushnell, Dowd and Lee, all of whom can trace their lineage back to the time when these humble beginnings were made in East Guilford and North Bristol societies.

The town never became very populous nor wealthy. In 1800 there were in the First society, 939 inhabitants; and in North Madison, 489. Thirty years later the latter society had only 480 inhabitants, while the former had 1,262. In 1880 the total population was less, being but 1,672, and the grand list did not reach \$800,000. The population in 1880 was 1,429.

In Madison, as in Guilford, many old houses may still be found, sixty or seventy being more than a hundred years old. Among the very old ones remaining are, at Hammonasset, the Nathan Bradley house, built in 1680; in Madison village, the Deacon John French house, built in 1675, and the Deacon John Graves house, built in 1680; in the Neck district, the Bassett house, built in 1680; in the Woods district, the Return Jonathan Wilcox house, built in 1680; and in the North Madison section a house owned in 1890 by Nelson A. Taylor, built in 1689. Madison warmly united with Guilford, in September, 1889, in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the settlement of the town, the services being begun September 8th, by the exercises in the Madison church, when the Reverend J. A. Gallup preached the historical sermon. Much of the data for this sketch has been gleaned from his researches.

As the east end of old Guilford became more populous, the farmers living there petitioned the town for liberty to become a village, etc. Such a request, made in 1699, was refused, rather curtly, because of the displeasure of Guilford at the act of the planters in asking privilege to pay minister's rates at Killingworth (to which place they were five miles nearer than to Guilford), which the legislature had granted in 1695. Nothing daunted, the petition was renewed, and with better success, as will be seen from the following extracts:

"To the inhabitants of the towne of Guilford, honored and much respected Gentlemen and friends, we whose names are underwritten, your humble petitioners sheweth that whare as the providence of God hath far stated the lands of our habitation, as that we cannot without great difficultie and inconveniency, attend the publick worship of god in his house and ordinances with yourselves in guilford, which present surcomstances continuing as they have bene, and are preiodisiall to us, so they will be of equall preiodice to our children and posteritie; Whereupon we account it our duty to seek releuf and desier your favorable judgment for the upbuilding the publick worship of God among ourselves, in order to ferder adress to the General Cort for confirmation.

which sd. grant as we aprehend being so reasonable for ous to desier, and yourselves to allow, we humbly submit to your serious and more maturer considiration and ever pray. dated at the esterly farms the 4 of March 170 $\frac{2}{3}$

John French,  
Ebenezer French,  
John Dudley,  
John French, Jun.,  
Caleb parmely,  
Ebenezer dudley,  
Joseph Parks,  
Jonathan hoit,

Janna Meigs,  
Benjamin Hand,  
Jonathan Murry,  
John Scranton,  
Thomas Willard,  
John Thompson,  
Joseph Hand,  
Nathan Bradley,



Moses blachly,  
 nathaniel Everts,  
 Daniel blachly,  
 Benjamin Stone,  
 Nathaniel Dudley,  
 Thomas Hodgken,  
 Ebenezer Field,  
 John Meigs,

Obadiah Wilcoxen,  
 Jeames Hill,  
 Nathaniel Steevens,  
 Thomas Critenden,  
 Stephen Hand,  
 Thomas Doud,  
 Cornelous Doud."

To this Petition the following reply was made by the town of Guilford:

" At a Touwn meting held aprall ye 6, 1703, in answare to our sd. este farmers Petitioners dated march 4, 170<sup>3</sup> the touwn then Voted, that the sd. este farmers on the east side of neck river. have libarty granted them by the touwn of Gilford, to be a societie by them selves and to procure a minister among themselves in case the General Coart aprove and confirme the same, they paying their dues to the minister of Guilford untill they have provided a minister among themselves."\*

The town having assented to this proposition, Mr. Joseph Hand was directed to bear the petition of the inhabitants to the general assembly, at Hartford, and that body on May 13th, 1703, granted their request upon the same conditions as the town. In 1705 the East Society was freed of town charges; and in 1707 the society was formally incorporated. Three years later the name East Guilford was first used. In 1753 the North Bristol society was incorporated.

After several futile attempts these two societies were incorporated as a town by the May, 1826, general assembly, Captain Frederick Lee and others petitioning that body in behalf of the two parishes. The town was named Madison in compliment to the president, and its bounds were ordered to be the same as those of the constituent societies.

The first town meeting was held June 19th, 1826, when the following were chosen: Clerk and treasurer, Walter P. Munger; selectmen, Ebenezer Dudley, Reynolds Webb, Joel Blatchley, Joel Munger; constables, Seth Ely, Galen Dowd; assessors, Nathan W. Hopson, Walter P. Munger; board of relief, Timothy Grave, William Blatchley, Curtis Wilcox; fence viewers, Stephen Stone, Elisha Bassett, Cyrus Bradley, Josiah Coan, Joseph Hill; grand jurors, Samuel Robinson, Truman Munger, Timothy Dowd; tythingmen, Hubbard Scranton, Julius N. Dowd, Gaylord Munger, Hubbard Munger, Truman N. Wilcox; haywards, Augustus Grave, Wyllys Munson, Truman N. Wilcox, Austin Evarts, Enos Rogers, Austin Chittenden; sealer of weights, Eber Judd; sealer of measures, Josiah Munger, Nathan Crampton, Jr.; pound keepers, Philip G. Hill, Simon L. Ely, Joel Blatchley, Frederick William Scranton, Pitman Wheaton, Josiah Coan, Abraham Hill.

\*Guilford town records.

Walter P. Munger was the treasurer of Madison more than a quarter of a century, and in 1852 received the thanks of the town for his faithfulness to his trust. In 1837, when the town received its share of the United States surplus fund, which was accepted as a town deposit, Walter P. Munger, Jedediah Field and William Blatchley were appointed managers of the fund.

In 1832 the town endeavored to secure Buell's Mills, on the Hammonassett river, for its use, but failed to reach definite action. The meetings of the town were held alternately in the South and North societies, then more frequently in the basement of the meeting house, at Madison village. In November, 1837, this was so much out of repair that the town meeting was adjourned to the house of Frederick S. Field. The following year the town secured the right to meet in the basement of the new church by paying for the same. This has since been designated as the town hall. In the same locality, in recent years, a small fireproof brick building was erected, in which are the offices of the town. Substantial vaults have been provided for the records.

The town clerks of Madison from its organization to the present time have been the following: 1826-48, Walter P. Munger; 1849-61, Joseph W. Dudley; 1862-3, E. S. Smith; 1864-7, Henry B. Wilcox; 1868, Reuben Shaler; 1869-71, Henry B. Wilcox; 1872, Dennis Tuttle; 1873-90, Henry B. Wilcox.

In May, 1834, the general assembly constituted Madison as a separate probate district, taking it from the district of Guilford. Samuel Robinson was the first judge, serving two years. Since 1872 Henry B. Wilcox has been the judge. Other judges, serving in order in the intermediate period, were: Reynolds C. Webb, Jesse Crampton, John R. Wilcox, Joseph W. Dudley, M. L. Dowd, Luman H. Whedon, Lucius B. Tuttle and William S. Hull. The clerks have been: Jonathan F. Todd, John R. Wilcox, Thomas C. Ward, Jonathan R. Crampton, Richard E. Rice, William B. Crampton, George C. Dowd, Charles M. Wilcox, Frederick T. Dowd, C. Henry Whedon, William S. Hull, Ezra S. Smith, Henry B. Wilcox, Joseph J. Meigs, Manfred A. Wilcox, H. Clifford Wilcox.

The following were the early justices of the peace of the East Society: Jarena Meigs, Benjamin Hand, Thomas Hodgkin, John Graves, Josiah Meigs, Timothy Todd, Timothy Hill, Elias Graves, Jonathan Todd, Daniel Hand, Jr.

The public square, or Madison green, contains about four acres, lying near the present center of Madison village. For many years it was an open common, unimproved and neglected. In 1826 the First society voted to sequester the land for a "Publick square and parade ground, and for other publick purposes, for all citizens of this society and others to use, improve and enjoy." In 1842 it was voted inexpedient to have any public building on the green, and in 1845 its im-

provement as a park was begun. This liberty was accorded to Thomas Scranton, Timothy V. Meigs, Baldwin Hart and others. The ground was now cleared, trees planted and a railing placed around the square. About half of the green was reserved for a parade ground. Around it, or near by, are the principal public buildings of the town, and in 1890 the locality presented a pleasing appearance.

The first bridge across the East river was built in 1649; the one across the Hammonasset in 1690. In 1714 the town directed that there should be an open highway to the bridge. The only turnpike in the town, the "Pettipauge and Guilford Pike," surrendered its charter after about sixteen years, and in 1840 the town voted to use it as a highway. The Shore road east has for more than two centuries been the main thoroughfare. Since July, 1852, the town has had the railway facilities afforded by the Shore Line Division of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad. Stations are maintained at Madison village and East River. Prior to this the products of the town were shipped from the wharves on the sound or East river, several being in the town. In this period the vessels owned in Madison were valued at more than \$50,000. A number were engaged in the white fishing business, which was here first begun in 1798, the fish being used for fertilizing purposes.

For many years the inhabitants of the town were almost exclusively devoted to agriculture, but later ship building and the timber interests of the town gave employment to many people. In the northern part of the town, which was heavily timbered, large quantities of charcoal were burned. At East River bridge Samuel H. Chittenden had a lumber mill, sash and blind factory, from about 1825 until before the civil war, which were extensively operated, and had the reputation of being one of the best establishments of the kind on the New Haven county coast. The machinery was removed many years ago. Near by Eber S. Hotchkiss built a small sloop, drawing it to the water's edge by oxen. Later he was an extensive builder of vessels in this locality, on the Guilford side. From the East River wharf packets plied to New York regularly. For some years Captain Henry Crittenden commanded one of these vessels, and was the first to bring a cargo of anthracite coal into the town. The shipment was but fifteen tons, but the supply lasted three years. Russell Crampton and Captain Fred Bishop were also sloop owners. Philo Blatchley was one of the last to touch here regularly. Much ship timber was taken from this point, and a limited quantity is still sent forward by rail.

At West Wharf, Deacon Abel Hoyt was an active ship builder about 1830, employing from two to fifty men. Among other craft he built was a large brig, called the "Madison." Many vessels for the West Indies trade were built. Jonathan S. Hoyt was the last builder at that place, discontinuing about 1856.

At the East Wharf ship building has been carried on more than

seventy years. Colonel Ichabod L. Scranton was there about 1825, and built from three to five vessels per year. Usually they were about 300 tons burden. Charles M. Miner was one of his workmen, and after 1843 was more or less engaged at that point, becoming the master of the yard. In 1860 he associated his son, William C., with him, and their firm achieved an enviable reputation as ship builders. Many fine vessels were constructed, among them being one, in 1868, called the "Alaska"—a bark of 1,200 tons for the Mediterranean sea trade. Scores of three-masted schooners were built, and about forty men were employed. The firm continued until 1884. Since that time William C. Miner, as marine architect, has superintended the yard for various builders, operations at times being extensively carried on, from 75 to 90 men being given employment. In the fall of 1890 two large vessels, on the stocks and nearly ready to launch, were consumed by fire.

North of the village of Madison small sloops were built many years ago by John S. Miner, and small craft were also built on the Hammonasset.

Madison has had mills for grinding grain and sawing lumber since 1699, when the town of Guilford aided the East Farmers in acquiring those interests. Among the best known mills in the town are those on the Hammonasset, operated by the Hull family. On the same stream paper mills were operated for some time. Two miles north of Madison the wood turning shop of William Whedon, and later of his son, Webster D., is a small but active industry. The quarrying of flag stones in various parts of the town has afforded profitable occupation to a number of men; and the marble works of Julian Shelley give employment to several more, on the old Shore road.

At East River, Munger & Son are manufacturers of school apparatus. This interest was begun in New Haven by George Munger, who first made liquid slating. In 1868 he removed to Guilford, and was a member of the firm of J. W. Schermerhorn & Co., which there made school apparatus. He located at East River in 1877, and with his son, George B. Munger, established the present business. Well equipped shops are occupied and about a dozen men are engaged in the manufacture of blackboards and blackboard goods. Steam is used as the motive power.

East River is a straggling hamlet on the railroad about midway between Guilford and Madison village. A station was first located in 1871, but for lack of patronage it was soon discontinued. In 1876 the present station was opened, and the place has since that time grown to its present condition as a business point. Samuel D. Crittenden has here merchandised since 1871, and for most of the time has been the postmaster of the East River office, which supplies mail for about 600 people, there being six mails per day. There is a small chapel and a public library.

A post office is also maintained at North Madison, and in the same locality stores and shops have long been kept.

Madison village has a very pleasant location, about half a mile from the beach of Long Island sound, and is built mainly on the street paralleling it. This street is from four to ten rods wide, and has in most parts several rows of large elms, with the intermediate spaces well turfed, giving the place an attractive appearance. In the village proper it is about a mile and a half long. Leading from it to the railway station is another fine, wide street, about a quarter of a mile long. Many of the houses are old and stand on large lots, making a straggling appearance, yet indicating quiet comfort. There are also a number of business places, widely scattered, a fine Congregational meeting house, a Methodist church, a Masonic Hall, the new Hand Academy and several other school buildings.

The Madison post office has had as postmasters, in the last fifty years, S. F. Willard, J. R. Meigs, John Wilcox, Charles E. Scranton, J. Myron Hull and, since August, 1889, H. N. Coe. It is a money order office, and there are eight mails daily, distributing a large volume of matter.

Timothy Todd was a merchant at Madison after 1747, but studied medicine and removed to Vermont. David Cruttenden and Luman Stone were merchants in the present century. Ichabod L. Scranton was in trade fifty years ago. He was followed by Horace Dudley, who built the brick store in 1834. This has for many years been occupied by the Dowd family. At the green, stores were kept by A. & J. Tibbals, John R. Wilcox, Curtis Wilcox and others. Since 1861 James R. Meigs has merchandised at Madison.

Madison Beach, at and near the village, has become a popular sea-side resort, many attractive cottages being erected in the past ten years. Prior to that time several good hotels had invited the visits of hundreds of guests. Among these were the hotel of H. B. Wilcox, the "Sea Shore House," of Artemas Flower, and the "Hammonasset House," of H. L. Parker. The latter is still continued. The beach in Madison is hard and in long stretches, and the bathing is safe.

The Reverend James A. Gallup says the following physicians practiced in Madison: Doctors Isaac Knight, Jonathan Todd, Abraham Blatchley, William C. Griffith, David Pritchard, George W. Scranton, George Stone, Reynold C. Webb, Edwin Bidwell, Joseph J. Meigs and Daniel M. Webb. The latter and A. D. Ayers were in practice in 1890.

Schools were early established in the East society and in North Bristol. In 1800 the First society had four schools, and also had a good library. In 1821 Captain Frederick Lee, who had commanded a revenue cutter in the war of 1812, built an academy a mile west of the green. In 1825 Lee's Academy was incorporated and the building drawn to the green, by Frederick Lee, James Graves, Jedediah Field,

Samuel Robinson, Jr., and others. The latter was the teacher, and was followed, in 1840, by Richard E. Rice. Other teachers were: Theodore A. Leete, William Wallace Wilcox, John R. Freeman, George Sutton and Stillman Rice. The academy had for many years a splendid reputation. The building, a two story frame, was used more recently for both public and private schools. In 1889 it was thoroughly repaired, and is now wholly used for public schools.

East of this venerable institution is the new Hand Academy, erected in 1884 by Daniel Hand and presented, November 22d, 1884, by him to the town of Madison, upon the following conditions:

1. To be known always as the Hand Academy.
2. To be kept unencumbered and in good repair, and to be used as an academy only, where the youth of the town may receive a higher grade of education than in the common schools of said town.
3. The town to provide suitable teachers and to keep the academy open to all who may wish to attend the same, at least eight months in the year.

The building was erected under the direction of Mr. Daniel Hand, of Guilford, and his attorney, Judge Luzon B. Morris, of New Haven. It stands on a spacious lot, which has been enclosed with an iron fence. The building is two stories high, of brick, with granite trimmings, of attractive architecture, and has been well arranged for high school purposes. The school has a regular course of study, graduating those who complete it, and has about 25 students yearly. To his gift of an academy to his native town of Madison, Daniel Hand has added sundry pieces of land in the town, the income of which is to be used for the academy's support.

Mr. Daniel Hand, who died in 1891, was the donor of \$1,000,000 to the "Hand Fund" of the American Missionary Association. It is said that this was the largest gift of charity made by an American during life. This munificent sum was largely the proceeds of the settlement of business carried on by Mr. Hand and George W. Williams, of Charleston, S. C., in the South before the war. During the rebellion Mr. Hand came to the North, supposing that he should lose all his interests. But Mr. Williams, with singular and rare honor, continued the business to a successful end, and paid, of his own accord, the above large amount to Mr. Hand, as his share of the proceeds of their several ventures, and Mr. Hand, very wisely, has devoted the greater part of it to the education of the freedmen where the money was made.

The Hand Academy is supported by an annual outlay of about \$1,000, and the other schools cost about \$2,500 per year. Over two hundred pupils are enrolled, and there is an increasing interest in education. In 1890 the acting school visitors of the dozen schools were James L. Parker and Reverend W. E. B. Moore. The Reverend J. A. Gallup was the examining committee.

The Madison Farmers' Library Association was incorporated in March, 1831. A good library was established, which was usually kept in the Boston street school house, and books were given out periodically. It is said that in this circulation a peculiar method was pursued. The librarian called out the titles of the books, when those present wanting them bid on them, according to the degree of interest they had in the books. After a score of years the library went down.

At East River, a small public building for a reading room and social gatherings was built, in 1874, by Horace B. Washburne, of New York, and the citizens of that locality. In this the East River Library Company, incorporated in 1876, has established a library which had in 1890 nearly 1,200 volumes. Besides the local support given it, the library has an endowment fund, given by Mr. Washburne, which yields \$150 per year. In 1890 the directors of the association were: Samuel D. Cruttenden, H. D. Knowles, I. L. Scranton, S. H. Chittenden and E. W. Munger. William B. Chittenden is secretary of the company, and Miss Carrie Leete the librarian.

In the audience room of the above building a Union Sunday school was established in 1890.

The Madison Library Association was organized January 9th, 1878, with J. Myron Hull, president; Mrs. J. A. Gallup, secretary; Dennis Tuttle, treasurer; Mrs. Frank Lee, librarian; H. B. Wilcox and Mrs. William Wilcox, trustees. The association prospered, and in 1883 was incorporated. In 1890 there were 25 annual, 13 semi-annual and 9 quarterly members. The library contained 650 volumes of well-selected books, besides a large quantity of periodical matter. It was opened three days in the week and was well patronized. At this time Reverend J. A. Gallup was the president, Miss M. E. Redfield the secretary, and Miss Fannie Fisk the librarian. This library is kept at Madison village.

It has been seen that the early settlers, in order to enjoy church privileges, were obliged to go to Guilford or Killingworth, and that parish privileges were not fully realized until 1707. But pending the efforts to secure these privileges, the planters took measures to build a meeting house, which should be used by the new society. As early as February 13th, 1701, "at a meeting of the easterly farmers, it was agreed that, provided that the town of Guilford give us liberty to erect a meeting house, that we will set the meeting house between John Grave's house and Jonathan Hoit's," which would be between the present residences of Deacon J. T. Lee and Mrs. Betsey Grave, a spot on the southeastern section of the present green; and it was there that the first meeting house was located, near the site of the one which succeeded it. It had neither bell nor steeple, and was at first without galleries, and was built in 1705.

December 2d, 1714, the "societie voted a 2-peny roat to build the

galliros," also "that they wold not build the pues with the gallery," and "that they wold have seats in the galleres." February 11th, 1715, it was voted "that the tow penni reat that was granted to build the gallery, be paid in money, or in wheat at six shiling per bushel, or in corn at tow shiling and six-pence per bushel, or flax at eight-pence per pound, or ots at one shiling six-pence per bushel."

Permission was given from time to time to individuals to put up pews in the gallery at their own expense and for their own use. Abraham Bishop and Stephen Bradley were "granted liberty to build a pew over the gallery staires, provided it baint a damieg to ye going up into ye gallerys." John French and Nathaniel Dudley "to build pews between ye est gallirie staires and the south door," and "between the west gallery staires and south door," and to have the "improvement of them till ye societie see caus to order otherways."

"October ye 25, year 1717, it was voted, that they will have eaight new winda freames in ther meting-hous, and they will have them put up in ther loer tiers of windars, and casements, and glass." It was, probably, without glass windows at first. In December, 1721, it was "voted to build up the hinder seats in side gallery, and banister them, and that the younger sort of men to set in the bannestered seat, and ye boys to set in ye meddlemost seat, and the like order to be in ye este gallery, by the younger sort of maids and garls;" also "voted to have a seat built before the foremost seat in the square body of ye meeting house for boys and girls to set on, and another on the hind part of sd square body, for the boys and garls to set on; also to build a pew on the west side of the pulpit, for Mrs. Hart to set in, and to move the pew este side of the pulpit up to the pulpit, for the aged widdows to set in, and to make the rest of the hy ground into seats."

Thus we have a fair idea of the first meeting house in which the fathers worshipped in this place. The pulpit was on the north. There were outside doors on the south, east and west. The gallery stairs were in the southeast and southwest corners of the audience room. Pews were built, to some extent, around the sides, and long seats were placed in the square body or center of the house. It was finished undoubtedly in native wood, and was innocent of paint, varnish and carpets. Externally it was a barn-like edifice, without paint or ornamentation, panel or cornice. Instead of the bell to call the people together, they used the drum, which answered the double purpose of calling together the assembly for worship and of sounding an alarm in case of attack by the Indians.

"At a society's meeting, held December 2, 1714, John Grave was chosen to beat the drum on Sabbath days and other publick days, for twenty shiling the year;" this salary was cut down the next year to "13 shiling and 4d.," and "Widdow Martha Dudley was chosen to sweep the meeting-house this year, and to do it for twenty shiling."



There were no fires to build and no candles to light, as evening meetings were not then thought of; no carpets to sweep or cushions to keep in order. The sexton's duties were not arduous or expensive. Another matter of importance was to have the congregation properly seated, and in order to do this a committee was appointed to "dignify the meeting house," that is, to seat those attending according to their ages, social position and the lists of rates paid. Twelve men were chosen "to have inspection over the youth on Sabbath days and other public days." A watch was also kept against Indian attack. In 1706 a house was built for the accommodation of the minister.

The organization of the church now properly followed, and in November, 1707, was formed the present Congregational church of Madison. The same time the first pastor, the Reverend John Hart, was installed. He was born at Framingham, in 1682, studied three years at Cambridge, removed to Saybrook in 1702, and became the sole member of the senior class of Yale College, from which he graduated in 1703, being the first graduate in course of that institution. He was soon after elected a tutor of that college, and probably had some of his classes at Madison, as he first preached here as early as 1705, serving the newly formed society before his installation. He continued as the pious, exemplary pastor until his death, March 4th, 1731, and added about 80 members to the church. He was interred in the West cemetery.

It was with some little difficulty that the next pastor was settled, calls being given in turn to Abraham Todd, Thomas Weld and Job Parker, before Jonathan Todd was finally invited to settle, August 27th, 1733. He was ordained October 24th, 1733, and at once began the work of harmonizing the church, which had become distracted in this period of two years and eight months, in which there was no minister. Mr. Todd was born in New Haven in 1713, graduated from Yale in 1732, and was ordained when he was but twenty years old. He took a high rank as a scholar, being one of the most accomplished linguists of his day, and was also highly esteemed as a pastor and preacher. In the epidemic of 1750-1, when 43 of his parishioners died, he was called upon to labor incessantly among the sick and the dying. But, although his labors were so arduous, "he outlived all in his parish who were heads of families when he was ordained, and during his ministry he buried twice his whole congregation. He had held, at his death, the pastoral office longer than any other person in the state—57 years and 4 months." He died February 24th, 1791, full of years, good works and honors. In his ministry about ten persons per year were added to the church, the number belonging at his decease being 84. A monument in West Cemetery fitly tells of his worth.

Soon after the settlement of Mr. Todd the building of a new meeting house was agitated, a vote to that effect being taken December 17th, 1736. But the question of site and other matters connected with

the building prevented the speedy completion of the house, and it was not dedicated until May, 1743. "This meeting house, which is remembered by many now living, stood on the southeastern section of the present green, which was then an open common. It was two stories, had two tiers of windows, and entrances on the south, east and west. In 1799 a steeple was built on the west end of the meeting house, and in 1801 a bell was purchased, which superseded the drum that up to this time had continued to call the assembly together for worship on the Sabbath.

"The internal arrangement of the house was quite similar to the one which preceded it. The pulpit was on the north side, and was reached by a long, winding flight of stairs and entered through substantial doors, while over it hung the 'sounding board'—a bulky, pear-shaped contrivance of wood, suspended over the minister's head, to the anxious solicitude of the timid and the youthful of the congregation, lest, by some mischance, it should break from its fastenings and fall upon the preacher's head, bringing to an untimely end both the sermon and the preacher. There were pews around the walls of the church, and an outside tier on the square body. On either side of the broad aisle were long seats, while the deacons sat below the pulpit and behind the communion table. The stairs leading to the galleries were in the southeastern and southwestern corners of the audience room. This house was considered large and handsome in its day."\*

The plan of seating it was the same as that of the first house, and seating committees were appointed as late as October 10th, 1831, the following being last designated to serve in that capacity: Jesse Crampton, J. T. Lee, Ichabod L. Scranton, Frederic L. Whedon, Walter P. Munger, Cyrus Bradley and Amos Bishop, all of them influential men in their day, as this was a most delicate duty to perform, so that none would be offended.

The successor of Mr. Todd was Reverend John Elliott, D.D., who was ordained to the pastoral office November 2d, 1791. He was born in Killingworth in 1768, and was a grandson of Reverend Jared Elliott, who was a son of Reverend Joseph Eliot, of the Guilford church. Entering Yale in 1782, he graduated with high honors and scholarly attainments in 1786. Before his settlement here he had preached for Mr. Todd when the latter's infirmities prevented him from doing so, and his ministry here was continued also till his death, December 17th, 1824. He was a wise, judicious and devoted minister, thoroughly consecrated to his work and living only for its better advancement. His admissions to the membership averaged about ten per year, and through his instrumentality the "Ministerial Fund" was begun in 1815, whose income first became available in 1855. By additions and wise management the fund now amounts to more than \$12,000. In Doctor Elliott's pastorate the Sunday school was also established in 1820, the pastor

\*Reverend J. A. Gallup.

and the church warmly coöperating to that end. It has been a most valuable auxiliary in the work of the parish.

For a time, after Doctor Elliott's decease, Reverend William C. Fowler supplied the pulpit and declined an invitation to settle as pastor. The fourth person in that office was Reverend Samuel Nicholas Shepard, who was ordained November 2d, 1825. He was a learned, vigorous preacher, faithfully serving his parishioners, among whom his life was ended September 30th, 1856, when but 57 years of age. He yearly added to the membership, the average for his ministry being more than 16 per year. In his ministry the third and the present meeting house was built.

The first action of the society, with reference to a new meeting house, was taken January 11th, 1837; and January 22d they voted "to build a house for the worship of God," provided \$2,500 be obtained by subscription. February 15th, the following persons were appointed a building committee: Benjamin Hart, Jedediah Field, Eber S. Hotchkiss, Alva O. Wilcox and Timothy V. Meigs. It was voted to have the desk opposite the doors, "that there be three aisles," "that the wall slips be set bending, so as to face the desk," "to have the walls of the house arched," "that the posts be thirty feet high, on a basement of five feet," "to have a steeple with a spire." April 10th, it was voted, "to have the new house located on Dea. Hart's land, provided it can be obtained without expense to the society;" if not, "to move the present stakes one inch, and locate the house there."

The present site was finally fixed upon, but became the occasion of a very bitter controversy. Alienations and divisions followed, resulting, in 1841, in the withdrawal of 47 members of the church for the purpose of forming a new and independent church. Measures were taken for the erection of a new meeting house. This breach in the church and society, which threatened the most serious consequences, was finally, through the kindly mediation of the Consociation, happily adjusted, and those who had withdrawn were restored to fellowship, and the lines of separation gradually faded out through the friendly aid of time and the grace of God.

The architect and builder of the new meeting house was Mr. Volney Pierce. A very sad accident occurred in raising a heavy truss beam. The frame of the tower to which it was attached, and by which it was being raised, gave way and fell, precipitating those on it to the ground. Two workmen, by the name of H. M. Pierce and John A. Smith, were instantly killed. This was May 19th, 1838. The bell of the old house was sold to the society in North Madison, and a new one procured for this house. The tower clock, which still regulates the time-pieces of the village, was transferred to its present position from the old meeting house. The new meeting house was formally dedicated November 21st, 1838. The following year the basement was fitted up for a town hall and has since so been used.

In 1867 the house was so thoroughly reconstructed that it practically became a new edifice, and was rededicated November 21st, 1867, as one of the most comely country churches in the county. An organ costing \$2,600 was supplied, and was first used on August 8th, 1869. Still later a convenient chapel was built, the entire outlay of these improvements being more than \$19,000, all of which has been paid, leaving the parish free from debt.

Reverend Samuel Fisk, the fifth pastor of the church, was ordained June 3d, 1857. He was born in Shelburne, Mass., July 23d, 1828, and graduated from Amherst College in 1848, afterward serving three years as tutor of that institution. Subsequently he traveled in Europe and other foreign countries, and published his keen observations in a volume called "Dunn Browne Abroad." To this was afterward added a companion volume of his experiences in the army of the Union, which he entered as a private August 23d, 1862. He was soon after elected captain of Company G, of the regiment in which he enlisted, and served in that office until his death, May 22d, 1864, from wounds received in the battle of the Wilderness. He was brought to Madison, where funeral services were held May 26th, when the remains were taken to Shelburne Falls for interment among his kindred. He was thus the first pastor buried away from the scenes of his labors at Madison.

Mr. Fisk was beloved by the entire community and was eminently successful as a pastor, and during his ministry of a little more than seven years, 82 were added to the church.

"During Mr. Fisk's absence in the army his pulpit was supplied for about two years by Reverend S. A. Loper. After Mr. Fisk's death various persons supplied the pulpit, several with reference to settlement. Reverend Thomas M. Boss preached here with general acceptance for six months or more."

The sixth and present pastor of the church, Reverend James A. Gallup, was born in Ledyard, Conn., and is a son of Deacon Russel Gallup, of the Congregational church of that place, of which the Reverend Timothy Tuttle was pastor for 53 years. He prepared for college at Phillips' Academy, Andover, Mass.; entered Yale in 1847, and graduated in 1851; studied theology in New Haven; was licensed to preach by the New Haven Central Association, July 6th, 1853, and was ordained and settled over the Congregational church in Essex, Conn., May 17th, 1854. A call to the pastoral office of this church was extended to him September 18th, 1865. He was dismissed from the church in Essex October 4th, 1865, and signified his acceptance of the call of this church and society October 5th. He began his labors here the first Sabbath in October, and was installed November 2d, 1865.

Mr. Gallup, like his predecessors, has consecrated his life to the work of the parish, and consequently the church has continued to prosper. During his ministry the changes in the East meeting house

have been made, placing the temporalities of the parish in excellent condition. More than 360 members have been added to the church by him, which had in 1889 359 members. The families in the parish numbered 225. The Sabbath school had 200 members enrolled, and Webster D. Whedon was the superintendent. Joseph S. Scranton was the treasurer of the church and Everett G. Hill the treasurer.

The deacons of the church for the first 150 years of its existence and the time they were chosen were as follows: John Meigs, 1707; Benjamin Stone, 1707; John French, 1718; Timothy Meigs, 1745; Josiah Meigs, 1751; John Grave, 1753; Timothy Hill, 1763; Thomas Stone, 1774; Benjamin Hart, 1781; Levi Ward, 1791; Timothy Hill, 1798; Phineas Meigs, 1806; Ashbel Bradley, 1807; Abel Hoyt, 1817; William Hart, 1824; Benjamin Hart, 1828; Josiah Griswold, 1828; Jason Seward, 1841; Zenas Wilcox, 1850; J. Trumbull Lee, 1850; Walter P. Munger, 1850; Martin L. Dowd, 1857; William C. Bushnell, 1859.

The church has raised up the following as ministers: Moses Bartlett, William Hart, William Stone, Timothy Field, David D. Field, D.D., Erastus Scranton, Harvey Bushnell, William C. Fowler, Ralph S. Crampton, Stephen A. Loper, Andrew L. Stone, Seth B. Stone, James L. Willard, William B. Lee, Chauncey D. Murray, Pascal Murray, W. H. H. Murray, Marshall V. Meigs, Timothy J. Lee, Charles Dowd, — Buell, Wedworth Dowd.

The North Madison Congregational church was regularly constituted in 1757. The North Madison locality was first settled by the Bristol family and a few others, who for many years attended church at Guilford, and after the formation of the First or East Guilford society, at the latter place. Samuel Bristol died in 1692. He had two sons, Samuel and Bezaleel. The latter was born in 1681, and became a very prominent man in that community and the town, as did also his sons, Bezaleel, Richard and Nathan. He was active in his efforts to have a distinct society, and when that liberty was granted, on their petition of March 5th, 1752, the society was named for him, North Bristol. This title the church and society retained until about 1830, when the present name was adopted.

The first application for the right to set up public worship was made December 3d, 1744, when the North Madison inhabitants asked for liberty "to have winter preaching among themselves the three winter months and the month of March." In 1748 they petitioned "for leave to be a winter parish." On the order, in 1753, that a "divident line be fixed between the old society and the new," a line was run. "To begin at the mouth of hog pound Brook, thence by sd. hog pound to the mouth of Jay swamp Brook, thence to the old Saw-mill dam, Called Capt. Seward's saw mill."

The society was embodied into a church state March 23d, 1757, the following being enrolled as members: John Allis, Mary Allis, wife of John; Joshua Bishop, Silence Bishop, wife of Joshua; Susanna Bishop,

daughter of Joshua; Sarah Bristol, wife of Bezaleel; Mercy Crampton, David Dudley, Dinah Dudley, wife of David; David Dudley, 2d, Mary Dudley, wife of David, 2d; David Field, Anna Field, wife of David; Thomas French, Sarah French, wife of Thomas; John Hopson, Millicent Hopson, wife of John; David Seward, Martha Seward, wife of David; Jerusha Shelley, wife of John; Nathaniel Stevens, Sarah Stevens, wife of Nathaniel; Samuel Teal, Anna Teal, wife of Samuel; John Wilcox.

On the 8th of June, 1757, Reverend Richard Ely was ordained and installed as the first pastor. The ceremony took place at Guilford, and at the same time Mr. Amos Fowler was set over the Guilford church. He was dismissed August 30th, 1785.

In the history of the church six more ministers were installed, namely: Reverend Simon Backus, installed October, 1790, dismissed April, 1801; John Ely, installed October, 1812, died November, 1827, aged 64; David Metcalf, installed May, 1829, dismissed September, 1831; Jared Andrus, installed June, 1832, died in November, 1832, aged 48; Stephen Hayes, installed June, 1833, dismissed June, 1838; Amos LeFavor, installed December, 1838, dismissed December, 1840.

From the ministry of Mr. Ely to that of Mr. Backus was a period of five years; and from that of Mr. Backus to that of Mr. John Ely eleven years, during which the church was without a pastor. The names of the ministers are not given in the records.

The uninstalled or acting pastors of the church have been the following: Reverend Judson A. Root, April 1st, 1841—April 1st, 1842; Lent S. Hough, April, 1842—April, 1845; Martin Dudley, April, 1845—April, 1846; William Case, April, 1846—April, 1847; James T. Terry, April, 1847—April, 1848; Reuben Torrey, April, 1848—October, 1852; Phineas Blakeman, January 1st, 1853—January 1st, 1858; Samuel Howe, August, 1858—April 1st, 1866; Elbridge W. Meritt, July 22d, 1866—January 14th, 1867; Clinton M. Jones, May 1st, 1867—May 1st, 1870; Francis Dyer, September, 1870—November, 1873; Dighton Moses, April 1st, 1874—April 1st, 1875; F. F. Rea, three months in 1875; Richard H. Gidman, December 1st, 1875—December 1st, 1884; William E. B. Moore, April 1st, 1885, and continues to the present time.

The deacons of the church have been: Thomas French, chosen 1757, resigned 1765, died 1772, aged 73; David Dudley, chosen 1758, died 1780, aged 73; Caleb Munger, chosen 1765, died 1797; David Dudley, chosen 1775, died 1807, aged 90; John Hopson, chosen 1782, died 1786, aged 65; Aaron Stone, chosen 1796, died 1821, aged 80; John Hopson, chosen 1812, died 1820, aged 65; Noah Benton, chosen June, 1820, died 1847, aged 84; Bela Munger, chosen December 1820, died 1861; Hubbard S. Munger, chosen 1839, died 1858, aged 64; Alanson Redfield, chosen 1846, resigned 1853; Henry S. Hill, chosen 1853; Timothy Norton, chosen 1853, died 1877, aged 64; Judson H. Munger, chosen 1878.

The house of worship, according to the last church manual, was the "Society House," until the first meeting house was erected. This house stood at the end of the old cross-road, a little north of Deacon J. H. Munger's.

The first meeting house was raised in June, 1765. It stood a few rods northeast of the present house. This house was 32 by 45 feet. It had no steeple or chimney. There were three doors—one at the middle of the south side and a door at the middle of each end, all opening directly into the audience room. There was a gallery on the south side and across each end. The pulpit was on the north side. It was built in 1780, and with a sounding board. The pews were square. The last pews were built about 1784, 19 years after the house was raised. This first meeting house was used for public worship 72 years. The second and present house of worship was built in 1837. The corner stone was laid July 4th, 1837. It was dedicated February 14th, 1838. The pastor, Reverend Stephen Hayes, preached the sermon from Hag. ii: 9. The pulpit was exchanged for the present platform and desk in 1873. New seats were put in, the walls and ceiling painted and the roof shingled in 1889.

The church has about 90 members. In the Sabbath school, which was organized in 1826, are 125 persons enrolled. Three-fifths attend regularly. Since 1865 the school has been maintained during the whole year.

In the North Madison part of the town an Episcopal society was organized in the last century, which had, in 1800, as officers: Ashbel Fowler and David Blackley, wardens; James Pardee and Noah Hill, vestrymen; and Nathan Fowler, clerk. In 1801 it voted to secure the services for part of the time, of Reverend Nathan R. Burgis, as minister. Meetings were held in private houses and in the Town Hill school house.

On the 25th of April, 1805, this North Bristol Episcopal Society and the North Killingworth society voted to consolidate and become the Union Episcopal Church, and that the meetings should be held in North Killingworth. Later they became known as the Emanuel Parish, in Middlesex county, and occupied a house of worship half a mile from the Hammonasset river, in Killingworth.

It was with some difficulty that Methodism was established in Madison, and an effort to that end encountered strong opposition. Yet it was successfully overcome in 1839 by Reverend James H. Perry, who preached in a school house, where the class he had organized met regularly. Fortune soon favored these pioneer Methodists and enabled them to secure the meeting house built by the disaffected members of the First church, who, happily, through the medium of the Consociation, had been reconciled to the parent church. That building, erected by Ebenezer Dudley, Galen Dowd, Russell Evarts, Marion Foster, Frederick Dowd, Noah Bradley and others, in an improved

condition, has since been the Methodist church, and in it the congregation has grown to respectable proportions. In 1890 the members numbered 85, and the official board was composed of James L. Parker, Charles M. Miner, William C. Miner, Charles Smith, Philander Lewis, Thomas Pentilow, Frederick W. Hull, Almon L. Miner, James H. Dowd, Timothy Dowd. Henry D. Latham is a local preacher.

Since 1889 the church is served with Guilford. The following ministers were appointed to take charge, as indicated by the records of the Conference: 1842, Reverend W. Tibbals; 1846, H. D. Latham; 1848, T. A. Lovejoy; 1849, George S. Hare; 1851, G. Stillman; 1853, J. L. Peck; 1855, W. H. Russell; 1857, B. Redford; 1867, J. R. Hammond; 1868, A. K. Crawford; 1869, G. W. Allen; 1870, J. O. Munson; 1871, H. D. Latham; 1874, W. F. Markwick; 1875, J. B. Shepherd; 1877, H. D. Latham; 1878, H. H. Hayden; 1880, H. D. Latham; 1881, W. A. Thomas; 1882, W. F. Markwick; 1884, J. J. Moffett; 1885, W. E. Jeffries; 1886, W. H. Lawrence; 1887, H. G. McLaughlin; 1888, J. H. Crofut; 1889, S. G. Neil.

Methodism was introduced into the Black Rock or Rockland district of Madison much earlier. A class was there organized before the present century, and a meeting house was built in that locality about 1803. The membership has never been large, and the circuit relations extend into the adjoining county.

Madison Lodge, No. 87, F. & A. M., was instituted May 24th, 1859, the petitioners for the charter being Horace Butler, Samuel F. Willard, Samuel Dudley, John M. Bishop, Jonathan Willard, William W. Hart and Thomas White. Others admitted in 1859 were George Keep, William H. Dowd, Charles M. Wilcox, Daniel M. Webb, Serreno H. Scranton. The members admitted in 1860-1 were William B. Hunter, George A. Kelsey, William H. Caldwell, Edwin A. Hill, George A. Olcott, Daniel C. Davis, Mortimer Buell, Henry A. Pendleton and Norman G. Scranton. In 1862 sixteen members were admitted, and in 1863, twelve. The members numbered 72 in 1890, and the meetings were held in a fine hall over the "Brick Store," on Boston street. The past masters of the Lodge have been the following: Frederick T. Carl, Frank C. Dowd, Phineas M. Griswold, Hiram Hull, Alexander H. Johnson, William F. Markwick, John H. Meigs, William H. Morgan, George B. Munger, Edward S. Scranton, Kelley E. Spencer, Ebenezer S. Walkley, Henry B. Wilcox. The latter has for many years been secretary of the Lodge.

Friendship Lodge, No. 67, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Madison, July 11th, 1849. Its meetings were held in the hall named above, and for several years the Lodge prospered. In 1853 Charles A. Willard was the noble grand, and in 1855 S. F. Willard. Soon after the Lodge went down. Other social orders were for short periods maintained, when, owing to decreasing population, they discontinued their meetings

The town has a number of places of interment, five cemeteries re-



ceiving the care of the town authorities. It is supposed that first interments were made in the Hammonassett cemetery, where are buried among others, members of the Meigs family. It is said that Vincent Meigs died in 1658, and was the first person buried in the town. This cemetery was the first fenced in the old town of Guilford, being enclosed in 1758, "because its Herbage being worth something." In the East cemetery is a stone bearing date 1682.

The West cemetery is the principal one in the town, and was used as early as 1688, when Samuel, the six year old son of John French, was buried there. In 1789 it was first fenced. Numerous interments have been there made, the aggregate number being more than 1,800—greater than the present population of the town. It has been several times enlarged, and in 1867 was placed in care of the Madison Cemetery Association, incorporated that year. There are many quaint inscriptions on the old, lichen-covered brown stones. Here are interred among others, Captan Jehiel Meigs, of the revolutionary army, who died in New York in December, 1776, but was brought home for burial; also Captain Phineas Meigs, who fell in action near the East wharf, in conflict with the British enemy, May 19th, 1782. He was aged 74 years.

Many seafaring men have found a haven of rest, and the tomb of one of them bears this unique inscription:

E. G. .  
§ SACRED §  
to the Memory of  
Capt. Edward Griffin,  
who departed this life  
August 3d, 1802.  
Aged 40 years.

Though Boreas blasts and Neptunes waves  
Have tos'd me to and fro,  
In spite of both, by God's decree,  
I Harbor here below.

Where I do now at Anchor ride  
With many of our fleet,  
Yet once again I must set sail  
Our Admiral Christ to meet.

Two pastors of Madison church—the Reverend Jonathan Todd, who died in 1791, and the Reverend John Hart, who died in 1731—lie close together in this hallowed ground, in which also repose the well-beloved pastors, Elliott and Shepard.

The Summer Hill Cemetery is also controlled by an association, which secured its charter in 1868. Its use is limited to the people of that locality, as is also the cemetery at Rockland, in the northern part of the town, to the inhabitants of the upper end of Madison. For each of these five cemeteries the town provided sextons in 1890.

The military history of Madison, prior to its organization in 1826, is almost inseparable from that of the mother town. But as early as 1705, the farmers of East Guilford had their own train band, and the following were the commanders in the periods named, before 1800: 1704, Lieutenant Nathaniel Stevens; 1709, Lieutenant Stephen Bishop; 1714, Captain Stephen Bishop; 1716, Captain Janna Meigs; 1731, Captain John Scranton; 1737, Captain Thomas Hodgkin; 1741, Captain Nathaniel Stevens; 1747, Captain Jehiel Meigs; 1762, Captain Timothy Hill; 1773, Captain Daniel Hand; 1778, Captain Elias Graves; 1780, Captain Gilbert Dudley; 1782, Captain Timothy Field; 1786, Captain Jonathan Todd; 1792, Captain Josiah Munger; 1797, Captain Benjamin B. Wilcox.

In the revolution a cannon was kept in the town, to be used for signal purposes, in case the enemy should land. But one such attempt was made—the inroad at East Wharf, May 19th, 1782—when the venerable Captain Phineas Meigs was killed. It is said that three of the enemy also lost their lives.

In the war of 1812 this coast was also guarded, but beyond the militia service of some of the citizens, nothing transpired.

In the devotion to the cause of the Union, from 1861-5, Madison did not lag. She sent out in all 208 men and raised \$16,065 in money. Five special meetings were held to prosecute the war, and the town also gave up to the cause its beloved pastor, Reverend Samuel Fisk, who will always be honored by Madison. He left the pulpit of the Congregational church and mustered, August 8th, 1862, in the Eighth regiment. Within a short time he was promoted captain of Company G, and on May 23d, 1864, died from wounds received in active service.

Madison also claims the honor of the citizenship of the man who suggested and aided in building the Ericsson Monitor, that credit belonging to C. S. Bushnell, of this town.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Doctor Alveno D. Ayer was born in 1851 in Windham, Conn. His father, William D. Ayer, was a descendant of John Ayer, one of the first settlers of Franklin, Conn., in 1665, and who came from England with his parents in 1630 and settled in Massachusetts. William D. Ayer was foreman and moulder in Smith, Winchester & Co.'s shop in South Windham for 30 years. Doctor Ayer received his preliminary education in the district school, and when 16 years old attended a private school under the tutorship of Doctor Robinson and Lawyer Bennett, continuing four years. He began the study of medicine in 1870. In 1874 he went to Springvale, Me., remaining there about nine months with Doctor Alva M. Dam, after which he was traveling salesman for drugs and medicines for two years, at the same time continuing his studies. He then studied for awhile with Doctor Isaac B. Gallup, of Willimantic, Conn., attending a course of medicine in a

medical college in Philadelphia, after which he went to Glover, Vt., and practiced there as assistant to Hon. W. F. Templeton, M.D. In 1877 he was licensed to practice medicine in the state of Vermont, and in 1878 began practice in Winhall, Vt. In 1880 he went to Indianapolis, Ind., with Doctor S. S. Boots, a member of the Indiana State Board of Health, and entered the Eclectic Medical College, receiving the degree of M.D. in 1881. In the same year he returned to Vermont and practiced there until 1885. Since 1887 he has practiced in Madison. In 1889 he took a special course of instruction at the New York Polyclinic Hospital on the diseases of women, under Professors James B. Hunter, Paul F. Mundé and W. Gill Wylie, and on the diseases of the nervous system under Professor Landon C. Gray. Doctor Ayer is a member and officer of the Masonic Lodge of Madison and a member of Madison Grange, No. 120, P. of H., and lecturer; also a member of the State Grange. He is a member of the school board and acting school visitor for the northern part of the town; also a member of the I. O. O. F. and Royal Arcanum. During the winter and spring of 1890-1, by invitation, he delivered lectures in various places before the Grange on the use and abuse of corsets and alcohol.

Horace N. Coe was born in Madison. He was appointed postmaster of Madison June 22d, 1889, succeeding J. Myron Hull. Mr. Coe represented the town in the legislature in 1881.

Samuel D. Cruttenden was born in Guilford and came to Madison and commenced business in 1870 as a merchant, succeeding H. E. Norton. He moved to the town of Madison in 1872. He conducts a general store and grocery. He has held the office of postmaster since 1870, with the exception of four years under Cleveland's administration. He has held the office of justice of the peace in Madison for twelve years.

Frank C. Dowd, born in New Jersey, is a son of George Curtis Dowd, and grandson of George Dowd, all merchants of Madison. The business was established by Horace L. Dudley and was owned by George C. Dowd and his father a number of years. George C. Dowd was a soldier in the war of the rebellion. He enlisted in 1862 in the 14th Connecticut Volunteers for nine months, then reënlisted and served until the close of the war. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Madison, and secretary of the Lodge for ten years or more. He died in 1880. His son at this time was clerk in a store at Bridgeport, Conn., but came home and became proprietor of the store in Madison. He has enlarged the business and made it successful. He has been twice elected master of the Masonic Lodge of Madison.

Jason Dudley, born in Madison in 1835, is a son of Phineas, who was born in Killingworth. His mother was Catharine Bradley, a descendant of Noah Bradley, one of the pioneers of the town. They had two sons, Launcelot and Jason, both natives of Madison. Jason has been twice married, first to Imogene Kellsey, of Clinton, by whom he

had two children. For his second wife he married B. Amelia Kellsey, of Clinton. They have one daughter, Katie A. Mr. Dudley has been selectman and constable. He is a member of Clinton Grange, No. 77, P. of H.

Joel M. Hill, born in Madison in 1833, is a son of Daniel and grandson of Noah Hill. He came from Killingworth, Conn., and settled in the town of Madison, on what is called Opening hill. Daniel Hill married Betsey Munger, of Madison. They had three sons: Henry S., Joel M. and Horace O. They still live on or near the old homestead on Opening hill, near North Madison post office. Joel M. Hill married Mary H. Munger in 1854. They have two children: Louisa B., born 1857; and Ralph B., born 1862. Mr. Hill has always taken an active part in town affairs, has held the offices of collector and school visitor, and is selectman of the town. His father held the office of selectman, and was also justice of the peace a number of years. Joel M. is a member of Madison Grange, No. 120, P. of H.

J. Myron Hull, born in Madison, is a son of William S. Hull, a native of Killingworth. William S. Hull was active in town affairs of Madison from 1840 until his death, which occurred in November, 1890. He held nearly all the town offices except town clerk. He was deputy sheriff of New Haven county 28 years. J. Myron Hull was postmaster of Madison under Cleveland's administration. He has been selectman, town clerk, chairman of the board of education, and a trustee of the high school since it was established, in 1884.

John Erastus Lewis, born in Haddam, Conn., February 9th, 1815, is the son of Levi and grandson of Francis. His mother was Sarah, daughter of Phineas Doane. Mr. Lewis came to Madison while quite young, and was educated in the common schools. He then commenced farming, and has made that his life occupation. February 13th, 1854, he married Drusilla, daughter of Coleman Clark. They had three children: Walter C., Wallace F. and Catharine S.

George Munger, son of George N. and grandson of George, was born in New Haven, November 27th, 1827. He there received his education, and when 21 years old came to Madison and engaged in the manufacture of sash and blinds. Later he became interested in the making of school supplies, and in 1876 established a factory in Madison, which is still in operation. November 28th, 1850, he married Cornelia L. Jacobs, of New Haven. They had two children: Emma L., born April 5th, 1852, who is now the wife of William T. Foote, of Guilford; and George B., born May 18th, 1854. Mr. Munger is one of the trustees of the Hand Academy.

S. Arthur Scranton, born in Madison in 1852, is a son of Daniel H. and grandson of Hubbard Scranton. During the rebellion Hubbard Scranton furnished vegetables for the war department at Washington, and ran a coasting line from Madison to Georgetown, D. C. Mr. Scranton lives with his aunt, the widow of Philemon A. Scranton, who

was a cotton merchant of Augusta, Ga., during the late war. The house where he resides was purchased in 1874. It is one of the oldest houses in Madison, and was built by a Captain Griffin about 150 years ago. The grandmother of S. Arthur, the widow of Hubbard, died in January, 1891, at the age of 99 years. She lived in the house where she died, for 78 years. Hubbard Scranton always took an active part in church and town affairs, and represented Madison in the legislature. He died in 1874, aged 84 years. S. Arthur Scranton has been deputy sheriff of New Haven county seven years. He is a dealer in market truck and ice. The Scranton family is one of the pioneer families of Madison.

Serreno H. Scranton was born in Madison, March 1st, 1811. His father, Jonathan, married Roxana Crampton, daughter of Ashville. He received his education in the common schools and at Lee's Academy. His career has been quite eventful and interesting. His first occupation was that of farming, but being ambitious, he invested his small capital in a sea vessel. For 14 years he followed the sea, making his business a financial success. He was president of the Shore Line railroad 14 years; also general manager of the New Orleans, Mobile & Texas railroad for some time. He has been representative three times, and was senator in 1870. In 1833 he married Susan Dowd, daughter of William. They had nine children: Roxana R., Jonathan S., Edward S., Jonathan S., William D., Charles W., Catharine L., George C. and Alice.

George A. Shelley, son of Julius Shelley, was born in Madison in 1827. He has followed the marble business since 1847 in his native town. He was married to Georgiana Field in 1849, who died in 1883. Their first son, Charles Henry, died in 1856, in the fifth year of his age. Charles Elliott, their second son, died in Weber, Utah, in 1884, aged 27, supposed to have been murdered on his way home from California. His body was found the year following and brought home and buried. George A. was married again in 1886 to Kate E. Smith, his present wife, who was born in Madison in 1847.

J. Willis Tucker, born in Madison in 1818, is a son of James W., who was born in North Madison. His mother was from Middlefield, Conn. She died at the age of 44 and left 11 children. J. Willis is the only member of the family living in Madison. He has been married twice; first to Sarah Wilcox, of Madison, by whom he had four children. For his second wife he married Mrs. Clarissa Dudley, of Madison. He has been grand juror a number of years, is a member of the First Ecclesiastical society, and he has been treasurer of the ministerial fund 21 years. Mr. Tucker is a farmer and a large land holder. For the last six years he has been engaged in ship building. He was one-third loser in two vessels that burned June 2d, 1890, at Madison.

Doctor Daniel Meigs Webb was born in Madison April 6th, 1822, and is a son of Doctor Reynolds Webb, born in Chester, Conn. Daniel M. was graduated from the academic department of Yale in 1846, and from the medical department in 1849. He began the practice of medicine in 1849 in Madison. His father practiced medicine in the same town. His grandfather, also named Reynold Webb, served in the revolutionary war, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. Doctor Daniel M. Webb is a member of the State Medical Society. He is a member of Madison Lodge, No. 87, F. & A. M., of Franklin Chapter, R. A. M., No. 2; Harmony Council, R. & S. M., No. 8, and of New Haven Commandery, No. 2, K. T.

John A. Willard, born in Madison in 1820, is a son of James and Susan Claning Willard. James was a native of Madison and his wife was born in Newport, R. I. The father of James, Hile Willard, was also a native of Madison, and a member of one of the pioneer families of the town. John A. married Ellen Wellman, of Clinton, in 1845. They have two children: Edward N. and Nellie L., who married Charles B. Upston, of Bristol, Conn., and has one daughter. Edward married Nellie Graves, of Madison, and has one daughter. John A. is a member of the F. & A. M. of Madison. He owns Sea View farm, near the village of Madison, on which he was born, and which has remained in the possession of the family ever since.

Alva O. Wilcox was many years a prominent man in Madison. For many years he had the contract with the United States government for carrying the mails between New Haven and New London. He established the first stage route between these two cities, and later was active in building the Shore Line railroad, thus connecting by "Shore route" New York with Boston. His son, William M. Wilcox, at the time of his death in 1874, was superintendent of the Shore Line railroad. William M. married a daughter of Talcott Bradley. Mr. Bradley was one of the four leading abolitionists that year after year had the courage to cast their votes for the abolition of slavery. Three of his sons—Lieutenant John, William and Henry—served in the war of the rebellion. Lieutenant John and William Bradley lost their lives in defense of their country. Henry served until the close of the war, was twice wounded and once taken prisoner. Doctor Ashabel Bradley, father of Talcott, was a soldier in the revolutionary war, in Colonel Wolcott's Regiment, from 1777 to 1783.

George A. Wilcox, born in Madison, is a son of Jonathan S., whose father, Jonathan, was a son of Thomas, who settled in Madison in 1743, and was a descendant of John, who was one of the original proprietors of Hartford, Conn. (1637). George A. Wilcox is an attorney-at-law, and has an office at Detroit, Mich., where he resides a part of the time. His mother was Chloe, daughter of Daniel Hand, a descendant of Joseph Hand, one of the first settlers of the Hammonasset district, a part of the town of Madison. He settled here about 1660, and

was a son of John Hand, emigrant, from Kent, England, first to Lynn, Mass. (about 1640), thence to Southampton and East Hampton, L. I.

Henry Beals Wilcox, born in Madison, February 1st, 1821, is the son of Abel and grandson of Joseph. He is a member of one of the pioneer families, and his ancestry can be traced back to the earliest settlement in Connecticut in both lines. His mother's name was Anna Field, daughter of Timothy, son of David. Our subject's education began in the common schools, and was completed at Lee's Academy. When twenty years of age he commenced teaching school, and taught 25 seasons: one year in Iowa, one and a half years in Kentucky, and the rest of the time in Connecticut. In 1862 he enlisted in the 27th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, and was wounded during the engagement at Fredericksburg, December 13th, 1862, a minie ball passing through his right lung, and for some time no one thought he would live. In October, 1863, he was elected town clerk; in 1864 justice of the peace; and in 1869 judge of the probate court for the district of Madison, and held these offices up to January, 1891, when he became 70 years of age and consequently disqualified. He was, also, during the aforesaid time, for 15 years a member of the board of education. January 1st, 1851, he married Lucetta Woodruff, and together they lived over 40 years, she dying February 9th, 1891. He had two children: Henry Clifford, a graduate of Union College, 1874, died in 1882; and Dwight Woodruff, married, and has two children, now living in Kansas. Mr. Wilcox is a member of the Congregational church, a member of Madison Lodge, No. 87, F. & A. M., also of the G. A. R. Post at Guilford.

Manfred A. Wilcox, son of Abel, was born in Madison, May 15th, 1830. His mother's name was Anna Field, daughter of Timothy. He received his education at the common schools, and has made farming his occupation. His first marriage was to Nancy S. Smith, daughter of Reuben, June 27th, 1852. By her he had one child, Nancy S., born March 24th, 1857. Mrs. Wilcox died April 4th, 1857. He next married Jeannette L. Snow, daughter of Arthur, October 16th, 1864. They have four children: Blanche E., born September 2d, 1866, died March 4th, 1867; Edward A., born July 31st, 1869; Jessie L., born May 4th, 1872; and Walter A., born March 5th, 1874. Mr. Wilcox has held several town offices, including justice of the peace and clerk of probate court.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE TOWN OF MILFORD.

Geographical and Descriptive.—The Indians.—The Early Settlers.—Civil Government.—Roads, Ferries and Bridges.—Shipbuilding, Commerce and Trade.—Milford Village.—Woodmont.—Wheeler's Farm.—Public Houses.—Manufacturing Interests.—Banks.—Newspapers.—Post Office.—Fire Company.—Agricultural Society.—Secret Orders.—Soldiers' Monuments.—Educational and Professional.—Churches.—Cemeteries.—Military Affairs.—250th Anniversary.—Biographical Sketches.

THE town of Milford, dating from its settlement, in 1639, is, next to New Haven, the oldest in the county, and one of the oldest in the state. When purchased of the Indians, and for several years later, this territory was called Wepawaug,\* but since November 24th, 1640, the formal name has been Milford. The town occupies the southwestern corner of the county, being bounded on the south by Long Island sound, on the west by the Housatonic river, and northeast by the town of Orange, its area having a triangular shape, the apex being at Poconoc point. The general surface is level, there being no high hills and only a limited amount of broken land. In some localities the rock crops out and the ground is covered with boulders. In the eastern part of the town is a considerable deposit of fine serpentine marble, discovered in 1811, and later developed to some extent. Limestone may be obtained in the northern part of the town, flagging stone in the western part, and shale rock in other parts. Hence, the soil is also variable, and is usually fairly fertile. By skillful cultivation it has been made productive enough to make agriculture, which has been made the leading occupation of the inhabitants, remunerative. There are in the town considerable areas of alluvial lands, some of which are scarcely above the water level, and bear evidence that in periods not very remote they were submerged. Among these tracts are the Great and New Meadows, along the Housatonic, and the French and Indian River meadows. Along the sound inlets are tidal lands, and in other parts of the town are swamps of considerable extent, the chief ones being called Dreadful, Great and Mohawk swamps.

The streams of the town are not large, but afford fair drainage. The Wepawaug or Mill river is a little more than a dozen miles long from its source in Woodbridge through its course in Orange and the central part of this town to its mouth at Milford harbor. It affords

\*Also spelled *Wepawage*.



a number of good mill seats. The Indian river also rises in Woodbridge, but in the eastern part, and flowing southwest finds an outlet in Indian gulf or Milford gulf, whose waters pour into the sound near those of Milford harbor. In the extreme east is the Oyster river, separating the coast parts of Milford and Orange. The West End brook is in the western part of the village of Milford and flows into the harbor, below the village. Beaver brook is in the western part of the town, flowing southwest, and emptying into the Housatonic. At the mouth of this river, which is here about one mile wide, a long, sandy beach has been formed by the contra action of the waves on the sound and those flowing into the river, which is called Poconoc or Milford Point. It has for hundreds of years been a favorite resort of fishermen, and was once improved for a seaside resort. Eastward along the sound is next a point of land called Meadow's End, east of which are salt meadows. Extending thence eastward to the harbor is Burn's Point, a high, dry point of land, which has been improved for summer residences. A small beach permits bathing. Off this shore and about three-fourths of a mile from it is Charles or Milford island. It is pleasantly shaped, and contains about ten acres of land, much of which was formerly timbered. The Indians called it Poquaug, and it was a place where they delighted to resort in the summer. It is said that the sachem, Ansantawae, here had his "big wigwam." The bar between the island and the shore is bare about half of the time, and formerly afforded excellent clamming, fine ones being found there.

"On the 17th of March, 1657, the town granted liberty to Charles Deal, a tobacco planter, to purchase and enjoy the island for a tobacco plantation, provided he would not use the buildings for any other purpose than as a tobacco house, and that he would not trade with the Dutch or the Indians, or suffer disorderly seamen to make it a place of resort." From his ownership the name Charles' island is derived. In 1835 it was purchased by John Harris, of New York, who fitted it up for a country seat. Later it was used as a day resort by excursionists, brought thither by steamers from New Haven and Bridgeport. Since that time the island has been denuded of everything except some small trees and bushes, and is now a comparative waste.

East of the harbor are Indian Neck and Welch's Point, so named for Thomas Welch, an early owner. This has a good beach, and fine summer residences have been erected on the high lands overlooking the sound. Next eastward is Pond Point, named for Charles Pond, the owner of a large tract of land in that locality; and Merwin's Point, still further to the eastward, took its name from Miles Merwin, the original settler. Burwell's Farm, or the newly developed section of Woodmont Beach, is the last point of land in the town, which has become a favorite resort on account of its bathing priv-

ileges afforded by this shore. All along the sound to Indian Neck are a number of sightly places, some of which have been improved for beautiful homes.

In the records of Milford appear more than 80 names of localities in the town, some of which have long since become obsolete, by reason of the changes in the topography of the country. Other old names have been displaced by new ones, some more and others less appropriate than the original titles.

When the whites prospected this country they found it in the possession of a strong tribe of Paugasuck Indians, who called this section *Wepawaug*. From this fact these aborigines were sometimes called *Wepawaug*, and later, *Milford Indians*. Their sachem was *Ansantaway* or *Ansantawae*, whose "big wigwam" was on Charles' island. They appear to have been kindly disposed toward the whites, but lived in dread of the Mohawks and other Indians. They were superstitious and indulged much in pow-wows. Their incantations were wild and fantastic in the extreme. On such occasions, led on by their priests, they would dance around a camp fire in the most excitable manner, and often hurled their choicest treasures in it, in the belief that such an act would appease the spirits.

These Indians lived in four principal villages: on the *Wepawaug*, near where is now the Episcopal church, where also lived at times the sachem, *Ansantawae*; another near Washington bridge, near which place they had a fortress for defense against the Mohawks; a third at Turkey hill, where was one of their principal places of burial, and where Indians were buried as late as 1794. A fourth village was at Poconoc Point, and smaller ones at Oronoque and Burwell's Farm. Their principal planting grounds were on Mill Neck and along the *Housatonic*. They subsisted largely in fishing, and often exchanged their sea food for the game brought hither by the Indians from the interior. Their wampum were black and white perforated shells, three of the former and six of the latter passing current for an English penny.

*Ansantawae's* tribe claimed all the land from the Oyster river to the *Housatonic*, and from the sound north to Beacon Hill brook, a distance of about twenty miles, where it joined the *Mattatuck* country. The first purchase by the whites was made February 12th, 1639, and comprised about two miles of land at Milford village. The sale was made with "twig and turf," indicating that the Indians were willing to surrender the soil and all that grew upon it. The deed in trust for the planters was given to William Fowler, Edmund Tapp, Zachariah Whitman, Benjamin Fenn and Alexander Bryan. The consideration was "6 coats, 10 blankets, 1 kettle, besides a number of hoes, knives, hatchets and glasses (small mirrors)." *Ansantawae* and other principal Indians signed the instrument. At different times, later, other purchases were made of land along the *Housatonic* in 1656, and of the

Indian Neck in 1660. In the latter tract 20 acres were reserved for planting purposes. Afterward, this too was sold, apparently reluctantly, for they demanded a proviso that in case of danger Ansantawae, his wife and sons might have "liberty to sit down for shelter in some place near the town, where the townsmen should think most fit." The central and northern parts of the Indian domains were purchased in 1685, 1700 and 1702, the last purchase being of lands along the Beacon brook, in what are now the towns of Bethany and Beacon Falls.

After the lower lands had been sold, the Indians complained that they had nowhere to live, when the town set aside one hundred acres on Turkey hill, upon which, under restrictions, the Indians might find homes. This land was under the care of a committee appointed for that purpose, and which in 1777 was composed of Captain Benjamin Hine, Stephen Gunn, Esq., and Lieutenant Benjamin Fenn. It is said that Ansantawae died here about 1676, but some of his descendants remained as long as 1820. The decay of the Indians was rapid. In 1731, when Con-que-po-ta-na, the sachem of the Milford Indians, died in Derby, he had but 60 men under him. Gradually the number became less, and most of the remaining members removed to the West, where they became a part of the Six Nations.\* A few stragglers only remained until their death. Some of the Indians who removed, or their descendants, occasionally visited the town, and as late as 1831 a band of thirty persons came hither from the Lake Champlain region to visit Poconoc Point. They remained a few days, and it was learned that they had a tradition that their ancestors were from this region. "They had come for the last time to visit the hunting ground of their fathers."†

Although the Indians appeared friendly toward the whites, the planters, soon after settlement, provided a means of safety and defense by erecting a palisade nearly a mile square around the village, enclosing land on both sides of the Wepawaug. The trunks of trees twelve feet long were taken, and so closely set together that a man could not crowd through the line. In times of danger sentinels were posted every few rods, who were relieved at sunset by drum beat from the top of the meeting house. Each planter, as a member of the "train band," was required to do guard duty every fifth day. On the Sabbath and "lecture days" armed men went to the meeting house, and the muskets were also kept close at hand while working in the fields. In 1645-6 there was such a feeling of unrest among the Indians that a guard was kept day and night. About this time the Indians set fire to the adjacent country, but the settlers fortunately arrested the flames before they reached the palisade. But much damage was done to the timber in the swamps north and west of the village.

A few years later, in 1648, occurred in the town a severe battle between the Wepawaug and Mohawk Indians. The latter, with a view

\* Lambert. † Baldwin.

of surprising the Wepawaugs in their fort, on the Housatonic, had secreted themselves in a swamp about a mile from Washington bridge. They were discovered by some whites, who reported their presence to the Wepawaugs, who arose in such number and attacked the Mohawks that the invaders were defeated—some being killed and others taken captive. A stout Mohawk prisoner was stripped naked and tied to a tree in the swamp, to be tortured by mosquitoes. Here he was discovered by Thomas Hine, one of the early settlers, who released him, and after caring for his wants, permitted him to return to his own country. This humane act pleased the Indians, who ever after revered the Hine family and pledged their protection to them. They used to say of the Hines, "they did not die like other pale faces, but went to the West, where the Great Spirit took them into his big wigwam and made them great men."

The Indians were again troublesome in 1653, and up to 1656, and the town threatened to impose a penalty for harboring them. Soon after a good deal of prejudice existed against the Indians, who really were harmless enough, and in 1671 some young men of the town destroyed their fort on the Housatonic. But whether this was done from hatred of the Indians or from a spirit of adventure is not very clear. They went at the dead of night, and working with the utmost secrecy, razed the fort to the ground. This very much angered the Indians, but instead of seeking revenge they complained to Benjamin Fenn and Robert Treat, seeking redress through them. As a consequence the ten young men implicated were cited to appear before the court at New Haven, when they were properly fined £10. This satisfied the Indians, who now rebuilt the fort.

In the spring of 1700 danger was again apprehended, and the palisade having been removed, to guard against Indian attack it was ordered that Mr. Prudden's house, on the east side of the Wepawaug, and the house of George Clark, at the "West End," should be fortified as places of refuge for the infirm, the women and the children. That the work might speedily be done, all able-bodied male persons over 16 years of age were ordered forthwith to assist in the undertaking. Liberty was also granted to the inhabitants of Burwell's Farm to erect some measure of defense. For several years there was a general alarm in the town and surrounding country, but so far as known not a single English inhabitant of Milford lost his life at the hands of an Indian in this town. In King Philip's war some of the inhabitants were engaged, and in the later French and Indian wars several of the inhabitants lost their lives, some falling in battle and others dying from sicknesses contracted in camp.

Through apprehension that Milford might be an objective point of attack some British troops were quartered in the town in the winter of 1757-8, and in a revel the town hall was burned. The Crown subsequently remitted £50 to assist in defraying this damage.

It is said that in these later troubles some of the inhabitants of the town accompanied General Putnam in an expedition to Cuba,\* and there was no full sense of security until the war had closed.

Most of the pioneer settlers of Milford came from Essex, Hereford and York counties, in England, and rendezvoused in New Haven in 1638 and 1639, preparatory to taking up their abode in the Wepawaug country. After the purchase of the lands, in the spring of the latter year, active preparations were made to occupy and improve them. The material for "the common house" and their household utensils were put on board a vessel which sailed for Milford harbor, in the fall of 1639, and was probably the first to land there. The body of planters moved by land from New Haven, following the Indian foot paths, driving their domestic animals before them. Sergeant Thomas Tibbals piloted the company through the woods to the place of destination, "he having been there a number of times before." For this service the town, in 1670, voted him as a free gift two parcels of land lying in Westfield, "both parcels containing ten measured acres." The planters and their goods arrived safe at the head of Milford harbor, where the "common house" was set up, probably near where are now Baldwin's straw and matting works; and a few temporary houses were also built for immediate occupation, and until the planters could each build his home upon a lot properly assigned. Matters had so far progressed by November 20th, 1639, that a meeting for civil organization and regulation was held, when 44 persons, by reason of being accepted church members, were recognized as free planters, having a full voice in the town's affairs. Ten others, it appears, were with the company or came soon after, but not yet having been received into the church, were not freemen† at the time named.

The first list of freemen or pioneer planters embraced the following 44 men: Zachariah Whitman, died in 1666; Thomas Welch, 1681; Thomas Wheeler, 1675; Edmond Tapp, 1653; Thomas Buckingham, 1657; Richard Miles, 1667; Richard Platt, 1671; Thomas Tapping, 1684; Mr. Peter Prudden, 1656; William Fowler, 1660; John Astwood, 1654; Richard Baldwin, 1665; Benjamin Fenn, 1662; Samuel Coley, 1684; John Babcock, removed in 1651; Henry Stonhill, 1651; Nathaniel Baldwin, died in 1692; James Prudden, 1648; Thomas Baker, removed in 1650; George Clark, Sr., died in 1690; George Hubbard, removed in 1650; Doctor Jasper Gunn, died in 1670; John Fletcher, 1662; Alexander Bryan, 1679; Francis Bolt, 1649; Micah Tompkins, 1649; John Birdsey, removed in 1649; Edmund Harvey, died in 1648; John Lane, 1669; William East, 1681; Thomas Lawrence, 1648; Thomas Sandford, 1681; Timothy Baldwin, 1664; George Clark, Jr., 1690; John Burwell, 1649; Henry Bottsford, 1686; Joseph Baldwin, 1690; Philip Hatley, removed in 1649; Nicholas Camp, died in 1706; John Rogers, 1684; Thomas Uffat, 1691; Nathaniel Brisco, 1683; Thomas Tibbals, 1703; John Sherman,

\*Lambert. †See account of the First Church.

removed in 1645, died in 1685. The other ten planters were: Robert Plumb, died in 1655; Roger Terrill, 1682; Joseph Northrop, 1699; John Baldwin, 1681; William Slough, 1681; Andrew Benton, removed in 1666, died in 1681; William Brooke, died in 1684; Robert Treat, 1712; Henry Lyon, 1712; John Fowler, removed in 1660.

It has been estimated that the foregoing 54 persons, most of them heads of families, represented 200 inhabitants, living in the town as early as the spring of 1640.

Before 1685, 69 more free planters joined those named above, among them being: Joshua Atwater, came in 1655; Henry Allen, Edward Adams, Joseph Ashban, Haerts Albers, Thomas Andrews, Thomas Beardsley, came 1647; John Brown, came 1648; Thomas Beach, came 1658; Thomas Bayley, Roger Betts, Thomas Betts, Thomas Campfield, Robert Downs, 1660; Charles Deal, 1657; Robert Dennison, Gilbert Davidson, Samuel Eells, 1664; John Ford, 1644; Thomas Ford, Thomas Farman, Nathaniel Farrand, Stephen Freeman, John Fisk, Nathaniel Gould, Joseph Guernsey, Thomas Hine, 1646; Richard Houghton, Thomas Hayes, Richard Holbrook, Richard Hollingworth, Jonathan Ingersoll, 1698; Walter Joye, Jesse Lambert, 1680; Jonathan Law, 1664; Simon Lobdell, Miles Merwin, 1645; Miles Moore, Jonathan Marsh, Thomas Mecock, Samuel Nettleton, 1645; Roger Newton, Francis Norton, Joseph Peck, 1645; John Prindle, 1645; Roger Pritchard, 1653; Abraham Pierson, James Prime, David Phillips, Edward Riggs, 1646; William Roberts, Thomas Read, John Smith, 1643; Richard Shute, Joseph Sill, John Stream, John Stone, Vincent Stilson, Peter Simpson, Henry Tomlinson, 1652; Edward Turner, William Tyler, John Woodruff, 1685; Edward Wooster, 1651; Edward Wilkinson, Thomas Ward, Joseph Waters.

The first settlers located themselves on each side of the Mill river and the West End brook, probably for the convenience of water for themselves and cattle. Their house lots were laid out in parallel, narrow slips, containing each about three acres. Some of them had double, *i. e.*, two slips adjoining. Each planter was to erect a good house on his lot within three years, or it was to go back to the town.

The first fence enclosed the Gulf neck, which was called Eastfield, and was the common lot of those located on the river. The second fence enclosed Westfield, or all the land down to the Great Meadow, and was the common lot of the planters residing at the West End. The tract called Mill Neck was owned by both the East End and the West End inhabitants. Each lot holder had also a right to the meadows in the harbor, or Great Meadow tracts.

The planters at first enclosed their home lots in common, each man making and maintaining a share of fence, according to his quantity of land. In 1645 they agreed to make their division fences. By this time most of the planters had erected frame houses, in the old leanto style, which were covered with rent-oak shingles, and had windows of

diamond glass. Their object in settling thus close together was for security in case of an attack from the Indians.

They soon surrounded their settlement with palisades twelve feet high, so thickly set a man could not come between. They enclosed a square mile of land on both sides of the Wepawaug. As the population increased, and the danger from Indian attack became less, the land further from the center was laid out and settled.

House lot owners in 1645: Lot No. 1, John Astwood; 2, Richard Baldwin; 3, Benjamin Fenn; 4, Samuel Cooley; 5, John Peacocke; 6, Henry Stonhill; 7, Nathaniel Baldwin; 8, James Prudden; 9, John Sherman; 10, Thomas Baker; 11, Stephen Freeman; 12, John Fletcher; 13, John Baldwin; 14, Frances Bolt; 15, Micah Tomkins; 16, John Birdseye; 17, Edward Harvey; 18, John Lane; 19, William East; 20, Thomas Lawrence (sold to William East); 21, Thomas Sanford; 22, Timothy Baldwin; 23, Alexander Bryan; 24, Jasper Gunn; 25, Thomas Hine; 26, Henry Lyon; 27, John Stream; 28, William Slough; 29, James Prime; 30, Thomas Reed; 31, Robert Denison; 32, Zachariah Whitman; 33, Thomas Welch; 34, Thomas Wheeler; 35, Mr. Edmond Tapp; 36, Thomas Buckingham; 37, Robert Plum; 38, Richard Platt; 39, Thomas Tapping; 40, Mr. Peter Prudden; 41, Mr. William Fowler; 42, Thomas Lawrence; 43, George Clark, Jr.; 44, John Burwell; 45, Henry Botsford; 46, John Smith; 47, John Rogers; 48, Philip Hatley; 49, Roger Tyrrell; 50, Nicholas Camp; 51, John Fowler; 52, Joseph Baldwin; 53, Thomas Tibbals; 54, Widow Martha Beard; 55, Thomas Campfield; 56, Thomas Ford; 57, William Roberts; 58, John Smith; 59, Thomas Bailey; 60, William Brookes; 61, John Brown; 62, Nathaniel Briscoe; 63, Edward Riggs; 64, Andrew Benton; 65, George Clark, Sr.; 66, George Hubbard (sold to John Stream).

When the public buildings were erected, the First Congregational meeting house was built against lot No. 9; Second Congregational meeting house against No. 38; Episcopal church against No. 17, and town house against No. 15.

The regicide judges—William Goffe and Edward Whalley—sought shelter and refuge at Milford, coming here August 19th, 1661, and remaining about two years. They were securely hidden in the basement of a shop which stood on lot No. 15, which had been allotted to Micah Tomkins. But few people knew of this concealment at Milford, and so well was the secret kept that even the daughters of Mr. Tomkins, who sometimes spun and wove in the shop, were unaware of the presence of the judges in the room beneath them.

At this period the population of the town was 500 or more, and the planters were constantly receiving new additions to their numbers. About the close of that century new settlements were established in various parts of the town—at Burwell's Farm, on the sound; at Wheeler's Farm, on the Housatonic; at Bryan's Farm, north of the Center, and at other points in what are now Woodbridge, Bethany, Orange,

Derby, Ansonia and Seymour in this county. In 1702 the town purchased the tract of Indian land called *Wecantinoque* and settled it as New Milford. Many others from this place early located at Newtown, Watertown, Durham and Greenwich, in this state; at Huntington, on Long Island; at Newark, N. J.; New Milford, Pa., and Talmadge, Ohio.

In 1774 the population of the town was—whites, 1,965; Indians, 162. In 1810 the inhabitants numbered 2,674. In 1850, after all the towns had been set off that originally were a part of Milford, the population was 2,465. Since that time there has been no decrease. In 1890 the inhabitants numbered 3,811.

Not being under the jurisdiction of any civil government until 1644, when the town joined in forming the extended New Haven colony, the planters met November 20th, 1639, to adopt a polity for their little republic. Forty-four persons were accorded a full voice in this meeting, and ten others, as soon as received into church fellowship, were to be entitled to engage in the town's affairs, being then also freemen or "free planters." At this meeting the following clearly expressed and comprehensive civil compact was voted on and adopted:

"That the power of electing officers and persons to divide the land into lots, to take orders for the timber, and to manage the common interests of the plantation, should be in the church only, and that persons so chosen should be only among themselves.

"That they would guide themselves in all their doings by the written word of God, till such time as a body of laws should be established.

"That five men should be chosen for judges in all civil affairs, to try all causes between man and man, and as a court to punish any offence and misdemeanor.

"That the persons invested with the magistracy should have power to call a general court whenever they might see cause, or the public good require.

"That they should hold particular court once in six weeks, wherein should be tried such causes as might be brought before them, they to examine witnesses upon oath as need should require.

"That, according to the sum of money which each person paid toward the public charges, in such proportion should he receive or be repaid in lands, and that all planters who might come after should pay their share equally for some public use.

"That William Fowler, Edmond Tapp, Zachariah Whitman, John Astwood and Richard Miles be the first judges."

A year later, November 24th, 1640, at the third meeting of the general court of the Wepawaug planters, a town seal was adopted, the capital letters M. F.\* being blended and placed in the figure of a heart. This being done, "With common consent and general vote of the freemen, the plantation was named Milford."

\* Probably means United Milford Freemen.



It was also voted at this court, "So that justice be done between man and man (because false weights and false measures are an abomination in the sight of the Lord), that all measures for commerce, for buying and selling, should be made equal to the standard used at New Haven, which was brought from the Bay, and to be sealed by Jasper Gunn; and that whoever shall buy or sell by any measure not legally sealed should forfeit for every such default 5s."

At this meeting John Sherman was elected judge in place of Richard Miles. In 1641 Reverend Mr. Prudden was chosen in place of John Astwood, but in May, that year, he was excused from longer serving, and John Astwood was again chosen. In 1643 the judges were William Fowler, Edmond Tapp, Zachariah Whitman, George Clark and Jasper Gunn.

In 1644 Milford united with the towns of New Haven, Stamford, Guilford and Southold (L. I.) in forming the New Haven jurisdiction. But there was some objection because Milford had "formerly taken in as free burgesses six planters who were not in church fellowship." The matter was compromised by a condition that the six men should "never be chosen deputies, or into any public trust, for the jurisdiction, nor to be allowed to vote for magistrates, and that none should afterward be admitted freemen but church members."

In this jurisdiction the town had two magistrates, and sent two deputies to the general court, which convened at New Haven. William Fowler and Edmond Tapp were those chosen the first magistrates, and John Astwood and John Sherman the first deputies.

The New Haven jurisdiction was dissolved in 1664, and the colony of Connecticut formed in 1665, largely through the efforts of two Milford men, Benjamin Fenn and Robert Treat. Hence the town has sustained three civil relations: As an independent plantation, from 1639 to 1644; as a member of the New Haven colony or jurisdiction until 1665, and as a member of the colony and state of Connecticut since the latter date.

Much of the early affairs of the town pertained to the purchase and disposition of the lands in the plantation. Besides the first allotments, already noted, it was voted in 1674, "There should be two miles of land sequestered to lie in common for the use of the town, and not any of it to be laid out without the consent of three-fourths of the inhabitants; to begin at the uttermost houses in the town and to go two miles on each side." This tract was especially intended for the use of the town flock of sheep, which was kept for the common profit of the people for nearly one hundred years. At times the flock had as many as 1,500 sheep, in the care of hired shepherds. The income was used in paying town expenses. After 1688 this tract of land was divided among the planters by a vote of the town.

In the disposition of the common lands each planter was allotted meadow land, either on the East or Indian river or on the harbor

meadows. Four shillings per acre was paid into the treasury for every acre allotted. In addition to the first allotments the town decreed divisions in 1645 in the eastern part of Milford; in 1646, meadow lands; in 1658, the Newfield; in 1660, Indian Neck (which had just been purchased of the Indians) was divided among 15 planters, and other divisions were made in 1676, 1679 and 1689. Later allotments were made in 1712, when there were 197 proprietors. The Oyster Neck and Ferry lands were the last laid out, in 1805. They were allotted according to the list of 1686.

No land records were kept before 1646, but soon thereafter stringent regulations were made, requiring proper bounds and records to be strictly noted and entered.

The ancient boundary lines between this and the adjoining towns were established: Between Milford and New Haven in April, 1672; between Milford and Derby in May, 1680, and between Milford and Waterbury in April, 1738.

The patent to the town from the general court of the colony was dated May 25th, 1685, and was given to "Robert Treat, Esq., Mr. Richard Bryan, Capt. Samuel Eells, Capt. John Beard, Mr. George Clark and Lieut. Samuel Burwell and the rest of the inhabitants of the township of Milford." It was signed by Robert Treat, governor. After this patent was given further purchases were made by the town, and in 1713 it was determined to ask for a new patent, which should comprehend all the territory, and which should contain the name of every individual proprietor. To further this end "Jonathan Law, Esq., Major Samuel Eells, Serg. Zachariah Baldwin, Ensign Samuel Gunn, Capt. Joseph Treat, Ensign George Clark and Mr. Samuel Clark, Jun., were chosen a committee to take care about drawing up said patent." The instrument was carefully drawn up by Jonathan Law, Esq., and described the original purchases covered by the first patent and the additional purchases in 1693 north of Bladen's brook, which extended the bounds from the "Sea" south to Beacon Hill river, north; with New Haven on the east and the Housatonic and Derby on the west. In the description Milford island, Edward Wooster's island and Duck island were included as parts of Milford territory. The patent bore the names of 235 freeholders, and was signed by Governor Gurdon Saltonstall, May 22d, 1713.

The area thus described by the above patent was reduced by the incorporation of the town of Woodbridge in 1784, and further by the erection of the town of Orange in 1822.

Besides the first judges, already named, some of the other judges in the first sixty years of the town were William East, George Treat, Alexander Bryan, Thomas Clark, Samuel Eells, John Beard, Richard Bryan, Samuel Newton and Joseph Treat.

After 1698 and for the next ninety years following the town had

as justices or commissioners, among others: Richard Baldwin, Roger Newton, Jonathan Law, Samuel Andrew, Samuel Gunn, Robert Treat, John Fowler, Nathaniel Baldwin, Joseph Woodruff, David Baldwin, Ephraim Strong, David Ingersoll, Gideon Buckingham, Isaac Miles, Samuel Treat, Stephen Gunn, Lewis Mallett and Samuel Dibble. The years in which they served cannot be accurately given, and the imperfect condition of the records also precludes the giving of complete lists of other officers. Hence they are given in an abridged form.

The town clerks of Milford and the years in which they were chosen have been the following: 1640, Robert Treat; 1648, Richard Baldwin; 1680, Samuel Eells; 1685, Daniel Buckingham; 1689, Thomas Oviatt; 1692, Alexander Bryan; 1698, Richard Bryan; 1705, John Law, Jr.; 1718, John Fowler; 1756, John Fowler, Jr.; 1774, David B. Ingersoll; 1775, Samuel Whittlesey; 1776, Gideon Buckingham; 1809, Abraham V. H. De Witt; 1813, Samuel Higbey; 1836, David L. Baldwin; 1862, William Durand; 1864, D. L. Hubbell; 1865, Selah Strong; 1867, Arthur N. Clark; 1871, Phineas S. Bristol; 1872, Thomas W. Stow; 1873, William H. Pond; 1876-90, John W. Fowler.

Since 1850 the first selectmen and town agents have been elected as follows: 1850-61, Samuel B. Gunn; 1862-4, Selah Strong; 1865-7, Simeon L. Bristol; 1868, Mark Tibbals; 1869, Phineas S. Bristol; 1770-2, Mark Tibbals; 1873-4, William Brotherton; 1875-6, John N. Buckingham; 1877-86, Charles W. Beardsley; 1887, William H. Andrews; 1888-90, Isaac C. Smith.

In the same period, the treasurers of the various funds have been Selah Strong, Nathan Fenn, Samuel Beach, Alfred Mallett, Isaac T. Rogers, David Miles, Phineas S. Bristol and Edward G. Miles.

The Milford Probate District was established May 30th, 1832. Prior to that time business of that nature was done at New Haven, from which the town was now set off as a separate district. The first court was held July 11th, 1832, William Strong being the judge and David C. Baldwin the clerk. The subsequent judges were elected as below: 1837, Abijah Carrington; 1842, William Durand; 1845, Selah Strong; 1847, Abijah Carrington; 1848, Andrew French; 1850, William Strong; 1851, Andrew French; 1852, David L. Baldwin. In 1855 Samuel B. Gunn was elected judge, succeeding David L. Baldwin, who became inelligible by reason of being more than seventy years of age. But the latter was appointed clerk, and the two sustained that relation until 1863, when John W. Fowler was elected judge. He so served until 1877, when age made him inelligible, and William G. Mitchell was elected judge and John W. Fowler clerk, each serving twelve years. In 1889 George M. Gunn was elected judge and John W. Fowler continued as clerk, at the age of 82 years.

Public business was first transacted at the "Common House," erected at the head of the harbor on the settlement of the planters. Next the meeting house was used, but after schools were established

a town house was built. It was placed upon public lands at the angle where is now the town hall. In 1699 a school or town hall was authorized to be built at the "West End," which stood, and was used the greater part of a hundred years. The "East End" town house gave place to a new and larger building in 1734, which was burned in the winter of 1758 in a revel by some British troops which were quartered in it, having been brought here in consequence of the French and Indian wars. The British government paid the town £50 for this damage, toward building a new town house, which was put up in 1760 by John Hopkins. This stood until about 1845, and was last used as a place of worship by the Baptists of Milford. It was a substantial frame, 30 by 45 feet, and had a very plain appearance.

In 1833 a new town house was built, also on the small green and in front of the old town house. This building was 32 by 42 feet and two stories high, the upper room being used for school purposes. Elijah Baldwin was the builder, and it cost \$1,200. Its location in the angle of the green caused that plat of ground to look unattractive; hence, in 1854, the house was moved up and placed in line with the Baptist meeting house, built upon the site of the old town house. The Baptists disbanding, their church building was purchased by the town in 1866, and has since been used for a town auditorium. In 1875 this building and the old town house were merged in the present town edifice, which is used for school and public purposes. The small green has also been improved, and in 1876 one of the finest liberty poles in the state was erected at the lower angle. These improvements are noteworthy and attractive, and reflect credit upon the town.

In 1824 the town purchased a poor farm at Burwell's Corner, which contained 23 acres. This was further improved, and was used as a home for indigent persons until 1873, when it was ordered sold and other provision made for the care of the town's poor.

In 1740 the town voted "to buy a new bell of about 600 pounds weight, the old one being cracked." The same year Ebenezer Parmelee set up a brass clock, which gave good satisfaction a number of years. In 1825 it was unwisely replaced by a wooden clock, which was a greater failure than the old one, which had been sold for a trifle. After some delay the wooden affair was cast out and a good clock supplied. The town clock is still a feature of the life at Milford village, and retains its place in the tower of the First meeting house.

It is said of the early roads of Milford that they were not laid out, but the land was; and that cart paths were made where the trees were the thinnest, so as to reach each farm without much reference to course. As the best lands were first picked out and the roads followed them, about all the vacant land was regarded as the roadway. After the roads were once laid out they were also left very wide. Broad street was originally 40 rods wide, and most of the present houses stand on what was the highway. The old New Haven road was laid out 16 rods

wide; the Harbor road, 10 rods; and the Mill Neck road, 6 rods wide. On these roads and the roads on both sides of the Wepawaug the abutting property holders have so much encroached that but little semblance of the original highways is left, and many of the houses stand on "Squatter's claims."

Some of the early roads to principal points followed the Indian trails much of the way. The old Turkey Hill, Burwell's Farm, New Haven and the Poconoc Point roads are almost identical with the Indian pathways found by the early settlers. For many years there was considerable objection to the better system of roads, or building them according to modern methods. Hence, when turnpikes were projected, there was much opposition. The road from Derby Narrows to New Haven, through the northern part of Milford (now Orange) was bitterly opposed in 1798, and so also in 1802, "it was voted to oppose the New Haven and Milford Turnpike Company running the turnpike road through people's land, but to have them keep the old road, except cutting off short corners." But in spite of this opposition both roads were built and were afterward much appreciated by the people. The general course of the latter highway through the town was from northeast to southwest, and it was opened to the public in the beginning of the present century. At Milford village the Wepawaug was crossed, between the first and second dams, the company building the so-called Jefferson bridge. The company also owned the first Washington bridge across the Housatonic. As the stage route from New Haven to New York, this road was much used until after the completion of the railroad in the same course.

The construction of the railroad was begun in 1845, and a through train from New York first ran through Milford December 28th, 1848. William Strong was the first agent at Milford village, and was succeeded by Peter Hobart, who was the first telegrapher at this station. The Naugatuck Valley railway was joined to the main line at the Housatonic bridge in 1849. The first bridge was of wood. The present elegant iron bridge was erected in 1884. Full station facilities at the junction were established in the fall of 1890, when a ticket office was added to the adjuncts already there.

When the "new" road was located through the lots in the middle of the village, in 1805, it was so vigorously opposed that suits for damages followed, and the matter was carried to the county court for settlement.

The green or park in Broad street, in Milford, was improved by the town in 1854, and a railing was built around it. For a long time the west end was low and swampy, but it has been drained and much beautified.

The necessity for better facilities for crossing the Housatonic impelled the town to early establish a ferry, and it was set up in 1675, at a point above Washington bridge. To encourage the settlement of a

ferryman, forty acres of land were there sequestered. In 1731, under a new act of the general assembly, the town built a two-story frame house for the ferryman, and provided other suitable accommodations and boats. In 1758 these were thoroughly repaired. October 1st, 1798, Washington bridge having been built so that it was no longer necessary to have the ferry, the town voted to sell all the property, and William Hopkins became the purchaser. The old county road led to the ferry, and was here called the Ferry road. In 1785 its present course to "Hog Rock" was located. This is an immense boulder, one mile east of Washington bridge, and it is said its name was derived from the following circumstance:

"Once four young men upon y<sup>e</sup> rock  
Sate down at Shuffle-board one day,  
When y<sup>e</sup> Devill appeared in shape of a hogg,  
And frighten'd y'm so they scamper'd awaye,  
And left Olde Nick to finish y<sup>e</sup> play."

The story runs that the hog came from the bushes near by, and walked around the rock, as the boys were playing cards upon the top of it, one Sabbath morning. Its peculiar actions convinced the boys that it must be the messenger of the evil one, and they beat a hasty retreat. During the revolutionary war the rock was devoted to a better use by an ardent patriot, Peter Pierett, Jr., who cut in large letters on the north side the words "LIBERTY, 1776."

Another ferry was long kept up at Oronoque, and this means of crossing streams was employed at other points until bridges could be built.

The first bridge in the town was ordered at the November 24th, 1640, meeting, "to be built with all possible expedition." This was called the Meeting House bridge, and has ever since been kept up. The next one built was at Fowler's mill, near the mouth of the Wepawaug, which was put up in 1645. On its site was built, in 1889, the town's beautiful memorial bridge, commemorative of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Milford. It is a handsome stone arch structure, with graceful and artistic lines, and at the west approach is a tower of peculiar beauty and substantial appearance, also built of stone and covered with tile. On this and on the north side of the bridge are many historical inscriptions. The bridge cost about \$3,100, and is one of the most pleasing objects in the town.

The first Gulf bridge was the third in the town, and was built in 1662. In 1810 another wooden structure took its place, which was used in a repaired condition until 1890, when a good stone and iron bridge was erected in its stead, at a cost of more than \$6,000. Plumb's, or the Indian River bridge, on the old County road, was first built in 1706; King's bridge in 1711; a bridge across the Wepawaug, between the meeting house and Fowler's Mill bridge, in 1723. This was below where is now the Episcopal church. It was abandoned after the Jef-

erson bridge, a short distance above, was built, about the beginning of the present century. Oyster River bridge was built by New Haven and Milford in 1753. The North street foot bridge was first built in 1768, and the bridge at Jehiel Bristol's in 1819.

The Washington bridge, over the Housatonic, was begun in 1797 and completed in the following year. In the spring of 1806 an ice gorge carried away a part of it. In 1808 it was rebuilt at an expense of \$8,000, which sum was raised by a lottery. The bridge at first had a narrow draw, which was the cause of much trouble, the inhabitants of Derby and the Upper Housatonic demanding its removal. After much litigation the difficulty was overcome by the sale of the bridge to other parties. Later it was kept up by the towns of Milford and Stratford, but in 1889 the counties of New Haven and Fairfield assumed control, and by these bodies it is now kept in good condition. It is a long wooden structure, with a roomy side draw, permitting the passage of the largest boats.

Milford village is the center of population, wealth and influence of the town. It is one of the oldest and most attractive places in the county, and but few villages in the state surpass it for quiet beauty and pleasing environments. The village has a good and healthy location, on both sides of the Wepawaug river and Milford harbor, near Long Island sound, with beach and sailing privileges. The streets are wide, well kept and afford pleasant drives. Many of them are adorned with aged and stately elms and other shade trees. Capacious residences, some of them of modern architecture and costly, are set in large yards of greensward, giving the village a retired and perhaps drowsy appearance. There are also a large number of quaint and well preserved old mansions, betokening the architecture of former centuries.

"The old houses have a musty odor, but they were built to last. On the front doors one may see wrought-iron hinges in the form of a T, with long arms and wooden door latches; the doorstep is an uncut stone. In the garrets one finds hops spread on the floor to dry, colossal band boxes, the hair trunk and the lank, glazed gripsack of our fathers. In many door yards the old style well-sweep still remains in use. One old dwelling, as black as coal, has an overhanging third story, supported by carved brackets; another has a row of small dormer windows in the front of its roof, which are the admiration of architects. But, above all, there is an air of innate connection and relationship between house and house and surroundings which a new house cannot have, and which makes the indefinable, but no less positive, physiogomy and atmosphere of the old home so gracious and so dignified. The giant trees protect it from sun and tempest; around and over it have grown vines and flowers, memories and traditions."\*

There are a score of business places, a Masonic hall, savings bank,

\* W. H. Downes, in *New England Magazine*.

several good manufacturing establishments, a fine town hall and Union school house, Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist and Catholic church edifices, and several thousand contented inhabitants, many leading retired lives.

The settlement of the village and the town are coeval, the place being founded in 1639. Their history is also practically the same as related in these pages. The event of founding Milford, as indicated by the 250th anniversary, was fitly celebrated August 28th, 1889, when the beautiful Memorial bridge at the foot of Broad street was dedicated in honor of the occasion.

Woodmont is a post office and station on the New Haven railroad in the eastern part of the town, near the Long Island sound. Extending to the beach and along the shore, a village of several hundred inhabitants, most of them summer residents only, has lately sprung up; but the improvements lately begun and projected will not only make this an attractive place of resort, but will also invite a settled population. In the past year some handsome residences were erected and the roads much improved.

This locality was long known as "Burwell's Farm," from the fact that large tracts of land were owned here by John Burwell, one of the first planters of Milford. He had a son, Lieutenant Samuel Burwell, and the latter's sons, Nathan and Samuel, were the first settlers of this part of the town, about 1690. They became well-to-do farmers, and at one time their descendants here were numerous; a few only remain.

In the northwestern part of the town, near the Housatonic river, Joseph Wheeler settled in 1705, and from that time the locality became known as Wheeler's Farm. Previously it was called the "Upper Meadows," and Sergeant Camp had hop yards there in the seventeenth century. The rich, alluvial lands were well adapted for their growth, and the fertility of the soil also attracted many good farmers to this section, which for many years was one of the best tilled in the town. Fine farm buildings were put up. At the river was formerly a small ship yard. In late years this has been an ordinary farming community.

Henry Tomlinson, who was by trade a weaver, was authorized in 1654 as the first keeper of an ordinary in Milford. His place was on the old county road, a dozen or more rods west of the meeting house. Not fulfilling the requirements of the town, he was succeeded in the course of a year by Richard Bryan, and that family kept the place many years. Others followed. In 1789 Andrew Clark was the keeper. There is a tradition that in that year General George Washington was a guest of the house, when, according to Lambert, the following incident occurred: "Washington, not much relishing his supper of boiled meat and potatoes, called for a bowl of milk, which was brought him, with a pewter spoon in it, having a broken handle. He



asked for a silver spoon, but was told that the house afforded none, whereupon he gave the servant maid a two-shilling piece, and told her to go and borrow one. She accordingly borrowed one for him at the minister's." David Butler was the last keeper of the old inn, when it was discontinued about 1824.

John Camp opened a tavern on lot No. 50, in the "West End," in 1705, and about 1710 Samuel Miles opened another public house in the village. As the travel by land increased these places had a good patronage. Some time about 1800 a tavern was opened at the east end of Washington bridge, on the Housatonic, which for a number of years was quite popular. Later, Benajah Thompson had a public house at Poconoc Point, which had a fine reputation, and fifty years ago was patronized as a sea-side resort. Later and more modern sea-side places were opened, nearer the village, on Burns' Point, and the former places have been discontinued.

At the beginning of the present century, when Broad street became a general thoroughfare for east and west travel, two public houses were opened on it, opposite each other and near the center of the village—the Milford House and the Washington House. The latter was on the south side of the street, and was kept by Captain Stephen Trowbridge. He was also a well-known sailor and sea captain, and as such crossed the Atlantic 100 times. The tavern was discontinued many years ago, but Captain Trowbridge lived until 1876, when he died at the age of 95 years.

Of the Milford House Nathan Merwin was the popular landlord fifty years ago and later. Since his time the house has been much enlarged, some of the most substantial alterations being made after the rebellion, by Andrew Hepburn, who had been a sutler in the army. It has been continuously used as a hotel, and has had a number of landlords.

When the town was settled the harbor was clear of obstructions, permitting vessels to land where is now Fowler's mill, where a wharf was built. Gradually the channel filled up and became so shallow that navigation was practically abandoned. Efforts were made to improve the harbor, and in 1877 the United States government caused the channel to be dredged, when immense quantities of mud were removed. At the same time a stone breakwater, about 300 yards long, and jetties were built at the mouth of Indian gulf. This being done, small vessels could again ascend to Baldwin's wharf.

The first merchant and trader was Alexander Bryan. As early as 1640 he sent a sloop to Boston, which was laden with furs he had bought of the Indians, and which returned with goods for the planters. In May, 1650, the town granted him a lot at the corner of Broad street and Dock lane, on which he built a store or warehouse. The same year he built a wharf at Dock lane, which he resigned to the

town in 1653 on condition that the town would keep it in repair. This was done, and for many years it was known as the Town Wharf. There were now two wharves, this one and the first one at Fowler's mill. In 1655 Richard Bryan, son of Alexander, was given liberty to build another store, 18 by 30 feet, on the opposite side of the lane. Below Alexander Bryan's store was the store and warehouse of William East, and near by was the tannery of Miles Merwin. These three merchants owned in 1675 two brigs and one sloop. The former were used in the West Indies trade, carrying thither horses, cattle, cornmeal and timber. Returning, they were laden with rum and molasses, and it is said that the New Haven planters first got their supplies here. The sloop was used in the Boston and coast trade by Alexander Bryan, whose credit with the merchants of the Bay was so high that his note of hand passed as current among them as bank bills of this day in our present trade.

About this time John Maltbie was also in trade. In 1685 Nicholas Camp built a store at the "West End," where he lived, and he became a well known business man of the town. "In 1696 Mungo Nisbett traded here, by way of New York."\*

In 1714 Samuel Clark was a merchant and bought Richard Bryan's store. In 1730 Peter Pierett, a Frenchman, came to Milford, where he was a merchant, and traded with France many years. He built the lower wharf, on the west side of the harbor, afterward purchased by Milford and known as the Town wharf. About the same time John Gibbs carried on a trade with Holland. Louis Lyron, another Frenchman, traded here about 1740. At this time the port of Milford was widely known at home and in foreign parts.

In 1790 Captain Charles Pond, a seafaring man, who had commanded the "New Defense" in 1779 as a privateer, and others engaged in trade, shipbuilding and merchandising, as Charles Pond & Co. In 1793 they built the wharf on Gulf Neck, where is now the Merwin oyster industry. In 1811 Adam Pond, a son of Captain Charles Pond, and others formed the firm of Pond, Fowler & Co., and continued in trade until 1823. He was a successful foreign trader, and was well known among the shippers of New York. Pond, Baldwin & Co. were also in trade until 1814, when the firm was dissolved. Later came Miles, Strong & Miles, who were largely engaged in the shipping trade until the failure of the firm in 1821, since which time there has been but little foreign trade with Milford.

Ships were built at Milford as early as 1690, by Bethuel Langstaff, who that year built a 150-ton brig for Alexander Bryan. In 1695 he built another vessel for Boston parties.

The "Sea Flower," built for Richard Bryan, was launched in 1717, and from that time, for a little more than one hundred years shipbuilding was one of the leading industries of the town. Nearly every

\* Lambert.

trader built his own vessels, and several yards were maintained at the village. A few small vessels were also built at Wheeler's Farm, on the Housatonic.

About 1760 Eli Gunn came to Milford and had a ship yard near his residence. In later times the principal ship yard was on the east side of the harbor, below Fowler's mill. Another yard was on the west side, between Dock lane and Wharf street.

Among the master builders were Isaac Jones, called "Boss" Jones, and "Boss" John Rhodes. As ship carpenters there were, among others, John Hepburn, William Tibbals, Newton Northrup, Nathan Bristol, John Bump, Samuel Greene, John Bassett, John Rood, Caleb Northrup, Isaac Bristol, Samuel B. Gunn and Asa Gnnn. Other ship builders were William Durand, David and William Atwater, Abraham Tomlinson and Farrand Clark.

Captain Noah Kelsey, who had a shop near the Episcopal church, made many of the vessel irons used. Two of the last vessels of any size launched were the "Isabella," in 1818, and the "Marcellus," in 1820. This was built for Captain David P. Halsey, but was sold to Captain Nathan Gillett. The builders were W. H. Fowler and D. L. Baldwin.

The venerable John W. Fowler says that in the period of Milford's greatest commercial activity, for about thirty years, ending in 1820, the following vessels were owned in Milford and sailed from that port:

Ships: "Hesperus," by Pond, Baldwin & Co.; "Garune," by Miles, Strong & Miles; "Chase," "Vaucher," "Hamlet," by Stephen A. and Isaac Treat. Brigs: "Charles," "Susan," "Martha," "Pond," by Pond, Baldwin & Co.; "Calena," "Behurin," by Tomlinson & Clark; "Wepowage," "Milford," by Miles, Strong & Miles; "Friendship," "Thomas," by S. A. & I. Treat; "Patriot," by William Durand.

The schooners built or sailing from Milford in the interests of the above were more than a dozen in number, and there was about the same number of sloops.

A number of seafaring men dwelt at Milford, and it has been estimated that the casualties of such a life caused more than one hundred persons to find their last resting places in the waters of the mighty deep. It should be noted in this connection that an unusual proportion of Milford's seamen became the commanders of their vessels, which commends the bravery and the intelligence of this class of citizens. Indeed, some of the best people of the town followed the sea, and "at one time nearly every house contained a retired sea captain or the memory of one." Among those who rose to the rank of captain were: Benedict Bull, James Bull, Freeman Bassett, Mix Bradley, Philip Bull, Nehemiah Bristol, Edward Brown, William Coggeshall, Farrand Clark, Freegift Coggeshall, Charles Coggeshall, William Coggeshall,

Jr., George Coggeshall,\* Isaac Dickinson, Samuel Dickinson, William Davidson, Howe Davidson, Samuel Davis, David Foster, Joseph Green, William Glenney, James Hitchcock, Richard Hepburn, David Hepburn, John Hepburn, William Larrabee, Daniel Miles, Isaac Miles, Daniel Mallory, Benajah Mallory, Robert Meadows, William Nott, Charles Pond, Charles H. Pond, Adam Pond, Peter Pond, Samuel Peck, Dan Peck, Joel Plumb, James Riley, Josiah Rogers, Stephen Stow, Anthony Stow, Samuel Stow, Samuel Stow, 2d, Phineas Stow, William Sanford, Frederick Stow, Elisha H. Stow, Henry Turner, Isaac Treat, William Tomlinson, Samuel Tibbals, David Treat, Stephen Trowbridge.

In the ordinary lines of merchandising, Abraham Tomlinson & Co. were in trade at the beginning of the century, and in 1802 David L. Baldwin was one of their clerks. He became one of Milford's merchants, and was in trade until 1854. Contemporary with him latterly were Mark Tibbals, John W. Merwin and A. Clark. Nathan Fenn, a later merchant, was killed by burglars who entered his store. P. S. Bristol and the Cornwalls were merchants of a later period, the latter continuing and having as contemporaries the Fords, Platts, Shepherds and Buckinghams.

About 1850 M. & J. A. Curtis opened a drug store, which has been carried on since 1865 by James T. Higby, now one of the oldest merchants in the village. On the 10th of December, 1887, a part of this business block was destroyed by fire. All trade is limited to local demand of the town, having a score of stores.

On the 9th of March, 1640, the planters arranged with William Fowler, one of the five judges and one of the chief men among them, to have a mill. An advantageous natural site, on the lowest power of the Wepawaug, with the perpetual use of the stream at that place, was granted him, and the mill was set going as early as September, 1640. The mill was estimated worth at least £180, and was the first in the county. The second one, at New Haven (Whitneyville), was built by

\* Captain George Coggeshall made 80 sea voyages between 1799 and 1854, and wrote a book in 1851, recounting his experiences. His literary ability was of no mean order, as will be seen by the following epitaph, which he wrote for his nephew, Captain Freegift Coggeshall:

- “ Here in this lonely, humble bed,  
 Where myrtle and wild roses grow,  
 A son of Neptune rests his head,  
 For, reader, 'tis his watch below.
- “ Long hath he done his duty well,  
 And weathered many a stormy blast;  
 But now, when gentle breezes swell,  
 He's safely moored in peace at last.
- “ Tread lightly, sailors, o'er his grave,  
 His virtues claim a kindred tear;  
 And yet why mourn a brother brave  
 Who rests from all his labors here?”

William Fowler, the son of the above William Fowler, in 1645. In this year (1645) the Milford mill was injured by a freshet, but was soon repaired, the town voting the help of the brethren to that end. At this place a grist mill has been continuously operated ever since, and the owners have always been members of the Fowler family. The present owner, William M. Fowler, obtained possession of the property in 1884, and soon thereafter erected the mill now standing on the original site, which has been thus occupied by five different mills. Another singular circumstance is that the present owner is the eighth William Fowler, in the ninth generation of the family, that has successfully carried on this mill property.

Soon after the grist mill was started a saw mill was added, but the latter was removed many years ago.

The mill site next above, on the Wepawaug, was improved in 1675. The town made an order, September 29th, 1674, when liberty was granted to Elder Buckingham and others to build a saw mill and a fulling mill at that point, and they were put up on the east side of the stream. In the month of December, 1702, the town requested the owners of this site to build a grist mill with at least two sets of stones, "one for English grain and the other for Indian grain, and a good boul't so ye men, if they wish, may boul't yr own floure." The mill was built on the southwest side of the stream, and is still continued. The saw mill was taken down in 1836 and a woolen mill erected in its place by Townsend, Dickinson & Co. For several years they made satinets on an extensive scale, when the mill was destroyed by fire. A smaller mill was then built, but the death of Dickinson soon brought this enterprise to an untimely end. Subsequently this building and others at the same place were used in the carriage business.

A mill was also early built on Beaver brook, west of the village. In May, 1689, Captain Samuel Eells, Timothy Baldwin and Samuel Couch were given liberty to build a fulling mill at that place, on Baldwin's land. Some time after the revolution the power was utilized for a grist mill, which was owned and run by the Prince family more than half a century, but has been disused many years.

On the East river the third grist mill in the town was built by John Plumb, the town granting him the necessary liberty in December, 1706. As conditions of this right he agreed to build a causeway and keep the same in repair, and to grind the grist of "the towns people in preference to those of strangers." The grist mill was allowed to go down, and about 1825 the power was used to saw stone for the Milford Marble Company, whose quarries were near this locality. The marble is of the kind called *Verde antique*, and was discovered in 1811 by Solomon Baldwin, at that time a student in Yale from Huntington. A company was formed to quarry the marble, and for some years it was actively engaged, when the quality no longer held out. From this quarry four chimney pieces were supplied for the Capitol at Washing-

ton. In later years small lumber mills have been carried on by the Clark Brothers and H. M. Rose, the stream furnishing limited power. In this part of the town the scenery is very attractive along the river.

On the 18th of February, 1714, liberty was granted to a company of forty persons to build a tide mill at the Indian Gulf outlet. This was kept up a number of years, and about the time of the revolution a new mill was built. The latter was swept away March 5th, 1843, and a new mill was built, which was last used for grinding barytes. Some time before the late war this was removed, and no mill has been there since that time.

In 1815 there were in Milford and in the Milford part of Orange six grist mills, seven saw mills, four fulling mills, one oil mill, two carding machines, one large woollen factory, and two ship yards.

It is said that among the early settlers there was a great want of mechanics, but upon proper encouragement by the town the various trades were soon represented. George Clark, Jr., was the carpenter; Nathaniel Baldwin the cooper; John Baldwin the tailor; John Smith, the blacksmith, having his shop near the town house; and Ephraim Strong was a later blacksmith. Edward Adams and Miles Merwin were the tanners. The latter's yard was near Bryan's Wharf, and the business was long carried on by his family. There were shoemakers, but it is said that "for fifty years there was no saddler in town; sheepskins were used for saddles, and in such demand that the Stratford people used to say, 'If the Devil should go into Milford in the shape of a lamb they would skin him to get his hide for a saddle.'"<sup>\*</sup>

Henry Tomlinson and Richard Holbrook were weavers, but in many families weaving was carried on, and the fulling mill put up in 1675 was the first in the colony. In 1720 Lewis Wilkinson had a clothier's shop on the island, below Meeting House bridge. An industry which was important, but which was discontinued so many years ago that few know that it was ever carried on, was brewing. In 1651 Edward Wooster, a brewer, had a hop yard on Mill river. He later had another yard in the lower part of the present town of Ansonia. Sergeant Camp, another brewer, had a hop yard on the Housatonic. Brewing houses were maintained until about 1750.

The manufacture of carriages was for many years an important industry in the town. About 1830 Dennis Beach and his brothers, Hammond and Harvey, began on a small scale in a shop near his residence. In 1837 they built the dam in the upper part of Milford village, and used its power in this industry, and continued a number of years. A little earlier, about 1834, Brown, Frazer & Co. put up carriage works on the site of the post office block, manufacturing for the Southern trade. Charles Pond Strong was also interested later. Operations were discontinued about 1847, when the shop was used for a cabinet factory a short time.

<sup>\*</sup>Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin.

In 1837 Rogers, Gardner & Davis had carriage works on Broad street, near the Trowbridge tavern, which passed to Isaac T. Rogers, who manufactured until his removal to Brooklyn, N. Y. Beecher & Miles, at the old fulling mill property, above Jefferson bridge, were the last to operate on an extensive scale, and continued until about 1853, when the industry here declined. When fully carried on several hundred men were employed, and Milford carriages had a splendid reputation in Southern and Western markets. Since the year named small shops only in these mechanic arts have been occupied.

Shoe manufacturing has for many years engaged the attention of some of the people of Milford. At first small shops were occupied, in which the uppers were cut and given out to be bound and trimmed at home, when the shoe was returned to the shop to be completed. In this way shoemaking was carried on by Samuel C. Glenney, John Smith, Miles Davidson, Jonah Platt, Joseph Merwin and others, a considerable business in the aggregate being done. In about 1852 the factory system was adopted by Davidson & Clark. During the war a brisk business was done, manufacturing army shoes, the firm of J. O. Silliman & Co., in the Merwin shop, being very active, and it was the first in the place to use machinery. Silliman, Glenney and some others moved to New York.

In 1855 Albert A. Baldwin engaged in shoe manufacturing, occupying a shop on the hill at the "West End," and having several apprentices. In 1865 he more fully adopted the factory system, and employed the machinery at that time available, working with success, so that larger accommodations were demanded. In February, 1875, a part of the spacious factory on Broad street was occupied. In 1885 it was enlarged to its present proportions—a four-story building, 35 by 100 feet, with an addition 40 by 60 feet. The motor is a 60 horse-power engine, and the factory as equipped with modern machinery, has a working capacity for 200 people. Many hundred pairs of women's fine grade shoes are daily made, and this establishment is one of the most successful of the kind in the county. Albert A. Baldwin has been continuously identified with this industry as the controlling head, but for a number of years has had Guy Lambkin, of Boston, as an associate partner, the firm being Baldwin & Lambkin. Distributing stores are maintained in Boston and New York, and a retail store in Milford.

In the northern part of the village a paper box factory was established by Payne & Todd. But after a few years the latter removed the interest to New Haven, and the building was enlarged for a shoe factory by Walp & Co. After occupying it a short time the interest was removed to Lynn, Mass., in 1890.

N. A. Baldwin, of Milford, was one of the pioneer manufacturers of straw goods for headwear, by machinery. In 1853 he began work experimentally in a small shop at Bryan Wharf. His operations soon convinced him that there was a new era for straw goods manufacture,

and that there was a possibility of one girl and the straw sewing machine doing as much work as could be done by twenty girls working by hand only. Acting upon this idea he caused the sewing machine to be still further perfected and had scores of them placed in position in his newly-built factory. Operations were now extensively carried on, sewing braided straw he imported from China and Japan. The business having assumed such large proportions, in 1866, it passed under the management of the Milford Straw-Sewing Machine Company, of which N. A. Baldwin was the treasurer and manager; and it so continued until the expiration of the Bosworth patents. In 1867-8 operations were so extensive that about 700 persons were employed and thousands of dozens of hats were fully finished each day. In later years the working force has not been so great, but with the aid of improved machinery the product still attains immense proportions. The factory buildings, erected and enlarged from time to time, form a plant which had, in 1890, an aggregate floor space 25 feet wide and three-quarters of a mile long. The main buildings are brick, and there is also a fine block of brick tenements. An immense warehouse affords storage for finished goods, which embrace a vast variety of styles and many qualities of products. The plant has its own wharf, and manufactures its own gas for heating and lighting purposes, the coal used being unloaded from barges in its yards direct, and heavy goods find shipment in the same way.

To the manufacture of straw goods was here added, in 1888, the production of floor matting, by machinery, operated by steam power, which has already become an important industry, and the first of the kind in the Union. The machines designed and here constructed weave goods far superior to hand work, and will permit a variety of styles which will have a marked effect upon the matting trade. Both foreign and domestic straws are used, and this interest is being steadily expanded. It is carried on by the Mitchell Manufacturing Company, incorporated May 28th, 1888, of which John M. Forbes, of New York, is president, and N. A. Baldwin, treasurer. Under his management it is becoming as great a success as the straw goods manufacture.

The Milford Steam Power Company was incorporated May 5th, 1873, with a capital stock of \$25,000, to encourage manufacturing interests to locate and operate in the village. Soon after the organization James T. Higby was chosen president and P. S. Bristol secretary and treasurer, and these officers have since been continued. Ground for a plant was purchased, upon which the company erected substantial brick factory buildings, having an aggregate length of several hundred feet, and 32 feet wide, and a 25 horse power steam engine was provided. This has been occupied by various interests. From 1873 until 1879 Henry G. Thompson and others there manufactured shoe lasting machinery, removing to New Haven in the latter year.



Next the occupants were the Automatic Tool Company, removed here from New York, and which remained about a year. Patent nippers and wire cutters were made.

The Connecticut Shoe Company, incorporated in March, 1882, for the manufacture of patent horse shoes, were the next to occupy the buildings, under a lease from the Power Company. They soon removed to a distant state. In 1884 an industry was there started as the Milford Harness Company, which name was changed to the Milford Manufacturing Company. Hames and saddlery hardware were made. In the summer of 1890 this company removed to New Jersey, and in July of the same year the buildings were taken as the works of the National Electrical Manufacturing Company of New York city. The capital stock is \$200,000, and all kinds of electrical appliances are manufactured. J. G. Noyes is the general manager of the company, and F. A. Lane the superintendent at Milford. About 100 skillful workmen are employed, and this promises to become an important industry.

The seed growing interests of Milford have, in the past six years, attained generous proportions. The soil and climate of the town are well adapted, and with skillful cultivation good returns have been secured. Seeds were grown in this town and Orange many years ago, but lately a specialty has been made in growing onion, turnip and sweet corn seeds for the leading seedmen of the country. The product ranks high, the seeds here grown maturing finely. A number of farmers devote attention to this interest, growing seeds for local seedsmen more extensively engaged, such as Charles W. Beardsley, Dennis Fenn, Everett B. Clark, Alburtis N. Clark, George F. Platt and others of Milford; and S. D. Woodruff and others of Orange.

The oyster interests of Milford are important. The early settlers had a considerable source of food supply in the fish, clams and oysters afforded by the coasts of the town, and in more recent years the cultivation and shipment of oysters, taken from beds off the sound shore, have been very profitable. So important was this matter, as early as 1764, that the town passed laws regulating the time and manner of taking oysters. In that year a penalty of £1 was imposed for every act of catching in the months between April and September. Subsequently this has remained a matter for much legislation, both by the state and the town, and many regulations have been made to protect the interest.

Oysters were especially plentiful many years ago at Poconoc Point, and the lands laid out there in 1752 were called the "Oyster Banks." Clams were also abundant, and the Naugatuck and Pootatuck Indians used to resort there yearly, for the purpose (as they expressed it, "to salt,") of catching clams, which they dried and hung on strings to be carried inland, where they used them with their fresh meat food. Later, the whites visited this point and remained a few days, until a

supply of oysters could be obtained. Huts covered with moss and sea-weed were occupied by those engaged in the fishing business, and in 1836 it was said of this locality: "There is a street containing about 15 or 20 huts of this description, covered with sea-weed, etc., which are quite novel in their appearance. About 50 or 60 persons, engaged in the oyster business, reside in these habitations during the winter months, and four or five have their families with them."\*

Along the east shore of the Housatonic river, from this point northward in the town, were also formerly valuable shad fisheries. Many seines were cast in the months of April, May and June, and vast quantities of that excellent fish were taken. But these industries have almost wholly passed away. Both oysters and fish have become scarce, owing to the changes in the beach at the Point and the defilement of the water in the river by factories on the streams above. At other points along the shore the natural oyster beds have been much depleted, but oysters and clams of good quality may still be obtained.

With a view of increasing the product of oysters by artificial planting, the Gulf Pond Oyster Company was formed after the late war, having among its members William S. Pond, Edward G. Burns, William M. Merwin and others. The gulf was planted with oysters, and arrangements were made to regulate the flow of the tide so as to promote their growth. But the waters were too muddy and shallow, and the experiment was not a success. But this venture led one of the old company, William M. Merwin, to engage in deep-water planting, a mile or more off the Milford coast, and after some effort he succeeded in establishing a large and profitable industry. His beds yield annually thousands of bushels of fine oysters, which are dredged and brought to Merwin's wharf (where was the old Pond or Gulf wharf), where they are prepared for shipment to northern markets. Two small steamers are kept in this service, and the business on an extended scale is still carried on by Mr. Merwin and his sons.

A menhaden fish rendering establishment at Welch's Point has had a checkered and unsavory existence at other points along the coast. Although an industry of some importance, it is so located that its operations have been enjoined as a nuisance.

The Milford Savings Bank was chartered in 1872, and organized January 18th, 1875, with the following officers: President, Isaac T. Rogers; vice-president, Albert A. Baldwin; treasurer, Phineas S. Bristol; secretary, John W. Fowler. In 1890 George M. Gunn succeeded Colonel Rogers as president, but the secretary and the treasurer have continuously served in those offices. The bank was opened for business in P. S. Bristol's store in February, 1875, but in 1887 the present banking house on Broad street was occupied. The bank has been a convenience to the village, and has been successfully conducted. In January, 1890, the deposits amounted to more than \$210,000, and there was a surplus fund of \$18,556.75.

\* Barber's Hist. Col., 238.

An earlier banking enterprise was carried on a short time about 1835 by the Milford Banking and Mining Company. The institution was known as the Phœnix Bank, and it was mainly a bank of issue, and was based on the mines at West Haven. Charles Clark was the cashier, and Doctor Andrew Franks the president, representing foreign stockholders. The venture was not successful.

Among the newspaper ventures *The Milford Telegram* is given the priority. It was begun in January, 1873, by George H. Carpenter. After being issued a few years, the name was changed to the *Milford Sentinel*, and in 1876 C. D. Page was the editor. Not receiving sufficient patronage, it was discontinued not long thereafter.

The Milford post office was established at the beginning of the present century, and William Durand was a pioneer postmaster. Later, Jireh Bull was the postmaster, serving until 1824, the office being kept on Broad street. William Strong was the postmaster in 1825 and later; Doctor L. N. Beardsley from 1841 to 1845. In the latter year D. L. Hubbell was appointed, and for three years had the office at the corner of Wharf and Broad streets, then at John W. Merwin's store, where letter boxes were first used, about fifty boxes being provided. William Brotherton was appointed in 1854, and held the office until 1861. The subsequent appointees have been: Thomas Cornwall, 1861-6; William Brotherton, 1866-9; Joseph L. Clark, 1869-87; William B. Brotherton, since 1887. The office is in a well-appointed building, has eight mails per day, and its business is steadily increasing.

The general assembly of 1838 authorized a fire company at Milford, which was organized in 1839 as a volunteer association—the Milford Fire Company No. 1, or the Wepowage Company. Of this body Theodore Buddington was the foreman. Subsequently in the same capacity were Wilson Plumb, David Miles and Mark Tibbals, and the company included some of the leading men of the village.

The first engine proving too large, it was returned to New York and a gallery or side-bar engine, requiring half a dozen men on each side to operate it, was procured. This was used a number of years, when a second-hand engine was purchased at New Haven, also like the first, with moneys raised by subscription.

The town having taken charge of the apparatus, sold both the old machines and had the present Button hand engine built to order for \$1,800. This is called the "Arctic," and is a good machine, capable of throwing three streams to a perpendicular height of 150 feet. The company has two service hose carts and a fine glass hose parade carriage, the latter purchased in the fall of 1890. The other equipments are ample for the service required. The company is fully manned, having 75 members and Charles H. Munson as the foreman.

In 1854 the town appointed William S. Pond, David Miles and Samuel B. Baldwin as a committee to select a site for an engine house.

This was built on the north side of the railroad. In 1857 it was enlarged by the addition of fifteen feet to the rear. It has since been much improved. The second story has been handsomely fitted up as the company's parlor. In 1886 a good bell was placed in the tower.

The town has been exempt from general conflagrations, but in the fall of 1886 there were a number of incendiary fires, confined mostly to detached buildings.

The Milford and Orange Agricultural Society was incorporated in 1866, George Cornwall being a prime mover in its organization. For several years fairs were held on Milford Green, but in 1872 fine grounds were secured and fitted up on the "Meadow Side" farm of Nathan G. Pond, in the southwestern part of the village. A half-mile track was laid and considerable interest created in speeding horses, and the exhibition of the finer grades of live stock. A declining interest compelled the holding of fairs to be discontinued in 1881, and since that the existence of the society has been nominal only. At the new grounds several very interesting and successful fairs were held.

Prior to 1800 a number of Masons resided in the town as members of King Hiram Lodge, of Derby, which claimed jurisdiction over this territory. About the beginning of the present century an effort was made to establish a Lodge at Milford, but the purpose was not carried out, and there was no such organization until Ansantawae Lodge, No. 89, F. and A. M., was instituted October 21st, 1859. There were but eight charter members, namely, Daniel Buckingham, John N. Buckingham, Thomas A. Dutton, Frank Mallett, David Miles, James Sweet, Harvey Treat and Stephen Trowbridge. To this small number have been added more than 200 members, the number belonging in 1890 being 112. Doctor Thomas A. Dutton was the first master, and also served in 1860 and 1866. Other masters have been the following, in order of service: John N. Buckingham, David Miles, Lockwood Burns, Alfred B. Mallett, Charles Davidson, Jr., Nathan E. Smith, Charles Van Horn, Phineas S. Bristol, Colin A. Campbell, William A. Bull, Samuel N. Oviatt, George H. Kingsley, Fred J. Pope, H. D. Simonds, George A. Roberts, Colin A. Campbell, Elbert D. Ford; the latter serving since 1888.

After meeting nearly twenty years in a rented hall, the Lodge determined in 1878 to build its own home. A desirable lot on the north side of Broad street was secured, and the corner stone laid August 6th, 1878. The building is a substantial two-story structure of brick, and has an attractive exterior. The Lodge room, in the second story, is handsomely furnished, and the value of the Lodge property approximates \$10,000. Ansantawae ranks as one of the leading Masonic bodies in the county, and since March 12th, 1889, has been an incorporated body.

Lucia Chapter, No. 25, Eastern Star, was organized April 28th, 1886, and formally instituted January 6th, 1887. Its semi-monthly meetings are attended with interest.

Wepowage Lodge, No. 14, I. O. O. F., was instituted July 11th, 1844. Among the charter members were John N. Buckingham, Benjamin D. Wells, F. C. Dayton and William Bush. The latter survived in 1890, being more than 85 years of age. The meetings of the Lodge have not been interrupted since the date of the charter. In July, 1890, the number belonging was 155.

The first meetings were held in the basement of the Plymouth church, from which they were moved to a room over G. & M. Tibbals' about 1849. This place was occupied until 1880, when the present hall on Broad street was secured and furnished at a cost of \$1,000. The regalia of the Lodge is valued at \$900, and there is a benefit fund of nearly \$8,000.

For 25 years David Miles was the secretary of the Lodge, serving until 1876. Since that time, Edward G. Miles, his son, has filled that office. William Bush was the treasurer more than 30 years, and was succeeded by Sanford Hawkins, since in office.

In 1890 the Lodge had 53 past grands, as follows: William Bush, C. N. Peck, Mark Tibbals, A. S. Bristol, Samuel C. Peck, Samuel A. Miles, George N. Osborne, L. M. Welch, Ralph W. Chidsey, Samuel R. Baldwin, Isaac C. Smith, Charles S. Bottsford, Ephraim Curtiss, Nathan C. Platt, Charles P. Morris, Theodore Platt, Charles M. Smith, James G. Peck, Edward G. Miles, J. F. Canfield, Henry E. Smith, Elliott N. Smith, Jasper L. Miles, T. F. Camp, John W. Buckingham, De Witt C. Beardslee, Owen T. Clark, D. P. Marvin, A. H. Bristol, E. C. Platt, S. H. Baldwin, George E. Baldwin, L. H. Northrop, William B. Bush, Samuel N. Higby, H. E. Baldwin, Alfred Plumb, Sanford Hawkins, Charles W. Platt, Robert W. Clark, George S. Gillett, R. R. Hepburn, Noyes R. Bailey, E. B. Heady, A. B. Gardner, F. E. Bradley, Andrew Clark, A. C. Tibbals, S. R. Smith, L. M. Fairbanks, W. S. Putney, W. M. Irving, W. S. Clark, E. J. Hungerford.

George Van Horn\* Post, No. 39, G. A. R., was organized at Milford June 29th, 1871, with twelve charter members. The Post has since prospered, enough members being mustered to make the number 53 in November, 1890. It was largely instrumental in the erection of the soldiers' monument, holding a fair in the winter of 1887-8, at which \$2,100 was realized. The remainder of the amount needed, about \$2,800, was raised by subscription, largely by the members of the Post. The following have been the commanders: 1871-2, John W. Buckingham; 1873, C. I. Isbell; 1874, George E. Tilton; 1875, E. B. Baldwin; 1876-80, John W. Buckingham; 1881, Charles W. Ford; 1882, John W. Buckingham; 1883, Edgar Van Horn; 1884, Charles J. Morris; 1885-7, Wallace S. Chase; 1888, George W. Coy; 1889, Nelson L. Stone; 1890, S. A. Warburton.

\* Named for George Van Horn, one of the first at Milford to enlist in Company D, Connecticut Volunteers, and was at the battle of Bull Run. Re-enlisted in First Connecticut Light Artillery, and served to the close of the war. Being ill, he took a voyage and died at sea, October 3d, 1866, aged 25 years.

The George Van Horn Relief Corps, No. 33, was organized May 11th, 1888, with twelve members, which number has been more than doubled.

The Milford soldiers' monument was dedicated August 30th, 1888, with impressive ceremonies, which were witnessed by a large concourse of people. Governor Lounsbury and his staff were in attendance; Isaac C. Smith was the grand marshal, and Judge A. H. Fenn made an address. The well arranged decorations, consisting of thousands of flags and Japanese lanterns, added to the beauty of the occasion.

The monument occupies a central location on Broad street, and stands on a mound, graded and surrounded by granite coping. Approaching it are wide concrete walks. It is a beautiful piece of workmanship, of Ryegate granite, weighing about 37 tons, arranged as four bases, inscribed die, plinth, second die and pedestal, on which is a life-size figure of a soldier at "parade rest," and facing east. On the same side of the monument is the inscription "Gettysburg," over the national coat of arms, in relief, and underneath is "1888." On the east die are the words:

"To the bravery of the men who risked their lives that the nation might live—1861—1865."

On the west side of the monument, on the second die, is the word "Appomatox," over the Grand Army badge, in bold relief. A lower inscription is, "Erected by George Van Horn Post, No. 39, G. A. R., and Friends."

On the north side is "Fort Fisher," over a fowl anchor and cannon balls, in relief; and on the south, "Port Hudson," with crossed cannon, cut in relief.

The monument cost complete about \$5,000, and is not only artistically attractive, but very substantial.

The revolutionary soldiers' monument is in the southwest corner of the Milford cemetery. It is about 30 feet high, and the material is Portland free stone of a brownish color. It was erected under an act of the general assembly, passed in May, 1852, which appropriated \$600 for that object, and appointed Charles H. Pond, John K. Bristol and John W. Fowler as a local committee to carry out the provisions of the act. The people of Milford also contributed labor and aided the project in other ways. The corner stone was laid October 28th, 1852, in the presence of 3,000 people, by Governor Seymour. Lieutenant-Governor C. H. Pond read a narrative, detailing some incidents in the history of the unfortunate soldiers, whose memory was thus commemorated.

On the south side of the monument are the arms of the state and the following words, giving the story of the memorial:

SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.  
1776.

IN HONOR OF

Forty-six American Soldiers, who sacrificed their lives in struggling for the Independence of their country, this Monument was erected in 1852, by the joint lib-

erality of the General Assembly, the people of Milford and other contributing friends.

Two hundred American soldiers, in a destitute, sickly and dying condition, were brought from a British Prison ship, then lying near New York, and suddenly cast upon our shore from a British cartel ship, on the first of January, 1777.

The inhabitants of Milford made the most charitable efforts for the relief of the strangers; yet notwithstanding all their kind ministrations in one month these forty-six died and were buried in one common grave.

Their names and residences are inscribed on this MONUMENT.

Who shall say that REPUBLICS are ungrateful?

None of these unfortunates was from the county, but most of them were from this state or New England. A few only were from other states. It is said of these soldiers "that on being cast ashore as many as could traveled to town, in the snow; those who could not walk were conveyed to the town house, which was converted into a hospital, and some were quartered in charitable families."\*

Captain Stephen Stow, one of Milford's citizens, was especially active in ministering to these poor men, doing so at the sacrifice of his own life. It was but proper, therefore, that his name should also appear upon this monument, and July 11th, 1872, the legislature so ordered. The inscription on the east side, as placed there by Committeemen Phineas S. Bristol, Samuel B. Gunn and James W. Beach, is as follows:

In Memory of  
Capt. Stephen Stow,  
of Milford,

Who died Feb. 8, 1777, aged 51 years.

To administer to the wants and soothe the miseries of these sick and dying soldiers was a work of extreme self-denial and danger, as many of them were suffering from loathsome and contagious maladies.

Stephen Stow voluntarily left his family to relieve these suffering men, he contracted disease from them, died and was buried with them. He had already given four sons to serve in the War for Independence. To commemorate his self-sacrificing devotion to his country and to humanity, the Legislature of Connecticut resolved that his name should be inscribed

Upon this Monument.

The graves of these men and of Captain Stow are in the southern part of the cemetery, near the monument, but are otherwise unmarked.

Names of soldiers, 1861-5, buried at Milford: Augustus Clark, 15th C.V.; George Prince, 15th C.V.; Hezekiah E. Smith, 27th C.V.; George Van Horn, 1st Light Battery; Henry A. Downs, 10th C. V.; Treat A. Mark, 27th C. V.; George H. Glenney, 10th C. V.; Samuel C. Glenney, 1st Heavy Artillery; Chauncey S. Baldwin, 15th C. V.; William D. Trowbridge, 23d N. Y. V.; Sidney H. Plumb, 27th C. V.; Charles E. Cornwall, 27th C. V.; Lewis W. Nettleton, 15th C. V.; DeWitt Baldwin, N. Y. V.; Theodore M. Clark, 15th C. V.; Noyes A. Treat, 10th C.

\* Barber's Historical Col., p. 583.

V.; Thomas Tuthill, 6th N. Y. V.; Elliott W. Nettleton, 20th C. V.; Luke Stowe, 1st C. Heavy Artillery; William A. Northrop, 13th C. V.; Charles Robinson, 1st N. J. V.; Chester Peck, 13th C. V.; Thomas Williams, 9th N. Y. V.; George W. Hine, 27th C. V.; William H. Harris, 12th C. V.; Sidney Stowe, 93d Ohio V.; William L. Graham, 1st Light Battery; Wallace W. Graham, 27th C. V.; Brainard Smith, 10th C. V.; George T. Peck, 10th C. V.; Smith Canfield, 12th C. V.; John H. Baldwin, 164th Ohio V.; Dwight A. Rallis, 29th C. V.; Charles H. R. Bottsford, 15th C. V.; Thomas Haley, 15th C. V.; Marcus Higby, 17th C. V.; John G. Clark, 27th C. V.; Russell Whitcomb, regiment unknown.

In the South are interred the following Milford soldiers: Elliott W. Beach, 10th C. V.; Samuel Clark, 27th C. V.; George W. Manville, 15th C. V.; Joseph Wilson, U. S. Regulars; James McGuinness, 15th C. V.; Carl Michael, 27th C. V.; Erasmus Oviatt, 10th C. V.; Horace Lawden, unknown; Levi Summers, unknown; Victor Woods, unknown.

The early inhabitants of the town took an especial interest in education, and that matter was held to be of importance next to the church. Jasper Gunn, one of the first settlers and the first physician, was also the first teacher. Previous to 1656 Richard Bryan also instructed the youth of the Milford planters. A Latin school was early maintained, and it appears that more attention was paid to higher education in schools than to primary instruction, which most likely was imparted at home. In December, 1696, the town voted that a school should be kept a whole year, and that the selectmen were to provide an "able teacher." To carry out this purpose £30 was appropriated. Evidently the school was a success, for in 1697 it was voted "there should be thirty-five pounds allowed out of the town treasury to maintain a Latin school, the honorable Governor and the Rev. Samuel Andrew to attend to the business." The town also ordered "that the Selectmen should see that the school is attended by such scholars as need learning." Reverend Samuel Andrew was one of the most earnest patrons of education in the colony, and largely through his efforts Yale College was established. When he was rector of that institution he had the senior class at Milford several years.

In 1699 the town voted £40 for the support of schools. Of this sum £12 were to be used to keep up a winter school at the West End, and liberty was granted to the inhabitants of that part of the town to build a school or town house. The school at the East End was now kept up all the year. Fifty years later, in 1750, a school tax of 40 shillings was levied on every £1,000 in the grand levy, and amounts paid by the inhabitants of the Amity Society, Bryan's Farm, Wheeler's Farm and Burwell's Farm were to be returned to them, so that schools could be set up in their own localities. This was done, and about that period the town had at least six schools.

In November, 1797, the town was formed into a school society, and officers were appointed to receive the moneys accruing to the town



from the sale of Western lands belonging to the state. Of this board Stephen Gunn was the treasurer, and Gideon Buckingham the clerk.

The school in the village was usually kept in the town house,\* and even to this day the school building and the town hall are practically under one roof. But in addition to the public schools, select instruction was imparted, and in 1810 the Milford Academy was erected. This was a frame house which stood on the hillside on the east of the Wepawaug, between the two meeting houses. From its opening in 1810, to 1825, Elijah Bryan was the good but stern teacher. Later, Oliver H. Hammond and Jonas French taught there acceptably. After the public schools were elevated to a higher standard it was no longer kept up. In this period Reverend Bezaleel Pinneo had a number of private students, fitting some thirty boys for college between 1800 and 1845.

On the first of April, 1875, all the school districts of the town were abolished and a new district formed of the consolidated schools, ordinary schools to be held in Nos. 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11, and a graded school to be established at Milford village. A board of education was chosen, composed of twelve members, one from each of the former districts. The town house was ordered to be enlarged, and Isaac T. Rogers, Nathan C. Tomlinson, C. F. Bosworth, James A. Smith, Samuel N. Beecher, Albert A. Baldwin and Nathan E. Smith were appointed a building committee. They reported December 27th, 1875, that their work was finished and that the cost of the building and the furnishing of the same was \$15,934.53. More recently the building has been enlarged and improved, and is now commodious and attractive. Six schools are taught in this building, and from the high school half a dozen pupils are graduated yearly. About 450 pupils are registered annually, and the schools are maintained at an outlay of more than \$5,000 per year, more than three-fifths of which is drawn from the town treasury.

As adjuncts of the schools and the churches libraries were established at different periods, and some of them were long successfully maintained. The Milford Library was formed in 1745 by the First Church Society, and had a good collection of books, most of them treating on theological subjects. It was kept up about one hundred years, but in its latter existence did not have many books, in consequence of the relaxed vigilance in keeping up the library.

The Associate Library was established in March, 1761, mainly by members of the Second Society. It had fewer books than the older library, but they covered a wider range of subjects. After about sixty years of usefulness it was dissolved.

In later years a number of libraries have been formed, but which were, after the lapse of a few years, allowed to go down. The Milford Lyceum Library has recently been incorporated. It has a good selection of books and the promise of a successful future.

\* See Town Houses, etc.

The citizens of Milford claim, with a reasonable degree of pride, that an unusual proportion of its inhabitants were men of liberal education, who graduated from some of the leading colleges of the Union, by far the greatest proportion from Yale. The subjoined list gives the names of many who took degrees in institutions of learning, like Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Trinity and Oberlin, in periods of time from 1668 to the present. Most of these names have been taken from the Reverend Erastus Scranton's MSS.: Samuel Andrew, Samuel Andrew, Jr., Reverend Thomas Buckingham, Reverend Daniel Buckingham, Reverend Stephen Buckingham, Gideon Buckingham, Benedict Bull, William Bryan, David Baldwin, Joseph Bryan, Isaac Baldwin, William Bristol, Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin, D. W. Baldwin, Reverend John Gunn Baird, George William Baird, Dennis Beach, Doctor Ferdinand Beach, Walter Beach, Henry Baldwin, Reverend Cornelius Bristol, Doctor George L. Beardsley, Doctor William Beardsley, Reverend Thomas Canfield, Doctor Edward Carrington, Thomas Clark, John Camp, Joseph Clark, Nicholas Camp, George Clark, Jr., Samuel Carrington, Abijah Carrington, John Clark, Gamaliel Clark, John Churchill, Reverend John Eells, Nathaniel Eells, John Eells, Colonel Benjamin Fenn, Phineas Fisk, Benjamin Fisk, Nathan Fenn, Daniel Fannon, Nathaniel Farrand, Daniel Farrand, Franklin H. Fowler, Reverend Joseph Fowler, W. H. N. Ford, Nathaniel Gunn, George Miles Gunn, Doctor John Herpin, John Herpin, Jr., Reverend Jonathan Ingersoll, Jared Ingersoll, David Ingersoll, David Ingersoll 2d, David B. Ingersoll, Jonathan Law, Richard Law, John Law, Reverend N. T. Merwin, Reverend Henry G. Marshall, D. P. Merwin, Colonel Roger Newton, Christopher Newton, Reverend John Prudden, Job Prudden, Nehemiah Prudden, Timothy Pinneo, Otis Pinneo, Ebenezer Pinneo, John Plumb, Joseph Platt, Charles H. Pond, Henry Platt, Robert T. Platt, Ephraim Strong, Joseph Smith, Reverend Samuel Treat, Robert Treat, Esq., Reverend Solomon Treat, Robert Treat, Jr., Esq.; Reverend Richard Treat, Charles Treat, Richard Treat, D. D., Samuel Treat, Bethuel Treat, Abner L. Train, Zachariah Whitman, 1st, Elnathan Whitman, Zachariah Whitman, Reverend Samuel Whittlesey, Samuel Whittlesey, Esq., Reverend Daniel Welch, Reverend Whitman Welch, Gideon Woodruff, Reverend Joseph Whiting.

In addition to these were others highly educated, as Captain John Astwood, who had a classical education. He was one of the first judges. Going to London on business for the colony, he died there about 1653. Reverend John Sherman also had a superior education. From him, in line of descent, came Roger Sherman; and from George Clark came Abraham Clark, of New Jersey, another of the signers of the declaration of independence.

Three of the foregoing were governors of the state. Robert Treat, the first, came with Mr. Prudden to Milford. At the first meeting of the planters he was chosen to assist in surveying and laying out the

township. He was one of the five judges, and in 1661 was chosen a magistrate of the New Haven colony, and continued in that office four years. In 1664, through his influence and that of Benjamin Fenn, Milford was induced to break off from the New Haven colony and join the Connecticut colony, and soon the union of all the colonies was effected. He served in King Philip's war as a major of Connecticut troops. In 1683 he was elected governor of the colony and served 15 years. He was a man of superior parts, and lived to be more than 88 years of age, dying in 1710.

The second governor from this town was Jonathan Law, son of Jonathan and Sarah (Clark) Law, of this town. He was born in 1674 and graduated from Harvard in 1695. Three years later he commenced the practice of law at Milford, and acquired a good reputation as a counsellor. He was chosen a deputy governor, in which office Robert Treat had also served, and was elected to the office of governor in 1741, and annually thereafter until his death in November, 1750. Charles H. Pond was elected lieutenant governor in April, 1853, and upon the resignation of Governor Thomas Seymour, served as governor for eleven months. He died in 1860.

Captain Samuel Eells was an attorney in the town, and was an important man in its affairs. Gideon Buckingham was also a man of note, whose counsel was much sought, and the memory of the pious Roger Newton still continues. He was judge of the court of common pleas 33 years, and until his death, in 1771, in the 87th year of his age. It was said of him that "Newton, as steel inflexible from right, in Faith, in Law, in Equity, in Fight." Others of the foregoing were counsellors at law, and in 1890 those in that profession at Milford were: George M. Gunn, Henry C. Platt, William B. Stoddard, Henry Stoddard and Frederick W. Babcock.

Notwithstanding Milford is a remarkably healthy town, and has been exempt from epidemic diseases to an unusual degree, it has always had its full quota of physicians. Among the first settlers was Doctor Jasper Gunn, who was also a planter and the school teacher. Doctor John Durand also practiced here in the seventeenth century, then removed to Derby. Doctor John Fisk was here soon after. Doctor John Herpin, a native of France, was here for 50 years, until his death in November, 1765, at the age of 74 years. "He practiced physick and surgery in this place with distinguished reputation," if the inscription on his tombstone can be believed. He evidently prospered, for in 1725, ten years after his location, he purchased the Richard Bryan place, which was owned by the Herpins until 1785, when it became the property of Captain Charles Pond, a ship master, who was the father of Governor Charles H. Pond. It was known as the Pond Mansion until about 1860, and was one of the historic houses of the place.

Other physicians have been: Doctors Ezekiel Newton, Zebulon Gillett, James Clark, Elias Carrington, Samuel Whittlesey, Caleb Aus-

tin, John Rossiter, Abraham Tomlinson, John Carrington, Charles Beardsley, Elijah F. Bryan, Andrew French, Joseph Tomlinson, Lucius N. Beardsley, Thomas A. Dutton, Hull Allen. The latter still lives in the town, very aged, but has not been in active practice for some years. Doctor W. H. Andrews, who died in January, 1890, practiced here 16 years as an allopath. Others at present at Milford, in the practice of the same school of medicine, are Doctor E. B. Heady, Doctor Edwin C. Beach and Doctor F. Bayard Jackman. Doctor W. L. Putney is the homeopath; and others of that school were Doctors Reed, E. P. Gregory, Charles Sterling and Charles Bray.

From 1712 to 1720 Doctor Andrew Warner was a botanic physician, and was called the "Indian doctor," because he used herbs only.

In 1836 Doctor Edwin Woodruff, a Thompsonian, had a large practice in Milford.

Milford was founded as a religious community. Many of its early settlers had, in the old country, been the parishioners of the first minister of the town, and came with him or followed him to the new world. They were bound to him and to one another by the ties of association and some by family connections, which were so strong that they cheerfully accepted the privations which awaited them if they could remain under the leadership of their beloved minister. Reverend Peter Prudden was a worthy leader in such a movement. His judgment had been matured by age, and he was also well educated. He had, before his coming, wealth, influence and position in England, and among his hearers in Herefordshire were many persons of distinction and wealth. His was an animated and fervent nature, which would naturally attract and hold genial friends as warm personal followers. Hence, when because of his "non-conformity," he was driven from his station by persecution, whence he fled to New England, a devoted band went with him, and others later followed. Being desirable citizens, they were besought to remain in Massachusetts, and the records of Dedham show that land was there apportioned to Mr. Prudden and 15 of his followers, which they did not accept. They decided to cast their lot farther to the westward, and joined Eaton and his associates in the search for a new home in what is now New Haven county. Thus we find them, April 18th, 1638, with Mr. Davenport and his adherents, observing their first Sabbath in their chosen territory by worshipping God under the spreading branches of a friendly oak at New Haven. In the morning Mr. Davenport preached, and in the afternoon, at the same place, Mr. Prudden discoursed from the text Matt. 3:3: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of Lord and make His paths straight."

Until a permanent place could be gotten for the Prudden colony, they abode at New Haven, keeping themselves distinct, in that part known as the Herefordshire Quarter. Mr. Prudden, meantime, was preaching for the church at Wethersfield, where he also so warmly

attached some of the principal settlers of that place that when he left they followed him, "that they might enjoy his pious and fervent meditations." "It was thus that Gov. Robert Treat, John Astwood, Jasper Gunn, the Rev. John Sherman and others came to Milford." The number at New Haven was also augmented by new arrivals from Essex and York counties.

The selection and purchase of a home for the Herefordshire people (which was consummated in the latter part of February, 1639), and the discussion of the best methods of church and civil government, had earnestly engaged the attention of the people at New Haven in the intervening period. Grave questions were to be considered and decided. It was desired that justice should be done to all who had assumed or should assume a part in this project of founding a new government and a new church, but it had already become apparent that there should also be a restricting qualification before a full voice in all the affairs should be granted. Most were disposed to limit voting and office holding to those who were approved in matters of personal piety, *i. e.*, church members, but Reverend Samuel Eaton stood for the principle that all proprietors should have a vote. Davenport, and it is believed, Prudden, stood for the former qualification, and their views prevailed. Davenport held that as they had come as reformers they should go to the full length of their convictions; that hardly any reformation went beyond where it was left by the original reformers; and that those coming after them might not be able to carry out the measures which they conceived were right, but which, through motives of policy, brought about by the circumstances of settlement, etc., they were asked to modify.

This vexed question being out of the way, as finally decided at the meeting, June 4th, 1639, at the "great barn" of Robert Newman, in which all the free planters of New Haven, Guilford and Milford participated, and where other important matters were also considered, the way was opened for the formation of a church society. A preliminary step was the selection of seven of the best and most tried men, as a basis upon which the membership should be built. Upon these "seven pillars" rested all the care and responsibility of examining and passing on the fitness of the succeeding members. A covenant, embodying the principles of belief as expressed in the preliminary meeting, was also prepared, and the 22d day of August, 1639, selected as the time for organizing both Mr. Davenport's and Mr. Prudden's churches.

The council called for this occasion embraced the neighboring churches, and was also held in Mr. Newman's "mighty barn," in New Haven. The "seven pillars" selected for each church now appeared before the council and congregation, and after giving their religious experience and belief and reciting the covenant, were taken by the

hand by members of the council, as a sign of fellowship, and the organization was complete.

Mr. Prudden's church became known as the First Church of Christ, at Milford, of which it is recorded: "The Church of Christ at Milford was first gathered at New Haven upon Aug. 22, 1639. The persons first joyning in the formation were those whose names are next under mentioned. Peter Prudden, Zachariah Whitman, William Fowler, John Astwood, Edmond Tapp, Thomas Buckingham, Thomas Welsh."

To these "seven pillars" other members were added from time to time, six at New Haven before the removal to Milford. At the latter place William East was the first received, March 8th, 1640.\*

It is probable that the Reverend Peter Prudden occasionally preached before the removal to Milford, the following March, but he was not formally ordained as the pastor until April 18th, 1640. His own record of the event is in the following words: "At Milford, I, Peter Prudden was called to ye office of a Pastour in this church, and ordayned at New Haven, by Zachariah Whitman, William Fowler, Edmond Tapp, designed by ye church for that work; Zach. Whitman being ye moderator for that meeting in a day of solmn humiliation, upon ye 3d Saturday in April, being, I remember, ye 18th day of ye month, 1640."

The ordination took place at New Haven, probably for the convenience of the clergymen who wished to attend—Reverends John Davenport, Samuel Eaton, Ezekiel Cheever and others.

A pastor having been secured, a teacher, or assistant pastor, was next called. This office was tendered Reverend John Sherman, but he declined it for fear that local jealousies might arise. The call was not extended to any one else, and the office in Milford became extinct. In 1645 Mr. Sherman was connected with the Branford settlement.

In the early history of the church it had ruling elders, the first ordained to that office being one of the "seven pillars"—Zachariah Whitman, on the 26th of January, 1645. He probably served until his death, in 1666. Two others were ordained to the same office in 1673: John Clark, who died the following year, and Daniel Buckingham, whose death occurred in 1712, after which the office was no longer filled.

It is probable that the church had an acting deacon from the time of its organization, but no election to fill that office is recorded prior to the one held July 3d, 1645, when ten men were placed in nomination, and George Clark, Jr., and Benjamin Fenn elected. But so careful was the church of the character of those called that they were not ordained for two years, when, on account of family matters, Mr. Clark was excused and Mr. Fenn only ordained. Six years later George Clark, Sr., was chosen and ordained the second deacon. The church was now fully officered, and under Mr. Prudden's ministry was quiet and

\* Reverend J. A. Biddle's sermon.

prosperous to the extent warranted by his prudent nature. "He was fervid and earnest as a preacher, but owing to his desire to keep the church free from unworthy members, only 100 were received by him into church fellowship. At his death the church numbered about 94 members in a population of about 500." The pastorate of Mr. Prudden continued 16 years, and was terminated by his death, in July, 1656. A fine tablet in the present house of worship appropriately commemorates his worth.

One of the first acts of the planters of the town was to order the building of a meeting house. The five judges were directed, November 24th, 1640, "to lay out a meeting house 30 feet square, after such a manner as they should judge most convenient for the public good." It is believed that this house was like the one at New Haven. "It was two stories high, had a sharp roof (a four-sided peaked roof), on the top of which was a turret, where sentry could stand and look out for Indians, and where a drum was beat to call people together Sabbaths and town meeting days, &c."

This house, though so plain, was not finished for several years. As the town grew and the population demanded more room, the accommodations were expanded by putting galleries in it. In 1697 a gallery was placed across the west end of the house, which stood facing west, where was one door as an entrance. In 1707 one was built across the north end, and in 1709 another on the south side. Still it was necessary to husband all the room, and in the latter year the town voted "that whoever needlessly sat out of his seat should forfeit five shillings."

The pulpit occupied an elevated position on the east side of the house, and near the door were several seats for "the use of the armed men who were expected to come to the Sabbath worship with muskets fully prepared to repel any sudden attack from Indians. These were at times troublesome and dangerous. In their outbreaks they would rush up to the palisades, deride the settlers as cowards for keeping themselves in a pen, challenge them to come out and fight like brave men, boasting that they kept the English 'shut up all one as pigs.' In 1646 there was such alarm the entire 'train band' went to meeting on Sabbaths and Lecture days, sentinels were placed on the palisades a few rods apart, the people even went to their fields in armed companies."

As late as 1700 there was so much fear of Indians that houses were fortified at different ends of the town, yet there is no account of any Milford man being killed by Indians.

A new meeting house was voted in 1727. It was 80 by 65 feet, and three stories high, having two galleries, an upper one for slaves and other blacks, who had become numerous then. There were three entrances to this house, one south, another east and another west. The pulpit was on the north side. This house had a steeple 95

feet high. The new house had long benches till 1775, when pews were made. In 1803 the interior was arched, the upper gallery being thus shut up. The society very early had a bell, but in 1740 procured a new one weighing six hundred pounds. The same year a tower clock was put up in the steeple.

“The house was built from the proceeds of a tax levied for that purpose and from the profits of the flock of sheep kept by the town.”

It should be borne in mind that this large house was necessary to properly accommodate all the people of the town, which had not yet been reduced by the formation of new towns out of its northern territory, many people coming fifteen miles to meeting.

With some repairs and improvements this meeting house was used nearly a hundred years. But about 1820 it became alarmingly shaky. When ministers from abroad came to preach here they would hurry through their sermon lest the old building should come down upon their heads. The fame of the rickety old house went abroad in the state. Finally, a committee was appointed to examine it. They reported it to be safe. But the terrific September gale of 1821 decided the question, and in 1822 a resolution to tear down the creaky building and construct a new one was passed by a vote of 91 to 31. Upon the 16th of February, 1823, the people gathered to worship for the last time in the ancient temple. Its venerable walls had echoed to 6,000 sermons. They had looked down upon 813 persons as they were admitted into church fellowship.\*

The old house was razed on the 25th of March, 1823, and upon its site the original part of the present building was put up the same year by Captain Michael Peck, at a cost of \$8,000. The original size was 54 by 70 feet and 27 feet in height. While this house was building the congregation worshipped in the Episcopal church. The appliances for heating were first introduced in 1831, when two stoves were supplied.

In the basement of the meeting house a lecture room was fitted up, but during the pastorate of Doctor Brace, ending in 1863, a chapel was built, the meeting house repaired and a new bell supplied. Since that time the house has had other repairs and has been much improved in appearance. In 1890 it was an attractive and valuable property.

After the death of Mr. Prudden the church was four years without a pastor, when on July 29th, 1660, Reverend Roger Newton was received, and ordained August 22d, the same year. He was a son-in-law of Reverend Thomas Hooker, of Hartford, and had studied theology with him, and was reputed a sound and judicious preacher. But disturbances arose in his parish beyond his power to control, and his situation here was very trying. Yet he swerved not from the faith of the founders of the church to lower the standard of admission or by consenting to the Half-way Covenant. He was a studious man and had

\* Doctor Biddle's sermon.



accumulated one of the finest libraries in his day, more than 200 volumes in all, most of them devoted to his calling. His ministry covered a period of 23 years, and was terminated by his death, June 7th, 1683. In all he received 164 persons into church fellowship, and left it 200 strong.

After a vacancy of several years the third pastor was secured in the person of Samuel Andrew, in his day a superior man. He graduated from Harvard in 1675, and for five or six years was a tutor in the college. In October, 1685, he was ordained to the pastorate of this church, and also continued until his death, January 24th, 1737, nearly 82 years of age. He was pastor more than 50 years, and received into the church 530 members.

Mr. Andrew was one of the leading men in New England, and one of the most active in promoting higher education in the colony. "He gave a great deal of time and thought to the establishment and building up of Yale College, of which he was one of the principal founders. In 1707 he was appointed rector *pro tem.*, in which capacity he served for twelve or thirteen years. He served for 38 years as a member of the college corporation, from its beginning until his death." \*

In the later years of his ministry the church adopted the "Half-way Covenant" idea, in consequence of which the material interests of the church were advanced, perhaps to the hurt of the spiritual good of the community. "It brought many into the church who were full of carnal ideas and plans. If the finances were flourishing and the people outwardly moral, not much was said of other requirements." This state of affairs also made the established church not only dominant, by reason of the fact that every one must pay rates for its support, but there was created a selfish motive for keeping it dominant, and the laws were shaped to perpetuate that end. A further consequence was that the church in this colony became as intolerant of religious views not held by itself as was the church in England from which they had fled for the purpose of enjoying greater religious liberty.

At Milford the evil effects of this policy were soon manifested in the clashing of opinions and prolonged contention.

A short time before the death of Mr. Andrew, Reverend Samuel Whittlesey, of Wallingford, was called as his colleague pastor. Both the church and the town extended such an invitation, the latter in November, 1736. At that time Mr. Whittlesey was about 23 years of age, and was a young man of much ability and promise. He was a son of Reverend Samuel Whittlesey, pastor of the Wallingford church, and had graduated from Yale College in 1729, when he was but 16 years of age, being the earliest son of a graduate of that institution to receive a degree. He probably imbibed his father's views in regard to the evangelistic labors of Whitfield and others who preached revival sermons, being in his belief an "Old Light."

\* Doctor Biddle's sermon.

In the church at Milford was a considerable element, especially among the young members, who looked with favor upon the "New Light" doctrines. These objected to Mr. Whittlesey's settlement, and the matter was agitated through the greater part of 1737. Finally Mr. Whittlesey was ordained in December, 1737. The "New Light" believers withdrew as "Separatists," and January 5th, 1741, were organized as the present Plymouth church. Thence, for some years, the strife and persecution were intensified in bitterness, and it was not until 1776 that the two bodies consented to fellowship each other.

It is said of Mr. Whittlesey that while he was firm in his belief as an "Old Light," and perhaps as such partook of the feeling against the new movement, he did not advise the persecution which followed their efforts to set up their own worship. He is described as having been a man having a lovely, sweet spirit, "gifted in prayer, devout and affectionate." After being pastor 31 years, in which period he received about 300 members, he died October 22d, 1768, aged 54 years.

After some little delay in filling the pastoral office, Reverend Samuel Wales, a tutor in Yale College, was ordained December 19th, 1770. For a short time in 1776 he was a chaplain in the continental army. In 1782 he resigned to become a professor of divinity in Yale College. He was a D. D. of both Yale and Princeton Colleges, and possessed an unusual combination of talents. Under his administration the "Halfway Covenant" was discarded, 107 members were added to the church, and a much better spirit was engendered in the town.\*

Another interval of two years followed, when the sixth pastor, Reverend William Lockwood, was chosen. After graduating from Yale in 1774, he served as chaplain in the revolutionary army. In 1779-80 he was a tutor in Yale. He was ordained pastor of this church March 17th, 1784, but after twelve years he was compelled to resign on account of ill health. He was dismissed in April, 1796.

The same year began the lifelong pastorate of Reverend Bezaleel Pinneo, which was, next to that of Mr. Andrew, the most noteworthy. "He was regarded as one of the ablest ministers of the period, being talked of for president of Yale College after the death of President Dwight. Had he been a graduate he might have been chosen thus."† He graduated from Dartmouth in 1791, and was ordained in October, 1796. He was at this time in his 28th year, strong of body, and with a fresh and vigorous intellect, remarkably well disciplined and balanced. He was also remarkably prudent and consecrated to his work, so that revivals of religion occurred during his entire ministry. In his pastorate of 44 years over 700 persons were added to the church. In addition to his pastoral duties he fitted about thirty boys for college and had several theological students. In July, 1839, he asked for the help of an assistant pastor, and his wish was complied with January 4th, 1840, when Reverend David B. Coe was called to fill that position.

\* Doctor Biddle's sermon. † Reverend E. C. Baldwin's sermon.

He was a tutor in Yale, from which he had graduated in 1837. His services here were continued about three and a half years and over 200 were added to the church, when he removed to New York city, where he some years after was appointed secretary of A. H. M. S., which position he has long filled. Mr. Pinneo continued until his death, September 16th, 1849, in the 81st year of his age and the 53d of the ministry.

In 1845 Reverend Jonathan Brace was installed as the colleague of Father Pinneo, and after his death continued as pastor 18 years, when he resigned to remove to Hartford to devote himself to his duties as editor of the *Religious Herald*.

The tenth minister of the church was Reverend James W. Hubbell, ordained September 21st, 1864, and dismissed January 1st, 1869, to become the pastor of the College Street church, in New Haven.

Reverend Albert J. Lyman was installed pastor September 7th, 1870, but after a little more than three years was obliged by ill health to resign. He left in December, 1873. In the latter year the membership of the church reached its maximum, 581. After a vacancy of two years Reverend J. A. Biddle became the pastor, and so continued acceptably several years. On the 9th of July, 1876, he delivered a historical sermon, from which many of the facts in this account are taken.

Reverend Seneca M. Keeler was the acting pastor from November, 1880, till March, 1883. He was followed by Reverend Newell M. Calhoun for several years, from June, 1884. Reverend Frank I. Ferguson was the pastor from 1888 until the spring of 1890. In the summer and fall of the latter year the pulpit was vacant.

In the fall of 1890 the church had a membership of nearly 500, and the aggregate membership was over 3,000. The greatest addition in any one year was in 1843, when 145 were added; the greatest number added at one time was in 1872, under the ministry of Mr. Lyman, when 88 persons joined.

The First church is properly the parent of the, Plymouth Society, and of the Orange church. To form the latter 30 members withdrew in February, 1805.

In the first hundred years of the history of the church the deacons were, in the order named: Zachariah Whitman, Benjamin Fenn, John Fletcher, George Clark, Sr., Jasper Gunn, Richard Platt, Thomas Clark, John Camp, Josiah Platt, Joseph Clark and Richard Platt, Jr. In the next hundred years they were: John Smith, Nathaniel Buckingham, Thomas Clark, Samuel Woodruff, Thomas Baldwin, Daniel Clark, Stephen Gunn, Samuel Treat, Samuel Platt, Joseph Platt, David Buckingham, Benedict A. Law, Benjamin Bull, John Whiting, Nathau Nettleton, William Fenn, Horatio Downs, George Mann, Thaddeus Plumb, Samuel A. Marshall. And in the last fifty years those in the deacon's office have been: John Benjamin, Jr., William Plumb, Samuel C.

Glennay, Theophilus Miles, George G. Baldwin, H. R. Beach, Caleb T. Merwin, James B. Benjamin, Elliott B. Platt, Charles W. Miles, Joseph Benjamin, Richard Platt, John Benjamin, George F. Platt, O. E. Nettleton, Henry N. Platt, Darius T. Whitcomb and E. B. Clark. The latter five served in 1889. At the same time the church clerk was George F. Platt, and the Sunday-school superintendent, S. N. Oviatt. The school had more than 300 members. It is one of the oldest in the county, "and is thoroughly furnished unto every good work."

Other auxiliaries of the church are the Women's T. M. S., organized in 1877; the Ladies' Benevolent Union, organized in 1886; and the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, permanently organized in 1887, each doing a good work in their spheres.

The 250th anniversary of the founding of the church was appropriately celebrated August 25th, 1889. The historical address was by the Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin. Reverend David B. Coe, the oldest living ex-pastor, administered the sacrament to about 1,000 communicants. Other interesting and impressive services were held, among them being the presentation and placing in the meeting house of fine memorials to the following former pastors: Reverend Peter Prudden, 1639-56; Roger Newton, 1660-83; Samuel Andrew, 1685-1738; Samuel Whittlesey, 1737-68; Bezaleel Pinneo, 1796-1849; Jonathan Brace, 1845-63.

The tablets are chaste and are inscribed with some salient facts in regard to their several pastorates. Hundreds of loving friends contributed to their erection.

The Plymouth Church, or as it was long known, the Second Congregational Church of Milford, was formed mainly of dissenters from the First church. In 1737, near the close of the ministry of Reverend Samuel Andrew, a colleague pastor was called, in the person of Reverend Samuel Whittlesey, of Wallingford. His settlement was opposed by a considerable minority, who accused him of inclining too much toward Arminianism, and being, therefore, doctrinally unsound. After much discussion of the matter they consented to his ordination, provided "that if, at the end of six months they should remain unsatisfied, they should have the liberty of another chosen by them, to be settled in the ministry as the colleague of (the new pastor) Mr. Whittlesey." It appears that in this probationary period Mr. Whittlesey so much guarded himself against the utterance of so-called unsound doctrines that the minority did not "move for a compliance of the agreement." But soon after the expiration of the six months he gave them cause for uneasiness, "by declaring from the desk such doctrines as they did not believe were agreeable to the Word of God, neither were embraced by their pious predecessors, the Fathers of England."

They made complaint, but the church failing to take cognizance of their grievance, the county association was appealed to, in May, 1740,

for advice and counsel. But they were told by the "Reverend Fathers of that body that they had no advice to give," "thus slighting them in their distressed and afflicted state."

An appeal was next made to the town, in December, 1740, also to no purpose, "the Hon. Jonathan Law, moderator of the meeting, appearing not pleased with it and putting it aside."

Failing in every attempt to obtain relief, they availed themselves of their right to dissent from the church constitution and to "declare for the excellent establishment of the Church of Scotland," or to avow themselves to be Presbyterians and to incorporate as such under the laws of the colony. To this end the following persons agreed to apply to the "next county court and there perform what the act required:" Seth Plumb, Peleg Baldwin, Jesse Smith, Samuel Merchant, Samuel Hines, Gyles Oviatt, Deliverance Downs, Jonathan Fowler, Samuel Hine, Daniel Collins, Joseph Prichard, Joseph Northrup, John Baldwin, Josiah Hine, Joel Baldwin, Andrew Santford, Jr., Samuel Bristol, Jesse Lambert, Samuel Santford, Jr., Daniel Downs, Lewis Mallett, John Oviatt, James Smith, Samuel Eells, Nathaniel Buckingham, Samuel Oviatt, Jr., William Fenn, Andrew Santford, George Clark, Benjamin Fenn, Jeremiah Peck, Joseph Smith, Bartholomew Sears, Thomas Welch, William Sewall Sears, Joseph Fenn, Jr., John Downs, Nathaniel Eells, Samuel Eells, Jr., John Smith, Joseph Howman, Lemuel Smith, Josiah Tibbals, Samuel Oviatt, Samuel Hine, Jr., Horace Peck.

These were all members of the First church, and as such declared their "sober dissent." Twelve others soon joined them, and their cause gained sympathy every day. The matter coming before the court, in January, 1741, that body put it off until the April term, and then still further postponed action, advising them "not to prosecute their dissent," thinking that the feeling created in Milford that year by Reverend Mr. Tennant's preaching might indicate a way of relief. But this hope not being realized, the plea before the court was continued in November, 1741. To their great surprise, the judges would not admit their dissent, dismissing it on a technicality. A new memorial, couched in the language of the statute, was now presented, proclaiming their "dissent," without expressing "assent" to any form of church government, which was placed on file. They also agreed, November 30th, 1741, to set up a separate assembly, if thirty families would unite for that purpose. These were secured, and in January, 1742, they qualified themselves according to the "English act of Toleration," as Separatists from the church established by the laws of the colony.

But in the meantime the decided opposition of the First church was awakened, and a series of petty persecutions followed. The ministers at their public meetings were cited to appear before the magistrates as disorderly transient persons. In this way Benajah

Case, A.M., of Simsbury, was brought before Governor Jonathan Law, January 17th, 1742, charged with preaching to the "sober dissenters." After two days trial, in which the governor made many apparent prejudicial rulings against Mr. Case, he was adjudged guilty and sentenced to pay in all 41 shillings and 4 pence. Mr. Case refused to do this, when he was taken to the New Haven jail until the sentence should be satisfied.

But the congregation was not discouraged, and in June, 1742, decided to build a meeting house, asking the consent of the town to set it on public land. This privilege being refused, a lot was purchased of Bartholomew Sears, east of the old meeting house and on the opposite side of the river, the county court granting the necessary liberty November 9th, 1742. The first sermon in it was preached by Reverend John Eells, in April, 1743. The house was very plain and had no steeple until 1799, when one was built by subscription, Stephen Treat, Esq., donating the bell for the same. The house was used until 1833, when a part of the present edifice took its place.

Complaint having been made of Mr. Eell's preaching, the constable searched for him, "but he could not be found." Mr. Kent, who was the second person to preach in this house, was also complained of, "but could not be apprehended."

In April, 1743, the church placed itself under the care of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, and in June that year Reverend Richard Treat, of that body, came and preached so acceptably that his settlement as a minister was most earnestly desired. But his charge in New Jersey would not consent to his leaving them. Meantime, Mr. Whittlesey and his "Old Light" adherents had not become more tolerant. But so strongly were they opposed to those holding "New Light" views that, up to 1743, he had refused the use of his pulpit to five ministers in good standing, but who differed with him on the points which were then engaging the attention of the people in so earnest a manner. Hence, to appease the popular desire to hear them, on one occasion one of these visiting brethren preached from the doorstep of the meeting house to more than a thousand people.

In 1743 the persecution reached its climax. In August of that year Reverend Samuel Finlay, president of Princeton College, by the approval of the New Brunswick Presbytery, preached twice for the dissenters; but he was apprehended for disorderly conduct, prosecuted, condemned and ordered by Governor Law to "be transported as a vagrant from town to town by the constable of each town." This outrageous sentence reacted upon the opposition, and greater liberty was accorded in the course of a few years.

In May, 1750, the general assembly released the dissenters from paying taxes to the First society, and gave them certain parish privileges. In 1760 they became an ecclesiastical society of the established church, holding their first regular meetings as the Second

Society in Milford, October 27th, 1760. Thus the society and church were designated until May, 1859, when the general assembly authorized the name to be changed to the Plymouth Society of Milford, by which title it and the church have since been known.

In 1870 the meeting house, built in 1833, was enlarged by an addition to the rear end, the organ loft was changed and a new organ supplied. About \$7,000 was thus expended. In 1889 repairs and improvements to the amount of \$3,000 were made, and the building is now in a fine condition, and the society is said to be prosperous. The parish contains 145 families, and the church has 250 members. The Sabbath school has about 200 members.

A pastor was settled before parish privileges were accorded. Through the efforts of Ephraim Strong, a leader in the new church, and who was by nature and education well qualified for the work (having graduated from Yale in 1737), his brother-in-law, Job Prudden, was settled as the first regular minister. Reverend Job Prudden was the great-grandson of Reverend Peter Prudden, the first minister of the town. He graduated from Yale in 1743, and was ordained to the pastorate of the church in May, 1747, by the Presbytery of New Brunswick. Two delegates from Milford, his native town, accompanied him to New Jersey. He proved himself faithful, efficient and so prudent that much of the embittered feeling against the new church wore away. After a pastorate of 27 years he took sick of the small-pox while visiting a parishioner, and died June 24th, 1774. His tombstone has been fitly inscribed: "A bountiful benefactor to mankind, well beloved in his life, and much lamented in his death." He left his property to the church, in addition to having contributed £100 toward a ministerial fund of \$3,500, which was raised in his pastorate. This fund and his benefaction have greatly aided in carrying on the work of the church in these later periods.

Reverend Josiah Sherman, a native of Watertown, Mass., and a great-grandson of John Sherman, one of the first settlers of the town, was the second pastor. He was installed August 23d, 1775, and dismissed June 21st, 1781. He died in Woodbridge, November 24th, 1789.

The third pastor was Reverend David Tullar, installed November 17th, 1784, and dismissed December 8th, 1802. In his ministry a great religious awakening occurred, beginning in August, 1797, and continuing through the following year, when 70 persons were added to the church. In many households family prayer was established, which greatly increased the piety of the town.

Reverend Sherman Johnson was ordained the fourth pastor February 6th, 1805, but died May 21st, 1806. He was followed by Reverend Caleb Pitkin, ordained March 16th, 1808, and dismissed October, 1816. In the latter year 25 persons were added to the church.

This revival spirit continued during the pastorate of Reverend

Jehu Clark, who was installed December 10th, 1817. In 1821 he united with the church. He was dismissed in 1826.

The seventh pastor was Reverend Asa M. Train. He was ordained July 2d, 1828, and dismissed January 2d, 1850. In his pastorate occurred five revivals, from which resulted 223 additions, the largest number—83—joining in 1843.

Reverend J. M. Sherwood was installed May 29th, 1851, and dismissed October 20th, 1852. The next pastorate was also short—Reverend S. G. Dodd being ordained October 20th, 1852, and dismissed July 19th, 1854.

In November of the latter year Reverend W. C. Schofield began the tenth pastorate, which was terminated in April, 1808. The beginning was characterized by a revival which continued eight months, and 80 persons were added to the church.

From October 15th, 1858, till December 17th, 1861, Reverend W. Nye Harvey was the stated supply; and the same relation was sustained by Reverend J. M. Sherwood from March, 1863, till March, 1865.

Reverend George H. Griffin was ordained and installed as the regular pastor June 22d, 1865, and continued that relation until February 18th, 1885. In this period of twenty years many were added to the church.

The pastorate of Reverend N. G. Axtell began September 1st, 1885, and was terminated May 28th, 1889. The present pastor, Reverend C. H. Upson, was called September 29th, 1889, and has served as the regular minister since February 1st, 1890.

Under the Presbyterian form of government Ephraim Strong, Noah Baldwin, Nathaniel Cunningham and Benjamin Fenn were elected elders of the church.

Since the office of deacon has had a recognized place the following have been chosen: Joseph Treat, William Atwater, Samuel Platt, J. Benedict Bull, Henry Bull, William Durand, Samuel Higby, Noah Kelsey, Allen C. Bull, William Fenn, Harvey Mallory, Theophilus Miles, Bryan Clark, Amos Smith Bristol, Frank H. Woodruff, Nathan T. Smith and A. A. Baldwin. The three last named now serve. The latter is also the church clerk and the treasurer.

A Protestant Episcopal church was formed in Milford in 1764. The contention between the two factions in the First Congregational church, consequent upon the settlement of Reverend Mr. Whittlesey as the pastor, encouraged the formation of a society professing the doctrines of the Church of England. Accordingly, with that end in view, clergymen visited the town and preached; Reverend Mr. Arnold in 1736, and others soon after. In 1743 Reverend William Lyon, as a missionary of the English society, preached in the town, and some lands were secured as a parish glebe. But no parish was formed until 1764, when one was constituted of 20 families. To these



sermons were read by Richard Clark, a lay reader, who afterward went to England for holy orders. In September, 1764, Reverend Doctor Mansfield, of the Derby church, who sometimes preached in Milford, here administered the first public communion, 20 persons participating in these solemn rites.

In 1765 the parish was placed under the care of Doctor Johnson, of Stratford, who preached at both places, but later appointed Samuel Tingley lay reader for the Milford church. Reverend Mr. Kneeland also preached, continuing until the revolution. In this period a house of worship was begun in 1771, which was completed and consecrated in March, 1775, as St. George's Church.

In consequence of the feeling against the Church of England during the war for independence, no minister was maintained for ten years. But in 1786 Reverend Henry Van Dyke became the minister of this and the West Haven church. A like relation was sustained by Reverend David Belding two years later. From 1788 to 1814 only occasional services were held, when Reverend Nathan P. Burgess for two years preached one-fourth of his time. From 1816 until 1819 Reverend Doctor William Smith served the Milford and West Haven churches. Then came a vacancy of more than four years, when, in 1823, Reverend John M. Garfield was the minister a short time. After this the church was again served with Stratford.

In 1831 Reverend Gurdon Coit preached one-half his time; from 1833 to 1835, Reverend William H. Walter; 1835 to 1837, Reverend R. Camp; and then came the Reverends S. Stocking and Edward J. Ives. In 1843 Reverend Ferdinand E. White became rector and served the church five years. He was succeeded in May, 1848, by Reverend James Dixon Carder, whose rectorship continued until 1861. It was one of the most eventful in the history of the church. In 1850 the old church building, which was a wooden structure without a spire, but having an architecture which was not unattractive, was taken down. As a consecrated building it had been used about 75 years. A new church edifice of stone was built upon the same lot, at a cost of \$7,000, which was dedicated in 1851 as St. Peter's Church. This building is not only substantial, but is very neat, and with repairs and improvements has been still further beautified. It has 300 sittings in the nave of the house. The spire is 100 feet high and is also of stone. On the same lot is a fine rectory, put up after the church.

After Mr. Carder the following served as rectors: 1861 to 1864, Reverend Storrs O. Seymour; 1864 to 1868, Thomas E. Pattison; 1869 to 1871, Henry R. Howard; 1871 to 1876, A. Douglas Miller; 1876 to 1878, J. H. Van Buren;\* 1878 to 1890, John H. Fitzgerald. Since 1890 the rector has been Reverend F. I. Paradise.

In 1890 the parish of St. Peter's had as clerk John W. Fowler; as

\* Being a candidate for holy orders, he was here ordained a deacon May 31st, 1876, and a minister June 25th, 1877; he now served as rector till May 1st, 1878.

wardens, Henry Cornwall, Samuel L. Burns; as vestrymen, Isaac T. Rogers, John W. Fowler, P. S. Bristol, Joseph S. Ferris, Thomas Cornwall, Edward P. Avery, Henry Davidson, Charles A. Tomlinson, William Cecil Durand, Frederick Cornwall, Eldridge L. Cornwall, Warren G. Plumb, Henry C. C. Miles, De Witt C. Burns. The number of families in the parish was 100; the individuals, 350; the registered communicants, 160. In the Sunday school were 15 teachers and 100 scholars.

The Milford Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1836. Reverend Jesse Lee preached the first Methodist sermon in the town August 16th, 1789. He spoke in the town house, which was crowded with attentive listeners. On two other occasions, subsequently, he preached here, but appears to have made no lasting impression, for he said that he had no invitation to call at any man's house, nor did he become acquainted with any person. He further added, at this apparent lack of hospitality, "If I can but be useful, I am willing to remain unknown among men." After this the town was occasionally visited by itinerant ministers, and local preachers from the neighboring churches also came, preaching as they had opportunity.

In 1822 Reverend E. Barnett preached and organized a small class, some of whom had been converted by the preaching of a Mr. Waterbury, whose labors among the sailors especially had been successful, as he himself was a converted sailor. Later meetings were held in a house near the mill, owned by Elizur Fowler. In 1833 Reverend Humphrey Humphries made an effort to more fully organize the work in Milford without satisfactory results. But two years later Eliakim Fenn and several others who had been converted, commenced to hold meetings at Burwell's Farms. About this time, also, Deacon Ebenezer Alling, of Orange, was licensed to preach and held meetings in various parts of the town with much success. More than twenty persons were converted. Accordingly, in 1836, on the 12th of August, the Milford church was organized, with 27 members. Of these ten joined by letter from the First church, among them being Eliakim Fenn, Stephen Gunn, Nathan Gunn, Thomas Burwell, Lamson B. Clark and Eliza L. Gunn, the latter surviving as a member in the fall of 1890. Milford was now taken up as a regular appointment, with Reverend Ebenezer Alling as the pastor. The meetings were held in the old Baptist church (the old town hall), and at the end of the year about 60 members were reported. The society now purchased Bristol's shoe shop, and moved it to a site on North street, near the Orange road. Heman Bangs was the presiding elder, and aided in fully establishing the church.

In 1837 Reverend J. C. Goodrich became the first resident pastor, and was followed by Reverend Josiah Bowen, in 1838; Ira Abbott, in 1839; and Lewis Lum, in 1840. The following two years the conference made no appointment for Milford, but the brethren nevertheless decided to build a house of worship, which was begun in 1843. The

corner stone was laid in the fall of that year by the pastor, Reverend J. B. Wakeley, and the church was dedicated December 5th, 1844. The house cost \$3,000, and some debt remained to burden the society.

In 1845 Reverend Stephen B. Bangs was appointed pastor; in 1846, William F. Smith; in 1847, G. S. Hare. On account of the poverty of the society no regular minister was appointed until 1852, when Reverend L. A. Hubbell was assigned. A notable revival had just ended, and 33 persons had been added to the church.

Ground for a parsonage was now bought, which was built in 1854-5, during the pastorate of Reverend M. N. Olmstead.

In 1875-6 the church building was remodelled and repaired, at an outlay of \$2,500; and lesser repairs were made in 1882 and again in 1886. The church debt was fully removed in 1885. In later years the membership of the church has also been increased, there being 130 in 1890.

Among the later pastors have been the Reverends W. Bool, Daniel Nash, S. C. Keller, G. Perrine, W. W. McGuire, K. K. Diossy, G. Loomis, W. Ross, E. H. Rowlandson, W. Treviddy, E. Rowlandson, J. M. Carroll and since April, 1890, Reverend J. A. Macmillan.

Connected with the church is a Sabbath school of more than 100 members, which has George H. Woods as the superintendent, and a Society of Christian Endeavor, which was organized February 9th, 1888, with seven members. In 1890 the number belonging was 32.

The Milford Baptist Church was organized August 28th, 1831, by Reverend James H. Linsley, of the Stratford church. There were about 25 covenanting members, and John Smith was chosen the first deacon. Subsequently, in the same office, were D. L. Hubbell, Jason Clark, Anon Clark and Thaddeus Smith. For some years the membership increased, but as the population of the town changed, the native element removing and foreigners taking their places, the society became so weak that its organization was discontinued. The new meeting house, which was erected in the period of the church's prosperity, in 1845-6, was, through the treasurer of the society, Thaddeus Smith, sold to the town in 1866, and has since formed a part of the town house. In a remodelled condition it is now the audience room of the public building.

Among the Baptist ministers who preached here there is none remembered with greater pleasure than Reverend Oliver H. Hammond. He was highly educated and a very ready speaker. Reverends John H. Waterbury, Dryden S. Viets and Mr. Davis were also ministers. Most of the remaining Baptist members connected themselves with other Protestant churches, and at present but very few of that faith remain in the town.

St. Mary's Church (Roman Catholic) had its beginning in the influx of Irish laborers, consequent upon the building of the New Haven railroad. A visiting priest came here in 1848, and gathering together

the believers in Catholicism, said mass to them in a private house. Encouraged by the increasing interest, Reverend Edward O'Brien, of St. Mary's church, New Haven, who now had the care of this people, erected a small church in the eastern part of the village, southeast of the cemetery, which was occupied in September, 1853, as the St. Mary's church. Subsequently this work sustained a mission relation to the parish of Birmingham, and was greatly built up by Reverend Father Kennedy. A larger church was demanded, and its erection was begun in 1882 by him on a fine lot on the corner of Gulf street and New Haven avenue. This was dedicated June 25th, 1883, by the Right Reverend Bishop McMahan. It has 400 sittings, and cost about \$12,000. As the parish had a limited membership, mostly of the poorer classes, it required much sacrifice to accomplish this purpose, but the parish has nevertheless since prospered, and in 1885 became separate from other churches. That year Reverend J. Larkin became the first resident priest. For his accommodation a fine parsonage was subsequently erected opposite the church. The old church is used for school purposes. The parish is now fully equipped, and is growing in numbers and influence. There are not quite one hundred families at this time.

The Catholic cemetery is on the Indian river, south of the New Haven road. The land was purchased in 1868, but it was not dedicated until about ten years later.

It is said that the first death in the town was a child of William East, June 18th, 1644, aged 1 year. The first adult death was Sarah, wife of Nicholas Camp, who died September 6th, 1645. These and others dying up to 1675 were buried in a part of Mr. Peter Prudden's garden, set aside for that purpose. Mr. Prudden himself was buried there in 1656. Not quite 40 years after the town was settled the southeast portion of the present burial place was laid out, but it was a part of the commons until 1756, when it was fenced on three sides, the swamp being on the east side. On the south side was now a road three rods wide, whose course was afterward taken by the railroad. In this part 46 revolutionary soldiers were buried in 1777. Since that time the cemetery has been much enlarged and its neglected condition improved. Its appearance was very much bettered in 1863, and in more recent years it has been placed in care of a superintendent, under whose direction it looks more like a modern place of interment.

There are many quaint inscriptions on the older stones, which have been transcribed and published by the New Haven Historical Society. A number of handsome monuments mark the resting places of Milford's worthy citizens dying in more recent times. In the southwest part is the revolutionary soldiers' monument, erected in 1852.

The cemetery contains the graves of three Connecticut governors—Treat, Law and Pond—Judge Roger Newton and several of the former pastors of the churches.

In 1825 the town purchased a hearse; in 1866 a new hearse was purchased, also by the town, which still controls the cemetery.

As early as 1640 the Milford planters, able-bodied males over 16 years of age, were formed into a "Train Band," or local militia, with the following officers: Captain, John Astwood; lieutenant, William Fowler; ensign, Alexander Bryan; sergeant, William East. The company had six general trainings per year, three in the spring and three in the fall. In 1699 the population of the town warranted the formation of two companies, commanded by Roger Newton and Joseph Woodruff. They were that year provided with new equipments, colors and drums, and were drilled to a fine state of proficiency.

Besides the foregoing there were others captain: Robert Treat, in 1662; John Beard, in 1670; William Fowler, 2d, in 1677; Samuel Eells, in 1680; Samuel Burwell, in 1690; Josiah Prime, in 1692; Samuel Bryan, in 1696; Samuel Newton, in 1698; Benjamin Fenn, in 1708; Joseph Treat, in 1712. Others in command of militia companies before the revolution were Captains Thomas Clark, Elias Clark, Josiah Buckingham, Isaac Treat, Samuel Buckingham, Nathan Baldwin, Theodore Miles, John Woodruff, Benjamin Fenn, Arnold Tibbals, Benjamin Bull, Nathan Clark.

Roger Newton rose to the rank of colonel, and that title was also bestowed upon Benjamin Fenn, in 1737; Richard Bryan, in 1770. David Baldwin became a major in 1784.

Of the later military organizations, the Milford Grenadiers achieved an enviable reputation. The company was organized in 1796, the first officers being: Daniel Sackett, captain; Abram V. H. De Witt, lieutenant, and Benjamin Bull, ensign. At first there were 25 members, who voluntarily enlisted in 1795 to serve in the 32d Regiment, of the Second Brigade of the militia of the state. The original uniform, which they themselves provided, "consisted of scarlet coats with buff facings, and gold lace trimmings, drab knee breeches, with buckles, and suwarrow boots with tassels; pointed caps, about 18 inches high, of cloth, red front and buff back, with side edges and plume of ostrich feathers; a narrow frontlet was added afterwards, of same material.

"On the first Sunday after their equipment they marched in 'full regimentals' to the *meeting house*, and no doubt a discourse was delivered and a blessing invoked on the occasion, by the then youthful and greatly beloved Mr. Pinneo.

"At a later period, the buff breeches gave place to blue broadcloth pants, with the lace and silk trimmings, and about 1815 white pants were adopted, and continued during their existence.

"Wherever and whenever they appeared, they were *the* company, and the observed of all. Their tall and lofty bearing, faultless in dress, equipments and discipline, marching and counter-marching to the music of Isaac Tibbals, Charles Baldwin, Nathan Baldwin, fifers; and Joseph Fowler, Hubbard Botsford and Isaac Davidson, drummers,

rendered them ever welcome among their friends, but a terror to their foes. The reputation of the gallant New York Seventh Regiment was never more enviable or deeply cherished by her citizens than was this brave and patriotic corps."\*

In the war of 1812, when Joseph Platt was the captain, the company marched to old Fort Trumbull to repel the British if they should attempt to land from their vessels, which appeared off shore. But the enemy soon left these parts, and the Grenadiers saw no further service in that war. In 1816 the company attained its zenith, having in all about 70 men, and embracing the leading young men of the town. A waning interest, caused by dissatisfaction by being deprived of its time-honored position, on the right of the regiment, and the organization of an artillery company at Milford, led to the dissolution of the company, in 1836, while Charles Tibbals was the captain. Two years later another light infantry company was in existence, with Jason Bristol, captain, and Captain John Smith commanded the artillery. The former disbanded in 1849. The latter was for many years a successful organization.

Many of the members of the celebrated Grenadiers were honored by promotions in the state militia, and became regimental and brigade commanders. Among them are remembered the following: Colonel Daniel Sackett, Colonel Benjamin Bull, Colonel William Fenn, Colonel Stephen B. Ford, Colonel Andrew Beard, Colonel William Platt, Colonel Abel R. Hine and Colonel Isaac T. Rogers; Major Samuel Higby, Major Barnabas Woodstock and Major Samuel B. Gunn. None of the later military organizations was as long continued or became as renowned as the Grenadiers.

The inhabitants of Milford warmly espoused the patriot cause in the struggle for the independence of the colonies. At the commencement of the revolution they expressed themselves as being unanimously opposed to the oppressive measures of the British ministry, and opened a subscription "for the relief and support of such poor inhabitants of Boston as were immediate sufferers by the Port Bill." The town also later contributed liberally for the relief of the people of Fairfield.

Measures for defense were early urged. May 1st, 1775, "voted that all the great guns be mounted and be made ready for use, and that the selectmen provide powder and balls at the Town Expense."

A minute post was at once established, under the direction of Captain Isaac Miles. In the spring of 1776 a small earthwork was erected at Burns' Point, about where is now Colonel Fall's residence, in which a battery of guns was placed for the defense of the harbor. It was erected by the town, aided by the colony, and was called Fort Trumbull. From this fact arose the name of Trumbull avenue, in that locality. A lookout was also kept at Burwell's Farm, and another at Poconoc Point.

\* Hon. John W. Fowler.

On the first of January, 1777, a transport bearing a flag of truce appeared at the mouth of the harbor and landed 200 sick American prisoners, of whom 46 died in a short time and were buried in a common grave. The same year the town provided its full quota of men, and the selectmen were directed to "furnish guns, bayonets and provisions for such as are called forth for the defence of the LIBERTY OF AMERICA." A premium of £10 was offered per head to enlist during the war, and Captain Samuel Peck's company of 72 men marched for the seat of war. Three of the townsmen were killed at the battle of Danbury.

In January, 1778, the town expressed its approval of the articles of confederation adopted by the colonies. In 1779 20 British transports lay off the harbor several days, but did not land, except a few soldiers who came ashore at Pond Point and plundered the house of Miles Merwin, the family being at that time in the village. No buildings were burned during the war, but some property was stolen by the "Cow Boys," of New York, who sometimes visited the town and committed depredations in the way of stealing cattle, sheep, etc., which they carried to Long Island and sold to the British forces. Lambert says that in 1780 a band of twelve of these marauders was captured on an island in the Housatonic, near Turkey hill, but the particulars in regard to it are somewhat vague.

There were but few tory sympathizers, and owing to the overwhelming sentiment in favor of the Americans, they were not troublesome; but after the war a few loyalist families moved to Nova Scotia.

In the war of 1812 a small guard was kept for a time in Milford harbor, but among the inhabitants there was but little interest taken in the war, as the town in general did not approve it.

The 250th Anniversary and Founders' Memorial was one of the most interesting and important events that have occurred in the town. At the annual town meeting in October, 1888, action was taken to appropriately celebrate the founding of Milford on the 250th anniversary, the following year. In pursuance of that purpose the town appointed a committee, consisting of Charles A. Tomlinson, Phineas S. Bristol, Nathan G. Pond, William Cecil Durand and Charles H. Trowbridge, who decided that a memorial bridge at Fowler's Mill would best perpetuate the event to be observed, and be as well an enduring monument to the founders of the Wepawaug plantation or Milford colony. This idea was successfully carried out, as is attested by the artistic and substantial handiwork at the spot designated. The memorial arch and tower, crowned with tablets and mementoes in honor of the leading founders of the plantation, is one of the most pleasing objects in the town, and, while attractive, is also useful and strikingly appropriate. The erection was made possible by appropriations from the town and the liberal aid of patriotic citizens in Milford and other places.

The work was dedicated and the general celebration of the event was held August 28th, 1889. On the morning of that day 42 guns were fired, the village bells were rung and there was a parade, showing various phases of Indian and pioneer life; also an industrial exhibit, showing products from 1639 to 1889. Isaac C. Smith was the chief marshal, A. A. Baldwin the president of the day, General Joseph R. Hawley the orator; a concert was given by the Wheeler and Wilson Band; Governor Morgan G. Bulkeley and others made addresses. A vast concourse of people was in attendance, and the occasion was full of credit to the people of the town.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Doctor Hull Allen, born in Westport, Conn., May 16th, 1798, is a son of Gabriel Allen, of that place. Doctor Allen was educated in Westport, studied medicine one year with Doctor Chetwood, of Elizabethtown, N. J., and attended medical lectures in New York. He taught the young ladies' seminary at Trenton, N. J., about one year. He was licensed to practice medicine at Newark, N. J., in 1821, and commenced the practice of medicine at Sparta, N. J. He came to Milford in 1821, and practiced there until 1870, when he gave up active practice. He does some office practice still. He was 93 years old May 16th, 1891. He is the oldest physician in New Haven county, if not the oldest in New England. He has been three times married. By his first wife, Susan Platt, he had three children. One daughter, now living with him, is the only child surviving. He has also one granddaughter living with him, and one grandson in New Haven. His second wife was Elizabeth Clark, and his third wife Susan Phillips, of Fishkill, N. Y. Doctor Allen is a member of the state and county medical societies. The meetings of the latter have frequently been held at his house. He has frequently consulted with the leading physicians of New Haven county, is held in high esteem by them, and has the utmost respect of his townspeople.

CHARLES W. BEARDSLEY, son of Charles Beardsley, was born in Stratford, Conn., May 27th, 1829, and in the year 1844 he removed with his father's family to Milford. He is descended from William Beardsley, one of the first settlers of the town of Stratford, from whom he takes the name William, and from the Beach family through his great-grandmother, Sarah, daughter of Israel Beach, 2d, of Stratford. His mother was Sarah, daughter of Hezekiah Baldwin, of Milford, a descendent of one of the first settlers of that town; and he regards his success in life as very largely the result of the early training and Christian advice of his mother. The first American ancestor above alluded to, William Beardsley, came from England in 1635, in the ship "Planter," commanded by Captain Travece. He was then only 30 years of age, but had a wife and three children, all of whom accompanied him hither. He came from Stratford-on-Avon (the birthplace of



William Shakespeare), and was made a freeman in Massachusetts, but afterward, in 1639, settled in the Connecticut township, to which the family gave the name of Stratford in honor of the English town from which they had emigrated. The town of Avon, N. Y., was also named by descendants of William Beardsley, who settled there, in honor of the old river in England. William Beardsley was a deputy for Stratford in 1645, and for seven years thereafter, and was a man of much prominence in early colonial times. He died in 1660, at the age of 56, leaving three children. The succession in the line of the subject of this sketch was through Joseph Beardsley, the youngest son. The generations from Joseph were John, Andrew, Henry, William Henry and Charles, the latter being the father of Charles W. Beardsley, the present subject. Charles W. is the oldest of a family of eight children, the brothers and sisters being the following, all of whom are now living and residents of Milford, except as otherwise stated: Abigail, now the wife of Charles R. Baldwin, of Milford; Alvira, Hezekiah, an extensive contractor and builder in Milford; George, now residing in New Haven; Theodore, a prominent builder of Springfield, Mass.; Sarah J. wife of Edward Clark, of Milford; and Frederick, the youngest.

Mr. Charles W. Beardsley was educated in the common and select schools of his native town, and commenced learning the shoe business at the age of 15, which he followed for 18 years. His health partially failing by close confinement in his work, he engaged in the stock and produce business, importing the same from Montreal, Canada; and continued this business twelve years. He then bought one of the best farms in the town of Milford, and is engaged in the seed business for Peter Henderson & Company, of New York city. Mr. Beardsley has bred some of the finest Jersey cattle that have appeared in America, and for which he has obtained large prices. He has held the offices of town agent and first selectman for twelve successive years, and was one of the directors of the Milford Savings Bank. He is a member of the Odd Fellows' Lodge in Milford, a member of the board of education and a director of the Steam Power Manufacturing Company. He has been a member of the fire department for 22 years, and a member of the Second Company, Governor's Foot Guards (organized 1775) under Governor Buckingham. He was elected a member of the house of representatives of Connecticut by the democratic party in 1889 for two years, and served on the railroad committee, and was commissioner on the Washington bridge. He gave a full history of the old bridge, and when the bill came before the house to have the structure made a free bridge, supported by New Haven and Fairfield counties, he made a strong argument in favor of the free bridge system, and the bill was passed. He was reelected a member of the house of representatives for the years 1891-2, and is again a member of the railroad committee, and he accepted from Governor Bulkeley an appointment as shell-fish commissioner.

Mr. Beardsley joined the First Congregational church at Milford in the year 1850, and is esteemed in his native town and in the town where he resides, and wherever known, as an honorable and upright citizen. He married Sarah, daughter of Elnathan Baldwin, of Milford, in 1850, and has the following children: De Witt Clinton, who married Miss Martha P. Avery, of Stratford, and has three children, Medorah H., Maud C. and Stanley A. Beardsley; Sarah Etta, who married Charles Clark, of Milford, and had two children, George W. and Elwood R. Clark; and Charles Frederick, the youngest, who resides at home, and is in company with his father in the seed business. The Beardsley family is a quite numerous one in Connecticut, and in all its branches has maintained the honorable reputation transmitted through succeeding generations, from William Beardsley, the venerated ancestor.

Hezekiah B. Beardsley, born in Stratford, is a brother of Charles W. Beardsley. He came to Milford with his parents when eight years old. He was educated in Milford, and studied mathematics in New Haven with George Beckwith, and architecture one year, then learned the trade of carpenter and builder with Jirah Stowe, of Milford, and finished with Elijah Baldwin. With a son of the latter, George G. Baldwin, Mr. Beardsley carried on the business of building until 1872, and since that time has continued alone. He has built many of the finest residences in Milford and other places. He married Mary, daughter of Marcus Stowe, of Milford, in 1861. They have one daughter, Helen, who married Frederick S. Beardsley, of Stratford. They reside in Brunswick, Georgia, and have one daughter, Helen May. Mr. H. B. Beardsley has been a director of the Milford Savings Bank for the past eight years.

Henry J. Bristol, born in Milford in 1830, is a son of Johnson Bristol. The latter established the store now kept by Henry J., on North avenue, Milford, about 1829, and conducted it until 1872, when Henry J. succeeded him. He is a dealer in groceries and feed. He has been assessor and member of the board of relief. He has been treasurer of the Masonic Lodge of Milford for 16 years, and is a member of the Royal Arch Chapter of Birmingham. He married Emma A. Thomas, of New Haven, in 1856. They have three children: Frank T. (in business in New York), Harry and Lillian F. Mrs. Bristol is a relative of the Kimberly family, of West Haven. Her mother, Mary Kimberly, daughter of Eliakim, of West Haven, married Captain Asabel Thomas.

Phineas S. Bristol, born in Milford, in 1823, was a son of Nehemiah and Elizabeth (Stowe) Bristol, and grandson of Nathan and Anna Bristol. Nathan was a soldier in the revolution, and fought in the battles of Long Island and White Plains. He was a son of Richard and Mary Bristol. Richard was a son of Daniel, whose father, Henry, came from England and settled in New Haven, about 1670. The ma-

ternal grandfather of Phineas S. Bristol was William Stowe, son of Stephen, who died from disease contracted while nursing the sick soldiers of the revolutionary war. He had four sons in the war: John, Stephen, Jedediah and Samuel. The father of Stephen Stowe was the Reverend Samuel Stowe, who settled and preached in Middletown, Conn., in 1652. He was a son of Deacon John Stowe, who came from England in 1634, settled in Boston, and from there moved to Roxbury in 1839. He was born in England in 1595. He was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery, of Boston, and a member of the general court of the colony of Massachusetts, in 1639. Phineas S. Bristol was three times married: first to Elizabeth G., daughter of Captain Samuel Tibbals. By her he had one son, Reverend Cornelius Bristol, born in 1863. He is a minister in charge of St. Alban's Episcopal church in Danielsonville, Conn. Mr. Bristol's second wife was Ann M., daughter of Isaac Baldwin. His third wife is Laura A., daughter of Samuel Peck. Mr. Bristol learned the trade of shoemaker when young, and afterward was a merchant in Wallingford, Conn., in New York city, and then in Milford from 1862 to 1875, when he became treasurer of the Milford Savings Bank. He represented Milford in the legislature in 1871, was first selectman in 1870, and was justice of the peace for 25 years. Shortly before the death of Mr. Bristol (which occurred March 14th, 1891), he was made a member of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Theodore Bristol, born in Milford in 1837, is a son of Johnson Bristol, and grandson of Jehial Bristol, both natives of Milford. He engaged in the livery business in Milford in 1873, with I. C. Smith, succeeding Warren Bradley, who succeeded George B. Wheeler, the founder of the livery business in Milford. The firm of Smith & Bristol was dissolved in 1878, Mr. Smith retiring. Since this time Mr. Bristol has continued the business alone. He has been twice married: first to Caroline A. Merwin, of Milford. By her he had one daughter, Julia E., who married Walter Irving, of Milford. For his second wife he married Rachel C. Wright, of Clinton, Conn., by whom he has one daughter, Grace L., also one son, Royal M., who died at the age of six years and five months.

William B. Brotherton, born in Milford in 1849, is a son of William Brotherton, of Westport, Conn., who came to Milford in 1838, and was postmaster from 1852 to 1861, and from 1865 to 1869. William B. was educated in Milford, and married Mary A. Chappell, of New London county, Conn., in 1873. They have four children: Harold L., Gracie B., Frank C. and Edward B. Mr. Brotherton was appointed postmaster of Milford in 1887. The office of postmaster has been held in the Brotherton family under all democratic administrations since 1852.

Frank P. Buckingham, born in Milford in 1852, is a son of Daniel, and grandson of Daniel, descendants of Thomas Buckingham, who came from England and settled in Milford in 1639. Frank P. was edu-

cated in Milford, learned the carpenter's trade when a boy, and has since followed it. He has been boss carpenter of the Milford Straw Manufacturing Company for the last twenty years. He is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows societies, and a member of the American Provident Union of Milford. He is assessor of taxes. He married Sarah Judd, of Watertown, Conn., in 1875. They have two sons and two daughters: Marion L., Daniel F., Leah J. and Forrester L.

Alonzo W. Burns, son of Samuel L. and grandson of Samuel Burns, was born in Milford in 1840, was educated here and learned the trade of cooper. Since 1875 he has been engaged in the clam and fish trade. He married Maria E. Ford, of Milford. He was elected to the legislature in 1873 and 1891, and has been a member of the board of relief.

W. Cecil Durand, born in Milford June 15th, 1851, is a son of Calvin and Sarah Cecil (Hunter) Durand (the latter a native of Savannah, Ga.), and grandson of William Durand. Calvin Durand was born in Milford in 1802, and was a merchant in New York 56 years, for 17 years of the firm of Goodhue & Co., 64 South street. His brother, Mason A. Durand, was one of the founders of the National Blues of the city of New Haven. Another brother, William Durand, was surveyor of the port of New Haven eight years, was the first democrat elected to the legislature from Milford, and held the offices of judge of probate and town clerk. W. Cecil Durand was educated in New York and New Haven, completing his studies at the Sheffield Scientific School of New Haven in 1871. He was elected to the legislature from Milford in 1882, 1883 and 1888. He has been twice married; first to Lizzie C. Ford, of Milford, in 1885. She died August 18th, 1888; and June 17th, 1890, he married Clara Baldwin Clark, of Milford. In July, 1891, he was chosen treasurer and secretary of the Milford Savings Bank. He was a state auditor (Conn.), from July 1st, 1889, to July 1st, 1891.

Dennis Fenn, born in Milford in 1837, is a son of Dan and grandson of Dan, whose father, Benjamin, was a son of Lieutenant Benjamin, all descendants from Benjamin Fenn, the settler of 1639. Dennis' mother was Maria Bradley. He had one brother, George Newton Fenn, who settled in Illinois in 1856. Dennis married, in 1865, Eva M., daughter of Ephraim Brown, of Milford. They have four children: Benjamin, Nathan H., Anna M. and Harry D. Mr. Fenn has been interested in the town affairs, was a member of the State Board of Agriculture two years, and is a member of the Indian River Grange of Milford. He has always been a farmer and seed grower. He owns the farm originally owned by Benjamin, the settler. It was given to him for settling outside the stockade, and has remained in the Fenn family 250 years.

Doctor Elias Buell Heady was born in Norfolk, Conn., July 28th, 1846, and is a son of Clark Heady, of the same town. He was educated at the Norfolk high school and at the South Berkshire Institute, Mass. He taught school after this, and then took a course at Eastman's Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., graduating February 15th, 1866. He commenced the study of medicine with Doctor H. M. Knight in 1869, was with him three years, and during this time attended the Yale Medical College, graduating in 1872. He commenced the practice of medicine in the spring of 1872 in Cornwall, Conn., practiced there eight years, and came to Milford in March, 1880, where he has since practiced. He is a member of the New Haven County and State Medical societies, honorary member of the Bridgeport Medical Association, and a member of the I. O. O. F., of Milford. He makes a specialty of surgery. He married, in 1874, Julia V. Kellogg, of Cornwall, Conn. They have two sons: Louis E. and Carlton K. Heady.

Frank M. Howe was born in Painesville, Ohio, in 1852, and received his education there. His father, George E. Howe, has had charge of the state reformatory at Meriden 12 years. Frank M. Howe was appointed superintendent of the reform school at Lansing, Mich., in 1872, when he was 20 years of age. He was called "the boy superintendent," and was the youngest state officer in the country. He held this position seven years, when he resigned to come East to take the same position in the reform school at Providence, R. I., in 1880. He remained at the latter place over three years, when, on account of ill health, he was compelled to resign. He introduced many reforms both at Lansing and at Providence. He came to Milford in September, 1884, and established a private school, known as Elmwood School for Boys.

James W. Kelley was born in Haverhill, Mass., in 1857, learned the shoemaking trade there, came to Milford in 1878, and engaged with Baldwin & Lankin, shoe manufacturers. He married Mary Purcell, of Milford, in 1881. They have three children: David P., Agnes and Richard. Mr. Kelley is a retail dealer in liquors, teas and coffee. In politics he is a democrat, and has served his party on town and district committees. He is grand knight of Tinto Council, No. 47, K. of C. This council was organized September 5th, 1888.

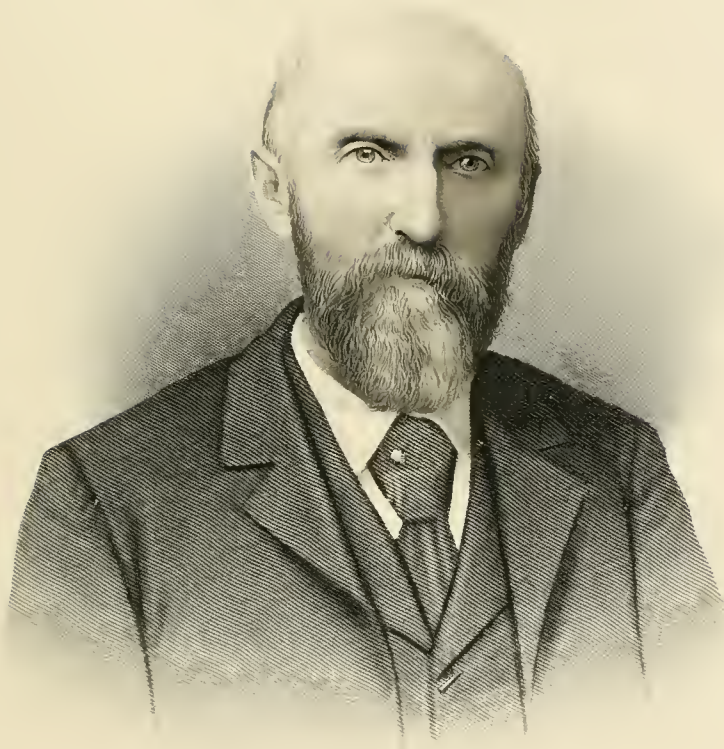
James McCarthy was born in Ireland in 1830, and came to America in 1860. He settled first in New York, and removed to Bridgeport, Conn., in 1863. He enlisted from there in Company F, 14th Connecticut Volunteers. He was wounded before Petersburg, in his right knee, and was discharged in April, 1865. He came to Milford in 1868, and has since been engaged in the clothing trade. He has been justice of the peace for the past 12 years, and selectman five years. He is a director and incorporator of the Milford Savings Bank. He was married in 1869, and has four children.

WILLIAM MERRITT MERWIN, a son of Merritt and Catherine (Peck) Merwin, was born in Milford in 1827. He is a lineal descendant of John, the son of Miles Merwin, one of the original settlers of the town, who was the progenitor of all those of that name in this part of the county. Miles Merwin died in 1697, and his grave, in the old burial plot of Milford, was the only one of the first Wepawaug planters marked by a headstone. He was a man of considerable property, and as his estate was entailed, a number of generations of his descendants remained in Milford, each one embracing representative citizens in this and adjoining towns. Among his descendants in New Haven is Lieutenant Governor Samuel E. Merwin, one of the leading attorneys of that city.

William M. Merwin, whose portrait appears in this book, has the well-merited distinction of being one of the most successful business men in Milford in the present period of time. He was reared in this town, and has ever been identified with its interests, but having applied himself closely to his own affairs, became but little known in public capacities. After being engaged in the coasting trade, he successfully grew garden seeds, following that occupation a number of years. Later, nearly a score of years ago, he became interested in the cultivation of oysters in the waters of his native town, being one of the pioneers in that industry, which he developed to its present important condition, with beneficial results to himself and his family. In this avocation he has had abundant opportunity to exercise those characteristics which most distinguish him, and which have been such fruitful factors in his success. To his excellent habits of living and business he added an inexhaustible fund of energy, a worthy ambition to overcome every obstacle which interfered with his interests, and labored ceaselessly to accomplish his purposes. Although often beset with difficulties which would have discouraged a person of a less sanguine nature, he was indefatigable in every effort until his business was established upon a firm basis.

As related in the foregoing pages, the first efforts at oyster culture in the Gulf pond were failures, on account of the shallow waters and the impeded flow of sediment, which smothered the young plant. A bed of oysters placed in the outer waters of the bay in 1875 by Mr. Merwin and others, was also an expensive and disastrous experiment. A severe storm, which washed the sand into the sound, almost wholly destroyed it. After three years efforts of that nature, he began planting for himself in deeper water, farther in the sound, in order to secure better protection from these external elements. His neighbors predicted failure, but he risked the venture and succeeded in cultivating a very fine crop of superior oysters. His sons, Dumond P. and Merritt W., now joined him, the firm becoming William M. Merwin & Sons, which has since been continued.

.. About this time they buoyed off 200 acres, near Pond Point, in



*Tom M. Merwin*





water from 20 to 50 feet deep, upon which they planted, on gravelly bottom, full grown oysters and shells. This venture was also entirely successful, a large set was secured, and the belief of Mr. Merwin that deep water oyster culture could here be profitably carried on was fully confirmed. After this the area of the beds was largely increased, there being in 1881 one hundred acres under successful cultivation. Other privileges were subsequently buoyed off, until ten years later the firm cultivated 1,000 acres on which 1,000,000 bushels of fine native oysters were growing. The product finds a ready sale in home markets, and a large export trade with Liverpool has been established. The industry has become one of the largest of the kind in the county, and from 20 to 50 persons are employed in carrying it on. Since 1878 Mr. Merwin has spent his winters at Rock Ledge, Florida, being the second citizen of Connecticut to locate at a point where is now such a numerous colony from the state of his nativity. There, as in Milford, his energy and practical ideas have greatly assisted in the development of the country, until it has become one of the most desirable sections of that state.

Mr. Merwin was married in 1849 to Sarah C., daughter of Harvey Peck, of Orange, and their only children are the foregoing sons. Dumond P., born August 9th, 1853, married October 1st, 1874, A. Berthena, daughter of David Bristol, and they have two children, Albert Dumond and William Harvey. The younger son, Merritt W., was born February 6th, 1856, and was married October 1st, 1877, to Julia, daughter of George Elmer, of Milford. The fruits of their union are three daughters: Lottie E., Grace and Katie.

I. Atwater Merwin was born April 26th, 1819, in Milford, on the farm he now occupies, which has been in the Merwin family for many generations. His father, Benedict, was a son of the fifth Miles Merwin that was born on the same farm. I. Atwater Merwin is in the seventh generation from the first Miles Merwin, one of the first settlers of Milford, in 1639. Mr. Merwin married Susan H., daughter of James A. Giddings, of New Milford, January 7th, 1857. She is a relative of Hon. Joshua R. Giddings, of Ohio. She was born July 4th, 1833. They have four children: Mary Belle, born 1857; Charles A., born 1862; James Dwight, born 1865; and Rosalie G., born 1873. Mr. Merwin was educated at Milford and Wilton, Conn. He has been engaged largely as dealer in cattle. He was major of the 3d Battalion of Light Artillery for six years. He resides at Pond Point, near where the British landed in the war of revolution. The house is on the site of one sacked by the British.

Edward G. Miles was born in Milford, February 2d, 1846, in the house where he now resides. He is a son of David and Martha (Baldwin) Miles, and grandson of David, all natives of Milford. David Miles held the office of selectman of Milford a number of years. The Miles family is among the old families of Milford. Edward G. was educated

in Milford, and has always been a farmer. He has been assessor and member of the board of relief, and was elected town treasurer in 1888, '89, '90 and '91. He married Mary, daughter of William Brooks, in 1870. They have one son, David Dewitt Brooks Miles. Mr. Miles is a member of the order of Odd Fellows, and has been secretary of the same 14 years, succeeding his father, who had been secretary 25 years. He is a member of the Grange, and clerk of the First Ecclesiastical Society.

Charles J. Morris, born in Woodbridge, Conn., in 1835, is a son of Nathan R., and grandson of Asa Morris. He learned blacksmithing in Bethany, with Sidney Sperry, commencing when 17 years old. He followed this trade in Bethany and Orange until 1861, when he enlisted in the 27th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, for nine months. He was in the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. He was taken prisoner at the latter battle and sent to Richmond, but was soon paroled and sent North. He was discharged after serving one year. He came to Milford in 1863, and was engaged at blacksmithing with A. H. Alling nine years, then with N. R. Ford three years, then formed a partnership with the latter lasting three years. He came to the shop he now occupies on River street in 1879, and established business alone. He married Emma L. Buckingham, of Milford, in 1874. They have three children: George A., Bessie L. and Clifford B.

Joseph W. Nettleton, born in Milford in 1824, is a son of William and Nancy (Rogers) Nettleton, and grandson of Benajah Nettleton. Joseph W. is the only one of the family now living. He married in 1847 Elizabeth A., daughter of Stephen B. Ford, of Milford. Joseph W. had one sister, Julia A., who married T. S. Ford, and died in New Haven, March 20th, 1848; and one brother, Garry Nettleton, who died at Janesville, Wisconsin, April 12th, 1869, aged 41. He was an architect and builder. Mr. Nettleton has always been a farmer. He takes an active interest in political matters and is a republican.

John G. North was born in Berlin, Conn., in 1823, graduated from Berlin Academy at the age of 14, was clerk in post office, drug store, dry goods and grocery stores and railroad station until he was 20 years of age, then he commenced the insurance business in 1843, and is in continuance of the business the oldest life insurance agent living in the United States, and is the only agent now living that commenced with the Connecticut Mutual Life at its organization, in 1846. He has been fire insurance agent for 48 years. He represents the Aetna, Phoenix, Hartford, National Insurance Company of North America, Fire Association, Liverpool, London & Globe, Royal and other insurance companies, that have aggregate assets of over \$100,000,000. Mr. North married Elizabeth Dickinson in 1843, and has two sons and three daughters. Both sons are engaged in the insurance business, John C. with his father in New Haven, and Edward C. in Boston. His three daughters all married Yale graduates; Mary married Reverend Eras-

tus Blakesley, of Spencer, Mass.; Sarah married Doctor S. P. Warren, of Portland, Maine; and Nellie married S. T. Dutton, superintendent of public schools of Brookline, Mass. Mr. North moved to Milford in 1887, and has an office both here and in New Haven. He was an officer in the Sunday School Union of New Haven over a quarter of a century, and more than fifty years a teacher or superintendent of Sunday schools. He was for many years manager of the lectures of John B. Gough and Henry Ward Beecher and others. He is the noted judge who, by the large fines he has imposed upon violators of the liquor law and houses of ill-fame in 63 cases, has closed up several saloons and broken up every known house of ill-fame in the town.

Samuel N. Oviatt, born in Milford September 17th, 1840, is a son of Samuel, grandson of Abel and great-grandson of Samuel Oviatt. Abel built the first store at the junction of Tomlinson, Main and West streets, in Milford, in 1820. He was succeeded by his two sons, Samuel and Curtis, in 1821. They added tanning and the lumber business to their grocery trade about 1824. In 1825 they took in two new partners—Charles Baldwin and Nathan Botsford. Samuel Oviatt succeeded this firm in 1826, and continued until 1850, when he was succeeded by Tuttle & Nettleton. He bought them out in 1855, and continued until 1863. The store was afterward used for a dwelling house until 1871, when Samuel N. Oviatt commenced the general store business there and has continued since. He married Mary Furman, of Milford, in 1872. They have one son and one daughter: Rennie P. and Abby.

Henry C. Platt, born in Milford in 1832, is a son of Jonah Platt and a descendant of Deacon Richard Platt, who settled in Milford in 1639. Henry C. is the sixth generation from Deacon Richard. He was educated at Yale College, studied law in New York city, was admitted to the bar in New York in June, 1861, practiced law there until 1869, then came to New Haven, and has practiced there since. He has continued his residence in Milford all his life. He has never sought office, but was justice of the peace several years.

N. Dwight Platt, born in Milford in 1848, is a son of Nathan and Sarah S. Platt, grandson of Nathan and great-grandson of Joseph. Nathan and Sarah had three sons: George F., Norman S. and N. Dwight. The first and last are residents of Milford, while Norman S. resides in Cheshire. George F. and N. Dwight are farmers and fruit and seed growers. N. Dwight Platt married M. Lizzie Manville, of Milford, in 1869. They have one son, Frank N. In politics the Platts are republicans.

Theodore Platt, born in Milford November 20th, 1837, is a son of Clark and grandson of Jonah Platt, and a descendant of Richard Platt, one of the first settlers of Milford in 1639. Theodore Platt was a member of the firm of Platt & Merwin, which succeeded John W. Merwin in 1874 in the grocery business. This firm continued until Jan-

uary 1st, 1889, when it was succeeded by Theodore Platt & Co., consisting of Theodore and his brother, Nathan C. Platt. They are also engaged in raising seed. This business was established in 1858. Their farm is located at Pond Point, in this town. Mr. Platt is a member of the Odd Fellows' Lodge, Encampment and Grand Canton.

Doctor Willis S. Putney, born in New York city May 26th, 1859, at the parsonage of the Second Street M. E. church, is a son of the late Reverend Rufus C. Putney, a Methodist clergyman. Willis S. was educated at the Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute, studied medicine under Doctor William H. Hanford, of Brooklyn, graduated from the New York Homeopathic Medical College in 1882, and commenced the practice of medicine in Bethel, Conn., in 1882. After a practice there of two years, he removed to Milford in 1884, and has since practiced there. His office and residence is at the west end of Broad street. He is a member of the Connecticut Homeopathic Medical society, a member of the I. O. O. F. of Milford, examining physician of Volunteer Council, No. 819, Royal Arcanum of Milford, member of the board of education and of the board of health of Milford. He married Helen S., daughter of Doctor John Young, of Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1883. They have one son, Edward W.

Isaac T. Rogers, born in Milford in 1813, was a son of Josiah Rogers, who was a sea captain, and died about the time Isaac T. was born. The latter was educated in New Haven, where his mother moved when he was nine years old. He first engaged in the manufacture of carriages in Milford, and afterward moved to New York and engaged in importing and exporting goods between New York city and London, with his twin brother, Henry S. Rogers. He retired from this business in 1860, and for the last 32 years of his life made Milford his home, devoting his time to public affairs. He was acting school visitor for a quarter of a century. He took an active part in securing the charter of the Milford Savings Bank, and was president of the bank until September, 1890, when he resigned. He married, in 1842, Martha Ann Ingersoll, and they had three children: George Ingersoll, in the State Insurance Department, Hartford; Helen Louisa, married Charles Tuttle, of New York; and Martha Amelia, married Doctor Frank Hamilton Whittemore, of New Haven. Mr. Rogers died May 19th, 1891.

John E. Rogers, born in Milford in 1834, is a son of Joseph and Anna (Nettleton) Rogers, and grandson of Joseph Rogers. They were descendants of John Rogers, one of the settlers of Milford in 1639. Joseph and Anna (Nettleton) Rogers had six children, five of whom are still living: John E., George E., Theodore H., Elizabeth A. and Mary A. Charles J. died in 1872. John E. has been twice married. His first wife was Charlotte Plumb, of Milford. They were married in 1861 and had no children. For his second wife he married, in 1888, Ella L. Wilcox, of Cromwell, Conn. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are

members of the First Congregational church, of Milford. He is a farmer. On his farm the Bridgeport M. E. Conference held their annual camp meetings from 1858 until 1874. His brother, George E., was twice married. His first wife was Alice Crosby and his second wife was Harriet M. Pope. By his second wife he had two sons. He served nine months in the war of the rebellion. He is a member of the F. & A. M. and of the G. A. R.

David E. Smith, born in Milford in 1848, is a son of Richard E., grandson of David, and great-grandson of David Smith. Richard E. married Mehitable, daughter of Enoch Clark, whose father, David, was a son of Isaac Clark. David E. Smith learned the trade of carpenter and builder when 18 years old, and became a contractor and builder as early as 1870. He built St. Mary's church, of Milford, in 1882, and St. Lawrence's church, of West Haven, in 1886, and has erected some of the finest residences of Milford and other places. He established a lumber yard in Milford in 1876, and July 1st, 1890, one in Bridgeport, Conn., known as the Burns & Smith Lumber Company. He employs in his building business 25 men. He married, May 31st, 1871, Emma F. Studley, of Bridgeport. They have six daughters and one son.

Edwin P. Smith, born in Middletown, Conn., in 1813, was a son of Edwin and Harriet (Porter) Smith, and grandson of Nathaniel, whose father, Lamberton, was a son of Lamberton, and he a son of Captain Samuel Smith, whose father, Lieutenant Samuel, was a son of George Smith, one of the first settlers of New Haven, who came with Davenport and Eaton. Lieutenant Samuel married Obedience, daughter of Captain George Lamberton, who came from England in 1638 and settled in New Haven. Captain Lamberton came in 1635 to Boston, afterward returned to England, and came with the Davenport and Eaton company in 1638. Edwin P. was engaged in business in New York, from 1836 until 1872, as a distiller and sugar refiner, with William M. Johnson & Sons. He built the first sugar house in which white sugars were made by the centrifugal process. He removed to Milford with his family in 1884, and died January 5th, 1890. He married Mary, daughter of Peter Hepburn, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They had three daughters and two sons. The father of Mrs. Smith, Peter Hepburn, was born in Milford in 1795, and was the son of Nathaniel and Abigail (Merwin) Hepburn. She is a direct descendant of the first Miles Merwin of Milford.

Isaac C. Smith, born in Milford, October 21st, 1832, is a son of Nathan, and grandson of Isaac, both natives of Milford. He was educated in Milford, learned the trade of shoemaker, and followed it about five years. He then worked in the straw shop of Milford six years, then engaged in the butcher business and followed it 23 years. Retiring from this in 1873, he followed the livery business ten years. He has also practiced veterinary surgery for the past 30 years, having

studied one year in New York, and under Doctor W. J. Sullivan, of New Haven. He now makes a specialty of breeding fine Jersey stock on his farm in Milford. He was elected first selectman and town agent in 1885, 1887, 1888, 1889 and 1890. He married Laura A., daughter of William Platt, of Milford, in 1854. They have one son, George W., born in 1860, now engaged in the butchering business in Milford. Isaac C. Smith was an active member of the Governor's Horse Guards of New Haven for 15 years, and is still an honorary member. He has held all the offices in this company, from private to major.

Nathan E. Smith, born in Milford in 1833, is a son of Nathaniel and Susan (Merwin) Smith, and grandson of Theophilus M. and Abigail G. (Nettleton) Smith. Theophilus was a son of Nathaniel and Catherine (Miles) Smith, and grandson of Joseph and Martha (Bryan) Smith. Joseph was a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Haughter) Smith, and grandson of William Smith, who came from England and settled on Long Island, and afterward came to Milford. Nathan E. Smith married Sarah A. Buckingham, of Milford, March 10th, 1857. Her father was Jonah C., son of Daniel, grandson of Daniel, a descendant of Thomas Buckingham, one of the pioneer settlers of Milford in 1639. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children: Charles E., born February 22d, 1858; Carrie I., August 22d, 1859, and Frederick A., February 12th, 1874. Mr. Smith has taken an active part in the school affairs of Milford, and has been a member of the board of education 18 years.

CHARLES A. TOMLINSON, one of the most active of the young citizens of Milford and at present the sheriff of New Haven county, is a descendant, in direct line in the eighth generation, of Henry Tomlinson, one of the first to bear that name in America. That ancestor was a son of George Tomlinson, of Derby, in Derbyshire, England, who, "according to tradition, was a native of Yorkshire, where the family name runs back in history several hundred years." The father removed to Derby, where the son was reared to his trade—that of a weaver, which, according to the prevailing custom in England in the sixteenth century, gave them the same social position as the merchants or the "Landed Gentry," or the class next below the nobility of that country. The family arms brought to America by Henry Tomlinson indicates by its ornamentation that in earlier periods the Tomlinsons descended from some line of kings. In England, as well as in America, the family has had representatives eminent in political, professional and military life, and all the members have, by their worth, to a large degree, commanded the esteem of the communities in which they have resided. A number, in different generations, became noted in the pursuits of the law, medicine and theology, several attaining high official positions. Gideon Tomlinson, in the sixth generation from Henry, the founder of the family in America, graduated from Yale College in 1802. In 1819 he was elected member of con-



*C. A. Johnson*





gress from Connecticut, and served eight years in that body. He was elected governor of the state in 1827, and held that office until he was chosen United States senator in 1831. In 1836 he was elected the first president of the Housatonic Railroad Company. Besides Governor Tomlinson there were fifteen other Tomlinson graduates of Yale College from 1744 to 1885. Some of the Tomlinsons became distinguished educators, and others attained distinction as successful manufacturers or business men. Reverend David Gibson Tomlinson, of the seventh generation, an uncle of Sheriff Charles A., was a most worthy and useful Episcopal minister, who died as the rector of Emmanuel church, in Weston, Conn., November 3d, 1864. With few exceptions, the Tomlinsons of every generation have been earnest churchmen, and while, in consequence of this training, some adhered to the British crown in the troublous times of the revolution, most of them were staunch patriots, and a number were soldiers in the American armies. As showing their devotion to the duties they had assumed, the following anecdote is told:

"Caleb Tomlinson, of Huntington, being a soldier in the revolution, was sent by General Wooster with a dispatch to General Washington. Being from the same neighborhood as Gen. Wooster, young Tomlinson was selected by the general because he knew him to be a plucky Yankee, although a little uncultivated in his manners, but one to be trusted for the discharge of duty.

"Arriving at headquarters, he asked to see Gen. Washington, but was told by the guard, 'You cannot see him.' 'But I must; I have a dispatch for him from Gen. Wooster.' The guard reported to Washington, and he was admitted to the presence of the general, who was seated at a rude table, writing, when Tomlinson handed the dispatch, and Washington, on reading it, nodded assent, and asked, 'Anything more?' 'Nothing,' said Tomlinson, 'but an answer from you.' 'Do you presume to tell me what I must do?' inquired the general. 'No, General, but I'll be darned if I leave these quarters without something to show that I have discharged my duty as a soldier.' Rising from his seat, Washington remarked, 'You are from Connecticut, I perceive.' 'I am, sir,' was the reply. Tapping him on the shoulder, the General said, 'Young man, I wish to the God of battles I had more such soldiers as you. You shall be granted your request.'"

Henry Tomlinson and his wife, Alice, and several children, after having come to America from Derbyshire, England, settled in Milford in 1652, where the town granted him a home lot "by the water side," on which to build his weaver shop. Later, he was elected as the "keeper of the ordinary," and was thus brought into prominence in the town's affairs. In the course of four years he removed to Stratford, where he became a large owner of lands, purchased of the Indians, in Derby and other localities. He died at Stratford, March 16th,

1681, leaving a large estate to his wife, five married daughters and his two sons, Agur and Jonas, the latter being the paternal ancestor of the subject of this sketch. He settled on Great Hill, in Derby, about 1675, on the tract of land given him by his father, where he died the latter part of 1692. Of his four children, all sons, Abraham, the eldest, also resided, as a farmer, on Great Hill, and was prominent in the affairs of old Derby. His will, made in 1739, devised a large estate to his wife and six children, the eldest of these being Jonah, the ancestor of Sheriff Tomlinson. He was born in Derby in 1712, and died in that town in 1796, when his estate inventoried nearly £2,500. His wife was Mary, daughter of Reverend Joseph Moss, of Derby, and their children were nine in number, the eldest being Abraham, the paternal great-grandfather of Charles A.

Abraham Tomlinson, born in 1738, became a physician and surgeon, and after some years removed to Milford, where he died December 29th, 1816. Besides being active as a medical practitioner, he was also a merchant, and engaged largely in the shipping trade with the West Indies. His third son, David, born in 1767, married Anna, daughter of David Camp, of Milford, and of their eleven children the tenth, Nathan Camp, was the father of Charles A. Tomlinson. The grandfather, David, died in 1825.

Nathan Camp Tomlinson, born in Milford in 1813, married in 1835, Susan Catharine, daughter of Hezekiah Baldwin, of Milford, a descendant of one of the first settlers of the town. He was a farmer and very prominent in all the matters pertaining to the welfare of his native place. The father deceased November 21st, 1885; the mother had departed this life at the homestead on Broad street, May 5th, 1884, leaving a family of five daughters and one son, Charles Abraham.

Charles A. Tomlinson was born in Milford, July 19th, 1848, and was educated in the schools of his native town. He next worked as a mechanic in some of the factories of Milford, but in 1874 he was engaged in the coal trade, which he has since successfully followed. October 27th, 1868, he married Lucia E., daughter of Fowler Sperry, of Milford, and they have four living children: Edward Sperry, born September 20th, 1870; Kate Louise, Ada May and Bertha Hart. Since his boyhood Mr. Tomlinson has taken an active interest in the affairs of Milford, and has served it in many official capacities. For fifteen years he was a member of the board of education, serving that body as its secretary. For a longer period he was one of the vestrymen of St. Peter's Episcopal church, and the treasurer of Ansantawae Masonic Lodge at Milford. In 1876 he was elected one of the representatives of Milford in the state legislature, and was reëlected in 1877. He was again chosen in 1882 and 1886. In November, 1890, he was elected sheriff of New Haven county, and since June, 1891, he has discharged the duties of that office. The principles of democracy have always

been advocated by him, and in 1888 he was one of the delegates from Connecticut to the convention at St. Louis, which renominated Grover Cleveland. In all his feelings he is energetic and progressive, encouraging whatever measure will promote the welfare of his native town. He is the president of the Milford Board of Trade, and the secretary of the Steam Power Company. When the soldiers' monument was erected, in 1888, he was at the head of one of the chief committees, and was also the chairman of the Memorial Committee, which so successfully commemorated, in 1889, the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Milford, which has so highly honored his citizenship.

## CHAPTER VI.

### THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE.

BY REVEREND S. P. MARVIN.

Location and Natural Features.—Geology and Mineralogy.—Flora.—Industries.—The Regicide Judges.—Amity Society.—Union Society.—Chapel.—Ministers.—Burial Grounds.—Prominent Citizens.—List of Early Inhabitants.—First Town Meeting.—Town Officers.—Town House.—Roads.—Physicians.—Biographical Sketches.

THE town of Woodbridge lies northwest of New Haven, having New Haven and Orange for its southern boundary, Derby, Ansonia and Seymour on the west, Bethany on the north, and the West Rock range of hills on the east. It was incorporated in 1784. The scenery of Woodbridge is picturesque and attractive. From numerous points may be seen the city of New Haven, the mouth of its harbor and Long Island sound, with its white sails or its palatial steamers, as they pass to their destined ports. From some of its elevations may be seen more than fifty miles of Long Island sound, and of the north shore of Long Island. Round Top and its companion, Tomlinson hill, are each of them over 600 feet high, and from their tops may be seen with a glass, in addition to the extensive view of the sound and Long Island, some 15 of the towns which surround them. The late President Woolsey, of Yale College, when taking the view from these hills, remarked: "We have no view in the vicinity of New Haven to equal this."

The Ravine has long been attractive for its romantic and delightful driveway, with its high and shaded bluffs on the one side, and its clear, silvery brook on the other, rushing over the pebble stones at one time, and at another forming a cascade, at the foot of which a pool in sleeping beauty mirrors the bold and rugged rocks and trees of the over-hanging banks, and the fleecy clouds floating in the sky above it.

The streams abound with the speckled trout, the glens with the partridge, quail and woodcock, while the forests are made musical with the chatter of the red and grey squirrel.

Woodbridge is celebrated for its healthy atmosphere. Being seven miles from Long Island sound, and having an altitude of from four to six hundred feet above the sea level, it combines the sea and mountain air, making a most delightful and healthful atmosphere. Those who have resided in other localities say that the atmosphere of Woodbridge

is as good as at Litchfield in this state, or any place within a hundred miles of New Haven. It is a suggestion of some of the old physicians of New Haven when anything is the matter with the babies, "Take them up to Woodbridge. The Woodbridge air is better than any medicine I can give them." Woodbridge is also celebrated for the excellence of its water, which is noted for its purity and coolness. The necessity of ice is hardly felt, so cool and refreshing is the water from its numerous springs.

The soil is a rich loam, which holds the fertilizing properties which are put upon it, and their influence may be seen for years. The surface is somewhat uneven and stony, but when once cleared of stones it amply repays in productiveness for all the labor of removing them.

In some parts of the town are immense boulders, the relics of the glacial period, while the eastern valley and the Sperry's farm plains give evidence that they were once covered with water, which was an arm or bay of the sound.

The gneiss and granite are the prevailing kinds of stone. Slate is found, but not in quantity or quality to repay its being prepared for the market. In the northwest part of the town indications of silver have been sufficient to attract the "prospector," and borings have been made, but not with satisfactory results. Along the hills on the east side is found the argillo magnesian limestone, out of which cement similar to the Rosendale is made. Quite extensive works were started for its production, but for some reason the venture did not prove a success.

The fruits and flowers common to this part of New England flourish here. Apples, pears and quinces are quite productive. The peach is somewhat unreliable, though in some years produces a valuable crop. The wild flowers are abundant in variety, decking the hillsides and rendering beautiful the ravines. The cardinal flower grows brilliant by the brookside. The pitcher plant, quite rare in most places, grows in the meadows. The pipsissewa and the trailing arbutus are found in the woods.

Agriculture in its various forms may be said to be the principal industry of the place. Market gardening is carried on to some extent, and milk is extensively produced for the New Haven market and the villages of Ansonia, Birmingham and Seymour. Woodbridge was once famous for its excellent beef, but the great corporations of Chicago and Kansas City have so extended the dressed beef industry that the raising of beef by the farmers is not so profitable as formerly. The cattle trade was once extensive and lucrative, but at present D. N. Clark is the only cattle broker doing business between Albany and New Haven and the surrounding villages.

Quite a number of mechanics and other business men are engaged in the city, and ride back and forth night and morning.

The friction match had its origin in this town. Messrs. Anson

Beecher, William A. Clark and Thomas Sanford were pioneers in the business. Mr. Beecher moved his business to Westville, where, under the direction of Mr. Eben and Wheeler Beecher and their brothers, it assumed large proportions, and became a source of great wealth. William A. Clark continued to carry on the business in the north part of the town, gaining a high reputation for his matches and a competence of wealth. After his death, under the management of his son-in-law, Frederick P. Newton, it was absorbed in the Diamond Match Company and removed to Westville.

The timber trade was at one time quite extensively carried on by James J. Baldwin and others between this place and New York, but with his advanced years the business has declined.

Though the Judges' cave on West Rock is just without the limits of the town, still there are several locations which have a historic interest as places to which the regicides fled, or where they secreted themselves, and were aided by the early settlers of Woodbridge. There are several places which bear names evidently derived from their having been the residence of the exiles, such as the "Lodge," the "Harbor," the "Spring," "Hatchet's Harbor," and others. Of these places the Lodge was probably the one most frequented by them. This was in the northwest part of the town. Reverend I. P. Warren, in his history of the three judges, thus speaks of it: "Here by the side of a ledge of rocks, some 20 feet high, was built a cabin of stone, 9 by 10 feet in dimension and covered over by trunks and leaves of trees. From the top of the ledge is a fine view of the city and Long Island sound, with the intervening villages and scattered farms and dwellings. A little spring of clear water issues from the crevices of a rock a few rods distant." "This," says President Stiles, at one time president of Yale College, "was undoubtedly their great and principal lodge." The "Harbor" was about three quarters of a mile above Halsted Bishop's, on the stream across which the New Haven Water Company have built their large dam. Another hiding place was with Mr. Richard Sperry, the ancestor of the Sperrys, once so numerous on the flat known as "Sperry's Farm." It is evident that to Woodbridge and its inhabitants, as much as to any other place or people, the regicides owed their escape from the emissaries of Charles the Second, who had come over from England to apprehend them.

The Ecclesiastical Society of Amity (including Bethany till 1763) was formed in 1737.\* After petitioning the general court for 20 years, consent was granted, and it was formed from the northwest part of the town of New Haven, with the addition of one mile and six score rods in width from the northeast part of Milford, and in length, from an east and west line about four miles south from the Waterbury line. Before this, those living on the New Haven side had gone to the First church of New Haven, and those on the Milford side to the First

\* Incorporated in 1739.

church of Milford, some of them having to go ten or twelve miles to church on the Sabbath and to procure the administration of covenant ordinances for their children.

The first record which we have of the society reads thus: "At a meeting of the inhabetence of the parish of Amety, in the town of new haven legally warncd, met on the twenty-seventh day of October, 1738. And at said meeting, by vote, in the first place made choice of Cap. iack Johnson for their moderator. Secondly, thay by vote made choice of Ebenezer peck as their society clark and sworn according to law, thirdly and sum more then tye thirds of said inhabetence convened voted to build a hous to meet in for the worship of God and none dessented thereafrom said intention."

They then appointed a society committee and laid a tax of three pence on the pound, to be paid in one month, for the support of the Gospel, and voted "There should be two places for meeting, viz., that the dwelling hous of Mr. Joseph Willmot and the dwelling hous of Mr. Joseph Perkins shall be the places for the meeting for divine sarveces." The location of the meeting house was to be determined by the following vote: "It was then voted that the county survear with tue chain bearers under oth shal be cald out between this and the firs day of Jenewary to measure and compute the distance of way from each of the inhabetence to sum sartain place to build a meeting hous for the worship of God." The size of the house was to be "fifty and five foot in length and forty foot in width."

The internal arrangement of this house was with square pews all around the four sides, except that part of one side occupied by the pulpit. There was an aisle leading from the front deor to the pulpit through the center, and two rows of pews each side of this broad aisle. The pulpit was elevated some ten feet above the audience, with a canopy or sounding board suspended over it. The deacons' seat was under the pulpit, facing the audience.

At a subsequent meeting, May 13th, 1740, they voted to ask the advice of the association "for a minister to preach to us in order for a settlement. Left. Ebenezer Becher and insin Barnabas Baldwin be a comtee to make our requests to the association for a minister." The advice of the association was probably favorable, as on the 30th of June following they voted they would have preaching on the second Sabbath day in August. Probably this meeting on the second Sabbath of August, 1740, was the first meeting held in the new meeting house.

At first they were not successful with their candidates. Reverends Gideon Mills, Mr. Whittlesey and Nathan Birdsey were each employed as candidates, but for some reason did not settle with them. The next candidate was more fortunate. Mr. Benjamin Woodbridge, having preached as a probationer, won the affections and confidence of the good people of Amity, and received a call May 13th, 1742. His settlement was to be £500, with the condition that if he "turned to any

other practice or opinion than that on which this church is or shall be settled," and he cease to be the pastor of the church, the settlement was to revert to the parish again. In addition to the settlement he was to have as a permanent salary £200 a year. After some explanations by the parish, Mr. Woodbridge accepted the call and was installed on the 3d of November, 1742. Captain Isaac Johnson and Theophilus Baldwin were elected deacons, and the church adopted the "Halfway Covenant."

No one was allowed in those times to hold a religious meeting or to give an exhortation in any meeting without consent of the proper authorities. Accordingly, on the 24th of November, the following vote was passed: "There was chosen by the church in Amity, as their representatives for sd church, with the Pastor, to order for the opening and shutting of the pulpit doors, and for giving leave or prohibiting any persons preaching or exhorting publicly, according to the laws of the government on that occasion, Dea Isaac Johnson, Francis Griffin and Dea Theophilus Baldwin."

Very soon after the church was finished rules were adopted for seating it and dignifying the seats. The males and females sat on opposite sides of the house. In all cases the men sat on the right of the minister and the women on the left; the dignity of a person was reckoned from the amount of his tax rate for the building of the meeting house. "Each person should sit according to their building part." As this dignifying the meeting house was peculiar to the fathers, the following rules or votes respecting it are given: "Voted, that the two foremost seats should be the highest seats. 2. That the two pews on the right and left hand of the fore doors should be the next highest seats. 3. That the two pews on the right and left hand of the pulpit should be the next highest seats. 4. That the two next seats to the fore seats the next highest seats. 5. That the the third seats in the equare body should be equal to the four seats in the front gallery." And so they proceeded through the house. The corner pews under the gallery stairs were the lowest in dignity. "All persons, males at 21 and girls at 18, were to be seated." In 1753 the church was resealed and dignified, and this proviso added to previous rules: "That but *one head* should be reconed to a man in order to advance him in seating."

In the early years of the parish clocks were not in use in the churches, and the length of the service was determined by an hour-glass. When the service commenced the hour-glass was placed upon one end. When the sand had run through it was turned on the other, and when it had run through a second time the meeting closed.

To provide for the comfort of the worshippers, as stoves were not in existence, they built "Sabba-day houses" upon the green. These were one story high and about 15 feet square, with a fireplace. A row of these houses extended across the north and east sides of the green. Usually two families united and spent the noon in each of them.



Tradition has it that often the cider bottle was brought and passed around, but a better one is that noon prayer-meetings were frequently held in them. These "Sabba-day houses" became a source of contention, as some of their owners would rent them to tramps to the annoyance of the neighbors. Accordingly, one Saturday night a company of men repaired to the green and tore down all the Sabba-day houses on the east side of the green but one. It being too near morning to pull that down without being detected, they wrote on the door with chalk, "*Be ye also ready.*" Molly Woodbridge, when she heard of it, said, "*That was a very solemn admonition.*"

In 1761 they voted "to shingle the roof and color the sides and ends of the house and that a number of gentlemen might build a bell chamber on the top of the meeting house at their own cost." In the following year (1762) the north part of the parish was set off, and constituted the parish of Bethany. The territorial center of the parish of Amity remained at the same place where the "survear and tue chain bearers" had located the center of the "inhabetance" 20 years before. It was about 1802 that the canopy was lowered and a window put in back of the pulpit. The house was again painted, and a tax levied in dollars and cents, the first mention made of money of this denomination on the society's records. In 1831 a committee was appointed to build a new church and to dispose of the old one. The new meeting house was located but a few rods from the old one, and was a great improvement in internal arrangement, as well as architecture, on its predecessor.

The parish has ever kept up with the progress of the age in taste and refinement. In 1862-3 they remodelled the interior and beautifully frescoed it, and built a pulpit recess on the back of the house, making it a most attractive audience room, which has been taken as a model by several other parishes.

In 1865 a neat fence was built enclosing the church green, and in the following spring the grounds were laid out with walks, and trees were set out, making a beautiful park. A few years later a lecture room and church parlor was built and connected with the church, \$500 of the expense of which was defrayed by Mrs. Zina Carrington. In 1891 Mrs. Mary Clark Treat gave the church a beautiful pipe organ, as a memorial of her father's family, Mr. Treat Clark.

During the pastorate of Reverend Jason Allen, those who were opposed to him, uniting with those belonging to other denominations, formed a new society, calling it the "Union Society." They built a meeting house, which stood opposite the west part of the church green. They seem to have been aggressive and bitter in their opposition to the old society of Amity, and attempted to obtain a part or the whole of the fund, but were unsuccessful in their purpose. The meetings in the united meeting house were held by different denominations.

After struggling for existence a few years the organization was given up and the meeting house sold, to be removed to Ansonia, where it was reconstructed into a tenement house. Most of the families who were interested in that organization have either left the place or are identified with the First church.

In the north part of the parish within a few years a chapel has been built, which is supplied by ministers from different denominations, and where a Sabbath school is maintained.

The first pastor of the Amity church was Reverend Benjamin Woodbridge, who held the office 43 years, and until his death. He had a settlement of £500, and an annual salary after the fourth year of his settlement of £200. A minister in those days was settled for life, and a certain amount was given for his settlement, which was independent of his salary. His long pastorate seems to have been successful and harmonious. He was suspected of being a tory in revolutionary times, and the church appointed a committee to wait on him respecting his political views and loyalty to the cause of the colonies. His reply was that when the United Colonies had gained their independence he would take the "oath of fidelity." The success of the colonies led him, however, to take the oath as a loyal citizen. At the formation of the town it was named after him, for which honor he gave them a copy of "Whitley's Annotations on the Epistles," which is still preserved in the library at the parsonage in Woodbridge; also a copy of "Annotations by several eminent Dutch Divines," which was given to the Congregational society of Bethany. He died December 4th, 1785. His remains were deposited in the cemetery near the center of the town. His wife sleeps beside him, and his daughter, Mary, lies near them. The society erected a monument over his grave, with the following inscription: "The Rev. Benj. Woodbridge, 1st minister of the town of Woodbridge, died on the 24th of Dec., 1785, in the 75th year of his age, and 44th of his Ministry. This Gentleman was of a fine constitution. Little elated or depressed with various fortunes, of excellent mental powers, he had a public education, was a good scholar, an able divine, a wise counsellor, he was plain and unaffected in his manners and dress. His conversation was free and instructive and unreserved, as the words of his mouth were the sentiments of his heart (his friendship was void of dissimulation, his learning of pedantry, his charity of ostentation, and his religion of superstition and bigotry, his life was a portrait of Christian virtues). With serenity and filial obedience he submitted to his summons and welcomed death as the messenger to introduce him to a better world."

Immediately under this inscription is the following of his wife: "Mrs. Mary Woodbridge, the Virtuous and Agreeable Consort of Rev. Benj. Woodbridge, deceased, who died on the 19th day of Dec., 1786, in the 72d year of her age. Her friends and acquaintances who have

experienced her charity and known her worth will long remember her with pleasure."

The second pastor of the church was Reverend Eliphalet Ball, who was settled as colleague with Mr. Woodbridge some two years before his death. Mr. Ball's pastorate lasted only about five years. His reasons for resigning were his advanced age, some disaffection in the parish, the desire of his children to have him with them, and "*The thought of eating the bread of those who are unwilling to give it is very disagreeable and mortifying.*" He soon removed to Ballston, N. Y., which it is said was named after him.

The Reverend David Lewis Beebe, having supplied the church for some time previous, received a call to settle on a salary of £100 per annum. He was installed February 22d, 1791. Mr. Beebe was the son of Reverend James Beebe, pastor of the Congregational church at Trumbull, and who served in the French and Canadian war as chaplain. David was born in Trumbull, and graduated at Yale College in 1785. His pastorate with the Woodbridge church continued for nine years, when his health failed and he was obliged to resign. The evidences of his faithful and zealous efforts for the good of his people were manifest on every hand. The council dissolving the pastoral relation commended him for his "orthodox zeal and fidelity in the work of the evangelical ministry."

After the failure of his health he went into the mercantile business, and had a store at Northford and then at Wallingford. At the time of his death he was in business at Catskill, N. Y., where he died in 1803. Mrs. Beebe was the daughter of Mr. Caleb Atwater. She was born in Wallingford, and died in 1845, aged 76. She was a model minister's wife, and after her removal from the parish it was a sufficient condemnation of any mode of operations in the parish to say "Mrs. Beebe didn't do it so." Among the descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Beebe are Brigadier-General H. B. Carrington, of the United States army, and Mrs. Gilbert, the wife of Reverend E. R. Gilbert, so long pastor of the Congregational church at Wallingford.

The fourth pastor of the church was Reverend Claudius Herrick, who was settled on a salary of "140 pounds, lawful money." His pastorate was eminently successful, but owing to a failure of health it lasted but little more than four years. After his dismissal he removed to New Haven, where he established a young ladies' seminary, one of the first in the city. He died May 26th, 1831. Mr. Herrick was largely successful, both as pastor and teacher. Mild, pleasant and cheerful, yet ever sober and earnest, his influence, both in the parish and the school, impressed others with the worth and beauty of the Christian life. He was a man of culture and refinement. He was the father of the late Edward Herrick, for so many years librarian and treasurer of Yale College, and of Reverend Henry Herrick, of Woodstock, this state, both of whom were born in this town.

The fifth pastor of the church was Reverend Jason Allen, who was ordained April 11th, 1810. The society was not unanimous in his call. When the vote was taken it was challenged and the house was divided; 71 voted yea, and 14 no. He accepted the call, and at his installation Doctor Dwight was overheard to say to Mr. Allen, "This church is one of the best in the Union." His pastorate, however, was attended with opposition and embarrassments. The opposition increased. Political feuds were rife, and the elements of discord withdrew from the parish, formed a union society and attempted to get the whole or a part of the bank fund without success. In all the opposition Mr. Allen bore himself with dignity and Christian urbanity, and in spite of the opposition maintained his pastorate for 16 years. The council which sat at his dismissal say: "They are happy to find that nothing has been alleged against the Reverend Jason Allen, and that they are able to bear their decided testimony to his Christian and ministerial character, as having through a series of years proved himself a sound, faithful, active and prudent preacher and laborer in the vineyard of our common Lord." Mr. Allen soon removed to the state of New York.

Reverend Prince Hawes was ordained the 2d of December, 1828. Two years had now passed since the dismissal of Mr. Allen, and the clouds which at that time threatened the peace of this Israel had passed away, and the day spring from on high was shining in his brightness and power. During Mr. Hawes' pastorate the new meeting house was built, and the old proverb seems to have been fulfilled in his case: "The minister who builds a house of worship never preaches in it." His pastorate, commencing so auspiciously, lasted but five years and four months. He was dismissed by the Consociation April 21st, 1824, and died suddenly December 17th or 18th, 1848, in Brooklyn, N. Y.

After the dismissal of Mr. Hawes, the church was without a settled pastor for some nine years, during which time they were supplied by different ministers, among whom were the Reverend Asa B. Smith, whose labors were greatly blessed, and Reverend Walter R. Long, who labored with them three years, received a call and endeared himself to the parish, but declined to settle with them. The year 1843 is memorable in the parish for the installation of Reverend Samuel H. Elliot. After supplying the church two years, he was ordained its seventh pastor, on the 9th of November. The church grew under Mr. Elliot's ministrations, and in addition to his pastoral labors he wrote the "Memoirs of Emily Perkins," also "Parish Side," "Rolling Ridge," and the sequel to "Rolling Ridge." He was dismissed December 3d, 1849, ministering to the church in all eight years and three months. He was afterward settled in Westville, where he established a boarding school. From Westville he removed to New Haven, where he died, September 15th, 1869, aged 60 years.

He married Marian L. Harvey, of New York city, by whom he had three sons and a daughter. Two of his sons, Charles and Henry, were born in Woodbridge, and graduated at Yale College, traveled in Europe and settled in New York city. The daughter married and lives in Cooperstown, N. Y.

After the dismissal of Mr. Elliot, the church depended upon stated supplies for about nine years. Reverends Owen Street, Alfred C. Raymond, Jesse Guernsey and David Peck occupied different intervals of this time, and ministered with success and acceptance to the people.

Reverend A. D. Stowel, the eighth pastor, was ordained November 17th, 1858, and dismissed April 3d, 1860. Mr. Stowel removed to Massachusetts, and from there to Elmira, N. Y. Reverend D. M. Elwood supplied the church from 1862 to 1864.

Reverend S. P. Marvin, the ninth pastor, was settled over the church February 22d, 1865. The 25th anniversary of his settlement was observed in 1890. Reverend Hiram Eddy, D.D., who preached his installation sermon, was present on the occasion. The pastor preached a 25th anniversary sermon, which was printed. During his ministry the park around the church has been enclosed with a neat fence, trees have been set out, a new lecture room and ladies' parlor have been built, and a new pipe organ has been presented to the church by Mrs. Mary A. Clark Treat, as a memorial of her father's family, Mr. Treat Clark. During the 25 years Professor C. T. Walker has been choir leader and organist.

The fathers of Woodbridge early showed a proper care and regard for the memory and resting places of the dead. In 1743 arrangements were made for burying grounds. Isaac Sperry, Captain Johnson and others were appointed a committee to select burying places for the society. At a subsequent meeting in 1745 they voted that "three burying cloths should be purchased for the three sarval parts of sd society by donation or contribution by the inhabitants of sd society." At a subsequent meeting a committee was appointed to fence round the burying grounds in the society, and a tax laid to defray the expense. Since then the burying grounds have been enlarged from time to time and beautified. In 1887 the one in the Middle district, under the direction of S. P. Perkins, was greatly improved, and all of them are kept in good order and show the respect of the people for the loved memories of their departed ones.

The tombstone of Reverend Josiah Sherman, who died very suddenly while laboring with the church, has the following inscription: "In memory of Rev. Josiah Sherman, minister of the Gospel, Ob. Nov. 24 A D 1789, Æ. 60. The learned scholar, the eloquent orator, the exemplary Christian, the faithful pastor, the kind husband and parent, and the humble follower of Jesus Christ. Piety adorned his useful life and in the moments of a painful death enabled him to triumph in

the hope of heaven. Much impressed himself and conscious of his awful danger, by him the violated law spoke its thunders and by him in strains as sweet as ever angels use the Gospel whispered peace."

Captain Isaac Johnson was among the most prominent of the early settlers. He lived in the south part of the town, near the Orange line, on the farm now owned by Nathan P. Peck. He was moderator of the first meeting called to organize the ecclesiastical society of Amity, and of almost all public meetings, and on all committees when questions of importance were to be considered, whether civil or ecclesiastical. He was the first captain and the first deacon elected; also captain in the revolutionary war. Among his descendants was President Andrew Johnson, whose ancestry lie buried in the cemetery on the East side.

Inscription on his tombstone: "Here lieth the Body of Isaac Johnson, the first captain and the first deacon in Amity. A guide to this infant society, a zealous promoter of the worship of God, A Benefactor & faithful servant to ye Chr. When best known best loved. Who lived long, lived well and died happy in the hope of the Gospel OEt of 23d 1750 in the 78 year of his age."

Captain Stephen Sanford was one of the original members of the church, and lived on the farm owned in later years by Mr. Nelson Newman. He was honored by his fellow townsmen, and took a deep interest in the church. He made the church a present of a silver communion cup and baptismal bowl. At his death he left a large landed estate, which was afterward sold, and from which, with other funds which he also gave the parish, was derived a large part of the society's present fund for the support of the Gospel. As an appreciation of his services the following inscription was placed upon the monument erected to his memory:

"Capt. Stephen Sanford of Woodbridge departed this life on the 6th day of January 1779 in the 72 year of his age. His character was reputable as a man and a Christian, had the advancement of Christ's Kingdom in this place so much at heart that he made a testamentary gift to this society of much the largest part of his estate, amounting to 930 pounds L. M., and appropriated the same to the support of the ministry in this society. This society therefore, as an acknowledgement and lasting memory of their gratitude for so liberal and distinguished a benefaction, at their own expense have erected this monument."

Thomas Darling joined the church at Woodbridge in 1782, from New Haven. He was a valuable acquisition, and became one of the most prominent and efficient citizens, as well as members of the church. He was honored with positions of trust by his fellow citizens. The epitaph upon his tombstone, which is given below, portrays a character of surpassing excellence and a life of unblemished usefulness. Of his sons, Noyes became a judge of the New Haven

county court. Thomas lived on the old homestead. He was a prominent supporter of the Woodbridge church and of every good work. He was honored with positions of trust by the town, and beloved by all who knew him. His grandson, G. Halsted Bishop, occupies the ancestral home.

"In memory of Thomas Darling Esq who died Dec 1st 1815 Aged 63 years. He was distinguished for sound judgment and integrity in the discharge of public duties and purity of heart in the relations of private life. As a magistrate he was a peace maker, and just; as a member of society indulgent, upright and kind; as a professor of religion an example of tender and modest piety. To the Christian church an ornament and firm support. He remembered his Creator in the days of his youth, and in advancing age, and in the hour of death the faith of his Redeemer was his comfort and strength. Respected, esteemed, beloved here below, he is gone, we trust, to be approved, honored and blest above."

The name of John Lines occurs among those who were first organized into the church. One of his descendants was David Lines. In his early boyhood David was intractable, uncouth, awkward and unambitious. It is said he once ran away into the swamp to keep away from his friends. Later he took to a seafaring life. He became connected with the Havre line of packets and was promoted till he became master of the vessel he sailed. The uncouth country boy we find captain of the steamship "Arago," and one of the most successful and popular navigators of the times. The following inscription is on the massive monument erected to his memory:

"David Lines, Born at Woodbridge, Conn., died at Niagara, New York, falling it is supposed into the river above the great falls on Sabbath morning June 15th, 1862, aged 59. He was a seaman from his youth; he sailed early to the Pacific, to South American ports, to the Mediterranean, and for 30 years was connected with the Havre Packets. He was long known as commander of the Steamship Arago and crossed the Atlantic nearly 240 times. Under his skillful seamanship thousands passed safely over the seas, for the Lord did guide him and lead him to his desired haven. By them he was esteemed and greatly beloved and his untimely death lamented; a man of temperate habits, of great kindness, of true friendship, of liberal charity. His toils and enterprises were rewarded with a fortune, and a generous nature led him to befriend the poor. A veteran sailor, an honored man; he now sleeps the sleep that knows no waking."

The Baldwin family, which are quite numerous in the town, trace their genealogy to Richard Baldwin, who was baptized in the parish of Aston, Clinton, Buckinghamshire, England, August 25th, 1622. Barnabas, whose father's name was Barnabas, and who was the grandson of Richard, was one of the fifteen set off from Milford in 1738 to form the parish of Amity, and one of the first members of the church.

He was made ensign of the Sixth Company of New Haven in 1739, and in 1749 captain of the company of Amity. From his sons we have the different branches of the Baldwin family in the town. Captain James Baldwin lived on the tract of land sold by the Indian chief, Towtanimoe, to his ancestor, Richard Baldwin. He was a successful business man, public-spirited and ready to lend a helping hand to every good object. He was selectman of the town 27 years, town agent 5 other years, and was sent to the legislature 4 years.

Captain Ephraim Baldwin was one of the most prominent men of his times, both in town and parish affairs. He often represented his town in the legislature, and was one of the large-hearted supporters of the church. Of the names which have come down to the present none are more honored than his. He was eminently a peace maker and a firm support to every good enterprise.

Two of the original eight who were constituted the church of Amity were Ebenezer Beecher and Ebenezer Beecher, Jr. Ebenezer married Louise, daughter of Captain Isaac Johnson. The Beechers have always been prominent in the parish. Joseph Beecher gave the land for the church park, originally containing five acres.

There were two branches of the Clark family in Woodbridge. One branch came from Mr. David Clark; the other from Ensign George Clark, both of Milford. The two branches unite in the marriage of Noyes Clark and Mary Abigail Clark.

Mr. Treat Clark, who was a descendant of Ensign George Clark, married Miss Ann Maria Peck. He was an extensive farmer and cattle broker. He was one of the board of selectmen for 13 years, and represented the town in the state legislature four terms. Few men in the town were more highly respected and esteemed for urbanity and kindly assistance wherever he could be of benefit to others. The only child that survived him was his daughter, Mary Angeline Clark, who married Hon. Amos S. Treat, who represented the town of Woodbridge three years in the state legislature, and was honored with the speakership of the house. He afterward moved to Bridgeport, where he accumulated a large property, and was one of the leading men of the city.

The name Peck has been from the first prominent in the annals of Woodbridge. At the organization of the ecclesiastical society of Amity, in 1738, after they "made choice of Capt. Isack Johnson" for their moderator, "Secondly, They by vote made choice of Ebenezer Peck as their society clark and sworn according to law." He was probably the son of Benjamin Peck, and the grandson of Henry Peck, who is supposed to have come to this country with Eaton and Davenport. There were two branches of the Peck family which settled in Woodbridge, the descendants of Joseph Peck of Milford, and those of Henry Peck of New Haven. The line of Joseph of Milford is Joseph,<sup>1</sup> Joseph<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>3</sup>, Phineas<sup>4</sup>. From Phineas<sup>4</sup> we have Phineas<sup>5</sup>, who



entered the service in the war of the revolution, and was taken prisoner and confined in the old sugar house in New York, where so many perished through the inhumanity of the British. Tradition says he was reduced to a mere skeleton, but was finally released and brought home by men on a hand litter from New York. He soon after died.\*

Mr. John Peck became one of the master masons and contractors in New Haven. At one time he was an alderman of the city. He was a prominent member and supporter of the College Street church. After acquiring a competence he returned to his native town, Woodbridge, which honored him with positions of trust, and sent him as representative twice to the legislature. He was a valuable aid in civil and ecclesiastical affairs.

Mr. Edwin J. Peck removed to Indianapolis, Ind., where he became a man of large wealth and influence. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church, and active in promoting the moral and Christian interests of the city. He was deeply interested in Sabbath schools and education, and gave a large part of his fortune to Wabash College.

The Newtons of Woodbridge descended from Reverend Roger Newton, the second pastor of Milford, who married Mary, daughter of Reverend Thomas Hooker, the first pastor of Hartford. Lieutenant Samuel Newton was a large landholder and prominent in town and parish affairs. It was from his house that the council for the settlement of all the early pastors took up their march for the sanctuary. General Booth, of Meriden, was a son of his daughter Mary. Another of his descendants was Senator Newton Booth, of California. Among others of the name who distinguished themselves was Nelson Newton, who was a most valuable and public spirited citizen, at one time state senator from his district, and holding office under the United States government.

Daniel Smith united with the church in Amity December 26th, 1742. From him descended Daniel Smith, 2d, whose son, Daniel Treat Smith, became a prominent member of the society and church. The parsonage of Reverend Mr. Woodbridge, consisting of a house and farm, was given to him as a remuneration for the care and support of Molly Woodbridge during her lifetime. Mr. Smith was a blacksmith by trade, and was strict in his Puritan faith and practices. At four o'clock every Saturday afternoon his workmen in his shop laid aside all work, and were called into the house to wash and prepare for the Sabbath. He was a man of large influence both in the society of Amity, and in the town, and greatly respected for his integrity and moral worth.

Of his descendants Mr. Willis Smith became a master mason and contractor in the city of New Haven. Some of the finest buildings in that city, and the soldiers' monument in East Park, were constructed

\*Peck genealogy.

under his supervision. Another son, Isaac T. Smith, after residing in Woodbridge, removed to the city.

Deacon David Smith was a prominent man in the church and society of Woodbridge, and was largely connected by marriage with the other families of the place. One sister became the wife of Doctor Goodsell, another the wife of Phineas Peck and mother of Deacon William Peck. Deacon Smith was a man of sterling integrity, and his memory remains carrying the fragrance of Christian charity to the present day.

Stephen Peck Perkins learned the mason's trade and became a prominent contractor in the city. He was a skillful and thorough workman. There was never a question but that work entrusted to him would be done well. He retired from business and built an elegant villa in his native town near the old homestead of his childhood. He was honored and beloved by his fellow townsmen. They conferred upon him important civil offices, and sent him to the legislature. He was foremost in all efforts for the welfare of the town and the prosperity of the church.

The first settlement in the town was made by Richard Sperry, whose house stood at Sperry Farms, in the bend of the road at the foot of the hill, in that locality. One of his descendants was Enoch Sperry, who had a mill on Brush brook. He was a very active business man, and also carried on clothing works, making this one of the busiest points in the town. At one time seven roads led to these mills, in place of the one now existing. Enoch Sperry lost his life at the hands of an insane man. Several of the Sperry family descended from him are among the most prominent of New Haven's citizens. The "Sperry Farms" in this town embraced very choice lands.

In addition to the foregoing settlers and principal citizens, the following is a list of those living in the town prior to April 12th, 1784, as shown by the oath of fidelity, subscribed before Caleb Beecher, a justice of the peace of the town: Benjamin Woodbridge, Eliphalet Ball, Thomas Darling, Esq., David Perkins, Alling Sperry, Elijah Sperry, Benjamin Hotchkiss, Jonathan Perkins, Abel Smith, Bezaleel Peck, Lazarus Clark, Nathan Platt, Thomas Baldwin, Joseph Colens, Jared Tolles, Isaac Sperry, Lucas Lines, Samuel Brisco, Joel Hine, Jonathan Peck, Hezekiah Thomas, Eliakim Sperry, Nathaniel Sperry, Abraham Hotchkiss, Barnabas Baldwin, Jr., Samuel Johnson, Jr., Francis Martin, Caleb Peck, John Thomas, Daniel Tolles, David Thomas, Judah Andrews, Daniel Smith, Jared Beecher, Ebenezer Beecher, Joseph Downs, Elias Hotchkiss, S. Burrall Smith, Richard Russell, Jr., Zenas Peck, Archibald Perkins, Thomas Perkins, Ezekiel Hotchkiss, Aaron Clark, Joel Colens, Thomas Darling, Jr., Roger Peck, Thomas Alling, Elijah Sperry, Andrew Bradley, Wilmot Bradley, James Wheeler, Amos Stilson, Samuel Beecher, Titus Smith, Benajah Peck, David Freeman, Samuel Fisk Peck, Abel Ives, George Gunn, Jesse Johnson,

Christopher Newton, Barnabas Baldwin, Moses Sanford, David Smith, Solomon Gilbard, Jason Sanford, Samuel Downs, Timothy Ball, Jr., Simeon Sperry, Benjamin Peck, Lemuel Sperry, David Ford, Lieutenant Sperry, Richard Sperry, Asa Sperry, Nathaniel Tuttle, Ebenezer Sperry, Uriah Tuttle, Philo F. Dibble, Azariah Perkins, Caleb Geer, Hezekiah Smith, Nathan Clark, Asa Hunteerton, Joel Sperry, Joseph Peck, Joseph Merwin, Amadus Dibble, Allen Carrington, Samuel Beach, Amos Stillson, Barnabas Baldwin, Jr., Jonathan Peck, Jr., Elijah Osborne, Nathan Sperry, Hezekiah Smith, Francis Martin, Oscar Hunteerton, Jared Beecher, Eliakim Sperry, Aaron Clark, Abraham Hotchkiss.

This taking of the oath of fidelity was one of the first acts after the incorporation of the parishes of Amity and Bethany into a town, January, 1784, with the name of Woodbridge, in compliment to Reverend Benjamin Woodbridge, who had then been the pastor of the Amity church for more than forty years. The deference which was paid the minister is shown by the fact that but very few towns in the colony were named after persons, the names of places being preferred. He died about two years later.

The first town meeting was held February 17th, 1784, when the following principal officers were chosen: Selectmen, Captain Ezra Sperry, Jacob Hotchkiss, John Dibble, Esq., Captain Samuel Osborne; clerk, Amos Perkins; collector, Reuben Beecher; listers, Amos Thomas, David Smith, Charles Baldwin, Roger Peck, John Thomas, Raymond Sanford.

The town clerks of Woodbridge from 1784 have been: 1784-92, Amos Perkins; 1793-5, David Cook; 1796-7, Doctor Thomas Goodsell; 1798-1804, Samuel Osborne; 1805, Jehiel Castle; 1806-9, Samuel Osborne; 1810-29, Justus Thomas; 1830-1, Andrew Castle; 1832-6, Joseph W. Davis; 1837-50, Beril P. Smith; 1851-77, Marcus Earl Baldwin; 1878, William H. Warner; 1879-89, Marcus Earl Baldwin.

Among the selectmen before 1800 were the following: Thomas Darling, Samuel Newton, Jonathan Andrews, Enoch Norton, Nathan Clark, David French, Jonathan Peck, Jesse Beecher, Joseph Beecher, Samuel Osborne, Daniel Beecher, Nathaniel Tuttle, Timothy Ball, Daniel Hotchkiss, Raymond Sanford, Oliver Buckingham, Roger Peck, Amos Thomas, Charles Baldwin, Eli Sanford, John Thomas, Nathan Platt, Richard Baldwin, Eber Downs, Joel Goodyear, Moses Hine, Eliakim Sperry, Alling Carrington, Jason Hotchkiss, Jared Beecher, Charles Bradley, Hezekiah Thomas, Daniel Tolles, David Smith, John Russell, Isaac Sperry, Medad Hotchkiss, Samuel T. Peck, David Hotchkiss, Hezekiah Baldwin.

In the same office there were, in the present century, in the original town: Timothy Hitchcock, Isaac Hemingway, Philo Dibble, Doctor Thomas Goodsell, Enoch Newton, Captain Samuel Newton, William Andrews, David Wooding, Demas Sperry, Chauncey Tolles, Isaac

Hotchkiss, Eliakim Terrell, Roger Alling, Beri Beecher, Reuben Hitchcock, Jabez Hitchcock, Colonel Joel Hine, Archibald Perkins, Timothy Bradley, Noyes Darling, Enoch Beecher, Robert Clarke.

And among the selectmen since Bethany was set off in 1832, have been: Samuel Peck, Lyman Manville, William W. Peck, James A. Darling, Joseph W. Davis, Edward Hine, John Andrews, Levi Peck, James J. Baldwin, Nathan P. Thomas, Daniel C. Augur, Henry Hiccox, Alvin Perkins, Lewis Russell, Sidney B. Sperry, Samuel P. Newton, Leverett Carrington, Lewis Thomas, John Peck, Theodore R. Baldwin, Rollin C. Newton, Frederick F. Finney, William Clark, William H. Hotchkiss, Thomas Darling, Beril P. Smith, David R. Baldwin, Nelson Newton, Lyman A. Bradley, Samuel F. Perkins, Thomas Sanford, Abner S. Baldwin, Jared Sperry, Henry F. Merwin, Mortimer G. Perkins, Nathan P. Peck, Theron A. Todd, Stephen P. Bradley, James F. Nichols.

Among the treasurers in more recent years were: William A. Warner, Phineas E. Peck, J. L. Terrell and Wells M. Beecher.

In 1786 the town "Voted to agree with Jacob Hotchkiss, or any other man, to build a town house the bigness of Milford Town House, for seventy pounds."

It was built so as to permit the meeting of 1787 to be held in it. It had three seats on the south side and a like number on the north side. "There was a table eight feet long and suitable benches that could be moved." The place where it stood is still known as the town house lot. After the parish of Bethany was formed a public building was erected in that section, and the town meetings alternated between the two parishes until each was recognized as a distinct town. In late years no separate town hall has been maintained.

The location and improvement of the public roads has demanded unusual attention, in every period of the town's history. In 1784 it was voted to repair the West River bridge. In 1798 the Straits Turnpike Company used part of the public roads in locating its highway. The Oxford and Derby turnpikes were located at later periods, and each, in its day, was an important thoroughfare. The general course of all of these roads is southeast toward New Haven, but passing through the town in different sections, they afforded easy means of communication. They have been kept in fair repair by the town, and are still the leading thoroughfares of travel. This is one of the few towns of the county which has no railway within its bounds.

Doctor Thomas Goodsell was one of the first located physicians, being here soon after the organization of the town. In 1796 he was also licensed as a taverner. In that period public houses were also kept by Captain Samuel Osborne, David Perkins and Elijah Sanford.

In 1814 Doctor Isaac Goodsell was located in Woodbridge as a practitioner of medicine. The physicians in 1890 were: Doctors Silas C. Hubbell and J. W. Barker. In recent years no stores have been kept

in the town, and the principal source of mail supply is from the Westville post office, in the town of New Haven.

The population of the town is small, being in 1890 926. The grand list was \$401,867.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Daniel C. Augur, born in New Haven in 1807, was a son of Joel, and grandson of Isaac Augur. Joel married Phila, daughter of Joshua Newhall, who was a revolutionary soldier. Their children were: Lewis, Daniel C., Joel, George, Wealthy A., Susan and Elizabeth B. Daniel C. Augur, from 1822 to 1829, was a resident of Bridgeport, Conn., where he learned the shoemaker's trade. From 1829 to 1838 he resided in New Haven. In 1838 he removed to Woodbridge, where he afterward resided. In 1839 he engaged in the butcher business in New Haven, which he conducted for 17 years, doing a wholesale and retail business. From that time until his death he was extensively engaged in growing garden seeds. He was a selectman of the town, and was assessor for ten years, also justice of the peace and notary public several years. From 1830 to 1834 he was a captain in the state militia. Captain Augur was thrice married: first, in 1828, to Delia Middlebrook, by whom he had three children: Minot, Amelia E. and Charles P. He married for his second wife Caroline E. Clark, and for his third wife Miranda Allen. Minot married Ruth, daughter of Bennett B. Peck, of Woodbridge. Amelia E. is the wife of Judge Henry Stoddard. Charles P. was married in 1871 to Isabel Allen, of Westport, Conn. Their children are: Edith, Erroll, Elma, Ethel, Eimer, Eunice, Elsie and Edna. Daniel C. Augur died October 24th, 1890. At the time of his death he was the oldest Odd Fellow and the oldest militia officer in the state.

Ira W. Baldwin, born in Woodbridge in 1839, is a son of Abner S., grandson of Abner, and great-grandson of Jeremiah Baldwin. Mr. Baldwin is a farmer and has always resided in Woodbridge and Orange. He married, in 1862, Esther C., daughter of William Andrew, of Orange. Their children are Frank I. and Fannie E.

John J. Baldwin, born in Woodbridge in 1852, is a son of Abner S., whose father, Abner, was a son of Deacon Richard Baldwin, also an elder of the church. Abner S. was born in Woodbridge in 1809, and married Mary A. Camp. Their children were: Delia, Emily, Nancy, Ira W., Everett, Allison, Mary and John J. Abner S. Baldwin held the office of selectman for several years, also justice of the peace, and taught school. John J. Baldwin is engaged in farming and the milk business. He married, in 1872, Ellen F., daughter of Parson Baldwin, of Woodbridge. They have two children: Burton J., born in 1875, now pursuing a preparatory college course at the Hopkins Grammar School, New Haven; and Adella F., born in 1877, at West End Institute, New Haven.

Doctor John W. Barker, born in New York city in 1836, was educated at the Yale Medical School, graduating in 1860. He immediately began the practice of his profession at Easthampton, Mass. He remained there less than three years. Going to New Haven he practiced there until 1871, when he settled in Woodbridge, where he has since resided. He is a member of the State and County Medical Societies, and during his residence in New Haven was a member of the New Haven Medical Society.

Charles N. Beecher, born in Woodbridge in 1821, is a son of Amos and grandson of Enoch, both of whom were residents of Woodbridge and farmers. Enoch kept a store in Woodbridge at one time. Amos Beecher married Charlotte, daughter of Silas Baldwin, of Woodbridge, and their children were: Charles N., Mary A., Elizabeth A., George E., Charlotte M., Alonzo E., Franklin A. and Jane V. Charles N. Beecher was married, in 1858, to Mary Warner, of Mt. Carmel, Conn. They have one son, Charles L., born in 1859, married Gertrude Ladd, of Seymour. Charles L. is secretary of the board of education, and of the Woodbridge Grange.

John J. Beecher, born in Woodbridge in 1824, is a son of Reuben, and grandson of Ephraim, whose father is supposed to have been named Reuben. Ephraim Beecher was one of the early residents of Woodbridge, and one of the leading men of his day. He served in the war of 1812. He married Sarah Dorrance, and had ten children, all of whom lived to maturity, and the majority to the advanced age of 70 and 80 years. They were: Pattie, Bela, Malinda, Reuben M., Demon, Elizabeth A., Sally, Riley, Lydia C. and David. Reuben M. Beecher was born in Woodbridge in 1791, and married Mary, daughter of Silas Baldwin. Their children were: John J., Catherine L., Wells M., Edward I. and Francis M.; the two last died young. John J. Beecher has mostly been a resident of Woodbridge, has held a number of the important offices of the town, and is now deacon of the church. In 1862 he enlisted in the 10th Connecticut Volunteers, and served three years. He married, in 1846, Maria Carrington, of Cheshire, Conn. They had two children: Helen M. and one that died in infancy. Helen M. married Carlos D. Blakeman, of Stratford, Conn. Wells M. Beecher was born in Woodbridge in 1833, and married, in 1859, Carrie W. Fuller, of Orange, Mass. They have had two children: Frank Wheaton, born June 29th, 1861, died the following October; and Edward W. Mr. Beecher was appointed town treasurer in 1887, to fill a vacancy, and elected to the same office in 1888 and 1889. He is secretary and treasurer of the Congregational church of Woodbridge.

Jacob Beiseigel, born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, December 25th, 1827, came to America in 1854, and to Woodbridge in 1855, where he has since resided, engaged in farming. He was married in 1857 to Clara Schwartzweller. Their children are: Mary, Kate,

Jacob, Jr., Clara, Julia, Amelia and Frank. Julia married Charles Parker; Mary married Albert Liefeld; Clara married Edward Buhlus.

Jacob Beiseigel, Jr., born in Woodbridge October 5th, 1860, is a son of Jacob and Clara (Schwartzweller) Beisiegel, and grandson of Jacob. Jacob Beisiegel, Jr., was married in 1889 to Mamie Russell. He is a member of the Woodbridge Congregational church and of the Grange.

G. Halsted Bishop, born in New Haven in 1864, is a son of Charles, whose father, John, was a son of Ichabod Bishop, who was a resident of East Haven and one of its leading men. Charles Bishop was born January 14th, 1817, in East Haven. He carried on a coal business for several years, and afterward engaged in the wholesale grocery trade. He died in 1869. He married, in 1845, Mary A., daughter of Thomas Darling. They had six children, only two of whom lived to grow up—G. Halsted and Mary R. Thomas Darling was born May 3d, 1793. He was a son of Thomas, he a son of Thomas, and he a son of Thomas, who was one of the early settlers of Woodbridge. Thomas Darling, the 4th, was a prominent man in Woodbridge. He was its representative three terms. He married Lucy, daughter of Samuel Newton, and they had three daughters: Jane, Mary A. and Lucia.

Stephen P. Bradley, born in Woodbridge in 1832, is a son of Abner, whose father, Abner, was a son of Abner Bradley. All were residents of Woodbridge and farmers, except the father of Stephen P., who was a mason. He married Abia, daughter of Stephen Peck. Their children were: Stephen P. and Rowe S. Stephen P. Bradley was engaged in farming until 1870, when he engaged in the mercantile trade, which he carried on for eleven years, nine in Westville and two in New Haven. In 1889 he again engaged in trade at Westville, which he carries on at the present time. He has held the office of selectman for five years and assessor for eight years. He married, in 1854, Betsy A., daughter of James J. Baldwin, of Woodbridge. They have one son, Charles A., born 1858, married in 1882 Addie W. Burgess.

Oliver Stoddard Chatfield, born in Derby (now Seymour) in 1794, was a son of Joel and grandson of Elnathan, who was a son of Edwin. Joel Chatfield married Ruth Stoddard. His son, Oliver Stoddard Chatfield, married Abigail Tuttle, and their children were: Mary J., George W., Martha A., Howard G., Henry W., Ruth A. and Charles C. He graduated from Yale College, and at one time published the *New England Journal of Education*, at Boston, Mass. Mary J. married, in 1849, Friend C. Ford, son of Jared and grandson of Elias Ford.

John Currie, born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, in 1829, is a son of David and Agnes (Gillispie) Currie, and grandson of James Currie. He came to America in 1853, and in 1863 settled in Woodbridge and engaged in farming. He owns and resides on the homestead of Reverend Woodbridge, after whom the town was named. The residence on the place was built in 1697. Mr. Currie is a member of the Congregational church of Woodbridge. He was married in 1856 to Ellen

Nesbitt. Their children were; Mary, David and Agnes. In 1882 he married for his second wife Elizabeth Johnstone. They have two children: Archibald and Amy.

David E. Currie, born in Canada in 1860, is a son of John and Ellen (Nesbitt) Currie, grandson of David and great-grandson of James Currie. In 1863 his parents settled in Woodbridge, where he has since resided. Since 1880 he has been engaged in the milk business. He married, in 1883, Addie L. Church, of West Haven.

Lauren Doolittle, born in Hamden in 1819, is a son of Reuben and grandson of Caleb. Lauren Doolittle settled in Woodbridge in 1847, and married Ann E. Parker. Their children are: Sarah, who married Francis Gorham; Frank, who married Hattie Beecher; Grace, who married Burnet Dorman; Herbert, married Kate Hotchkiss; George, married Ida Hotchkiss; and Willie. Mrs. Doolittle's father was Ebenezer P. Parker, son of Ebenezer. Her mother's maiden name was Huldah Sperry.

Willis Doolittle, born in Hamden in 1810, is a son of Reuben and grandson of Caleb Doolittle. Caleb married Hannah Merriman. Reuben Doolittle married Rhoda, daughter of John Wooding. Their children were: Alfred, Isaac, Alma, Ana, Seymour, Wealthy, Reuben, Willis, Lucius, Huldah, Lauren and Burnett. Willis Doolittle settled in Woodbridge in 1837, and married, the same year, Abigail, daughter of Phineas Hitchcock. Mr. Doolittle has held the office of justice of the peace.

John W. Downs, born in Woodbridge in 1830, is a son of Joseph, and grandson of Joseph Downes, all natives of Woodbridge, and farmers. Joseph, the 1st, married Rhoda Beecher, November 17th, 1780, and their children were: Mary, born March 16th, 1781; Luey, July 8th, 1783; Content, February 17th, 1786; Elizabeth, April 13th, 1788; Sheldon, April 7th, 1790; Sarah, June 6th, 1792; Amanda, April 29th, 1796; Caroline, September 2d, 1799; Joseph, September 5th, 1801. Joseph, 2d, married Adeline Morris, of Oxford, and their children were: Albert B., John W. and Andrew E. Albert B. and John W. are living. Albert B. Downs served in the Second Connecticut Regiment during the late war, and was captain of a company. He married Celeste Dowd. John W. Downs settled in New Haven early in life, and learned the trade of saddler and harness maker, which he followed for some years. For the past 28 years he has been engaged in the manufacture of root beer. In 1881 he returned to Woodbridge, where he has since resided. He married, in 1857, Ann E. Browne. Their children are: Albert W., Mary A., Anna M., Katie B., Lily D. and Cora E.

Frederick F. Finney, born in Norwalk, Conn., in 1837, is a son of Charles, and grandson of Charles Finney. Charles, father of Frederick, married Abigail Webb. Their children were: George L., Frederick F. and Oscar F. Frederick F. came to Woodbridge in 1870, and with the exception of five years spent in New Haven, has since re-



sided there. He was elected representative in 1887, and first selectman in 1888 and 1889. He was married in 1864 to Esther L. Hitchcock. They have two sons: Franklin H. and Edward A.

Charles C. Hitchcock, born in New Haven in 1837, is a son of Chester Hitchcock, who was a carriage maker, and carried on that business in New Haven for nearly 40 years. He married Julia Nettleton, of Naugatuck. Their children were: Charles C., Mary, Anna, Harriett, Ella, George and Albert. Ella and Albert are deceased. Charles C. Hitchcock worked at carriage making in New Haven for several years, and in 1872 settled in Woodbridge and engaged in the milk business and farming. He enlisted in the 13th Connecticut Regiment, Company K, and served over three years. In 1872 he married Jennie E. Royce, of Willington, Conn. Their children are: George H. (deceased), Nellie J. and Chester C.

Lewis Hitchcock, born in Bethany in 1838, is a son of Amos, and grandson of Amos, who came from New Haven, settled in Bethany, and served in the war of 1812. He married Sarah Sperry. Their children were: Phineas, Ransom, Amos, Hannah and Minerva. Amos Hitchcock, Jr., married Abby L. Judson. Their children were: Sarah, Alice, Ransom, Lewis, Lucien (deceased), Ellen and Irene. Sarah married Jared Sperry; Alice married Lyman Sperry; Ransom married Mary Russell; Ellen married Stiles C. Williams. Lewis Hitchcock was married in 1860 to Velina, daughter of Edward Hine, of Woodbridge. They have three children: Nellie E., Helen and Edward. Mr. Hitchcock settled in Woodbridge about 1866. He enlisted in the 27th Regiment in 1862, and served nine months. Ransom Hitchcock also enlisted in the same regiment.

Alfred F. Key, born in New York city in 1844, is a son of Frederick Key. He resided in Philadelphia for a time, and later in New Haven, where he was bookkeeper for the Scoville Manufacturing Company. He settled in Woodbridge in 1871. He is a member of Montowese Lodge, I. O. O. F., of New Haven. In 1873 he married Emily, daughter of Allen Peck, of Woodbridge. They have two children: Ella L. and Frederick W. Allen Peck married Julia Spencer. They had six children: Zina, Austin, Martha, Zina, James and Emily. Only James and Emily are living.

Jacob Kunz, born in Bavaria, Germany, in 1842, came to America in 1865, and in 1866 settled in New Haven, where he resided until 1878, when he removed to Woodbridge, and has since resided there. He engaged in farming. He married Margarita Knecht. Their children were: Annie, John J. and Charles. Mrs. Kunz died in 1878. In 1879 Mr. Kunz married Elizabeth Herpich. Their children are: Elizabeth and Christiana.

JOHN M. LINES, of Woodbridge, Conn., was born in Woodbridge September 15th, 1830. About four miles west of the city of New Haven, along the Seymour turnpike, is situated "Stillwood," the resi-

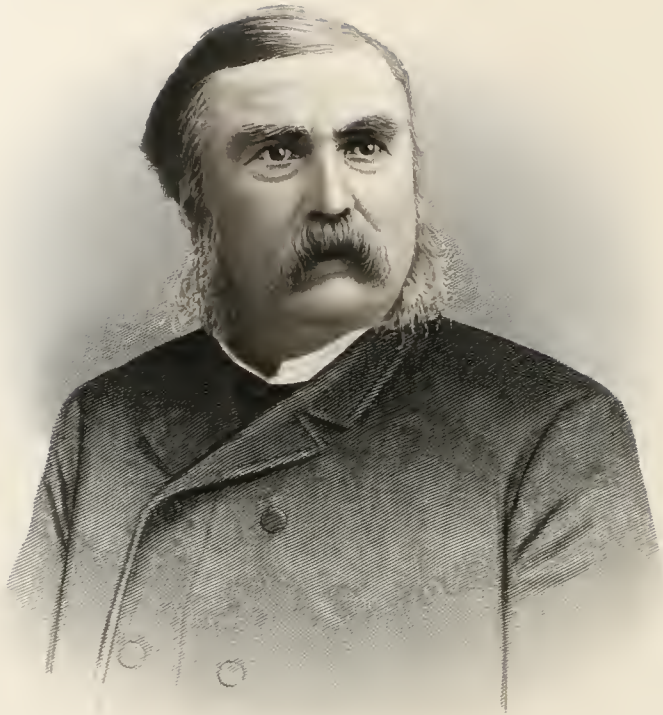
dence of Mr. Lines. It is named for its quietness, in the midst of surrounding copse and wood. Ample wealth has added the charm of art to the rustic beauty of nature. The closely shaven lawn, the green fields, the growing crops, the great elms, and the fruit-bearing trees, the capacious and richly appointed residence situated in the midst, the barns and carriage houses and other buildings in the rear and at a little distance, make "Stillwood" one of the most attractive estates to be found in the environs of New Haven. The place has long been held in the Lines family; it has been an ancestral estate, and now the seventh generation dwells where long since the pioneer settlers of the Lines stock, in the early history of New Haven county, made their home.

So early as January 1st, 1772, there met and married two from leading families of the county, James Lines and Susanna Alling. Their eldest daughter, Sarah, married James Landon and settled in Litchfield county. Their son, John Lines, was born in Woodbridge April 30th, 1777, and settled near the homestead. He married Betsey Perkins, January 8th, 1800. Their children numbered five: Charles, born November 15th, 1800; David, born July 1st, 1803; Anna, born October 27th, 1805; Alling, born November 2d, 1791, and Betsey. The last two died young in life, Betsey on March 7th, 1824, at 15 years of age.

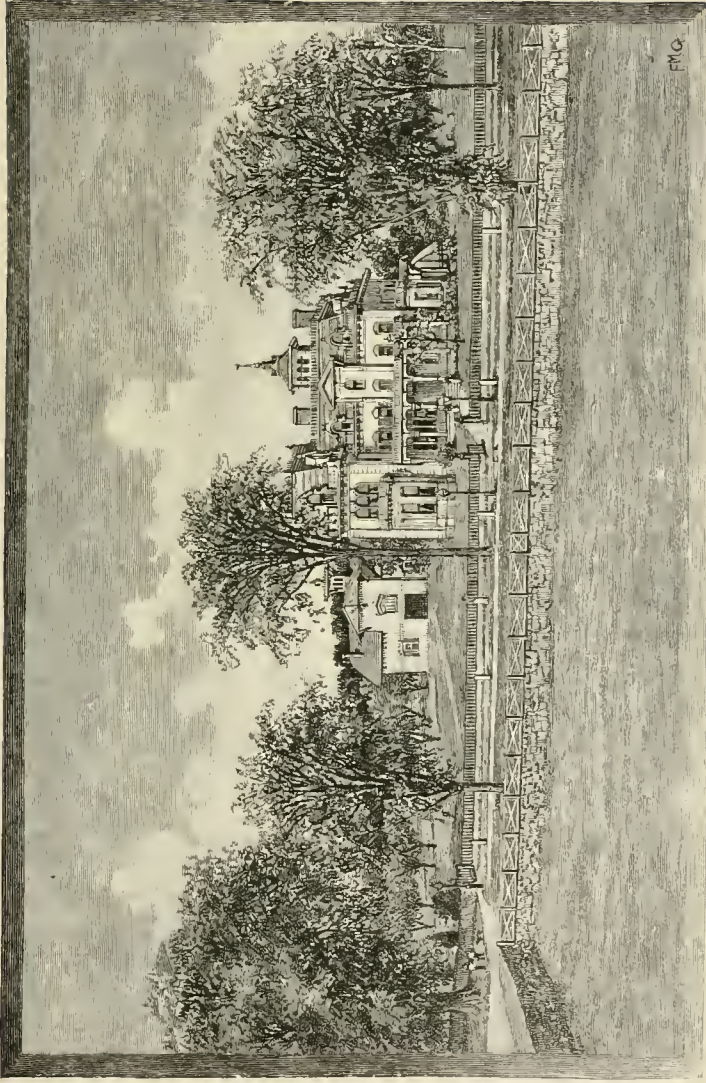
Charles Lines inherited the paternal estate, and married Asenath Alling.

David Lines left home to seek his fortune elsewhere. Inclination led him to the sea; he was only 14 years of age, and was determined sooner or later to become a seaman. His father being in South America, his mother and older brother Charles, observing his purpose so strongly set, and his uneasiness to go, fitted him out, and obtained a position for him from the port of New Haven. His first sea voyage was a sealing expedition to the Pacific. He was gone three years, and the young man came home with about \$300 as his share of the ship's profits. While absent he had perceived the difference between being the master and the common sailor. He resolved that the highest was none too high for his hopes and his achievements; hence when he came home, he put himself under the instruction of a competent scholar for the study of the science of navigation, intending soon to rise to the first position as a seaman. The science having been well mastered, he went to New York, and entered the service of the firm of Fox & Livingstone, owners of the packet line of clipper-built ships plying between New York and Havre, France. He soon became captain, and for a few years ran to and fro. He next sailed on voyages to ports of South America and the Mediterranean, in the interests of the same company; and so successful were his mercantile expeditions that from his share he soon had several thousands of dollars to invest. These he wisely placed with the company, and when steam-





John M. Lines



"STILLWOOD."  
RESIDENCE OF JOHN M. LINES,  
WOODBIDGE, CONN.



ships were built and put on the packet line, the company became the "New York and Havre Steamship Navigation Company."

Mr. Mortimer Livingstone was chosen president and agent of the company. Captain David Lines, who had now become a heavy stockholder, was put in charge of the "Humboldt." She was plied successfully, until in one voyage, running short of coal, she put in to the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia. A pilot was taken on board, and going in the harbor, he ran the steamer on the rocks and she was wrecked.

Captain Lines was now placed in charge of another steamship of the company, the "Arago." This ship he ran with great success, making a very popular line between this country and France. So appreciated was he as a captain and a gentleman, that resolutions and testimonials of the highest character were frequently presented to him by the passengers. One of these is here recorded, and the eminent names bespeak their own worth.

A CARD.

U. S. M. Steamer "Arago," New York, April 23d, 1856.

Captain David Lines:—

Dear Sir:—The passengers in the "Arago," from Havre to New York, cannot, in justice to their own feelings, bid you farewell without expressing their deep and grateful sense of your conduct as the commander of this noble steamer throughout the last voyage. Whilst your seamanship, vigilance and devoted attention to your official duties have inspired them with the utmost confidence, your kindness and gentlemanly bearing in our social intercourse have made us all your personal friends. We wish you with all our hearts health, prosperity and happiness. It would be unjust were we to conclude without a tribute to the alacrity and skill with which the officers and crew have at all times obeyed your commands. Indeed there could not be a better ordered ship, and this, under Providence, has produced a perfect sense of security in all of us amid the dangers of the sea.

Yours respectfully,

Signed—James Buchanan, Henri Charles Dubois, George Dickinson, J. G. Adams, E. T. Dickinson, F. A. Livingstone, J. W. Tucker, Samuel Penniman, Louis K. Bridge, G. Kreisler, and all the passengers.

So sincerely trusted and worthy of trust was Captain Lines, that gentlemen placed their wives and children in his care. He would take them to France, act as chaperon to a limited extent to them there, and bring them home in safety. He crossed the ocean to and fro in all about 240 times.

When the president of the company, Mr. M. Livingstone, died, Captain Lines was appointed president and agent in his stead. His closest friends were of the first people of New York and France. He amassed a large fortune, and by his sterling manliness and elegant manners won great confidence and esteem. The town of Woodbridge is highly honored in her son.

Captain Lines disappeared on June 15th, 1862. He was visiting Niagara Falls in search of health, and registered at the International Hotel. The last seen of him he went out of the door of the hotel,

and, it is supposed, he wandered too near the yawning chasm and fell over. Relatives and friends made diligent search for him and offered a reward of \$1,000 for the recovery of his body, but it was never found. He was not, for the God of the sea, whose mighty working he had so often seen on the ocean, took him.

His sister, Mrs. Anna Sperry, of New Haven, and his nephew, Mr. John M. Lines, erected a large and costly cenotaph in the Woodbridge cemetery. On its various sides are recorded the principal events of his life, the generous, upright quality of his nature, and the great respect in which he was held. The inscription of one face is as follows:

“He was esteemed and beloved, and his untimely death lamented; a man of temperate habits, of great kindness, of true friendship, of liberal charity. His toils and enterprises were rewarded with a fortune, and a generous nature led him to befriend the poor—a veteran sailor—an honored man; he now sleeps the sleep that knows no waking.”

Charles Lines, the eldest son of John and Betsey Lines, remained at home, caring for his mother during the prolonged absence of his father, John Lines, in South America. He married Asenath Alling. He was a thrifty farmer on the family homestead, a man of great industry as of sterling virtue, and well maintained the good name of the Lines family. He died when only 56 years of age, July 11th, 1857. His wife, Asenath, survived him until October 11th, 1862, aged 71 years.

Their only son was John M. Lines, whose portrait appears in this work to represent both his family and his town. He attended the district school until he was 16 years of age, and pursued his studies farther in a private school in New Haven. But he, too, like his uncle David, had the passion for trying the “hazard of new fortunes,” and his uncle invited him to the office of the New York & Havre Steamship Navigation Company in New York. Subsequently he crossed the ocean and went to Paris. There he entered the great school, “The Institution Massin,” for the study of French. He remained about one year, and returned to New York and home in 1854, his father’s broken health demanding the filial attentions of his son. A few months later he married, July 21st, 1854, Miss Adeline Curley, of New York. The young married couple found enough to do on the large homestead, and in filial devotion to their parents, to whose estate they were the heirs. It was also their great good fortune, a little later, to come into possession of a large portion of their Uncle David Lines’ estate. So that wealth, beside that of their own thrifty making, centered in to them from two distinct lines.

And not without a sense of responsibility have these large advantages been used. The homestead has been greatly beautified, and the town improved in a variety of ways. A large family has been raised and educated; the poor have been comforted, the church has been



aided and society benefitted. Mr. and Mrs. Lines have social qualities equalled only by their kindness of nature and moral worth. In all their large circle of acquaintance they are esteemed as choice friends.

Nine children have been born to them: Mrs. Ella Asenath Lewis, of Minneapolis; David Charles, of New York (Yale University, 1880); Isabella, who died November 11th, 1863, at nearly five years of age; Harriett M.; Mrs. Adeline M. Marsh, of Kansas City, Mo.; Maude Ethel; Eugenia, who died June 30th, 1868, aged eight months; John Marshall, Jr., and Thomas Clarkson, who died August 20th, 1876, at about ten months of age.

Mr. Lines has refused in unmistakable terms all town offices. In politics he is nominally a democrat, but so popular among all his townsmen that, in 1884, he went to the general assembly from old republican Woodbridge—an occurrence which had not happened before in thirty years. Mr. Lines is a Knight Templar and thirty-second degree Mason, and an Odd Fellow of the highest rank. He is chief of staff to General Foster, of the Patriarchs Militant of the state, and one of the few from Connecticut who wear the highest honors.

His family are parishioners of the Episcopal church, and "Stillwood" the abode of plenty and happiness.

Michael McCarthy was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1848. His father, Dennis McCarthy, emigrated to Canada from Ireland, settled in North Haven about 1850, and later removed to Orange, where he now resides. Michael settled in Woodbridge in 1877, and engaged in farming. He married, the same year, Ellen Dargen. They have four children: Benson, Helen, James and Mary.

David W. Marks, born in Willing, Allegany county, N. Y., in 1860, is a son of David B., born 1819, he a son of Levi, born 1792, he a son of of Abraham, he a son of Zachariah, and he a son of Mordecai, who was born in England in 1706 and came to this country and settled in New Haven county. David B. Marks was a native of Milford, as was also Levi, his father. The latter married Esther Tolles. David B. Marks married Helen S. Hall. David W. Marks settled in Woodbridge in 1879, and is engaged in farming. He married Hattie, daughter of John L. Sperry, in 1880. They have two children: Herbert S. and Archer A.

Chauncy S. Morris, born in Woodbridge in 1821, is a son of Nathan R., and he a son of Asa Morris, all residents of Woodbridge. Nathan R. Morris married Lucy Wooding. Their children were: Chauncy S., Sarah E., Charles J. Charles J. enlisted in Company A, 27th Connecticut Regiment, and served through the war. Chauncy S. Morris married, in 1852, Mabel Hotchkiss. They have one son, Dennis B., born in 1857. He married, in 1876, Addie Warner.

Charles L. Northrop was born in Bethany in 1828. He was the son of Marvin and Mary Northrop, who were also natives of Bethany. Charles L. married Adaline F. Andrew, of Bethany, in 1850. She was

the daughter of Nehemiah and Phinett Sperry Andrew. They had five children, three now living: Mary A., born in 1851; Elmer T., born in 1854; Willie D., born in 1858; Hattie B., born in 1860, died in 1888; Sarah P., born in 1856, died in 1880. Charles L. learned the trade of carpenter and joiner when a young man. He came to Woodbridge in 1860, and for 25 years he was employed in the match factory of Woodbridge.

Frank G. Northrop, born in Bethany, now a part of Woodbridge, in 1852, is a son of Allen and Jane (French) Northrop. His grandfather was Bela, and his great-grandfather Jedediah Northrop, a wheelwright. Bela was in the lumber business. He built a saw mill on the place now owned by Frank G. This business was afterward carried on by his son, Allen Northrop. Frank G. now owns a saw and grist mill upon the same site. Allen and Jane Northrop had nine children: Frank G., Lucia, Louise, Oscar (deceased), Annie, Mary, Fred., Harry and Edwin (deceased).

Silas J. Peck, born in Woodbridge in 1867, is a son of Henry C., grandson of Silas J., and great-grandson of Phineas, who was a son of Fiske Peck. Henry C. Peck married Susan C., daughter of Captain James J. Baldwin. They have three children: Newton J., Silas J. and Annie E. Newton J. married, in 1889, Bertha H. Thompson. Silas J. Peck was married, in 1889, to Eva S. Hollenbeck, and has one son.

William J. Peck, born in Woodbridge in 1852, is a son of Aurelius and Ruth A. (Osborn) Peck. Jerry Peck, his grandfather, was a soldier in the revolutionary war. Aurelius Peck's children were: Mary, Jane, Eliza, Sarah, Helen, Edwin, John, Nathan, Fred., Hiram, William J. and Daniel. William J., Hiram, Fred. and Eliza are living. William J. Peck was married in 1875 to Agnes A. Halliday. Their children are: Nellie, Hattie, Mary and Edna. Mr. Peck is a joiner by trade, but is engaged in farming at present. He is a member of the A. O. U. W., and Knights of Honor. Edwin Peck enlisted in the war of the rebellion, and died in the service.

William W. Peck, born in Woodbridge in 1832, is a son of William, grandson of Captain Phineas, and great-grandson of Fiske. The latter's father is supposed to have been named Phineas. He settled in Woodbridge at an early date, the family being one of the oldest in the town. William Peck married Elizabeth, daughter of Chauncy Tolles, of Bethany. Their children were: George C., William W. and Leonard E., living; and Elizabeth J., deceased. William Peck represented the town of Woodbridge in the legislature two terms. William W. was married in 1853 to Mary J. Fairchild, and their children are: Charles J., Will. F., Arthur T., Minnie L. and Lucy E. Mr. Peck represented the town in the legislature in 1880 and 1881. He held the office of selectman seven years in succession, and he has also been grand juror.

Henry Perthes, born in Saxony, Germany, in 1845, is a son of Carl Perthes. He came to America in 1869, and until 1874 was a resident of Catskill, N. Y. In that year he settled in Seymour, where he resided until 1890, when he purchased a fine residence in Woodbridge. He bought a hotel in Seymour in 1882, and three blocks of houses in 1888. He was married in 1871 to Paulina Heiman. They have three children: Annie, Laura and Oscar.

Lewis Russell, born in Woodbridge in 1805, was a son of Lemuel, and grandson of William Russell. Lemuel married Betsey Hotchkiss, and their children were: Dolly, Nehemiah, George, Lewis, William and Isaac. Lewis Russell held the offices of selectman and town treasurer several years, and represented the town in the legislature two terms. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Camp and Elizabeth Newton. They have one daughter, Elizabeth. Mr. Russell died in 1885. He was a member of the Congregational church of Woodbridge.

John F. Shepherd was born in North Haven in 1855. His father was Franklin, son of Ziba, and grandson of John Shepherd, all residents of New Haven county. Franklin Shepherd married Sarah Mansfield, and had two sons—Roswell and John F.—and five daughters—Mary, Mabel, Leeta, Elizabeth and Esther. John F. Shepherd settled in Woodbridge in 1887, and engaged in farming. He married, in 1884, Margaret Roche. They have three children: Mary E., John J. and Susan.

George R. Sperry, born in Woodbridge in 1826, is a son of Albert, whose father, Eliakim, was a son of Eliakim. George R. is a joiner by trade, and worked at that business for many years. He has been a prominent member of the Congregational church of Woodbridge for many years. He always resided in Woodbridge until recently, when he took up his residence in New Haven. He married Marietta, daughter of Elihu Beecher, and their children were: Albert L., Harry R., Burton P. and Carrie L. (deceased). Albert L. Sperry was born in Woodbridge in 1850, learned the joiner's trade, and after working at it for some years, engaged in farming and the milk business. He was married in 1874, to Laura J., daughter of William F. Morgan. Their children are: Frederick G., Arthur B., Frank A. and Minot M. Mr. Sperry is a member of the Congregational church of Woodbridge.

William H. Warner was born in Woodbridge January 23d, 1853, and married Mary Eliza, daughter of Mark and Martha S. Tucker, of Woodbridge, July 31st, 1876. They have one child, Mary Helen Warner, born April 25th, 1879. W. H. Warner entered the work of teaching in the fall of 1873, and taught in various schools until November, 1888, except from December, 1880, to May, 1885, during which time he was employed by the Diamond Match Company as book-keeper. From April, 1875, to July, 1878, he was principal of the Seymour High School. Since November, 1888, he has been connected

with Bennett, Sloan & Co., of New York. He has held numerous offices in his native town. He has been school visitor 16 years, being often chairman of the board of school visitors, and four years secretary and acting visitor. He has been elected justice of the peace several times, grand juror, town clerk in 1879, and collector of taxes for three years. He is one of the charter members of the Woodbridge Grange, and was elected overseer in December, 1890.

William C. White, born in Bethany in 1817, was a son of John and Martha (Hotchkiss) White. His grandfather, John, was a son of Lieutenant John, he a son of Deacon John, he a son of Captain John, and he a great-grandson of Elder John White, who came from England in 1632. John and Martha (Hotchkiss) White's children were: Joel, Elisha, John E. and William C. Joel was a resident of Oxford for upward of 40 years, was a member of the legislature from that town in 1846, state senator in 1851, and judge of probate for several years. Elisha White settled in New York state and died there. John E. died in early manhood. William C. married Harriet, daughter of Abel Prince, of Bethany. They had one daughter, Harriet May. William C. White resided in Bethany until 1866, when he removed to Woodbridge, where he died November 15th, 1881. Mrs. White died in 1873.

Stiles C. Williams was born in Naugatuck in 1843. His father was John M., and his grandfather was Jonathan Williams, a resident of Woodbury. John M. Williams married Lucy C. Clark. They had three sons: Henry C., Stiles C. and Nelson B. Henry C. was a carpenter by trade. He settled in Ansonia. He enlisted in Company E, 7th Connecticut Volunteers, and served four years. He married Martha Dean, and died in Ansonia in 1887. Nelson B. Williams was also a carpenter. He enlisted in the 2d Connecticut Artillery. He married Louise Meiggs, and died in 1889. Stiles C. Williams has always been engaged in farming, with the exception of five years, during which he was employed by the Douglass Manufacturing Company, auger manufacturers, at Seymour. In 1869 he settled in Bethany, where he resided until 1882, when he settled in Woodbridge. In 1867 he married Ellen H. Hitchcock, of Bethany. They have three children: Lucy I., Ida S. and Walter S.

## CHAPTER VII.

### THE TOWN OF BETHANY.

Location and Description.—Civil Organization.—Town Officers.—Business Interests.—Physicians.—Religious and Educational Interests.—Cemeteries.—Revolutionary Incident.—Biographical Sketches.

**B**ETHANY was incorporated as a parish in 1762, and became a town in 1832, being up to that time a part of Woodbridge.

The central part is nearly 12 miles from the city of New Haven, which is the market for most of the products of the town. On the north are the towns of Naugatuck and Oxford; on the east is Hamden; on the south Woodbridge; and on the west are the towns of Seymour and Beacon Falls. Bethany is about five miles long, and not quite four miles wide from east to west, but is somewhat irregular in shape. The general surface is elevated, and in parts somewhat broken by high hills, especially along its borders. Hence some sections are rather sterile; but in other parts are pleasantly located and productive lands, being especially adapted for meadows and grazing. The town was noted for its fine timber lands, and small areas still remain, while on the hills may be seen many wood lots of attractive appearance, affording a very pleasant landscape, which is dotted with cosy farm improvements.

The town has no large streams, the drainage being afforded by small brooks, which are tributary to West river, in the southeastern part; Sargent's river, in the southern central part; Bladen's brook, in the southwest, and Beacon Hill brook, in the northwest. The latter flows through a narrow defile, on the north of the hill, into the Naugatuck, and its mill seats are mainly in the town of Naugatuck. On the other streams the power is very feeble.

Bethany is one of the few towns which has no railroad within its bounds, but for 50 years the Watertown or Straits turnpike afforded comparatively easy communication. It is still one of the main highways in the northern and eastern parts, but for many years has been under the care of the town.

The territory in Bethany was included in the purchases made from the Indians in behalf of the towns of New Haven and Milford. The early settlements, also, are a part of the history of these towns and of Woodbridge and are not here reproduced. Some of the principal families, in the different parts of the town, were: the Hotchkiss, Peck

and Hitchcock, in the interior and southwest; the French and Lounsbury, in the west; the Bradley, Beard and Perkins, in the north; the Tuttle, Beecher and Tolles, in the east; the Clark, Sperry and Hitchcock, in the south. The population of the town has steadily declined, as will be seen from the official tables.

Bethany was constituted a civil and ecclesiastical district by the general assembly held at New Haven in October, 1762, which acted upon the memorial of Joel Hotchkiss and others living in the northern part of the parish of Amity. They represented that by reason of the length of the parish, from north to south, they (who lived in the northern part) were much inconvenienced to attend public worship, on account of the great distance, and prayed that the old parish be divided by an east and west line, drawn from the south end of the dwelling of the widow Hannah Sperry. This was done, and the northern part was constituted a distinct parish, with all the appertaining privileges, and received the name of Bethany.

Parish relations were sustained with New Haven and Milford until the parishes of Amity and Bethany were incorporated as the town of Woodbridge, in 1784. In May, 1832, the parish of Bethany became a separate town, the limits and name remaining unchanged. In 1844 a part of Bethany was set to Naugatuck, and another part was set off in 1871, to help form Beacon Falls.

The first town meeting of Bethany was held at the Congregational meeting house, June 11th, 1832, and Reuben Judd was the moderator. The officers chosen were: Town clerk, Hezekiah Thomas; selectmen, Reuben Judd, Andrew Beecher, Theophilus Smith, John Russell, Archibald A. Perkins; constables, Burr Perkins, Leverett Thomas; grand jurors, Ebenezer Platt, Jesse Beecher, Libbeus Dickerman, Abel Prince, Abraham Hotchkiss; tythingmen, Leonard Todd, Miles Hitchcock, Grant Hitchcock, Joel Andrews, Eli Terrell, Ahira Collins, Clark Hotchkiss, Major Lounsbury, Anon Atwater, Lewis Bishop, Leverett Benham, Eden Johnson; fence viewers, Isaac Hine, Timothy Lounsbury, Lysias Beecher, Abel Prince, Elihu Robinson.

In August, 1832, the selectmen of Woodbridge and Bethany ran and described the bounds between the two towns, Elihu Dickerman as county surveyor assisting them. Those first charged with the care of the roads were: Adonijah French, Daniel Russell, Enos Perkins, Abijah P. Judd, Nathan Prince, Abijah Chatfield, Benjamin M. Collins, Burr Perkins, David Hotchkiss, Jesse Beecher, Amos Hitchcock, Jr., Ebenezer Platt, Joseph Bradley, Eli Todd, Marshall Baldwin, Oliver S. Chatfield, Sidney Downs and John Wooding.

The highways of the town are fairly well maintained, at a yearly expense of about \$1,500. The total expenses of the town approximate \$5,000 per year, requiring a tax of thirteen mills on the dollar. The grand list of the town has steadily decreased the past four years, being \$280,057.62 in 1889.

Since the incorporation of Bethany the following have been the town clerks: 1832-44, Hezekiah Thomas; 1845, Edwin Lines; 1846-9, Asa C. Woodward; 1850-4, Jason W. Bradley; 1855-79, Nathan Clark; 1880-9, Edwin N. Clark.

In the same period the following, among others, have been the selectmen: Andrew Beecher, Harry French, Lewis Lines, Miles French, P. B. Hine, Enos Perkins, Darius Driver, Sidney Sperry, Justus Peck, Marcus W. Bradley, Edwin Buckingham, Henry E. Lounsbury, Samuel G. Davidson, E. O. Pardee, Jason W. Bradley, Theophilus Smith, Edwin Pardee, Horace Tolles, Anthony H. Stoddart, Abel Prince, Lev-erett Shares, Guy Perkins, Dennis Beecher, Robert Clark, D. N. Clark, Samuel R. Woodward, Charles C. Perkins, David Carrington, Jasper B. Todd. The first selectman for a number of years has been Samuel R. Woodward.

In 1854 the probate district of Bethany was formed, and Jason W. Bradley was the judge. He served until the fall of 1856, when Andrew Beecher succeeded him. Since the fall of 1863 the judge has been Nathan Clark. He is also the commissioner of the superior court.

With but little exception the sole occupation of the people of Bethany has been agriculture. Since the northwestern part of the town was set off to Naugatuck, which included the best part of Beacon Hill brook, there have remained but few small water powers, some of which have been turned to account in operating small mills. No unusual manufactories have been carried on, except for a few years, about 1845, when Hezekiah Thomas had a pocket-book factory at the center, in which he employed a number of young people. He also had a small store and kept the Bethany post office. Subsequently this was kept by Wales F. Perkins, at his tavern, in the northern part of the town. For ten years, after 1855, the office was kept by Nathan Clark, at his residence in the southern part of the town. Mrs. Mary A. Sperry next was the postmistress, for fourteen years, and was succeeded in 1879 by the present incumbent, Mrs. M. E. Hitchcock. The mail supply is daily from Westville. The office is again kept at the center, which is a small hamlet, consisting of the Congregational and Episcopal churches and half a dozen residences. There is a small green, which will bear better improvement. The former green was on the hill, half a mile south. This was abandoned when the present Congregational meeting house was built.

Along the old county road, which became later the Straitsville turnpike, and which is still the main highway between Naugatuck and New Haven, shops, stores and inns were early opened, and some are still continued. At Straitsville was the Collins tavern, of excellent reputation, and the accessories of a country village, all of which have declined or passed away. On the road farther east Archibald Perkins had a tavern, which was kept prior to the revolution. It be-

came widely known, and at one time was much patronized by travelers, but since 1850 its business has greatly declined. After Perkins the landlords were: his son, Guy, his grandson, W. F., Richard Warriss and others. It is still best known as Perkins' inn. Here was once kept the Bethany post office, and usually there was a small store. Mechanic shops are still carried on in this locality. Those of Beecher Hotchkiss at one time employed a number of men.

The old Woodin tavern, nearer New Haven, on the pike, was kept many years by Theophilus Smith, but was converted into a farmhouse. In this part of the town Hezekiah Hitchcock made nails by hand, working on a small scale.

Among the physicians who were located in the town are remembered Doctor Hezekiah Hooker, who was in the parish of Bethany in the times of the revolution and until his death in 1798. He lived on the old green, half a mile south of the present center, and was a neighbor of the Reverend Stephen Hawley. Doctor Jehiel Castle was a practitioner in the town many years, also remaining until his death. He is interred in the Episcopal cemetery, and was at the time of his demise an aged man. Doctor Andrew Castle, his son, lived in Woodbridge, but was buried in Bethany, about twenty years ago. He was a brilliant man, a successful physician, and enjoyed a large practice.

Some time about 1840 Doctor Lucian Spencer became a resident of Bethany, coming from Naugatuck, where he had previously practiced. He was a son-in-law of John Thomas, Esq., and lived on his old homestead, where is now the farm residence of George Woodward, a mile north of the center. One cold night in February, 1844, the house was destroyed by fire. In it were asleep two sons of Doctor Spencer, John and Henry, aged 12 and 14 years, whom it was vainly endeavored to arouse. In his efforts to save them Doctor Spencer entered a room, where he was caught by the flames, and all three lost their lives. The event cast a sad gloom over the entire surrounding country, as Doctor Spencer was well known and much esteemed.

Doctor Asa C. Woodward succeeded to the practice of Doctor Spencer. He had graduated from Yale in January, 1844, and located in Bethany in April the same year. Here he abode until his death, in May, 1881, aged not quite 69 years. He was the last regular practitioner permanently located in the town, although Doctor Burton C. Case subsequently lived here a short time. A son of Doctor Woodward, Doctor Edward P. Woodward, was in practice in Bethany a few months in 1861, when he located in Bristol.

The first settlers were dependent upon the churches in New Haven and Milford for spiritual instruction, until the parish of Amity was created, in 1739. Over this the Reverend Benjamin Woodbridge was settled as the regular pastor three years later, and these comforts and means could now be more readily enjoyed, although the distance for many was still very great. As the northern part of Amity parish be-



came more thickly settled, there arose a desire for a place of worship in their own locality, which soon after found expression in petitions for that object. But that end was not attained for a number of years. It was not until October, 1762, that the parish of Bethany was constituted and a new ecclesiastical society ordered. Its organization took place November 13th, 1762, at a meeting over which Deacon Joel Hotchkiss moderated and James Sherman served as clerk. These were sworn to faithfully attend to their offices by Samuel Sherman, Esq. A society committee was then chosen, consisting of Timothy Peck, John White, Isaac Beecher, Daniel Tolles and Joel Hotchkiss. These were prominent, representative men, and well calculated to set on foot a measure in which all were so much interested. They voted to hold meetings from December until April, and that there should be a tax levied of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pence on the pound of valuation. Gershom Thomas was appointed collector of this rate. The meetings were held in the school house, which the Amity society had built, in 1750, on the road about a mile south of the present center, and which was used until the first church edifice could be occupied. Apparently these winter meetings gave encouragement to the belief that a pastor could be sustained, and in August, 1763, Reverend Stephen Hawley was called to that office. He accepted, and on the 12th of October, 1763, he was properly ordained as the first pastor. At this time, also, the church was organized, but who were the original members cannot, in the absence of proper records, be clearly determined. Joel Hotchkiss and John White were the deacons, and among other early members or adherents of the church were James Warren, Caleb Tuttle, Hezekiah Clark, Peter Perkins, Reuben Sperry, Samuel Downs, Jesse Bradley, Nehemiah Tolles, Thomas Johnson, Ebenezer Bishop, John Perkins, Samuel Bisco, John Lines, Eliphalet Johnson, Joseph Hotchkiss, Isaac Sperry, David Thomas and David French.

In 1763 the society agreed to purchase three public lots of Nathan Sanford, and began agitating the propriety of building a meeting house; but several years elapsed before final action was taken. In December, 1767, it was voted to build a meeting house, 40 by 50 feet, and Deacon Joel Hotchkiss, Timothy Peck, Daniel Tolles, Isaac Beecher, Hezekiah Clark, Daniel Beecher, Timothy Ball, Deacon John White, Samuel Bisco and Israel Thomas were appointed "to procure boards, clapboards, shingles, nails and glass to build the meeting house in 1768." A rate of four pence on the pound was laid, and Benajah Peck was to collect it. A delay of another year followed, and we find that, in December, 1768, the society again voted to set up the house the next spring. The work of building was placed in charge of a committee, which was authorized to hire workmen to hew and score timbers, at the rate of 3 shillings 6 pence per day. The deacons were charged with the work of culling the clapboards and shingles, gath-

ered for the meeting house, so that none but good material should be used. In March, 1769, liberty was given to add a belfry.

In the meantime the parish had been enlarged by the annexation, in 1769, of that part of Milford south of the top of Beacon hill and that part of Derby lying between Bethany, as formed, and the Naugatuck river. This made the selection of a site for a meeting house more difficult. On application for this purpose, the committee appointed by the county court set the stake on the lands of Isaac Hotchkiss and Ensign Clark, and Israel Thomas and Isaac Beecher were appointed to purchase the land. But the society demanded a vote on this site, on the hill, half a mile south of the present green, when 29 members expressed themselves in favor of it, and the following ten persons claimed that it was too far south, viz.: Timothy Peck, Titus Peck, Jesse Bradley, Uri Tuttle, Daniel Beecher, Nathaniel Tuttle, Ephraim Turner, Charles Todd, John Lounsbury and Lemuel Ward, all of whom will be recognized as residents of the northern part of the parish. The meeting house was so far completed that it was occupied in January, 1770, but was not wholly finished for a number of years. In 1776 the galleries were finished, and the interior made more comfortable. In 1790 the house was repaired and painted, the committee for this purpose being John Thomas, Nathaniel Tuttle, Hezekiah Thomas, Lazarus Tolles and Reuben Sperry. The following year box pews were placed in the house. In about that condition the meeting house was used for 40 years, when it was found necessary to build a new one. Again the question of a site proved to be a disturbing factor, and several years were spent in a fruitless effort to find one which should please all concerned.

In 1830 a committee was appointed to propose a plan for a new meeting house, whose report was accepted in 1831, and the following appointed a committee to execute the same: John Thomas, Silas Hotchkiss, Elihu Sanford, Lewis Hine and Hiram Hotchkiss. Elihu Robinson, Demas Sperry and Theophilus Smith were empowered to sell the old green. The present edifice was erected in 1832-3. In 1866 it was remodelled at a cost of more than \$2,500, the interior being materially changed. This was done under the direction of Jason W. Bradley, William O. White and Justus Peck. In 1885 the meeting house was further beautified, at an outlay of \$500, and was, in 1890, a pleasant place of worship. It has a good location, at the center, nearly opposite the Episcopal church.

The Reverend Stephen Hawley was the pastor of the church until his death in the summer of 1804—a period of more than 40 years. Under his ministry the church prospered; and if there were any antagonistic elements he had so well succeeded in harmonizing them that there were no marked discordances. A short time before his decease he was unable fully to attend to his pastoral duties, and June 6th, 1804, the Reverend Isaac Jones, of Woodbridge, was ordained as his

colleague. He appears to have been a young man of ability, progressive in his ideas, and possessed many good parts. But he failed to lead the entire congregation, and, it is said, by disregarding the advice of some of the older members, in the choice of a wife\* from among the many comely maidens of the parish, incurred their ill-will to such an extent that they became positively opposed to him, and conjured up many things to embarrass his work. The unfortunate feeling which was thus created assumed such proportions that a meeting of the Consociation was called to adjudicate the matter. As a result of its deliberations, on the 18th of November, 1806, that body declared Mr. Jones deposed from the pastoral office. But Mr. Jones and many members of the church were not disposed to accept this interference with what they regarded his private rights, without protesting, as the following record will show: "In the matter of complaint against the Rev. Isaac Jones, some of them preferred by Medad Hotchkiss, not a member of the church, the Consociation of the Western District of New Haven County was called upon to act. Thereupon after several days meeting, on the 16th of Oct., 1806, a church meeting was called which declared that the church was independent of the association." This report was signed by Reverend Isaac Jones, moderator and clerk of the meeting; John Woodin, Joseph Collins, Eden Johnson, Jesse Beecher, Jesse Terrell, Deacon Phineas Terrell, Deacon Hezekiah Beecher, Daniel Tolles, Moses Clark, Joel Hine, Amos Hotchkiss, Bezaleel Peck and Joel Andrews.

The church being thus divided into two strong factions, practically became disrupted, and for several years religious services were suspended. Mr. Jones and many of his adherents became Episcopalians, and the organization of the Congregational society was not legally maintained. Upon complaint to the proper authorities notice was served that the parish privileges would be forfeited unless officers of the society were duly elected. Accordingly a meeting was legally warned, in 1809, and officers were elected anew, namely: Clerk and treasurer, Timothy Hitchcock; committee, John Thomas, Medad Hotchkiss, Isaac Hotchkiss, Jabez Hitchcock and Jesse Atwater; collector, Joel Hotchkiss; bank committee, Demas Sperry, John Terrell, Silas Hotchkiss, Jesse Bradley.

A church bank or fund for the support of the gospel was started as early as 1763, and not many years after Deacon Isaac Johnson left a legacy which was placed in its care. Under the quickening influence of the new organization, it was purposed in December, 1809, to raise the fund to \$5,000 and place the disposition of it in the hands of the bank committee. John Thomas was the largest subscriber, being pledged for \$700; Elihu Sanford for \$250, and the subscribers for

\* Mr. Jones, like a true lover, preferred to marry the girl of his own choice, and secured a most amiable wife in the person of the Miss Thomas, to whom he was wedded.

smaller amounts were: Joel Hotchkiss, Isaac Hotchkiss, Jabez Hitchcock, Jesse Atwater, Demas Sperry, Timothy Hitchcock, Joel Hotchkiss, William Andrews, Silas Hotchkiss, Amos Hitchcock, Seymour Hotchkiss, Sheldon Hotchkiss, Elam Sperry, Jesse Terrell, Chilson Sperry, Harvey Hotchkiss, Jacob Hotchkiss, John Nettleton, John Terry, Elias Hotchkiss, Isaac Clark, David Perkins, Chauncey Tolles, Joseph Bradley, Eunice Sperry, Richard Stone, Ruth Lines, Eli Hitchcock, Medad Hotchkiss, Robert Clark, Alvan Sperry, Ebenezer D. Thomas, Zedekiah Hotchkiss, Zacheus Hotchkiss, Timothy Beecher, David Atwater, Amos Wilmot, John Wilmot and Valentine Wilmot. The fund has been augmented from time to time by subscriptions and bequests, until, in 1890, it amounted to about \$8,000. The fund committee was last composed of Henry F. Peck, A. C. Roshia and Ransom Hitchcock; James Megin was the clerk of the society, and E. N. Clark the secretary.

The society having been placed upon a more substantial footing by its complete reorganization and the proceeds of the foregoing fund, again secured a regular pastor. August 22d, 1810, the Reverend Nathan G. Huntingdon was installed and continued until 1823. The following year Reverend Abraham Alling became the minister, and was followed by Reverend Ephraim Swift. From November 7th, 1832, until June 17th, 1834, the pastor was Reverend Jarius Wilcox; August, 1834, until June 7th, 1836, John B. Kendall. After this there were many other ministers—stated and irregular supplies—among them being about 1840, Samuel Clark; 1843, D. B. Butts; 1849, F. Harrison; 1855, E. W. Robinson; and, subsequently, John Churchill, William N. Belden, Ira Smith, Augustus Smith, Seth C. Bruce, William S. Woodruff and students from the Divinity School of Yale College. From Bethany have gone as Congregational ministers John Thomas Andrews and Israel Perkins Warren, D.D.

Besides those already named as deacons, Jabez Hitchcock and Jesse Bradley served in that capacity in 1823. Some time about 1829 Clark Hotchkiss was elected, and was still a deacon in 1890, although unfitted by his great age for active service. In 1878 David A. Lounsbury was elected; and in 1883 Thomas Horsfall. The church has about 50 members.

Some of the first records of Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal) are lost or mislaid, which prevents giving a complete account of the early history. From contemporary accounts\* it appears that the churchmen in the parish of Bethany desired to build a house of worship as early as 1783, and that in the furtherance of that object Timothy Peck, Timothy Ball and Isaac Beecher were appointed a committee by the parish society "to assist in finding a place to set a church on, and liberty is given to said churchmen to have any place near the meeting house they could get on the southwest corner of Dr. Hooker's lot."

\*The records of the Congregational church.

This place was not selected, but some time thereafter a small and exceedingly plain church was built on a lot a mile east of the present edifice, and a fourth of a mile west of the old turnpike. The place is still called the "church corner," and is the property of D. G. Davidson. The organization of a church and the formation of a parish before 1800 followed, and after the difficulty with the Reverend Isaac Jones, in the Congregational church, he and many others of that body became Episcopalians. At that time Christ church received such an impetus that it has, in many respects, been the principal religious body in the town ever since. In consequence it was possible to build a larger church, more centrally located, and to determine the center of the town, regardless of the old green on the hill. This house was built in 1810 by means secured by subscriptions, and by labor donated. An application was also made to the assembly for permission to raise \$1,000 by a lottery scheme, but it does not appear that anything was realized by that project, and it is probable that the church was built without that questionable aid. In 1875 the church was thoroughly repaired inside and outside, at an outlay of \$2,000. In 1885 a pipe organ was purchased, costing \$1,000, and the building still more repaired. The building is a shapely frame, surmounted by a spire, in which is a good bell. There is also a good rectory.

The Reverend William A. Curtis was a minister of the church in 1813, and after the Reverend Isaac Jones, Jr., became a churchman he was called to minister in spiritual things. He was the minister many years, and the parish under his care contained many families. In 1830 there were 126 families, prominent among them being those of Andrew Beach, Beri E. Beecher, William Burnham, Edward Buckingham, Oliver Buckingham, Hezekiah Brown, Doctor Jehiel Castle, Russell Chatfield, Henry A. Carrington, Darius Driver, Jesse A. Doolittle, Charles French, Harry French, Asaph French, Eber Hotchkiss, George Hotchkiss, Harley Hotchkiss, Archibald Perkins, A. A. Perkins, Guy Perkins, Abel Prince, Edwin Pardee, Levi Marks, Ezra S. Sperry, Enos Sperry, Hezekiah Thomas, Seymour Tuttle, Charles S. Tuttle and Henry A. Smith. From the foregoing families and those descended from them much of the present membership is derived. In 1890 there were 61 families, having 190 individuals; and the registered communicants numbered 86. The official members were: Wardens, Noyes Wheeler, Jasper B. Todd; vestrymen, Samuel G. Davidson, Samuel R. Woodward and Theron E. Allen; clerk, George B. Hotchkiss; treasurer, Ernest Hotchkiss.

Among the rectors and ministers of the church have been, since 1840: Reverend Isaac Jones; 1842-6, F. B. Woodward; 1846-8, Dexter Potter; 1848-52, Henry Zell; 1853, John M. Guion; 1854-5, Henry Townsend; 1855, Charles J. Todd; 1856-8, James Adams; 1858-63, F. B. Woodward; 1864-8, H. S. Atwater; 1869-74, Martin Moody; 1875-80, C. W. Colton; 1881-7, Lewis F. Morris; 1887-9, Walter D. Humphrey.

The church has a supporting fund of \$4,500, bequeathed by Anson Perkins, \$2,000; Dwight E. Todd, \$1,000; Leonard Todd, \$500; Juliana Bradley, \$500; and Hannah Beecher, \$500.

In connection with these old parishes schools were established and maintained to the extent of the ability of the people of those times. In 1750 £30 was expended in building the first school house in the southern part of the parish; and in 1780 one was built in the northern part. In 1890 the town had an interest in six districts, having from 24 to 34 weeks of school, which were maintained at an outlay of about \$1,200.

About 1800 considerable freedom of opinion on religious matters prevailed. There was, also, as has been stated, much disaffection in the Congregational church, which caused many persons to leave, to seek more harmonious fellowship. Hence, when a class of Methodists was formed, in the western part of the town, it had an active support which it would not otherwise have received, and for a few years prospered to an unusual degree. The removal of a number of people from the town, after 1820, and a better condition in the established church, weakened the class, and it was not permanently maintained. Among the members were some of the French, Lounsbury and Wheeler families. In the eastern part of the town, also, the doctrines of the Methodists received early acceptance, which resulted, later, in the building of a house of worship for that denomination. The meeting house is on the old New Haven road, southeast of the center. It is a plain frame, resting on a brick basement, put up at a cost of \$1,200, and was dedicated in August, 1841. There are sittings in the main room for 200 people, and in 1890 the house was in fair order. Part of the lot on which it stands is devoted to burial purposes, in which interments were made prior to the building of the church. The trustees in 1890 were: Jerome A. Downs, Allen Lounsbury, Thomas H. Brooks, Sherrill Brooks, D. B. Hoadley, William H. Lounsbury and Benajah Tuttle.

Among the first Methodists in this locality are remembered Joel Andrews, George F. Peck, Philo Sanford and members of their families. In 1890 there were 25 members—a smaller number than a dozen years ago. This church and the one at Westville have for many years constituted a charge, having a minister in common. The principal appointees have been the following: 1828, Reverend N. Kellogg; 1836, A. S. Francis; 1837-8, J. Bowen; 1840-1, Charles W. Chapman; 1848-9, B. Pillsbury; 1850-1, C. F. Mallory; 1852-3, J. B. Merrone; 1854-5, F. B. Chandler; 1856, G. S. Gilbert; 1857-8, G. Stillman; 1859-60, J. M. Carroll; 1861-2, W. Lawrence; 1863-5, W. H. Wardell; 1866, C. H. Buck; 1867-8, John Dickinson; 1869-70, J. A. Dean; 1871-3, J. E. Richards; 1874, T. D. Littlewood; 1875-7, W. D. Thompson; 1878-80, J. M. Carroll; 1881-3, S. K. Smith; 1884, G. L. Thompson; 1885, A. Hulead; 1886-8, C. W. Fordham; 1889, A. McNicholl.

The cemeteries are small places of burial in the Lounsbury neighborhood, in the northwestern part of the town; in the Carrington neighborhood, in the northeastern part of the town; at the Methodist church, in the eastern part; and in the Sperry neighborhood, in the southeast. Most of these were established for local convenience, and some of them have been used only to a limited extent. The most interest centers around the ancient cemetery. This is more than a mile south of the churches, and is located on a dry, sandy side hill. Being removed from the main highways, it appears somewhat isolated. The area is more than an acre, which is enclosed with a good stone fence, and the ground is fairly kept. Here are the graves of some of the oldest families in the present town. Among the headstones may be seen several whose inscriptions have become obliterated by age. Others have a modern appearance and were more recently put up by descendants of the deceased. The one marking the grave of Reverend Stephen Hawley, the first pastor of the church, was put up by the congregation, on its first centennial anniversary, October 12th, 1863. He died July 17th, 1804, aged 66 years.

The cemetery adjoining the lot of the Episcopal church is spacious, neatly enclosed, and contains a number of fine monuments. The place presents an attractive appearance. Since 1851 it has been under the care and control of the "Union Burial Association," which took the old ground and enlarged and improved the same. In 1890 the principal officers of this association were: President, Dwight L. Johnson; treasurer, Samuel R. Woodward; and secretary, George B. Hotchkiss. This may be considered the principal place of interment, and it is well managed.

One of the most stirring incidents in the history of the county during the revolution occurred in Bethany. Along the Naugatuck lived many adherents of the British crown. Their opinions were made more steadfast because of a belief that their religious obligations demanded that they should be royalists. They were churchmen and their societies were established or supported by the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," which required of those aided an oath of fidelity to British rule. Religious duty was stronger than feelings of patriotism, provoked by oppressive rule. In this they were no exception to many other communities in other parts of the country, and many were really blameless in their purposes. Bethany, it appears, was so far removed from the course of the armies as to be free from predatory incursions. This effected a sense of security which induced some families to take up their residence in the parish, in preference to their old homes, where life and property were less secure. Among the new residents was Captain Ebenezer Dayton, who had been a merchant at Brook Haven, Long Island, where he was also interested in an American privateersman. He had amassed much property in trade, and by the latter means, which made his stay in

Long Island perilous. Hence he brought his family and movable effects to Bethany. He secured a house on the old "green," where was, also, besides the church, the houses of Reverend Stephen Hawley and Doctor Hooker. The movements of Captain Dayton appear to have been known to his tory neighbors on Long Island, and the fact of his having so much money probably awakened their cupidity to such an extent that a plan was laid to capture it at the new home. Alexander Graham was entrusted with the details of this movement. He secured a commission for such an expedition from General Howe, the British commander, and set out to execute it. Going to old Derby about the middle of March, 1780, he stopped at the tavern of Turell Whittemore, which stood on a bluff a mile below where is now Seymour. Here he unfolded his plans to some tory sympathizers, showed his commission, and asked them to enlist. He succeeded in forming a company of six persons, and on Tuesday night, March 14th, 1780, they left their rendezvous for Bethany. At the time of the raid Captain Dayton was away in Boston, and Mrs. Phebe Dayton, her three small children and two negro slave children were the only inmates of the house. A little after midnight Graham and his company, who were well armed, forced their way into the house, bound Mrs. Dayton and prevented her from making an outcry.

They deliberately ransacked the house for the next two hours, and destroyed some property which they could not carry with them. In all they secured in gold, silver, bonds, notes and other valuables about £5,000 worth of property. Hastily leaving the Dayton mansion, at about two o'clock at night, they passed Perkins' tavern to Salem Bridge (now Naugatuck), on their way to Gunntown, near which place some of the foragers lived. On the way, near Naugatuck, they passed a young man, 19 years of age, named Chauncy Judd, who was just returning home from a visit to his sweetheart. Judd recognized some of them as his neighbors, and fearing he would expose them, they took him along. Proceeding beyond Gunntown, they were secreted several days at the David Wooster, Sr., mansion, still standing, in the southeastern part of Middlebury. The robbery of the Dayton house and the mysterious disappearance of Chauncy Judd, created intense excitement in that part of the country, which was increased by the fact that the whigs and tories were here pretty evenly divided. From David Wooster's the robbers fled to the tavern of Captain John Wooster, in the southern part of Oxford, which stood near his celebrated "Deer Park." Near by they were secreted a day and a night, when they fled to Derby, where they took a boat and quickly rowed down the river. By this time they were discovered and were pursued by horsemen on the shore, but succeeded in reaching the sound ahead of them. They reached Long Island in safety, but the following night all but one, who escaped by jumping out of the window, were captured by pursuing parties, who crossed the sound in whale boats, commanded by



Captains William Clarke and James Harvey. They recovered the stolen goods and released Chauncy Judd and restored him to his parents. The robber leader, Graham, was found to be a deserter from the continental army, and was sent to Morristown, where a court martial condemned him to be executed.

"The others (the five under Graham) were put on trial in the superior court of New Haven, with David Wooster, Sr., Noah Candee, Daniel Johnson, William Seeley, Francis Noble and Lemuel Wooding (Whittemore's barkeeper). Two of the accused, Scott and Cady, were allowed to turn state's evidence. All the others were found guilty. David Wooster, Henry Wooster, Jr., and Samuel Doolittle (principals in the expedition) were each sentenced to a fine of £50 and imprisonment for four years, in the Newgate state prison.\* Noah Candee and David Wooster, Sr., were fined each £500 and imprisoned nine months in Hartford jail. Daniel Johnson was fined £250 and imprisoned nine months. Francis Noble was fined £50 and imprisoned one year. William Seeley was fined £25 and imprisoned nine months. Lemuel Wooding was fined £25 and imprisoned six months. In addition, Captain Dayton recovered heavy damages in civil suits against the different parties, amounting to several thousand pounds. Mr. Judd also recovered £800 from the robbers and their accessories for damages to his son. This summary punishment was as discouraging to the Tories of the vicinity as it was encouraging to the struggling patriots."†

It may be proper to add in this connection that Chauncy Judd married his sweetheart and became one of the leading men of Naugatuck. The other parties in this affair continued after the war, as they were before these troublous times, to be leading men in their several communities, and preserved the respect of their fellow citizens. In several cases their confiscated property was restored by acts of the general assembly.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Azariah Andrew, born in Bethany in 1821, is a son of Job and grandson of William Andrew. Job Andrew was a soldier in the war of 1812. He represented the town of Bethany in the legislature one year. He married Lois Prince. Their children were: Maria, Jeremiah, Azariah, Nathan and Eliza. Azariah Andrew married Sarah A. Pardee in 1856. Their children are: Fannie, born 1858; Mary E., born 1860; Noyes, born 1857; and John D., born 1861. Fannie married John Early, and Mary E. married M. S. Burgess.

Russell M. Beach, born in Bethany in 1830, is a son of Roger M., and grandson of Jason Beach. Roger M. married Mary, daughter of Moses Russell. Mr. Beach is a farmer, and most of his life has been spent in Bethany. He was married in 1852 to Eliza B., daughter of

\* Barber says they escaped and fled to Nova Scotia.

† Sharpe's History of Seymour, p. 147.

Stephen Anthony, of Meriden. Their children are: Dencie, born 1854, married James Cahoun; Elsie, born 1858, died 1869; Mary, born 1860, died 1874; Elmer J., born 1862, and Lizzie A., born 1866.

Allen C. Beard, born in Milford, Conn., in 1813, is a son of Colonel Andrew Beard and Nancy Camp. His grandfather was also named Andrew Beard. Allen C. learned the shoemaker trade and worked at it several years. He came to Bethany in 1844, where he has since resided, engaged in farming and working at his trade. He was married in 1840 to Abigail, daughter of William Smith, of Milford. Their children were: Abigail A., born 1840; Susan A., born 1842; Marian C.; Andrew A., born 1848; Kate S., born 1850; Sarah M., born 1853; Flora G., born 1855; and William, born 1858. All are living but William. Abigail A. married Dennis Smith; Susan A. married William Lounsbury; Marian C. married Caleb Smith; Kate S. married Arthur J. Lacy; Sarah M. married Zeri Beach. Mr. Beard is a member of Bethany Presbyterian church. His wife died in 1870.

David Burnham, the first of his family to settle in New Haven county, came from England and settled in East Haven, and later in Bethany, then a part of Woodbridge. He married Martha Barker for his first wife. For his second he married Mrs. Rachel Luddington, whose maiden name was Tuttle. Their children were: James, William and Martha. James married Lois Johnson. Martha married John Mansfield. William married Harriet, daughter of Ami Hoadley, and their children were: Adaline, David A., Emeline, Martha, Margaret and Sarah J. Margaret Burnham married George L. Woodruff, son of Merritt Woodruff. Their children are: Mary S., married to Charles E. Ball, and Georgiana L., married to Ellis O. Warner. William Burnham was born June 11th, 1795, and died July 29th, 1882. Harriet, his wife, was born October 20th, 1794, and died March 2d, 1887.

Abram E. Carrington, born in 1829, is a son of Daniel and grandson of David Carrington. Daniel was a blacksmith, and all his boys were engaged in farming. Daniel Carrington married Rachel A. Dorman, of Hamden. Their children were: David, Albert, Abram, Eliza, Sarah and Emily. Abram E. Carrington was married in 1857 to Sarah Pritchard. Their children were: Ida, Charles and Ella. For his second wife he married Mary J. Patterson, of Naugatuck. Their children are: Otis, Burton, Henry, Rachel, Hiram and Ralph. From about 1847 to 1870 Mr. Carrington resided in Seymour, and since that time in Bethany.

Henry A. Carrington, born in Bethany in 1808, was a son of Allen and grandson of Abraham Carrington. Allen married for his first wife Hulda Allen. They had two children, Emily and Nehemiah. His second wife was Nancy Atwood. Their children were: J. Bennett, William, Henry A., Edward, Charles and George. William is the only one living. J. Bennett Carrington was editor of the *New*

*Haven Journal and Courier* for many years. Henry A. Carrington resided in Bethany. He married, in 1832, Samantha Tolles, daughter of Daniel and granddaughter of Daniel Tolles. They had four children; Edward H., who married Fannie E. Lounsbury; Mary S., who married Wales H. French; Josephine, married for her first husband H. W. Beecher, and for the second Hagot Bogigian; and Justine, married Frank L. Coe. Henry A. Carrington died in 1855.

Ransom Chatfield, born in Seymour in 1842, is a son of Joel R. and Mary (Tomlinson) Chatfield, and grandson of Joel Chatfield, who was one of the early settlers of Humphreysville, having a saw and grist mill there. Joel R. Chatfield's children were: Clark, Lucinda, John, Edwin, Ransom, Hiram, Mary, Joel and Charlotte, living; and Hattie, deceased. Ransom Chatfield has resided in Bethany since 1871. He married Sarah L. Gilyard in 1866. They have two children: Benjamin N. and Bernice M.

Nathan Clark, born in that part of Woodbridge now Bethany, in 1824, is a son of Isaac and grandson of Isaac, both of whom were natives of Milford, Conn. Isaac Clark, the father of Nathan, married Esther, daughter of Deacon Joseph Treat, descended from Robert Treat, who was lieutenant-governor of the state of Connecticut 17 years, and governor 15 years. Isaac Clark held the office of selectman of the old town of Woodbridge for eight years in succession. Nathan Clark was elected town clerk and treasurer of Bethany in 1855, and held those offices continuously until 1881. He was elected probate judge in 1862, and has held the office continuously since that date. He was also postmaster of Bethany for eight years. Mr. Clark was married in 1843, to Sarah L. Lounsbury. Their children are: Emma S., born 1844, and Edwin N., born 1851. Emma S. married Pearl P. Sperry. Their children are: Isidore S., Belle E., Pearl P. and Harold C. Edwin N. Clark was married in 1874, to Hannah Basham. Their children are: Eugene F., Walter E., Lena B., Ruby B. and Frank J. Edwin N. Clark succeeded his father as town clerk and treasurer, and has held those offices since.

Andrew J. Doolittle, born in Bethany in 1842, is a son of Isaac, and grandson of Reuben Doolittle. Isaac Doolittle married Urusula, daughter of Ami Hoadley, of Bethany. Their children were: Andrew J., Ellen S., Mary and Luther. Luther enlisted in the 10th Connecticut Regiment, and was killed at the battle of Kingston, N. C. Ellen S. (deceased) married George Dorman; Mary J. (deceased) married Hezekiah Lindsley. Andrew J. was married in 1870, to Josephine, daughter of Benjamin Bishop, of Woodbridge. They had one son, Arthur H. Doolittle. Mrs. Doolittle died several years ago. Mr. Doolittle served nine months in the war of the rebellion in Company H, 23d Connecticut Regiment. He is a member of Admiral Foote Post, No. 17, G. A. R., of New Haven. He was elected representative in 1888, and has also been assessor and selectman.

Dennis W. Doolittle, born in Hamden, Conn., in 1843, is a son of Bennett and Minerva (Warner) Doolittle, grandson of Reuben, and great-grandson of Caleb Doolittle, all residents of Hamden. Caleb is supposed to have removed from Wallingford and settled in Hamden. Dennis W. Doolittle kept a grocery store at Mt. Carmel, Conn., for a short time, and in New Haven for about 15 years. He was engaged in the coal and wood business there for several years. He settled in Bethany in 1884, and in 1886 opened a grocery store there, being also engaged in farming. He was married in 1867, to Evelina I., daughter of Philos Dorman. They had no children. For his second wife he married, in 1878, Rosa N. Dorman, sister of his first wife. Their children are: Cleveland B., born 1884, and Warren P., born 1885.

Denzil B. Hoadley, born in Bethany in 1844, is a son of Garry and Lucy (Doolittle) Hoadley, and grandson of Ami Hoadley, both of whom were residents of Bethany. Ami Hoadley built a grist mill in Bethany, which has been run by his son and grandson up to the present time. Garry Hoadley had two children, Denzil B. and Harriet A., who married Frederic Warner. Denzil B., besides conducting a saw and grist mill, is also a carpenter and builder, and is engaged in farming. He was married in 1865, to Anna J., daughter of William Moakley. There were born to them four children: George T., born 1875, died 1890; Edwin D., born 1877; Jessie L., born 1881, died 1883; and Hattie J., born 1886. Mr. Hoadley is a member of Bethany M. E. church. He was elected to the legislature in 1881 on the democratic ticket.

Garry B. Johnson, born in Humphreysville (now Seymour) in 1817, is a son of Garry, whose father, Ebenezer B., was a son of Asahel, who was one of the first settlers in Humphreysville. Ebenezer was a soldier in the war of 1812. Garry Johnson married Harriet, daughter of David Hotchkiss. Garry B. Johnson settled in Bethany in 1855, and is engaged in farming. He has held the offices of selectman and grand juror several terms, and was elected to the legislature, in 1873 and in 1874. In 1841 he married Huldah, daughter of Reuben Doolittle, of Hamden. Their children were: Frances (deceased), Dwight L., Frances (deceased), Frank B. (deceased) and Frank. He married for his second wife, in 1871, Polly, widow of Nehemiah Telles. Frank B. Johnson married Belinda Atwood. Dwight L. was married in 1874, to Harriet Wellman. They have three children living: Treat, Walter and Edgar. Mr. Johnson represented the town in 1886.

William H. Lounsbury, 2d, born in Oxford in 1833, is a son of Crownage, and grandson of Jaras, whose father, John, was a son of Timothy Lounsbury. Crownage Lounsbury married Samantha, daughter of Harvey Hotchkiss. Their children were: William H., 2d, Mark and Sarah. William H. Lounsbury, 2d, worked at tool making for many years, and was foreman of the tool department at Sing Sing prison for one year. He settled in Bethany in 1863, and is engaged in farm-

ing and dairying. He was married, in 1859, to Julia A. Ladne. They have two children, Jennie and Mark L.

William McClure, son of Thomas and Ellen (Johnson) McClure, was born in Park, County Leitrim, Ireland, in 1810, came to America in 1852, and settled in Bethany, where he died in 1869. He married Hannah Lipsett in 1838. They had eight children: Catherine, born in 1839; Thomas B., 1841; Hannah, 1843; Robert, 1845; William, 1849; Laura E., 1853; James E., 1858; and Richard C., 1860. Catherine married Darius Collins. Thomas B. married Lucretia Beecher. William married Margaret Kelley. They have one son, Herbert. Catherine's children are: Perry M., Etta M., Abram L., Laura A., Fannie M., Eva E. and Alice J.

Edmund Peck, born in Greenwich, Conn., in 1817, is a son of Rufus, he a son of Ebenezer, he a son of Ebenezer, and he a son of Ebenezer Peck, who came from England and settled in Greenwich, Conn., founded the Methodist church there, and was its first pastor. Edmund Peck studied for the ministry, and for over 30 years has been a Methodist minister. He was pastor of the Bethany M. E. church for one year, about 30 years ago, and for another year about 15 years later. He took up his permanent residence in Bethany in 1884. He married for his first wife Charlotte, daughter of Samuel F. Peck, of Sharon, Conn., in 1855. They had one daughter, Charlotte A. He was married the second time, in 1862, to Elizabeth B., daughter of Theophilus Smith. They have three children: Mary E., Laura B. and Charles E. Theophilus Smith was a native of Milford, and settled in Bethany, where he resided nearly 50 years. He kept a hotel and store for many years on the New Haven & Waterbury turnpike, and for several years kept a select school. His wife was Eliza, daughter of Lycius Beecher.

Adrian C. Rosha, born in Bethany in 1839, is a son of Elexis and Esther Rosha, the latter a daughter of Ebenezer Hitchcock, of Bethany. Mr. Rosha has always been a farmer. He enlisted in the 27th Connecticut Infantry, in October, 1862, and served until July, 1863. He married, in 1868, Anna G., daughter of Clark Hotchkiss. Their children are: Clifton and Eugene. In 1874 he married Fannie Hotchkiss, sister of his first wife. They have one son, Herbert. Clark Hotchkiss was born in Bethany in 1803, and died July 3d, 1890. He was a son of Isaac, and he a son of Isaac Hotchkiss. Isaac, the father of Clark, married Elizabeth Clark. Clark Hotchkiss married Caroline A. Sperry. Their children were: Martha, Mary, Isaac, Sarah, Fannie, Julia, Anna and Arthur. Martha married Lyman Gaylord; Mary married Elizur Hickok, and for her second husband Thomas Cocran; Isaac married Mary Reed; Julia married Thomas Higgins; Arthur married Eugenia Sperry. Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss were members of Bethany Congregational church for 62 years.

Jasper B. Todd, born in Bethany in 1842, is a son of Leonard, he a son of Ely, he a son of Jonah, he a son of Stephen, he a son of Samuel, he a son of Samuel, and he a son of Christopher Todd, who came from England to Boston in 1637. It is thought he settled in New Haven. He died in 1686. Jonah Todd was the first of the family to settle in Bethany, coming from Branford, Conn. He died in 1803. Ely Todd, his son, was born in Bethany, June 29th, 1772, and died in 1847. Leonard Todd was born in Bethany, November 8th, 1800. He married Julia B., daughter of Elam Bradley, of Hamden, and died in 1876. The widow still survives him. They celebrated their golden wedding. Their children were: Grace, Emily, Margaret, Celia, Street B., Dwight E. and Jasper B. Grace married Reverend F. B. Woodward, M. D.; Emily married Isaac Perkins, Margaret married Chauncy T. Beecher; Celia married Wales C. Dickerman; Street B. married Sarah A. Hotchkiss; Dwight E. married Mrs. Kate E. Bishop; and Jasper B. married Mary A. Moody. Street B. represented the town of Bethany in the legislature in 1880. Jasper B. was elected selectman in 1888 and 1889. He is a warden in the Episcopal church.

Nehemiah Tolles, born in Bethany in 1810, died in 1853, was a son of Daniel, and grandson of Daniel, who was a resident of Derby, Conn. Nehemiah Tolles married Polly, daughter of Captain Jesse Beecher. Their children were: Daniel, married Maria Newton; De Etta, married Jerome Downs; and Christine, married Edward Beecher, son of Lyman Beecher, and had one daughter, Leta Beecher. Edward Beecher was elected representative from Bethany in 1878. He died in 1881. Daniel Tolles, father of Nehemiah, married Mary Hine. Captain Jesse Beecher (named for his father) married Sarah Lines, and their children were: Hoel, Jesse, Emeline, Sarah, Polly and Henrietta.

Benajah Tuttle, born in Woodbridge (now Bethany) November 3d, 1812, is a son of Calvin and Sylvia (Smith) Tuttle, and grandson of Uri Tuttle, who came from Hamden and settled in Bethany December 5th, 1764. Uri was the fifth generation from William Tuttle, who came from England in the ship "Planter" in 1635. He landed in Boston and settled in or near New Haven. Calvin Tuttle was born in Bethany in 1786. In his family were six children: Benajah, Jeremiah, Elizabeth H., Edwin A., Horace and Sylvia E. Only two are living, Benajah and Elizabeth H. Edwin A. married Malinda Tuttle in 1862. Benajah married Mrs. Alice C. Sperry in 1869. Benajah learned dentistry, and that, in connection with farming, has been his business. Uri Tuttle, born 1737, married Thankful Ives. Their children were: Jeremiah, Amasa, Uri, Chauncey, Mary, Uri<sup>2</sup>, Elam, Benajah, Seymour and Calvin.

Lambert Wooding, born in Bethany in 1825, is a son of Levi and Polly (Bradley) Wooding of Woodbridge, grandson of Elijah, and

great-grandson of John Wooding; all residents of Woodbridge. Lambert Wooding was married in 1865 to Celia A., daughter of George W. Royce. They have two children living, George L. and William L. Winthrop D. died in 1868, Frank H. died in infancy in 1875, and Grace A. died in 1873.

Samuel R. Woodward, born in Morris, Conn., in 1844, is a son of Sherman P. and grandson of Reuben S. Woodward. He settled in Bethany in 1872. He has been highway commissioner, justice of the peace and secretary of the board of education; was elected selectman in 1878, and first selectman in 1879, and with the exception of nine months has been first selectman and town agent to the present time; and was elected representative in 1882. He was married in 1872 to Mrs. Charlotte F. Bigelow, daughter of Justus Peck. Their children are: Daisy E., Florence E. and Sherman P. Justus Peck, born in Cheshire in 1809, was a son of Asa Peck. Justus worked on the old Farmington Canal, and ran the first through boat on the same. He came to Bethany in 1843. He was a farmer, and was a prominent member of the Bethany Congregational church. He held the office of selectman several years, and was justice of the peace. He married, in 1834, Marietta Moss, and for his second wife, in 1839, Jane, daughter of Harry French, of Bethany. Their children were: Harry F., Charlotte F. and Marietta J., who married William J. Francis, of Wallingford. Charlotte F. married Henry M. Bigelow for her first husband and Samuel R. Woodward for the second. Harry F. Peck married Lydia A. Wood, of Beacon Falls. Their children are: Henry B., Nelson J. and Edwin H. Justus Peck died February 3d, 1885.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE TOWN OF ORANGE.

Location and Natural Features.—Incorporation.—Civil List.—Highways.—West Haven Village and its Various Interests.—The Village of Orange.—Tyler City.—Allingtown.—West Haven Congregational Church.—Christ Church (P. E.).—West Haven M. E. Church.—St. Lawrence Church (R. C.).—Orange Congregational Church.—Orange Cemetery.—Biographical Sketches.

THE town of Orange is west of New Haven, north of Long Island sound and Milford, and south of Derby and Woodbridge. On the west are Milford and the Housatonic river. Its length from east to west is more than six miles, and the average width is about three and a half miles. The shape of the town is somewhat irregular, in consequence of taking some natural features as boundary lines. On the southeast they follow the waters of New Haven bay or harbor, with West river as the upper line of division from New Haven. On the southwest, separating the coast ports of Orange and Milford, is Oyster river. Eastward, to the New Haven harbor, much of the sound shore affords a very fine beach, a part of which has been improved for a pleasure resort. The principal improvements of this nature are at and near Savin Rock, less than two miles south of West Haven green, and consist of several dozen villas and buildings for the accommodation of the public. Savin Rock is a large ledge extending some distance into the sound. Here General Garth's division of British troops landed, July 5th, 1779, when occurred the invasion of New Haven. It is said that the locality was so named on account of an evergreen shrub which grew upon this shore when the country was settled. The shore surroundings at this point are very pleasant, and their attractions are constantly increasing.

The general surface of the town is hilly, but there are some level lands along the streams—Indian river, Wepawaug and Bare brook—where productive farms are cultivated, and are especially adapted for the growth of vegetable seeds. In several localities mineral deposits, principally silver and copper, have attracted the attention of miners, in consequence of the discoveries of David Lambert in 1818. Later a New York mining company developed a copper mine in the same range of rocks, but the operations did not yield profitable returns. Agriculture has, from the beginning, been the chief occupation, but in recent years manufacturing has received more attention.



The grand list of 1889 indicated taxable property to the amount of \$2,657,342, some of it being detailed as follows: Acres of land, 16,185, value \$1,146,006; dwelling houses, 1,016, value \$1,002,729; manufactories, 20, value \$33,150; horses, 590, value, \$31,446; neat cattle, 1,469, value \$29,751; stores, 11, value \$13,450; capital in trade, \$27,825; manufacturing operations, \$107,325; earnings of vessels, \$7,754; oyster grounds, \$31,516.

Orange was incorporated May 28th, 1822, to include in its body politic the parish of North Milford, in the town of Milford, and the parish of West Haven, in the town of New Haven. A new name being necessary, many terms were suggested, but the present title was selected, finally, "in commemoration of the benefits received from William, Prince of Orange, by Connecticut when a colony; particularly in the restoration of their charter privileges, after the tyranny and usurpation of Sir Edmund Andross."\*

The first town meeting was held at the North Milford meeting house, on the second Monday in June, 1822, when the following were chosen as the principal officers: Town clerk, Benjamin L. Lambert; selectmen, John Bryan, Jr., Ichabod Woodruff, Aaron Thomas, Lyman Law; treasurer, Nathan Clark; tythingmen, George Treat, Aaron Clark, Jr., Simeon Smith, Bradford Smith, Lyman Pruitt, Samuel L. Pardee.

Since that time the town clerks have been: 1823-33, Solomon Johnson; 1834, Lyman Prindle; 1835-49, William Woodruff; 1850-4, Sidney Pardee; 1855-6, J. Seymour Pardee; 1857-87, Elias T. Main; 1888- , Walter A. Main.

Among others who served as selectmen or town agents were: Nathan Merwin, Aaron Clark, James Reynolds, James Fitts, Albert F. Miles, Benjamin T. Clark, from 1850 until 1879; Albert Candee, Henry W. Palmer, Dennis B. Stone, Isaac Hine, George H. Alling, Enoch Clark, George W. Tuttle, Samuel L. Smith, James Graham, Luther Fowler, David Platt, George R. Kelsey, Isaac P. Treat, E. W. Wilmot, Charles T. Sherman, Charles F. Smith, Elbee J. Treat, Joseph Andrews, Andrew D. Thomas, David Platt, William C. Russell.

The town affairs are carried on at an outlay of about \$30,000 yearly, about one-third being for the benefit of schools, and another third for the improvement of the highways. The Derby turnpike, passing through the upper part of the town, is still a toll road. The Milford turnpike, through the town, nearer the center, was vacated and became a public highway many years ago, its usefulness having been destroyed by the New York & New Haven railroad, which was built through the town in 1848. A well-ordered station is maintained at West Haven. The Derby railroad built through the town, in recent years, has stations at Orange, Tyler City and Allingtown. By these means the towns has easy communication with outside points.

\* Barber's Hist. Col., p. 246.

West Haven village is on the west side of New Haven harbor, and about one mile from Long Island sound. It has a pleasant location, on an elevated plain, and has a number of handsome, wide streets, some of which are well shaded by large trees. The buildings lots are large, and some of the residences stand on spacious, well-improved grounds, which contribute to the pleasing appearance of the place. The center of the old village was at West Haven green, about three and a half miles from New Haven green. The railway station is half a mile nearer the city. Since July 4th, 1867, the old part of the village has been connected with the city by the West Haven horse railway. The same company afterward extended its lines through the village to Savin Rock. The system is well managed, and has advanced the prosperity of the town. The headquarters of the company are at West Haven, and, in 1891, it was officered by Israel A. Kelsey, president; William H. Tallmadge, secretary and treasurer, and W. W. Ward, superintendent. West Haven green was formerly somewhat marshy, but more than 50 years ago its improvement was begun, and it has been carried on to a considerable extent. It now has a fine lawn-like appearance, with regular paths laid out through it. It is graced by a fine liberty pole, and contains also the Congregational meeting house and the old burial ground. On the south are the Episcopal church and grave yard. In the east part of the village are Methodist and Catholic churches. Near the same locality are Temperance Hall, used by the Sons of Temperance, and the Women's Christian Union, and the magnificent Union school building, which was first occupied in the fall of 1889. The rooms are 10 in number, each one capable of accommodating 50 pupils. It is one of the most pleasing edifices of the kind in the county. On the corner of Main street and Campbell avenue is Thompson's Block, a public business building, erected in 1874. In it are the public offices, halls and the West Haven Reading Rooms, recently established under favorable auspices.

In this building is also kept the West Haven post office, finely fitted up, and which supplies mail for 3,000 patrons. The service is five mails per day. Harris G. Eames is the postmaster, serving since December 6th, 1890. His predecessor was George H. Thomas, who succeeded Frederick Bishop.

West Haven was incorporated as a borough in 1873, and is governed by a board of warden and burgesses. These were, in 1891: Warden, E. J. Crawford; burgesses, Dennis Kimberley, Samuel Bryant, Lee Bishop, Charles Sherman, Israel Kelsey and Arthur Benham. A. C. Heitman was the clerk, and John F. Barnett the treasurer. About \$10,000 is expended yearly in public improvements and maintaining public interests.

There is a system of public water supply, furnished by the West Haven Water Company, which has been in operation the past five

years. Several reservoirs have been built, northwest of the village, into which water from a brook is pumped and carried thence by mains through the principal streets and to the sound shore. There are 19 street hydrants and 3 public water tanks, maintained at a yearly outlay of about \$500. The borough has a fire warden and owns a fire engine, which is manned by a volunteer company. Since 1887 the borough has had its streets illuminated by electricity, there being 46 public and 3 private arc lamps. There are also gas lights, both illuminants being furnished by New Haven companies. These improvements have been conducive to the prosperity of the borough, whose present growth is measured by 50 new houses erected yearly.

For many years the development of the village was slow, and for a term of years was practically at a standstill, the most of the improvements having been made within the present half century. Prior to this century this locality was generally called the "West Farms" of New Haven, and the inhabitants of this section were usually spoken of as the "West Farmers." One of the houses occupied by one of these farmers, and which was built in 1695, is still standing as the property of the Collins family. A house, built in 1745, which was long owned by Captain Anson Clinton, stood until 1889, when it was removed to make place for the new mansion of Rollin W. Hine.

George Lamberton owned property on the "West side," which was divided among heirs, Samuel Smith, Captain John Alling and William Trowbridge. Deacon Thomas Stephens was an early settler and became very aged. Thomas Painter was one of the original settlers, having Edward Thomas as a neighbor. The Benhams, Wards, Clarkes, Browns and Thompsons were also here as pioneers. Later, some of the principal farmers of West Haven were Thomas Painter, James Reynolds, Newton Stephens, Eli Kimberly, Ezra Candee, Nehemiah Kimberley, Albert Candee, Isaac Hine, Joseph Prindle, Captain Ichabod Smith, Captain Anson Clinton, Captain Albert Thomas and the Ward brothers—Henry, Thomas, Elliott and Jacob—who were also vessel owners and seamen. Formerly many of the inhabitants were thus engaged, and boat building was also carried on. For a number of years a ship yard has been kept up, on the West Haven side of the harbor. In 1891 four-masted schooners for the coastwise trade were built there by Gessner & Marr, employment being given to a large number of men. Henry Sutton was a former ship-builder, and launched a number of schooners of large capacity.

Most of the manufacturing interests of the town have been centered at West Haven. One of the first factories opened here was that of the West Haven Buckle Company, which was incorporated in 1853. Among those interested were S. S. Hartshorne, Silas Thompson, Edgar M. Smith and George R. Kesley. Since that time operations have been carried on successfully and profitably, over three-quarters of a million of dollars having been paid to the stockholders of the com-

pany as dividends. Nearly a hundred persons are employed. In 1891 the secretary and treasurer of the company was D. S. Thompson.

For many years George R. Kelsey was the successful manager of the above company, and his patents contributed much to the success of that corporation. In 1883 he established the American Buckle & Cartridge Company, of West Haven, of which Israel A. Kelsey was the president and treasurer in 1890. This company occupies works in the southern part of the village, and several dozen hands are employed, under the superintendency of M. L. Bassett. Buckles for men's wear are the principal manufactures.

In the same locality are the extensive works of the Mathushek Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of musical instruments. Operations were here begun in 1876, as the Parmalee Piano Company, from which has been evolved the present corporation, one of the most successful of the kind in the state. From 40 to 60 superior pianos are made every month, and many skillful mechanics are employed. Piano stools have also been manufactured in the town by various corporations.

The Graham Manufacturing Company manufactures keys and key blanks; water pipes are made by the Connecticut Patent Water Pipe Company; carriages by Grannis & Russell, and adjustable carriage poles by the Bishop Pole Company. All these industries give employment to hundreds of men.

The *West Haven Budget*, a local weekly paper, was established in January, 1885. The past four years it has been edited and published by F. S. Tower. An earlier paper published here was the *Church and Home*, issued in 1882-3, as a monthly, devoted to the objects indicated by its name. Reverend Norman J. Squires was the editor.

Physicians have for many years resided at West Haven, those located there in 1890 being Doctors John F. Barnett, Durell Shepard, William V. Wilson and C. A. Bevan.

Annawon Lodge, No. 115, F. & A. M., was chartered June 16th, 1873, upon the petition of the following Masonic brethren residing in West Haven: D. S. Thompson, Jarvis E. Kelsey, Stephen G. Hotchkiss, M. S. Leonard, James C. Hyde, W. W. Ward, Joseph Andrews, William A. Cross, Isaac T. Baker, Henry C. Thomas, James McAlpine, James H. Peck, James B. Thomas, Norman W. Domkee, John E. Marr, E. E. Wildes, George Warner, Francis Kettle, David T. Johnson, Luther C. Fowler, Elizur Pond, Frederick W. Bishop, Charles C. Adams, William Church, John M. Aimes, Joel N. Andrews, Stephen E. Booth, H. I. Thompson, Samuel Mallory, Henry A. Thompson, Joseph B. Thompson, George Edward Cleeton, Franklin Robinson, Robert M. Gesner, Zadoc R. Morse, Nelson S. Wilmot, Charles C. Smith, J. J. Butler, Edward Pritchard, Edward L. Bradley, Edgar M. Beebe, T. W. Johnson, Thomas E. Newton. The Lodge has prospered, and now has about one hundred members.

The West Haven Volunteer Memorial Association was organized in 1886. In June, 1888, the Oak Grove Cemetery Association presented the former body with a lot in its cemetery, in which Union soldiers could be interred and a memorial erected. The lot was dedicated to this use in May, 1889. William E. Augur, W. L. G. Prichard and Harry I. Thompson were appointed a committee to raise funds to erect a memorial. This was properly dedicated September 10th, 1890.

The first interments at West Haven were made on the public green, which was used for that purpose until about thirty years ago, when a more secluded place for interments was provided by the Oak Grove Cemetery Association. This body was incorporated November 27th, 1860. The cemetery has been tastefully laid out and is neatly kept.

The village of Orange, often called the "Center," is west of the center of the town. It is a station on the Derby railroad, and is located in one of the pleasantest parts of the town. In this locality are some good farms and substantial improvements. The lands here were surveyed and laid out in 1687, but no settlement was made until a number of years after 1700. Richard Bryan, Jr., son of Richard Bryan, of Milford, was the first to locate here permanently, opening some good farms. From this circumstance this part of the town was called "Bryan's Farms." A descendant, John, lived south of the "green," and his son, Richard, had a store on the west side of that plot of ground. The settlement of other farmers was invited, and as early as 1750 the inhabitants were so numerous that a winter school was set up.

After 1804 the locality became known as "North Milford," retaining that title until after the formation of the town, in 1822. In the year first named a public library was here established, which had, in 1816, 144 volumes, mostly on religious subjects, which is an index of the character of the inhabitants—they were sober, intelligent and industrious. Among the inhabitants of this period was Jonathan Rogers, having a homestead south of the green. His sons, Jonathan T. and Jonah, remained in this locality. Benjamin Clark lived on the east side of the green, where his son, Benjamin T., an aged and respected citizen, still resides. Colonel Alpheus Clark lived on the present Wellington Andrew place; Colonel Asa Platt, a large and wealthy farmer, on the Ed. Russell place. North of the church lived Deacon Jonathan Treat, who died in 1829. His sons, Jonathan and Jireh, also opened farms and long occupied them. These places are now in the possession of their grandsons. Northwest of the church lived David Treat, the father of sons named William, Leverett and David. In the same locality were Josiah and Jonathan Fowler. Other well-known residents were Matthew Woodruff, Benedict Law, Curtis Somers, the Fenns and the Andrews. In many instances the descendants remain.

In more recent years stores have been kept in this village by Richard Bryan, S. F. Oviatt and others. William J. Scobie has traded here a few years. The latter is also the postmaster of the Orange office, succeeding S. F. Oviatt, who had kept it in the railway station, where he was the first agent. Preceding him as postmasters, before 1861, were William T. Grant, Benjamin T. Clark and Dennis B. Stone. The office has two mails per day.

In 1822 Doctor Josiah M. Colburn, who had that year graduated from Yale, located here as a practicing physician. He continued, with much success, until 1839, when he removed to Derby. An extended biographical sketch of Doctor Colburn appears in another part of this volume. Other physicians remained only short periods.

The water power of the Wepawaug in this locality was early utilized in operating small mills, some of which are continued, on a limited scale, for the accommodation of the community. The Allings successfully manufactured woolen goods in a small factory on this stream, but many years ago removed to Birmingham, where their Wepawaug mill has become noted for the variety and extent of its productions, that industry being among the largest of the kind in the county.

Many years ago an academy building was put up, a short distance from the green, in which good schools were kept. The ruins of this house still remain. Within the past decade a fine two-story school building and public hall has been built on the east side of the green, where the youth of the hamlet are well instructed.

Tyler City is a hamlet two miles east from Orange village and four miles from New Haven. It is a station on the Derby railroad. It contains a few buildings, among them being a shop occupied by the Peerless Button Hole Attachment Company, which was incorporated in 1887. A large building was erected here for a private school, which was later occupied as the county home of refuge. A post office, with the name of the station, is maintained.

Allingtown, named for the Alling family, is near the West river, two miles from New Haven station. It is mainly suburban to New Haven city. Besides a number of residences, it contains a Gospel Union chapel, which was dedicated December 7th, 1890. Near this place is the grave of the British Adjutant Campbell, who was killed while leading the advance on New Haven. A monument has recently been set to mark the spot so long neglected.

An effort was made as early as 1712 by some of the "West Side Farmers" to secure parish privileges, and the general court was petitioned to form them into a separate society. New Haven strongly opposed such a movement, claiming that the farmers were too few in number to maintain a society. But in May, 1715, the court at Hartford granted the request, in spite of the protests of New Haven, whose cause was argued by Samuel Bishop and Samuel Cook, and ordered

that a Congregational society be established with the following bounds: "Beginning at the West river and running from the said river on the south side of Mr. John Allyn's meadow, thence to the upland and on the north side of Mr. Thompson's, till it come to the highway, between John and Jonathan Allyn, and thence along the county road to Milford line."

The society being formed, a meeting house was built in 1719, and in 1720 Reverend Samuel Johnson was settled as the first minister. In October, 1722, he publicly professed his belief in the doctrines of the Episcopal church, and left this church. Subsequently he removed to Stratford, where he became widely known as an Episcopal missionary. Later he was the president of Columbia College, New York.

In 1725 Jonathan Arnold was ordained as the second minister at West Haven. The church increased, under his preaching, so that, in 1729, it was found necessary to build three galleries in the meeting house. In 1734 Mr. Arnold also became an Episcopalian, and the church was again without a pastor, and so continued until 1738, when the Reverend Timothy Allen was ordained. Soon after he professed himself a "new light," and in 1742 was deposed from his pastorate.

Not long after Mr. Allen had become the pastor, the following persons united in establishing a church fund: Thomas Trowbridge, Samuel Smith, Nathaniel Beecher, Samuel Stevens, Daniel Mallory, Israel Bunnell, Samuel Candee, Ebenezer Smith, Samuel Downs, Joseph Thompson, Samuel Humphreville, Daniel Clark, John Benham, Thomas Painter, Nathaniel Kimberley, Eliphalet Bristol, Andrew Smith, Josiah Platt, Stephen Bristol, John Stevens, Samuel Candee, Roger Alling, George Clinton, Joseph Benham, Deliverance Painter, Nathaniel Smith, Shuball Painter, Samuel Sherman, Thomas Painter, Jr., and Jonathan Smith.

Soon after the dismissal of Pastor Allen, the Reverend Nathan Birdseye was ordained to the pastoral office, which he filled from 1742 until 1758. He was followed in 1760 by Reverend Noah Williston, who died here, as the pastor, in 1811. His pastorate was one of the longest and most eventful in the history of the church. In 1752 the meeting house, which had been placed in repair six years before, was broken by a storm, and was repaired by means of a special tax. In 1764 a steeple was built, in which a bell was placed in 1774. Up to that time the people were assembled by the beating of a drum on the village green.

In the troublous times of the revolution Mr. Williston was a staunch patriot, and had incurred the ill-will of some of his tory neighbors. Hence when the British invaded the town, in 1779, and while they were resting on the green, after their march from Savin Rock, some British troops were led to his house for the purpose of arresting him. In attempting to escape to the woods, in the rear of his house, Mr. Williston broke his leg while jumping over the fence, and was at the

mercy of his enemies. Through the intervention of Adjutant Campbell his life was spared, and his wounds received proper attention. Mr. Williston ever afterward had the highest estimate of the character of Adjutant Campbell, and lived to be much respected by all the community.

Since his death the successive pastors have been: Reverend Stephen W. Stebbins, settled June, 1815, died August 15th, 1843; Edward Wright, called January 28th, 1843, died October 23d, 1852; Hubbard Beebe, settled December 6th, 1854, dismissed January 4th, 1856; Erastus Colton, supply 1856-8; George Andrew Bryan, settled September, 1858, dismissed October 5th, 1869; George Sherwood Dickerman, settled December 8th, 1870, dismissed December 31st, 1873; William E. Brooks, became the stated supply in April, 1874, and after one year was settled as the pastor, and was dismissed October 4th, 1880; Norman J. Squires, settled as the pastor January 1st, 1881, and has since acceptably labored for the upbuilding of the church. When he became pastor the church had 225 members. The number belonging in 1890 was 318.

In 1852 the old meeting house, which stood southwest of the present one, was taken down, and the second meeting house of the society occupied. The latter was burned August 29th, 1859, and the present edifice was erected and dedicated July 12th, 1860. Its original cost was \$10,000. Seven years later an organ costing \$2,300 was supplied. A new bell was provided in 1883, and in 1885 the building was frescoed and otherwise improved at an outlay of \$1,900. The latest addition to the church property was made in 1891, when a parish house costing \$6,000 was built. It contains reception rooms, parlors and a library.

The parish had for more than a century the use of a house for a parsonage which stood on the west side of the green, in which many famous church councils were held. In one of its rooms the Connecticut Missionary Society was formed in the early part of the century. In 1857 the house was taken down, but before this was done a farewell meeting of many Congregational ministers was held there, on the 3d of April that year. In 1847 another parsonage was secured, north of the old one, which was now used for a select school. For that purpose it was occupied until 1850, when Mrs. Wright removed her school to a new building on Oak hill, where it was successfully continued a number of years as Oak Hill Ladies' Seminary, an institution which reflected credit upon the town.

Among the deacons of the church have been the following: Thomas Trowbridge, Thomas Stevens, Samuel Downs, John Benham, Deliverance Painter, all before the revolution; Josiah Platt, Nathaniel Smith, Bela Kellogg, Ezra Smith, Enos Smith, Daniel Moulthrop, Sidney Pardee, William H. Talmadge,\* Albert Candee, Samuel L. Smith,

\* Present deacon.



Esteves E. Marsh, Reverend S. J. Bryant,\* Lucius A. Benham.\* Since January, 1890, the church clerk has been W. H. Moulthrop.

The following Congregational ministers have been raised up in the town of Orange: John Bunnell, Elias Clark, Benjamin Fenn, George H. Hubbard, William W. Leete, George Peter Prudden, Enoch E. Rogers, William T. Reynolds, Richard S. Storrs, Payson Williston and David Howe Williston.

Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal), of West Haven, it is said, is the oldest in the state of Connecticut. It is an unpretentious frame building, and was probably begun in 1740. The window frames were not put in until the fall of 1742, and probably the house was not completed until several years later, as there were but few churchmen in this locality and their means were limited. In the fall of 1742 a deed for the church lot was executed.

The church had its beginning in consequence of the change of views of Reverend Samuel Johnson, the first pastor of the Congregational church. After being educated at Yale College, he was settled over the Congregational society in 1720, at the age of 24 years, and soon warmly attached the church to him. Shortly after becoming pastor of the church, doubts arose in his mind as to the validity of his ordination, and in company with Reverend Timothy Cutler, at that time rector of Yale College, James Wetmore, of the North Haven church, and Tutor Daniel Brown, of West Haven (who had been his classmates at Yale), all Congregationalists, he began to study up the subject of church government, reaching a conclusion, as expressed in his own words:

“It appeared plain that the Episcopal form of government was universally established by the Apostles wherever they propagated Christianity; that through the first order of the ministry, called Bishops, the power of the Priesthood was to be conveyed from the great Head of the Church; and that although Presbyters preached and administered the Sacraments, yet that no act of ordination or government was for several ages allowed to be lawful, without a Bishop at the head of the Presbytery.”

Great excitement followed this declaration of belief, in the summer of 1722, and Reverends Johnson and Wetmore withdrew from their churches. At the end of the school year Doctor Cutler and Tutor Brown were excused from Yale College. In November, 1722, three of them, including Mr. Johnson, sailed from Boston for England to take holy orders in the Episcopal church.

“At the time the Reverend Mr. Johnson came into the Episcopal church, and soon after, several of his parishioners, as near as can now be ascertained, ten or twelve families, and some of them the most eminently pious in the place, influenced by his example and convinced by his arguments, were persuaded to embrace Episcopacy.” Among

\* Present deacons.

the names are found those of Brown, Clark, Humphreyville, Prindle, Stevens and Thomas. For some time this eminent divine was the only Episcopal clergyman in Connecticut, and continued to preach in West Haven (though stationed at Stratford by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel), about once in three months, until 1737. In 1734, Reverend Jonathan Arnold, Doctor Johnson's successor as minister of the West Haven Congregational church, also became an Episcopalian, and having returned from England after being ordained as a churchman, was stationed at West Haven, in connection with Derby and Waterbury, where he labored as a missionary of the London society until 1739, when he again sailed for England. He was succeeded by Reverend Theophilus Morris, who remained here several years, and began the building of the first portion of the church still used.

"A curious and at this day rather amusing document is preserved in the parish register, being the account of the expenses incurred in raising the frame, and other items. A large folio Bible and Prayer Book, bound in one volume, bearing the imprint 'Oxford, A. D. 1738,' given to the church at that time, was used at the lectern until a few years ago, and is now in the rector's custody, in an excellent state of preservation; as well as a huge pewter chalice, bearing the date 1744.

"The succession of rectors from Reverend Theophilus Morris was as follows: Reverend James Lyon, 1743 to 1747; Doctor Richard Mansfield, 1749 to 1755; Ebenezer Punderson, 1755 to 1762; Solomon Palmer, 1763 to 1766; Bela Hubbard, from time to time, 1767 to 1813. Meanwhile, joining with the parish of St. George's, Milford, Reverend Henry Van Dyke was in charge for one year, 1786; John Marshall for six months, in 1787; David Belding, 1788 to 1790; Calvin White, 1805 to 1807. During this period, 1767 to 1813, there appears to have been much irregularity in the ministrations of the parish, Doctor Hubbard being called upon from New Haven for services when no settled minister could be had by coöperation with Milford; and these difficulties bespeak the troublous times of the revolution and the stormy years succeeding, when our dear Mother Church was in danger for her very life, and the public thought—quite naturally—that to be a churchman was to be a traitor."\*

After the revolution the Episcopal church in America received many accessions, and in 1784 the first diocese was formed, with Samuel Seabury as the bishop. To this body Christ church belonged from the beginning, coming in with other parishes formed under the care of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts." For 80 years, when these missionaries could give the church but part of their time, services were held; "when they had no preaching, the church was always open for lay-reading."

\* Year Book, 1888-9.

From 1814 to 1820, Reverend William Smith had charge of the parish, in connection with Milford; from 1820 to 1826, Reverend Joseph Perry, with East Haven; and from 1826 to 1830 Reverend William T. Potter. In the latter year the parish was so weak that the church was closed, and for more than six years public services were suspended. They were resumed in 1837 and continued at long intervals by Reverends Stephen Jewett, Servilius Stocking, etc.

In 1839 Reverend Alonzo B. Chapin took charge of the parish, in connection with Milford, and continued rector until 1850. When he here began his labors he found 22 families, to which he added 31 families. The old church was repaired and decorated in his ministry.

From 1850 until 1851 the ministers were Reverends N. S. Richardson, Henry F. M. Whitesides, and then came, in 1851-2, Reverend Gilbert B. Hayden.

“ At this time the old rectory was built, the church enlarged, and the beautiful set of silver communion vessels procured. Reverend Henry Zell was next rector, 1853 to 1863; David F. Lumsden, in charge from 1863 to 1864; Gurdon S. Coit, D.D., 1864 to 1866; Oliver S. Prescott, 1866 to 1867. Under his charge the present chancel, tower and organ chamber were built, and the weekly offertory established. Reverend Jared B. Flagg, D.D., followed him, 1868 to 1869; DeWitt C. Loop, 1869 to 1871; Charles C. Adams, 1871 to 1873. In 1874 Reverend Edwin S. Lines became rector. During his administration the parish was rehabilitated from its long unsettled condition. Storm was succeeded by calm, and Christ church became firmly established and prosperous. A word of tribute is due to his untiring and loving care for the flock. His rectorship continued until October, 1879, when his resignation, in order to accept a call to St. Paul's church, New Haven, produced an affectionate regret which still lives in the hearts of the parish and people of West Haven. Under him a debt was cleared away, the church was enlarged by the present side aisle, and a fund for a new church building was begun, which amounts now to more than two thousand dollars; the spiritual growth being large and constant. His work was faithfully carried on by Reverend Edward W. Worthington, 1878 to 1882. Reverend Jacob Streibert succeeded him, 1882 to 1885; Reverend Everett Beeman, 1885 to 1886. The present rector, Reverend Hobart B. Whitney, took charge of the affairs of the parish in October, 1886,” and under his direction the general prosperity continues. There are about 160 families in the parish, and the registered communicants exceed 200. The Sunday school has about the same number of members; and more than \$2,500 is raised yearly for carrying on the work of the parish.

For many years Prosper Warner was the senior warden of the church, a position at present held by David T. Welch; Ray T. Humphrey is the junior warden, and John T. Gill is the parish clerk.

Christ church has many active auxiliaries in addition to the Sun-

day school, among them being the Sanctuary Chapter, the Ladies' Aid Chapter, the Missionary Chapter and the Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, all promoting the interests of the church.

West Haven M. E. church edifice was begun in 1870. The Methodists first in this locality worshipped with the First M. E. church in New Haven. Under the auspices of that body, missionary efforts were made, about 30 years ago, to establish a church in the village. With that view the brethren, Sylvester Smith and Russell Chapman, labored here in 1868, and succeeded in gathering a class, which had among its members Harris Eames, Stephen Mix, Edward Mix, Marshall Bassett, William A. Cross and others to the number of more than a dozen. Meetings were held in private houses—at the homes of Henry H. Richards and Mrs. Eames—and at Thompson's Hall, the preacher in 1869 being John W. Felous, an Englishman. The following years Reverend Charles W. Lyon was appointed to the West Haven charge, and the work of building a house of worship was begun. A lot in the eastern part of the village was donated by Isaac W. Hine and Richard Thomas, on which the frame of the present building was raised in 1870, and the lecture room completed. The main audience room of the church was not completed for dedication until 1883. Members of the other churches in the village liberally aided in providing the necessary means. A parsonage on the lot adjoining was also built in 1870. The property was valued at \$10,000. A bell was placed in the steeple in 1889.

The ministers of the church have been: 1870-2, Reverend C. W. Lyon; 1873, E. D. Bray; 1874-5, W. E. Tompkinson; 1876, C. W. Lyon; 1878-9, A. H. Mead; 1880, J. B. Ayres; 1881-3, B. F. Kidder; 1884-6, Thomas E. Gilbert; 1887-8, E. L. Thorpe; 1889-90, W. C. Blakeman; 1891, B. F. Abbott.

A Sabbath school, organized in October, 1868, has been successfully continued, having had as its superintendent for a dozen of years Stephen Mix. It numbers about 200 members.

St. Lawrence church (Roman Catholic) was built in 1876, when West Haven was connected with Milford as part of that parish. It has a pleasing appearance, and provides sittings for 300 persons. The cost was about \$6,000. The church still sustains a mission relation to Milford, about 100 families residing in this part of the parish. Semi-monthly services are maintained, and the interest is increasing yearly, with prospects of soon making this an independent parish.

The Orange Congregational church was organized and known many years as the North Milford church. For more than 60 years the inhabitants in the locality of the church, at Bryan's Farms (later Orange Center), attended meetings at Milford. But as early as 1750 the settlers here were so numerous that a winter school was set up. In 1791 a public green was set apart, on a pleasant hill, on which, the same year, a plain meeting house, 30 by 36 feet, was built, by the con-

sent of the town of Milford, and in which winter preaching was held. The attendance and interest were so good that, after 1796, Reverend Bezaleel Pinneo, of the First Milford church, preached here every two weeks, holding these meetings several years. A number of members of the Second Milford church also lived in this locality. These united in the expression of a desire to form a separate society, at their home, and selected Samuel Treat, of the First society, and Joseph Treat, of the Second society, of Milford, to petition the general assembly to that end. That body granted the petition, and in October, 1804, incorporated the "Society of North Milford." The territory included all that part of Milford north of a line drawn from the head of Oyster creek or Oyster river, west, by the stone bridge, on the Derby road, over Weaver's brook, thence to the Housatonic, at the north end of the upper meadow. The name of the society remained North Milford until 1842, when, by legislative enactment, it was altered to the "Ecclesiastical Society of Orange."

A parish having been established, in spite of the vigorous protests of many of the old citizens of Milford, preparations were made for the organization of a church. In January, 1805, the First church dismissed 30 of its members for that purpose, and 24 withdrew from the Second church, with the same object. Accordingly, March 13th, 1805, the following entered into covenant relations as the North Milford church: Robert Treat, Benedict Law, Henrietta Law, Elias Clark, Abigail Clark, Matthew Woodruff, Esther Woodruff, Jonathan Rogers, Elizabeth Rogers, Samuel Treat, Clarissa Treat, John Bryan, Frances Treat, Anna Treat, Rebecca Pardee, Anna Clark, Mary Woodruff, Keturah Platt, Robert Treat, Content Treat, Joseph Stone, Sarah Stone, Samuel Stone, Naomi Stone, Samuel Prudden, Jonah Treat, Rebecca Treat, Asa Platt, Patty Platt, Josiah Boardman, William Fowler, Eunice Fowler, Benjamin Clark, Sarah Clark, Content Fowler, Joseph Treat, Rebecca Treat, Margaret Andrews, Samuel Fenn, Isaac Treat, Mehitable Treat, Benjamin Fenn, Comfort Fenn, Peck Fenn, Urania Fenn, Jonathan Treat, Susannah Treat, Samuel Fenn, Abigail Fenn, David Treat, Mabel Treat, Joseph Treat, Amos Mallery, Sarah Mallery.

The same year were added John Gunn, Martha Gunn, Hannah Clark, Eunice Treat. In 1806 13 members were added, the males being Enoch Clark, Benjamin Clark, Isaac Clark, Gideon Alling, Amos Smith. In 1807 John Buttrick and five others joined; in 1808 John Hine, Joseph Buttrick and five females. In 1809 31 persons were admitted, all but four by profession, the male members being David Nettleton, Aaron Hine, Jonathan Rogers, Joseph Prudden, Josiah Fowler, Oliver Nettleton, Richard Bryan. In 1821 75 persons were added; in 1831 about 50; and in 1843 about 70.

The church has had an aggregate membership of about 700, the number belonging in 1890 being 171, and representing 125 families.

The first pastor of the church was Reverend Erastus Scanton, who was settled July 4th, 1805, and dismissed January 3d, 1827. "He was a native of Madison, and was a strong, tall, farmer-looking man. His father once speaking of him said: 'Erastus was preaching the Gospel to the everlasting heathen of North Milford;' but he proved useful and was deservedly greatly respected. He gathered and wrote out and deposited in the town clerk's office a considerable history of old Milford."\* The church and society prospered under his ministrations, which were longer continued than those of any other pastor. While he was pastor a new meeting house was built. It was commenced June 27th, 1810, and dedicated April 17th, 1811, Reverend Bezaleel Pinneo preaching the dedicatory sermon. This house was placed on the north end of the green, and was more in the modern style of church building than its predecessor on the green. In 1864 it was remodelled at a cost of \$3,650, and rededicated June 9th, that year. More recent repairs have made it very comfortable.

A parsonage on the west side of the green, near the meeting house, affords a comfortable home for the officiating ministers. These have been, after Mr. Scanton, the following: Reverend Horatio A. Parsons, settled December 23d, 1829, dismissed April 24th, 1832; Horace Woodruff, settled August 22d, 1832, dismissed June 7th, 1836; Anson Smyth, settled November 25th, 1840, dismissed December 27th, 1842; Cyrus Brewster, settled August 23d, 1843, dismissed August 23d, 1848; W. W. Belden, settled August 23d, 1848, dismissed May 18th, 1852; D. Williams, stated supply from February, 1853, to February, 1855; A. C. Raymond, settled June 11th, 1856, dismissed October 27th, 1862; Henry T. Staats, settled June 9th, 1864, dismissed March 17th, 1869; William H. Dean, stated supply from July 1st, 1871, to April 1st, 1875; T. A. Leete, stated supply from January 1st, 1877, to April 1st, 1879; W. H. McGiffert began his labors June 1st, 1879, and ended them January 1st, 1880. The same year Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin preached three months. Reverend G. W. Noyes became the acting pastor July 1st, 1880, but continued only a few months, when the pulpit was supplied until September, 1881. In that month Reverend C. C. Otis began his labors as a supply, and was ordained and settled August 2d, 1882. He was dismissed July 30th, 1883, to become a general missionary in Washington, on the Pacific coast. Reverend H. W. Hunt began here as a supply September 1st, 1883, and was ordained as the pastor September 17th, 1884. He has since acceptably continued, and under his care the church prospers.

The office of deacon in this church was for life up to 1875, when a change was made, electing them for three years. The complete deaconry has been as follows: Elias Clark, elected March 13th, 1805, died July 17th, 1817; Jonathan Treat, elected March 13th, 1805, died November 20th, 1829; Joseph Prudden, elected November 4th, 1814, died

\* The writer has drawn largely on this book for data on this section.

January 11th, 1840; Peck Fenn, elected June 30th, 1815, died March 12th, 1824; Ebenezer Alling, elected April 9th, 1830, resigned May 4th, 1834; Calvin Beach, elected September 14th, 1834, resigned January 18th, 1843; Andrew Smith, elected December 31st, 1840, resigned February 10th, 1843; Nathan Merwin, elected May 12th, 1843, died April 9th, 1844; Aaron Clark, elected May 12th, 1843, resigned January 2d, 1876; Alpheus N. Merwin, elected February 28th, 1857, resigned January 2d, 1876; Leverett J. Clark, elected March 6th, 1875, reelected March 1st, 1878, January, 1882, January, 1885, and January, 1888, still serves; H. B. French, elected May 5th, 1877, reelected January, 1880, and January 6th, 1883; upon the same date Aaron Clark was elected an honorary deacon for life. Deacon French died April 7th, 1883, and May 5th, J. S. Alling was elected to fill his term. He was reelected January, 1886, but declined. S. D. Woodruff was chosen April 30th, 1886, but also declined, when Charles A. Clark was elected, in July, 1886. Being reelected January, 1889, he declined the office, when Edward L. Clark, Jr., was elected and now serves with Leverett J. Clark in this honorable office. The latter, S. D. Woodruff, S. J. Alling, Charles A. Clark and Aaron Clark constitute the standing committee. S. D. Woodruff is the clerk of the church.

The committee of the ecclesiastical society are E. L. Clark, I. P. Treat and E. C. Russell.

Connected with the church is a good Sabbath school of 125 members, superintended by Lewis A. White. For many years Deacon H. B. French was the superintendent. It has a well selected library of 400 volumes. The Christian Endeavor Society, an active auxiliary, has 45 members.

In this part of the town the Baptists and Methodists formerly had a number of members, and greatly aided in promoting the revival spirit half a century ago. A former deacon of the above church, Ebenezer Alling, became a useful Methodist minister, preaching in Milford and in this town. For a period of years a Methodist class was maintained, and was connected, in a circuit relation, with Derby and Milford.

The Orange Cemetery is a short distance north of the green, at Orange Center, and contains several acres of land. It first consisted of half an acre, which was set aside for burial purposes in 1804. Previous interments were made at Milford. The cemetery is well kept, and there are many attractive and a few costly monuments. Among the inscriptions may be noted the following, commemorative of many of the leading families and citizens who lived in this part of the town:

Enoch Clark, killed by lightning while harvesting, July 18th, 1807, aged 60 years.

Joel Woodruff, died March 14th, 1808, aged — years.

Joseph Stone, died December 14th, 1810, aged 55 years.

Samuel Treat, died May 3d, 1813, aged 58 years.  
Benjamin Clark, died February 28th, 1813, aged 75 years.  
Aaron Hine, died October 7th, 1813, aged 82 years.  
Samuel Stone, died December 13th, 1816, aged 60 years.  
Deacon Elias Clark, died July 7th, 1817, aged 65 years.  
Benedict Law, died November 19th, 1819, aged 79 years.  
Samuel Prudden, died July 12th, 1819, aged 76 years.  
Jonathan Rogers, died March 2d, 1821, aged 73 years.  
Captain Nehemiah Clark, died January 11th, 1820, aged 36 years.  
Joseph Hine, died July 3d, 1822, aged 70 years.  
Isaac Toll, died October 9th, 1822, aged 67 years.  
Matthew Woodruff, died July 15th, 1824, aged 81 years.  
John Bryan, Jr., died April 18th, 1824, aged 43 years.  
Asa Alling, died July 21st, 1825, aged 30 years.  
Robert Treat, died April 7th, 1825, aged 67 years.  
Benjamin Lambert, died October 11th, 1825, aged 43 years.  
Captain John Gunn, died July 26th, 1826, aged 61 years.  
Joseph Treat, died October 24th, 1828, aged 81 years.  
Edward R. Fowler, died May 26th, 1828, aged 58 years.  
Deacon Jonathan Treat, died November 20th, 1829, aged 66 years.  
Major Enoch Platt, died October 2d, 1829, aged 36 years.  
Josiah Fowler, died February 17th, 1829, aged 52 years.  
Jonathan Fowler, died February 14th, 1829, aged 58 years.  
Ephraim Lambert, died April 10th, 1829, aged 70 years.  
Samuel Prudden, died June 26th, 1832, aged 47 years.  
Amos Nettleton, died April 13th, 1835, aged 64 years.  
John Hine, died May 13th, 1837, aged 88 years.  
Deacon Joseph Prudden, died January 11th, 1840, aged 52 years.  
John Bryan, died December 11th, 1840, aged 87 years.  
Isaac Clark, died April 25th, 1841, aged 91 years.  
Amos Clark, died November 14th, 1841, aged 85 years.  
Luke Clark, died November 25th, 1842, aged 54 years.  
Captain Jonah Treat, died February 2d, 1843, aged 75 years.  
Samuel Johnson, died June 22d, 1844, aged 68 years.  
Nathan Merwin, died April 9th, 1844, aged 54 years.  
Miles Mallette, died June 25th, 1844, aged 82 years.  
Nehemiah Woodruff, died December 26th, 1845, aged 72 years.  
Levi Parsons, died September 22d, 1847, aged 77 years.  
Jireh Treat, died October 21st, 1848, aged 54 years.  
David Treat, died June 17th, 1848, aged 82 years.  
Aaron Clark, died May 7th, 1848, aged 90 years.  
Calvin Beach, died July 21st, 1850, aged 51 years.  
Levi Beecher, died April 18th, 1851, aged 75 years.  
John Lambert, died January 17th, 1852, aged 83 years.  
Leverett Treat, died October 24th, 1854, aged 61 years.  
Colonel Samuel Potter, died May 4th, 1859, aged 69 years.



John Latt Lambert, died March 25th, 1860, aged 59 years.  
 Jonathan Rogers, died February 3d, 1860, aged 79 years.  
 Robert Treat, died April 24th, 1861, aged 75 years.  
 Lyman Law, died August 26th, 1863, aged 75 years.  
 Charles W. Alling, died April 6th, 1863, aged 75 years.  
 Alvin Clark, died August 19th, 1863, aged 63 years.  
 Nathan Fenn, died March 25th, 1864, aged 82 years.  
 Albert Alling, died May 8th, 1864, aged 62 years.  
 Asa Alling, died March 11th, 1866, aged 86 years.  
 Deacon Aaron Clark, died April 13th, 1866, aged 90 years.  
 Andrew P. Hine, died November 21st, 1870, aged 84 years.  
 Lewis Bradley, died October 7th, 1872, aged 67 years.  
 William Treat, died May 8th, 1873, aged 71 years.  
 Benjamin Clark, died December 12th, 1873, aged 94 years.  
 Anson Clark, died May 25th, 1876, aged 78 years.  
 Jonah Treat, died February 2d, 1882, aged 87 years.  
 William T. Grant, died July 29th, 1882, aged 75 years.  
 Dennis Andrews, died January 5th, 1883, aged 65 years.  
 Henry P. Russell, died March 18th, 1885, aged 76 years.  
 William Andrew, died December 22d, 1887, aged 75 years.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Leonidas W. Alling, born in Orange in 1840, is a son of Charles W., he a son of Amos, he a son of Silas, he a son of Daniel, he a son of Samuel, and he a son of Roger Alling, who came from England in 1638 and settled in New Haven. Charles W. Alling was born in New Haven in 1793, settled in Orange, and married Lucy Booth in 1819. They had seven children, six of whom lived to grow up: Amos H., Charles B., John W., Leonidas W., Mary N. and Lucy A. Charles W. Alling established in 1823 a mill for carding wool and dressing cloth. This business he continued until 1840, when a new mill was built and spinning and looms were introduced. He continued the manufacture of cloth until 1845, in which year his sons, A. H. and C. B. Alling, succeeded him and carried on the business until 1859, when they engaged in business in Birmingham. Charles W. Alling carried on a saw and grist mill from 1819 to 1868. His death occurred in the latter year. Leonidas W. Alling, in 1860, engaged in woolen manufacture in the factory formerly conducted by his father and brothers. He still continues the business. Mr. Alling was elected to the state legislature, in 1864 and 1868. He married in 1870, Maria F., daughter of Alpheus Merwin, of Orange. They have three children: Mary, Wilbur M. and Leon Booth.

Theron L. Alling was born in Orange August 4th, 1838. He is a son of Harvey, and grandson of Edward, whose father, Silas, was a son of Roger Alling, who was one of the original settlers of New Haven. He had three sons: Daniel, Timothy and Silas. Silas settled early in

what is now a part of Orange. He married Dorcas Baldwin, of Woodbridge. They had seven children: Amos, Edward, Silas, Louis, Asa, Rebecca and Anna. Harvey Alling, son of Edward, married Mary Hull. Their children were: Andrew, Edward, Martha, Delia, Theron L. and Ann M. Theron L. Alling married, in 1865, Helena Larabee. Their children are: Ruby and Ernest. Ruby died at the age of two years. The subject of this sketch is engaged in farming, the milk business being a large factor. He has also been prominent in town affairs, and was in 1891 a member of the board of relief. He is also a member of the Congregational church of Orange.

Wellington M. Andrew, born in Orange in 1843, is a son of Dennis, whose father, Merwin, was a son of William Andrew, all residents of North Milford and Orange. Merwin Andrew married Susan Platt, of Milford. Their children were: William, Dennis, Merwin, Mary and Susan. Wellington M. Andrew is a civil engineer and surveyor, a graduate of the Sheffield Scientific School of New Haven. From 1868 to 1878 he followed his profession in California. Since 1878 he has been engaged in farming in Orange. In 1887 he was elected to the state legislature, has been school visitor eight years, and is a member of the Orange Congregational church. He married, in 1881, Flora B., daughter of Isaac P. Treat, of Orange. They have three children: Irving A., Ashley W. and Florence.

James Andrews, born in Roxbury, Conn., October 15th, 1830, is a son of Elijah, and grandson of Elijah, who was a resident of Orange. Elijah, father of James, removed to Watertown, Conn., early in life and engaged in farming. He afterward settled in Roxbury. He married for his first wife a Miss Parsons, of Watertown. Their children were: Amos, William, Jane, Hannah, John P., Polly, Susan, Betsey, Thomas, Reuben and Elijah. He married for his second wife Mrs. Lovina Judson, daughter of Gideon Leavenworth. They had one son, James Andrews. Of these children Amos died at Newburgh, N. Y.; William died at Plantsville, Conn.; Jane resides in Edinboro, Scotland; Hannah died at Newburgh, N. Y., and John P. died at Cairo, N. Y. He was a well known contractor, and with his partners built the Grand Central depot in New York city and the underground railroad. Polly and Susan Andrews died at Watertown, Conn. Betsey died at Wilkesbarre, Pa. Reuben lives at Cairo, N. Y. Thomas lives at Arlington Heights. Elijah served in the Mexican war, and afterward enlisted for the Indian war. He was killed in battle. James Andrews carried on the butcher business in Thomaston, Conn., for several years, and afterward engaged in farming in Bethany, Conn. He came to West Haven about 1875, and has been engaged in cigar manufacturing. He was married in 1854 to Jane M. Atkins. They had two children: James C., born 1855, married in 1888 Nettie L. Riggs, and resides in New Haven; and Mason E., born 1859. Mr. Andrews mar-

ried, for his second wife, Elizabeth Perkins, in 1865. He and James C. are members of Annawan Lodge, F. & A. M., of West Haven.

Joseph Andrews was born in Meriden February 14th, 1832. His father, Orrin Andrews, was a son of Nathaniel, he a son of Andrew, he a son of Joseph, he a son of Samuel, and he a son of William Andrews, who came from Hampsworth, England, in 1635. He settled in New Haven. He was a carpenter and built the first meeting house in New Haven in 1644. He also kept an inn. He died at East Haven, March 4th, 1676. His second wife was Anna Gibbons, daughter of William Gibbons, colonial secretary in 1617. He had two sons, Samuel and Nathan, who were among the first settlers of Wallingford in 1670. Nathaniel Andrews was a farmer and resided in the town of Wallingford, at North Farms. He married a Miss Blakeslee. Their children were: Solomon, Ira, Andrew, Nathaniel, Joseph, Orrin, Polly and Mary. Orrin Andrews was born at North Farms in 1797. He removed to Meriden, and for several years kept a store there, afterward returning to Wallingford. He was, upon the building of the New Haven & Hartford railroad, appointed station agent, which position he held for many years. He represented the town in the legislature, was postmaster at Wallingford for eight years, and was captain of the Old Horse Guards. He was one of the leaders of the democratic party in that town. He married Caroline, daughter of Chester Cook, of Wallingford. Their children were: Gould N., born 1820; George, born 1823; Emily, born 1825; Orrin C., born 1828; Joseph, born 1832; Mary A., born 1834; Charles H., born 1838; Mary C., born 1841, and Martha H., born 1844. Mary A., Mary C. and Orrin C. are deceased. Orrin Andrews died in 1867. Joseph Andrews resided in Wallingford until the age of 17, when he went to Fair Haven and learned the carpenter trade, remaining there and in New Haven for the next nine years. He soon after settled in West Haven, where he has been engaged in the building business ever since. In October, 1889, he was elected first selectman and town agent, and the next year was elected third selectman. In 1891 he was elected first selectman and town agent, which position he now holds. He was elected warden of the borough in 1876, '77 and '78. He was made a Mason in old Hiram Lodge, No. 1, of New Haven, November 28th, 1868; was a charter member of Annawan Lodge, and first junior warden in 1873; elected master in 1876, 1883 and in 1890. In 1857 he married Eliza J., daughter of William A. Peck, of West Haven. They had two children: Joseph (deceased) and William A. P. Andrews, who is a physician at Buffalo, N. Y.

William E. Bull was born at Saybrook, Conn., in 1852. He is a son of Ezra C., whose father, Ezra, was a son of Clark Bull. Ezra Bull was a farmer. He served in the war of 1812 as a major. Ezra C. Bull married Almira, daughter of Captain Azariah Whittlesey, a sea captain. Ezra C. Bull was a ship builder in the early part of his life,

and later was a house carpenter. William E. Bull learned the trade of pattern maker. For several years he was a traveling salesman. In 1888 he entered the employ of the Peerless Button Hole Attachment Company of Tyler City, and in 1890, with Louis T. Bulley, became contractor for the company. Mr. Bull is manager. He married, in 1882, Ella Carman, of New York. They have two children: Amelia Isabel and Ezra Carman.

Doctor John Frederick Barnett, born June 26th, 1846, in West Haven, Conn., is a son of William N. and grandson of Samuel Barnett. William N. Barnett, when a young man, engaged in the publishing business in Charleston, S. C., which he carried on for many years. He retired about 1845 and settled in West Haven. He died in Florida, October, 1878. He married Mary S. Pritchard, of Charleston, S. C. Their children were: William E., John Frederick, George (who died in childhood), and Francis W. William E. is a lawyer and executive secretary for the Consolidated railroad. Francis W. is an Episcopal clergyman at Canaan, Conn. John Frederick Barnett was educated in the public schools of West Haven and the Hopkins Grammar School of New Haven, graduating from the Yale Medical School in 1869. He was in the Hartford Hospital for one year, then accepted a position as surgeon on board an emigrant vessel between New York and Liverpool. In 1872 he located in Brooklyn, N. Y., where he practiced until 1875, when he returned to West Haven, where he has since been engaged in the practice of his profession. He is a member of Kings County Medical Society of Brooklyn, the Connecticut State and New Haven County Medical Societies. He has been medical examiner for the town of Orange since 1883, treasurer of the borough of West Haven since 1882, and secretary of the school board for ten years. He married, in 1887, Mary E. Keeley, of Ottawa, Can. They have one son, Frederick H.

Lucius A. Benham, born in Orange in 1824, died in May, 1891, was a son of Elisha, born 1782; he a son of Gamalial, he a son of John, and he a son of John, who came from England in the ship "Mary and John," and landed in Boston in 1630. He afterward joined the Connecticut colony, and was one of the 70 heads of families that founded New Haven, as is shown by the town records. They were all farmers and residents of New Haven county. Gamalial Benham married Lydia Painter. Elisha married Phœbe Keeler, of Litchfield. Their children were: Almeda, born 1811; Elvira, born 1813; Maria, born 1816; Elijah E., born 1820; Eliza D., born 1822, and Lucius A., born 1824. Almeda married James L. Kimberly. Elvira married Charles B. Stone. Maria married Gorham Munson. Elijah married Mary E. Hine. Lucius A. married in 1854, Sarah L. Plimpton, of Sturbridge, Mass. They had four children: Susan W., Louisa E., Mary P. and Catharine M. Catharine M. is the only one of these children now living.

Louis T. Bulley, born in Vergennes, Vt., in 1852, is a son of Theodore Bulley, who emigrated from France and settled in Vermont. In 1871 he came to New Haven, where he engaged in the grocery business. Louis T. is a tool maker by trade. For several years he was in the employ of C. Cowles & Co., of New Haven. In 1885 he entered the employ of the Sackett Manufacturing Company, of Tyler City, and later the Peerless Button-Hole Attachment Company, which succeeded the former company. In 1890 he and William E. Bull became manufacturers for the company under contract. Mr. Bulley is superintendent.

Benjamin T. Clark, born in that part of Orange then a part of Milford, in 1814, is a son of Benjamin, he a son of Benjamin, and he a son of John, who was one of the early settlers of Milford. Benjamin Clark, son of John, married Sarah Rogers, and had three children: Benjamin, Nathan and Rebecca. Nathan, after residing in Milford for many years, emigrated with his family to the West. Benjamin, his brother, settled in Milford. He served in the war of 1812. He married Susan, daughter of Jonathan Treat, and their children were: Susan, Sarah C., Benjamin T., Charlotte and Mary S. Benjamin T. has always been engaged in farming, and in his younger days, for many years, devoted his winters to teaching school. He took for many years a leading part in the affairs of the town. He held the office of selectman for 26 years in succession, was town agent for many years, justice of the peace for nearly 40 years, represented the town in the legislature in 1847 and 1848, and again in 1856 and 1863. He married, in 1839, Elizabeth R., daughter of Joseph Newton, of Woodbridge. They have one son, Joseph N., born 1840, married in 1866, Sarah A. Miles, and has five sons: Benjamin T., Joseph N., Albert M., Henry F. and George E.

Charles A. Clark, born in Orange in 1834, is a son of Alvin and grandson of Isaac, whose father, Isaac, was one of the early settlers of North Milford (now a part of Orange). Isaac Clark was a revolutionary soldier. Alvin Clark married Mary Peck. Their children were: Alvira H., Charles A., Dennis, Andrew, Nathan, Grace E. and Henry M. Dennis enlisted in the 15th Connecticut Regiment, and died in service. Charles A. Clark has always been engaged in farming. He is a member of the Congregational church, and deacon of the same. He married, for his first wife, Mary J. Sexton, in 1859. They had four children: Nellie, Arthur, Charles and Mary. He married the second time Frances E. Barker, in 1881.

Edward Cunningham, born in Scotland, is a son of Edward and grandson of James Cunningham. He came to this country about 1850, and two years later came to New Haven. He followed the sea several years. About 1860 he engaged in his present business, filling large contracts from his stone quarries in West Rock and East Haven. He settled in Orange about 1875. He married Catherine Fitzgerald.

Their children are: Edward, James, Simon, Agnes and Katie. His sons are in partnership with him.

Joseph Dudley, born in Cheshire, Conn., in 1822, is a son of Elias, born in 1790, he a son of Jedediah, and he a son of John Earl Dudley, who came from England about 1746, and settled in Wallingford, Conn. He married Lois Brockett, and their children were: Jedediah and Molly. Jedediah married Lucy Plumb, of Milford, and their children were: John, Caleb, Isaac, Ransom, Elias, Amelia, Roxanna and Sarah. Elias Dudley married Laura Preston, of Wallingford. Their children were: Maria, Mary A., Harriett, Joseph, George E., Caroline, Charles and Samuel. Elias Dudley was a marble cutter, and carried on that business in Cheshire. Joseph learned the same trade, conducted a marble business in Cheshire, and for several years had another place in Meriden. In 1859 he located in New Haven, where he was engaged in the same business. He had an interest for a time in the gents' furnishing establishment of Blair & Dudley, of New Haven. In 1885 he settled in Orange. He married in 1849, Harriett, daughter of Captain Chauncy Sperry. They had two children: George E., who is engaged in the gents' furnishing trade in New Haven; and Nellie E., who married William H. Seymour, of South Norwalk, Conn., October 1st, 1879, have since settled in Ballston Spa, N. Y. In 1885 Mr. Dudley married Mrs. Hettie M. Turner, of East Norwalk, Conn., and formerly of Jamesport, L. I. He settled in Orange the same year he married Mrs. Turner, although he owned the place and rented it some years before settling there.

Loring T. Ellis, born in Prospect, Me., in 1850, is a son of Barrach Ellis, who settled in Bridgeport in 1854, and engaged in the marble and monumental business, which he conducted until 1876, at which time he was succeeded by his son, Loring T. Ellis, who continued the business until 1884, when they settled in Orange and he engaged in the grocery trade at Woodmont. In the fall of 1887 his store was destroyed by fire. The following winter he built the large store he now occupies and does an extensive business, especially during the summer months, dealing in groceries, provisions and general merchandise. He was appointed postmaster at Woodmont in 1889.

Peter R. Forbes, born in Canada in 1800, was a son of Adam Forbes, who was a New York state man. He served in the war of 1812, and died from wounds received in the service. Peter R. served as a teamster during the latter part of the same war. The father of Adam Forbes served in the cavalry in General Gates' army in the revolution. The family came from Scotland at an early date. Peter R. Forbes settled in Orange in 1831. He carried on a butcher business for many years, but in the latter part of his life was a farmer. He married Cynthia M., daughter of David Downs, of Orange. Their children were: Henry, born 1832; David, born 1834; Nathaniel, born 1842, and John P., born 1845. The three eldest learned carriage mak-

ing. John P. is a farmer. Henry Forbes married Claudenia Heitmann. Nathaniel married Harriett Lord. John P. married Lillian, daughter of Stephen Gunn, of Milford. Peter R. Forbes died in 1885.

Luther Fowler was born in Derby in 1822. His father was named Luther, and his grandfather is believed to have been named Elijah. He was a lieutenant in the revolutionary war and commanded a privateer which was sent out from New London and is supposed to have been lost at sea with all on board. He left but two children, Luther and Catherine. Luther served in the war of 1812, and was a shoemaker by trade, but for several years followed the sea, and afterward engaged in farming in what was then Derby, now a part of Seymour. He was selectman of Derby for several years, and was twice elected to the legislature. He married Mrs. Mercy Short Hawkins. Their children were: Hannah J., Abraham, Mary C., Louisa, Luther and Charlotte A. Luther Fowler, Jr., learned the mason's trade. He built for himself a house in that part of the old town of Derby, afterward included in Seymour and finally set off to Oxford. He was successively a resident of three towns, although occupying the same premises. Mr. Fowler's business has been principally contracting and building. He settled in West Haven in 1867, and for several years was engaged in the manufacture of patent brick in Bridgeport, Waterbury and later in New Haven. He afterward engaged in contracting and building again. He was selectman, also warden of the borough one year, and burgess for seven years. He married, in 1847, Ann A. Hurd, of Seymour. Their children were: Kate E., Frank H. (living) and Charles W. (deceased). Kate E. married Charles Butler, of Oxford, and Frank H. married Isabel Platt, of New Haven. Luther Fowler died May 4th, 1891.

William Gilbert, born in New Haven in 1809, is a son of Isaac, he a son of Joel, he a son of John and he a son of Matthew, who, with his two brothers, William and Samuel, came from England to Boston about 1620. Matthew and William settled there and Samuel went to New York state. Matthew afterward came to New Haven. The sons of Joel Gilbert were: Joel, Elisha, Jairus, Elijah, Israel and Isaac. Isaac Gilbert served in the revolutionary war. He was a tanner in New Haven and carried on an extensive business. He was selectman and town agent for many years. His first wife was Annie Mix. Their children were: Elizabeth, Jabez, Annie, Maria, Elias, Isaac, Mary, Harriett, Luther and Eliza. For his second wife he married Esther, daughter of Stephen Alling. Their children were: Stephen, Levi, Esther, William, Jesse and Sarah. Of this large family two are living—William and Sarah. Elias and Levi became partners in the tannery business, the firm of Isaac Gilbert & Sons being widely known. Stephen and Jesse Gilbert engaged in carriage manufacturing in New Haven and built up an extensive business. William Gilbert was superintendent in their factory for many years. About 1860 he set-

tled in West Haven and engaged in farming and market gardening. He married for his first wife Nancy A. Kibbe, of Wilbraham, Mass. Their children were: Gideon K. and Fidelia M., both of whom are residents of Minnesota. Mr. Gilbert married for his second wife Fidelia Kibbe. They had no children. For his third wife he married Emily Buck. Their children were: William M., Edward F. (deceased) and Edwin A.

Joseph W. Granniss, born in Branford in 1856, is a son of Sylvester M., born 1820, he a son of Joseph, born 1791, he a son of Samuel, born 1768, he a son of Joseph, born 1735, he a son of Thomas, born 1711, he a son of Joseph, born in North Haven 1677, he a son of Edward Granniss, who came from England and settled in North Haven in 1644, where during the next hundred years more than one hundred of that name were born. They were largely seafaring men. The original name was Grand Lys, and dates back to the Norman conquest in 1066, when the family came from Normandy, France, to England. Joseph, son of Edward, married Hannah Russell in 1702. Thomas, his son, was the first to spell the name Granniss. He married Mehitable Thompson. Joseph, his son, married Olive Luddington. Samuel, their son, married Sarah, daughter of John Chidsey, 3d. Joseph, their son, married Lucy, daughter of Jesse Luddington. Sylvester M. Granniss for his first wife married Lois R. Curtis, and for his second Lydia L. Bradley. They had one son, Joseph W. Mr. Granniss married for his third wife Ellen Blatchley. He died in 1882. Joseph W. Granniss is a carriage maker by trade and carried on that business in Hamden several years. In 1884, with William A. Russell, he engaged in the manufacture of carriage poles at Mount Carmel, Conn. In 1887 they moved to West Haven, and have continued the business there. He married, in 1876, Nellie A. Cook. Their children are: Bertha F., Alice A., Margarita, Joseph L. and Harry.

John M. Hubbard, born in Orange in 1844, is a son of John P. (1811-1880), he a son of John (1778-1861), he a son of General John (1751-1837), he a son of Reverend John (1727-1786), he a son of Doctor John (1703-1773), he a son of Reverend John (1677-1705), he a son of John, he a son of William (1621-1704), and he a son of William Hubbard, who came from Tendering Hundred, Essex county, England, to Boston in 1630, and died 1670. John, son of William, was a merchant in Boston. Reverend John, his son, was a minister at Jamaica, L. I. Doctor John settled in New Haven in 1727. His son, Reverend John, was a prominent clergyman at Meriden, Conn. He married Rebecca Dickerman. His son, General John, born in 1751, lived in Hamden. He was an extensive farmer and a prominent man. He owned and resided upon the present New Haven town farm. He saw but little service in the revolutionary war, but was a major-general in the state militia for several years. He was deacon and chorister of



the Center church of New Haven for many years. He married Anna Atwater. John, his son, married Sally, daughter of Stephen Peck, of Woodbridge. John P. married Sarah Ann, daughter of Thomas Clark, of Milford. He was the son of Elisha and grandson of Thomas Clark. Their children were: John M., Lewis C., Edward E., Anna A., Mary E. and Reverend George H., who is a minister at Foo Chow, China. He married Nellie L., daughter of Reverend Lyman Peet. Anna A. married William M. Cottle. Edward E. married Vara, daughter of Marcus Smith. Lewis C. married her sister, Fannie Smith. John M. was married in 1874, to Laura B. Davis, of Oxford.

Dennis A. Kimberly, born in West Haven in 1844, is a son of James L., and grandson of Eliakim, whose father, Silas, was a son of Nathaniel, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of Nathaniel, who was a son of Thomas Kimberly, who came from London to New Haven in 1638, and died in Stratford in 1673. He had four sons. Nathaniel died at West Haven in 1705. Another son, Eleazur, was the first male child born in New Haven. He died at Glastonbury in 1707. He was for many years secretary of state. The names of the other sons were Thomas and Abraham. Nathaniel Kimberly, 2d, died at West Haven in 1720. His son, Nathaniel, died at the same place in 1780. Silas, son of Nathaniel, 3d, married Mary, daughter of Jonathan Smith, and died in 1803. Eliakim Kimberly married Maria Kimberly. Their son, James L. Kimberly, married Mary A. Lum, of Derby. Their children were: Dennis A., Fannie A. and Edward L. Dennis Kimberly, son of Silas, was a general in the state militia and a lawyer of much prominence. Dennis A. spent several years in the western states, but has resided in West Haven since 1883. In 1861 he enlisted in the 1st New York Cavalry, and in 1862 enlisted in the 15th Connecticut Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He is a member of Admiral Foote Post, G. A. R., of New Haven. He was elected burgess of the borough in 1888, 1889, 1890 and 1891. He married in 1876, Nellie A. Norton. Their children are: Fannie E., J. Lester, Jennie A., Dennis, Edward B. and Marian A.

Samuel Mallory was born in Woodbury, Conn., in 1832. His father, Thomas, was a son of Thomas, he a son of Thomas, and he a descendant of Peter Mallory, who signed the plantation covenant of New Haven in 1644. Thomas, son of Peter, born 1659, married Mary UMBERFIELD in 1684. Thomas, their son, was born in 1685. Thomas Mallory, father of Samuel, settled in West Haven about 1838. He was a farmer, and was later engaged in oyster growing. He married Janet Hinman. They had two children—Samuel and Augusta, who married Charles H. Smith. Samuel Mallory is a contractor and builder. He has been burgess of West Haven, and is one of the charter members of Annawan Lodge, F. & A. M., of that place. He married Catherine E. Thompson in 1859. They have four sons: Thomas, Charles, George and Burton.

John E. Mar was born in Alna, Lincoln county, Me., in 1834. His father was James C., and his grandfather was James Mar. The latter was a lieutenant in the war of 1812. He married Susanna, daughter of Lieutenant Richard Baily, who served in the French and Indian war. James C. Mar married Susanna, daughter of Ezekiel Averill, who was a revolutionary soldier and a member of Washington's body guard. The founder of the family was John E. Mar, who came from Scotland in 1715. John E. Mar, the subject of this sketch, learned the ship builder's trade in 1854, and came to New Haven county in 1862. He became a resident of West Haven in 1865, and the same year became a partner of William N. Gesner in ship building. He married in 1863, Helen, daughter of Mr. Gesner. Their children are: Frederick W., Margaret G., James C., John E. and Charles E.

Albert F. Miles, born in Milford in 1807, is a son of Captain Daniel Miles, who was also a son of Captain Daniel, both sea-faring men. The younger Daniel commanded a vessel before he was 21 years of age. He was lost at sea during the war of 1812, while bringing in a captive vessel. Daniel Miles, father of Albert, married Martha, daughter of Clemence Northrop. They had three sons and one daughter, who died young. The sons were Albert F., Edwin and George. Albert F. Miles has been a resident of Orange all his life. He learned the shoemaker's trade, and followed it for many years, but for over 40 years has been engaged in farming. He has always been a staunch republican, and held many offices and positions of trust in the town, being selectman and town agent for many years. He married Sarah, daughter of Isaac Clark. The result of this union was two daughters, both of whom are living: Martha, who married James W. Clark, of Monroe, and Sarah, who married Joseph N. Clark, of Orange.

David M. Monahan was born in County Letrim, Ireland, in 1840, and in 1860 came to this country and settled in New Haven, where for several years he was in the employ of Stocking & Pendleton, ship chandlers. In 1866 he removed to Kansas City, Mo., and engaged in trade (groceries and general merchandise), doing an extensive business. In 1876 he returned to Connecticut, and, locating in Southington, engaged in the grocery business there. In 1883 he came to West Haven, and investing in real estate, has made many improvements, among which was the building of the Second Avenue Hotel. He married in 1864, Mary G. Dailey, of the same county, who was engaged in the millinery business in New York city.

Atwater L. Nettleton, born in Derby in 1847, is a son of Lyman Nettleton, born in Orange in 1820; grandson of Amos, born 1771; great-grandson of Isaac, who was a son of John, who came from Milford and settled in what is now a part of Orange, then North Milford, being one of the earliest settlers. He had two sons, Isaac and Nathan. Isaac Nettleton married Sarah Smith, of West Haven. Their

children were: Amos, Isaac, David, Comfort, Sarah and Susan. Amos Nettleton married Comfort, daughter of Eli Nettleton, of Bethany, who was a son of Nathan. Their children were: Sidney, Julia, Harriett, Mary, Amos, Lyman, Laura A. and Laura M. Lyman Nettleton is a carpenter and builder, and has followed that business for over 40 years. He married in 1842, Sarah, daughter of Samuel Atwater, of Cheshire. Their children are: Atwater L., Martha J. (died young), Clara (deceased) and Jennie (married Merritt L. Benton). Atwater Nettleton married, in 1870, Susan, daughter of Amos Clark, of Milford. Their children are Eva and Effie.

H. Edward Nettleton, born April 28th, 1828, is a son of Hezekiah Nettleton and Sarah Buckingham Wilmot, both residents of Milford, Conn., whose children were: Abigail A., who married George W. Goodsell, a merchant of New Haven, both of whom are now deceased; George W., who married Charlotte Phillips, both residents of Haywards, Cal., at the present time; H. Edward, the subject of this sketch; Ephraim B., now deceased; N. Clark, who had mining interests in Idaho, where he died; and Elliott W., who served as a corporal in the war of the rebellion, and was killed just previous to its close at Bentonville, N. C. H. Edward moved to West Haven in 1851, and in 1858 purchased the grocery business of the late George W. Goodsell, which he has carried on continuously since that time. In the same year he married Emma, daughter of Hubbard and Ann Smith, of Naugatuck, Conn. Their children were: Edward L. and Harry E., living; Elwood W. and an infant son, deceased. Edward L. married Eva M. Thomas, of Rushville, Ill. Harry E. married Nettie B. Richards, of West Haven, Conn.

James H. Peck, born in Waterbury in 1845, is a son of William A., born in Waterbury August 25th, 1804, he a son of Ward, born October 7th, 1762, and he a son of Joseph Peck. Ward Peck, named after General Artemas Ward, enlisted in the continental army in 1776 and served until the close of the war. He was at Stony Point and Yorktown and at the surrender of Cornwallis. He was one of La Fayette's bodyguard. He represented Waterbury in the legislature. He married Dorcas, daughter of James Porter, of Waterbury, and their children were: Lucy, born 1784; Chloe, born 1789; Lyman, born 1791; Sherman, born 1793; Harmon, born 1795; Ward, born 1799; Simmons, born 1801; Caroline D., born 1808; and Mary, born 1812. Of this large family all lived to grow up and all of them married. Joseph Peck, supposed to have been an older brother of Ward Peck, enlisted in the 7th Company of the 7th Regiment, July 10th, 1775, reënlisted January 12th, 1777, for the war, in Colonel Hunt's Regiment. William A. Peck ran a transportation line from Waterbury to New Haven from 1835 until the building of the railroad in 1849. In 1862 he settled in West Haven. He married Lucretia, daughter of George Leete, of North Haven. Their children are: George L., born 1832; William A., born

1834; Eliza J., born 1836; Caroline D., born 1838; Sherman, born 1840; Nancy A., born 1843; James H., born 1845; Emily L., born 1849; and Clara M., born 1853. Those who married are: George L. to Fannie Fosdick; Eliza J. to Joseph Andrews; Caroline D. to George Anderson; Nancy A. to George Chase; James H. to Nettie, daughter of Captain John Thompson, of West Haven, in 1869. They have one daughter, Louise. James H. Peck has been registrar of voters for several years, also burgess. He was deputy under Sheriff Bixby two terms, and U. S. revenue inspector and gauger during Cleveland's administration. William A. Peck, Jr., joined the government engineers in 1858, and with the exception of a few years after the war, has been in the government service. He was a member of the board of education several years, and after West Haven was made a borough, was clerk of same for the first three years. He was also a member of the board of burgesses several years. He married, in 1868, Emma Chase. They have two children: George W., born 1869, and Sarah E., born 1873.

DAVID PLATT, a prominent farmer in Orange, was born in Naugatuck, Conn., in 1830. His great-grandfather, Josiah Platt, was a deacon of the Congregational church in West Haven, and contributed liberally to the support of that body. His grandfather, Nathan Platt, was a prominent man in his day. He was captain of a militia company, and served in the war of 1812. His house was raided by the British soldiers in that war. His son, Nathan, father of our subject, married Mary Meloy, a descendant of Edward Meloy, who came to America about 1760, and became a prominent man in the New Haven colony. They had ten children, all now living. David, the fourth child, came to Orange with his parents when he was about two years of age. He received a common school education. At the age of eight years he struck out for himself, and from that time depended upon his own resources. He learned the trade of shoemaker when 16 years old, and worked at that trade until he was 21. In January, 1852, he started for California by the Nicaragua route, and after fifty days' adventure by land and sea, reached San Francisco. He worked in the gold mines for over two years, then returned to West Haven. In 1856 he married Melissa A. Shenhon, of New Haven. Three daughters have been born to them: Mary K., Sarah S. and Florence L. Previous to his marriage he purchased the farm where he now resides, near Savin Rock. The fine residence and all of the barns and buildings on the place were erected by Mr. Platt. By his untiring industry he has accumulated a sufficient competency for his declining years. In connection with farming, he also follows the business of fishing.

Mr. Platt has taken an active interest in political affairs, having been identified with the democratic party during all his residence in Orange. He has held several town offices; was selectman a number of years, and in the fall of 1890 was elected town agent, his well known integrity and business ability enabling him to overcome a strong ad-



*David Platt*



verse majority. In the state election of 1890 he was the candidate of his party for member of the legislature, and although the average republican majority at that election was about 100, he came within six votes of an election. He is president of the Oak Grove Cemetery Association of West Haven.

Isaac Porter, born in Milford in 1811, is a son of Hezekiah, who was a farmer. Hezekiah married Rachel Pardee, and their children were: Hezekiah, Rachel, Julius, Isaac, Amasa, Hannah, Nathan, John, David and Caroline. Isaac Porter settled in Orange in 1825. He was captain for several years of the 3d Company, Horse Artillery. He learned the carpenter trade, which business he has always followed. He is a member of the Congregational church, and has been collector of taxes. He married, in 1843, Phebe Warner, of Hamden. They had three children. They, with his wife, died in 1859. He married again, in 1861, Mary E. Smith. They have one son, Frank.

Edward W. Russell, born in Orange in 1852, is a son of William Ell Russell, whose father, Chauncy, was a son of Stephen. William Ell Russell married Susan Parsons. Their children were: William C., Elford C., Betsy M. and Edward W. Edward W. has carried on the butcher business for several years, and is also engaged in farming. He is sole owner of the Tyler City Creamery, which he established in May of 1890. He is a member of Harmon Lodge, I. O. O. F., of New Haven. He owns and resides on the Colonel Platt hotel property, where Colonel Platt kept a hotel for many years. Mr. Russell was married in 1871 to Mary K. Bishop, of West Haven. Their children are: William E., Harry B., Bertha M., Lilla B., Lottie M., Bessie S., George L. (deceased), Daisy A., Clarence S. and Beulah K.

Stephen D. Russell, born in Orange in 1837, is a son of Stephen R., grandson of Chauncy, and great-grandson of Stephen Russell. Stephen R. Russell has resided in Orange the greater part of his life. He is a carriage maker and wood-worker, and carried on that business for many years. He married Cornelia Beach, of Woodbridge. Their children were: Stephen D., Elizur B., William M., Wilson (who died in infancy), Lewis P. and Mary M. Stephen D. and William M. Russell enlisted, in 1862, in the 27th Connecticut Regiment, and served nine months. Elizur B. enlisted the same year in the 15th Regiment and served three years. Stephen D. Russell has been engaged for many years in carriage making and blacksmithing. He is a member of the Congregational church of Orange. He married, in 1860, Delia A., daughter of Harvey Alling, of Orange. Their children are: Celia (deceased), Dwight E. (born 1864), and Anna B. (born 1870). Dwight E. married Mary Pardee, in 1886.

William A. Russell, born in Bethany, Conn., June 6th, 1845, is a son of Stiles A., born March 29th, 1812, died May 3d, 1863. He was a wheelwright. He married Susan, daughter of William Andrew, May 1st, 1836. Their children were: Wallace A., born 1837, died 1838;

Mary E., born 1839; Catharine J., born 1840, died 1861; Ellen J., born 1842; Elvira V., born 1843, died August, 1891; William A., born 1845; Dwight S., born 1847; Ann Eliza, born 1849; Wallace A., born 1851; Grace L., born 1853, died 1860. William A. Russell came to West Haven in 1869, and in 1870 engaged in horseshoeing and jobbing. In 1884, in company with Joseph W. Granniss, he engaged in the manufacture of carriage poles at Mt. Carmel, Conn. Returning to West Haven, in 1887, they engaged in the same business in connection with blacksmithing and general jobbing. Mr. Russell is a member of Annawan Lodge, F. & A. M., of West Haven, and of Harmon Lodge, No. 5, I. O. O. F., and of Sassacus Encampment. He married, in 1869, Jane I. Bradley, and has two sons—Fred. A. and Elford B.

William C. Russell, born in Orange in 1835, is a son of William E., whose father, Chauncey, was a son of Stephen Russell, a soldier in the revolutionary war, and one of the early settlers of Amity (now Woodbridge and Bethany), and one of the most skillful mechanics of his day. Chauncey Russell married Lucinda, daughter of Job Sperry, of Sperry's Farms, whose father, Richard Sperry, supplied the regicides with food during their stay in the cave on West Rock. He was a soldier and an officer in the war of the revolution. William E. Russell was a resident of Orange. He married Susan, daughter of Levi Parsons, of Derby. He raised a company for the war of 1812, but never engaged in active service. William C. Russell, although a resident of Orange, has been engaged in the meat business, in New Haven, for upward of 40 years, first in the retail, and for the last 15 years in the wholesale trade. He is also engaged in manufacturing at Tyler City; vice-president of the Peerless Attachment Company. He has always taken an active part in the affairs of the town, and has been honored with nearly every office in the town. He is now selectman and justice of the peace. He was elected to the legislature in 1871. He married, in 1855, Mary J., daughter of Dilazon Lyon, of Woodbridge. They have two daughters—Jennie G. and Jessie E.

Leonard A. Schaffnit was born in Brensbach, Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, in 1855. He came to this country in 1868, and in 1882 settled at Tyler City and engaged in the manufacture of cigars. He has been station agent since 1885, and postmaster for five years. He was married, in 1878, to Ella Gilbert. They have five sons: Jacob, William, Leonard, Vilas and Harry.

William J. Scobie, born in New Haven, in 1853, is a son of William C. Scobie, who emigrated from Scotland and settled in New Haven, where he engaged in the grocery business, but at present carries on a paint and wall paper store in that city. He married Amelia Smith. In 1883 William J., with his brother, George W., engaged in the mercantile trade at Orange Center, buying out the business of George M. White. This firm existed until 1885, since which time the business has been carried on by William J. Scobie. He is a member of the



school committee, and of Quinnipiac Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Sassacus Encampment, No. 1, of New Haven. He married, in 1882, Annie McVoie. Their children are: Amelia M. and Elbert W. Mr. Scobie was appointed postmaster at Orange Center in 1888.

Doctor Durell Shepard, born in Newtown, Conn., in 1831, is a son of Hiram and Lucretia (Sherman) Shepard. Hiram was a son of George, he a son of Timothy, he a son of John, he a son of John, he a son of John, who was a son of Edward Shepard, who settled in Cambridge, Mass., in 1639. John, the father of Timothy, was a Milford man. He removed to Newtown about 1737. Doctor Shepard was educated at the Yale Medical School, graduating in 1864. He was assistant surgeon in the army until 1865, when he located in West Haven, where he has since practiced. Soon after coming to West Haven he opened a drug store, which he still carries on. He is a member of the New Haven County and Connecticut Medical Societies. He married, in 1856, Ellen R. Hart, of Southington, who died in 1863. In 1867 he married Elinor M. Tyler, of Essex, Conn. They have three children: Carroll S., George S. and Gussie S.

Burgis W. Smith, born in New Haven in 1857, is a son of Hiram H., and grandson of Josiah Smith. He was an auger manufacturer. He married a Miss Hayes, and their children were: Isaac C., Frederick H. and Hiram H. Hiram H. Smith was a jeweler, manufacturing for Kirby & Sons, of New Haven, for nearly 30 years. He settled in West Haven in 1858. He held the office of warden two years, and was first selectman of the town one year. He married Sarah, daughter of William F. Henrietta. They had one son, Burgis W. Mr. Smith removed to California in 1886. Burgis W. Smith has always resided in West Haven, and for several years has been engaged in the florist business. He married, in 1879, Lucy B., daughter of Isaac Mix. Their children are: Clara, David, Kirby and Ruth.

Charles F. Smith, born in Orange in 1836, is a son of Jesse G. Smith, who was born in West Haven, then a part of New Haven, in 1796; he a son of Gold Smith, and grandson of Nathan Smith. They were all farmers. Gold Smith was a captain in the state militia in 1795. He married Susanna Smith. Their children were: Jesse G., Lyman, Oliver, Susanna, Katura and Catherine. Jesse G. married Susan, daughter of William H. Fowler, of Milford. Their children were: William G., who is a resident of Montana; and Charles F. Charles F. Smith served in the war of the rebellion, enlisting in the 27th Connecticut Volunteers. He has held the office of justice of the peace, and is at the present time (1891) serving his seventh year as selectman. He was a representative in the legislature in 1875 and 1876. He married, in 1866, Mary G., daughter of Nathan C. Tomlinson, of Milford. They have two children: Susie F., born 1867, married in 1891, to Clifford E., son of Elbee J. Treat; and Minnehaha, born 1873. William H. Fowler was a descendant of William Fowler, who

came from England in 1637 with Theophilus Eaton and Peter Prudden and landed at Boston. He came to New Haven, and later settled in Milford, being one of the founders. The line of descent is as follows: William Fowler,<sup>1</sup> William,<sup>2</sup> John,<sup>3</sup> John,<sup>4</sup> John,<sup>5</sup> John,<sup>6</sup> John<sup>7</sup> and William H.<sup>8</sup>

Leonhard Sohn, born in Hessen, Germany, in 1836, was a son of Jacob Sohn. Leonhard came to this country in 1866, and settled in New Haven, where he carried on a meat market for several years. He removed to West Haven in 1877, and opened a boarding house. In 1890, in company with his son, Frank A., he engaged in the grocery business. He is a member of Connecticut Rock Lodge, No. 92, F. & A. M., of New Haven. He married, in 1864, Elizabeth Porth. They have two children—Lena and Frank A.

Enoch H. Somers, born in Orange in 1827, is a son of Enoch, whose father, Benjamin Somers, married Mary Marks. Their children were: Curtis, Enoch and Mary B. Curtis Somers was captain of a military company, and served in the war of 1812. Enoch Somers was also a captain in the old militia. He was a shoemaker and farmer. He married Sarah Downs. They had two children: Stiles A., who married Hattie Kimberly and settled in Minnesota, and Enoch H., who from 1843 to 1872 was a resident of New York, where he carried on the business of a broker. In the latter year he took up his residence in Orange.

Elbee J. Treat, born in Orange in 1832, is a son of Jonah, he a son of Jonah, he a son of Samuel, and he a son of Elisha Treat. Jonah the first, married Rebecca, daughter of Joseph Treat. Their children were: Frances, Julia B., Rebecca W., Jonah, Alfred and Harvey. Jonah, Treat, son of Jonah first, married Hettie, daughter of David Treat, of Orange. Their children were: Mary, Louise, Susan, Jonah, Elbee J., Emma S. and Ellen G. Elbee J. Treat has always been engaged in farming and dealing in cattle. He was elected selectman in 1886, and reelected in 1887, 1888 and 1889. Mr. Treat married, in 1856, Sarah Thomas. Their children are: Frederick J., Clifford E., Sophia (deceased), Cora and Sarah. Mrs. Treat died in 1871, and in 1880 he married Louisa H., daughter of D. K. Crofut, of Derby. They had one child, which died in infancy. Frederick J. Treat was born in 1860. He married Nellie, daughter of Frederick B. Pope, of Ansonia. They have two children, Herbert L. and Ellen L.

George D. Wade, born in Wilbraham, Mass., in 1827, is a son of George A. and grandson of Nathan L. Wade. George A. married Mary, daughter of Chauncy Brewer. They had eight children: George D., Eliza E., Anna F., James C., John H., Addison P., Clarrissa L. and Ellen. George D. settled in Milford, in 1849, and was engaged in railroading for many years. He afterward conducted a dry goods and grocery business in Milford. In 1862 he came to Orange, and has since been engaged in farming. He married, in 1855, Emeline, daugh-

ter of Asahel Clark, of Milford. They have had two children: Lottie and George C.

William Wallace Ward, born in West Haven June 18th, 1830, is a son of Jacob. He was a seafaring man, and was in the West India trade, following the sea for upward of 40 years. Henry, Thomas and James Ward, brothers of Jacob, were also sea captains. Thomas and James carried on business on Long Wharf, New Haven, for many years. They were among the prominent and influential men of their day, and carried on an extensive trade. Jacob Ward married Henrietta Kimberly. Their children were: John, Frederick S., George, Minot, Israel K. and William Wallace. Minot, George and Frederick S. were seafaring men. George and Minot Ward commanded vessels during the war of the rebellion, and were in the government service. Minot was lost at sea on the steamer "General Lyon," with nearly all on board, March 31st, 1865. Israel Ward engaged in the banking business. He was cashier of the Second National Bank of New Haven for 25 years. He died in 1883. William Wallace Ward has been engaged in the lumber and timber business and shipping, having been interested for many years in most of the vessels built in West Haven. The "W. W. Ward," launched in 1888, was named for him. Upon the building of the New Haven & West Haven horse railroad, in 1867, Mr. Ward was made superintendent, which position he still occupies. He was also treasurer of the same several years. He represented the town in the legislature in 1880.

Henry Weidemann was born in Kuhrhessen, Germany, in 1850. His father was John Weidemann. He came to America in 1872, and for eight years resided in New York city. He then resided in Springfield, Mass., where he was foreman of a brewery. In 1883 he purchased the Lion Brewery in West Haven, and removed there. He has made many improvements in the property, adding steam power, an ice machine, etc., and has greatly enlarged and increased the business. He married, in 1883, Mary, daughter of John G. Schmelzle, of Springfield, Mass. In 1890 Adam Schmelzle became a partner with Mr. Weidemann. He is a son of John G. Schmelzle. He was born in Henemann, Wurtemberg, Germany, in 1861, came to America with his parents in 1870, and settled in Holyoke, Mass. In 1878 he went to Springfield, where he learned the brewer's business, remaining there until 1890, when he became a partner of Mr. Weidemann and removed to West Haven. He married, in 1884, Ida Prehn. Their children are: Louise, George and Christina.

Doctor William V. Wilson was born in Milford, Conn., December 26th, 1845. His father, Elisha Wilson, built the first telegraph line through the Naugatuck valley. He was also the inventor of the telegraph repeater about the year 1846, and an application was made for a patent for it about that time. This was one of the most successful inventions of the age. Without it long distance telegraphy

of one, two or three thousand miles could not be accomplished on the single circuit over land lines. Elisha Wilson married Julia A. Benjamin, of Milford. They had eight children, of whom William V., Eugene B. and Lillian E., survived. Doctor Wilson was educated at Yale, graduating from the Yale Medical School in 1867. He located at South Brunswick, N. J., and practiced there for 18 years. He was surgeon for the Pennsylvania railroad in New Jersey for 12 years. From South Brunswick he went to Willington, Conn., and in 1887 located in West Haven. He is a member of the Connecticut State and Yale Medical Societies and vice-president of the Medical Practitioners' Protective Alliance of the United States. He was elected burgess of West Haven in 1890, and is chief of the fire department. He married Nellie H. Brayton, of North Adams, Mass., and his children are: Cornelia G. (deceased), Philip E., Nellie A., Nettie and Elizabeth B.

Stiles D. Woodruff, born in Orange in 1837, is a son of Jeremiah, grandson of Nehemiah, and great-grandson of Joseph, who was a resident of Milford. Nehemiah married Hannah Jones. Their children were: Hannah, Mary, Diantha, Harriet, John, Samuel and Jeremiah. Jeremiah Woodruff was born in 1811, and married Charlotte, daughter of David Nettleton. They had five children: Stiles D., George E., Charlotte E., Mary F. and Frank H. Stiles D. Woodruff has always been engaged in farming, making a specialty of seed growing, in which he has been extensively engaged. In 1879 he was elected to the legislature, and was reelected in 1880. He has been acting grand juror for upward of 20 years. He is a member of the Congregational church of Orange, and has been clerk and treasurer of the same for several years. Mr. Woodruff enlisted in the 27th Connecticut Infantry in 1862, and served nine months. He is a member of Admiral Foote Post, G. A. R., of New Haven. He married in 1862 Elizabeth M., daughter of Bryan Clark, of Orange. Their children are: Frank C., Watson S., Robert J. and Mary R.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE TOWN OF DERBY.

Location.—The Indians.—Early Trading Post.—Purchase of Lands.—The Proprietors.—Civil Government.—Extracts From Town Records.—Ferries, Roads, Bridges, Etc.—Early Commercial Interests and Shipbuilding.—Derby Village.—Burtville.—Birmingham and its Manufacturing Interests.—Merchants.—Hotels.—Banks.—The Press.—Post Office.—Physicians and Lawyers.—The Borough.—Fire Department.—Water Company.—Gas Company.—Street Railways.—Driving Park.—Societies and Lodges.—Soldiers' Monument.

THE town of Derby is on the western border of the county, about nine miles northwest from New Haven and a little more than that distance north of Long Island sound. As created by the charter of 1675, it extended 12 miles north from the Two Mile brook, and the northeastern corner was seven and a half miles east from a point on the Housatonic; the southeastern corner was two and a half miles east from that stream, the river forming the southwestern boundary and separating the town from Fairfield county. This area of about 14,000 acres of land has been reduced to about one-fourth that number of acres, by the formation of new towns, only the southeastern part of the old town remaining. Here, where is the junction of the Naugatuck with the Housatonic, the first settlements were made. Adjoining the present Derby are Ansonia, on the north; Woodbridge and Orange on the east and southeast.

In aboriginal times this locality was known as Paugasuck, which name was corrupted by the English into Paugassett. The general features are variable, hilly lands predominating, the level lands being confined mainly to the areas along the streams, and are small in extent. Ascending the Housatonic from the point of confluence a mile or two, at a marked bend of the river is the point which from the first has been called Derby Neck, where some lands were early tilled. Southeast are the pleasantly elevated lands on which is located Birmingham, with the intervales along the Naugatuck, on the east, as meadows or lowlands. Beyond the Naugatuck the ground ascends gradually until it culminates in a beautiful elevation, called Sentinel hill, which is cultivated to its summit, and which is a most attractive object, with its orchards and verdant fields. Southwest is another elevation, called Turkey hill, which appears to have been a favorite resort of the Indians. North from this are hills encroaching upon

the river, from both sides, until the channel of the stream has but half its ordinary width, forming the well known Derby Narrows. Here is practically the gateway through which is the last flow of the tide water, and a short distance above is the head of navigation. The hills are well wooded and picturesque, when viewed with the fine expanse of clear and spreading waters above.

These conditions naturally caused the Indians to look upon this locality with favor and many lived here or stately visited it to fish or hunt. These Indians were known as the Pootatucks, the Paugasacks and the latter, in later times, as the Derby Indians. Their numbers, never very large, decreased after the coming of the whites by removal and death from intemperate habits, but they did not become wholly extinct until half a century ago. The last remnants of the Paugasacks in old Derby were the members of the Mack family, who last lived in some cheap huts in the locality called Deerfield, on the old turnpike leading from Seymour to New Haven. Many of them perished from the effects of the small-pox in 1833, and were buried in the woods in that locality. In earlier times there was an Indian graveyard and evidences of a village at the Narrows; and on Turkey hill was a more extensive one. After the settlement of the whites a graveyard for the burial of Indians was opened near the fort, on the east side of the Housatonic, near where is the present dam.

The conditions of locality also led to the selection of Birmingham Point as a trading post with the Indians in 1642. The store-house for that purpose was put up by workmen employed by Mr. John Wake-man of New Haven colony. The news of this step coming to the ears of the Dutch at New Amsterdam (New York), caused the governor William Kieft to send a letter to Governor Eaton in 1646, protesting against it as an encroachment upon their territory. In reply Governor Eaton pointed out the fact that the Dutch erred in their knowledge of geography, as the Paugasack country was many leagues away from anything they could rightfully claim, and that the Indians there were as free to trade with the New Haven colonists as with any one else. The matter was then allowed to rest without any further serious objection from the Dutch, who had evidently really believed that this valley was tributary to the Hudson river, and hence part of their territory. But the English determined to put their claim in better shape. Accordingly Stephen Goodvear and others, interested in this trading post, purchased lands from the Indians, and the general court in 1647 voted to make good their title at the trading-house.

It appears that the post was well stocked with so much success by five years, Wake-man and the associates, that its permanency was assured, and in the course of a few years, it began to partake of the character of a settlement, which it was deemed proper should be placed under the jurisdiction of some of the adjoining towns. A proposition to that end was made by New Haven in April, 1654, when

it was desired to know "whether Pangasset should be attached to their town." But before the proprietors of the post gave answer, their interests were sold to Richard Baldwin and others, of Milford, and thenceforth the interests of this locality were practically controlled by that town. Hence, when the general court gave liberty to the people of Pangasset to form themselves into a separate village, Milford declared that such a step would be injurious to its interests, and opposed the measure; and this opposition Milford successfully maintained more than 20 years, retarding the development of this section.

In 1657 and 1659 other Indian lands were purchased of Sagamores, the title to which was confirmed in 1664 and 1665 by the chief sachem of the Pangasucks, Okemuck, after which matters were upon a more substantial basis. In 1666 the records of the plantation were begun by Abel Gunn, a young man apparently well qualified for the work. From his early Pangasset records we learn that the Milford men who had purchased the interests of Stephen Goodyear and his New Haven associates were: John Burwell, Richard Baldwin, Samuel Hopkins, Edward Riggs, Thomas Langdon, Edward Wooster, Francis French, John Brown, Isaac Platt, Robert Denison. In a short time the Burwell interest passed to Henry Bottsford, and Hopkins' to John Smith. Soon after 1665 a village was officially founded, after the manner of those times, and the first division of lands made. Each one of the ten proprietors received a home lot of about one and half acres; uplands about four acres; and meadow lands about three acres. This village was in that part of Derby called "Old Town" or "Up-town." But not all the proprietors lived there. Edward Riggs and Francis French had selected lands and built houses on the hill, about a mile east, and it is probable that the only houses in the village at that time were those of Edward Wooster, at the north end, and of Thomas Langdon. On Birmingham point Lieutenant Thomas Wheeler had a house, in which he lived from 1658 for about six years, when he returned to Stratford and sold his land to Joseph Hawkins, for whom the locality was afterward named.

It is probable that of the ten proprietors Edward Riggs and Edward Wooster were the first to here permanently settle, locating on their lands about 1654. The latter lived at the upper end of "Old Town" and farmed the meadow lands below Ansonia, growing hops. He died in 1689, and his homestead passed to Doctor John Durand. When his estate was divided, in 1694, 12 children shared in it; and from him descended the Woosters in the western part of the county. When Wooster first settled in Derby, and for some years later, his surroundings were an unbroken forest, infested with wild animals which were bold and numerous. The wolves especially were annoying and ate up much of the pioneer farmer's stock. Other wild animals injured his growing crops. So isolated was the condition of

these settlers, at Paugassett, that the general court contemplated their removal unless others should be added to their numbers to give them the advantages of a settled community.

Edward Riggs lived a mile east of "Old Town," on the farm still called the Riggs place. The house was fortified against possible attacks by Indians and in the summer of 1661 sheltered the Judges Goffe and Whalley, who occasionally spent a few days here. Edward Riggs became one of the planters of the new colony, at Newark, N. J., and removed in 1666; but his son, Ensign Samuel Riggs, remained on the homestead and from him have descended the Riggs who at one time constituted such a large part of the population of north-western New Haven. A granddaughter of Samuel Riggs, Sarah, became well known as the beloved Lady Humphreys, mother of General David Humphreys.

The third permanent settler appears to have been Francis French. In 1661 he occupied a house half a mile east from Edward Wooster, with whom most likely he was related. He came from Milford and had been identified with Paugassett earlier, as a single man. He was frequently called upon to serve in a public capacity and was most faithful in the performance of his duties. His death occurred in February, 1691, when he was but 66 years of age. Francis, his son, afterward occupied the homestead and also became well known. The descendants of the French family became numerous in the Naugatuck valley, a number still remaining.

Of the other proprietors Thomas Langdon lived here but a short time, when he removed, as did also John Brown, the latter going to Newark before 1668. John Smith remained in Milford, but his son, Ephraim, came to Derby and participated in its affairs, before 1667. It is thought that Richard Baldwin also retained his residence in the mother town, his descendants coming to live upon his Derby lands. Joseph Hawkins, in 1665, bought the point of land between the two rivers, including the warehouse at the trading post, and built a new house, which his son, Joseph, occupied. This family became numerous in this section.

Abel Gunn was not one of the ten original proprietors, but was intimately connected with the first settlers and their affairs, keeping their records from 1666. He married a daughter of John Smith, of Milford, but having no children of his own, gave his property to Abel Gunn, son of his brother, Jobamah, who was a prominent citizen of what is now the western part of the town of Naugatuck. A hundred years ago this family was very numerous and important in the western part of the county.

Several Johnson families were enrolled among the early settlers. Ebenezer Johnson settled in Paugassett about 1668, and married a daughter of Edward Wooster in 1671. He reared eight children, who had numerous descendants. Colonel Ebenezer Johnson lived on the



southeast part of Sentinel hill, not far from Samuel Riggs, and the two were for many years the most important men in the town, and were, in time, large land owners along the Naugatuck. Jeremiah Johnson was of another stock, coming from New Haven in 1672, but also lived on Sentinel hill. His youngest child was born in 1684 and his descendants became very numerous in Derby and in other towns along the Naugatuck.

In 1670 Stephen Pierson and Jeremiah Johnson, Jr., were recorded as being among the settlers, and the possessions were enlarged by purchases of lands between the Housatonic and the Naugatuck, as far north as West Ansonia. Much of this was long known as the Hawley purchase, and the following year it passed under the control of the Paugasset company, which now had as additional members, John Tibbals, Jonas Tomlinson and Moses Johnson. Soon after Doctor John Hulls and Jabez Harger were enrolled among the proprietors and settlers, the former being the first physician, and also built the first mill. He removed to Wallingford in the course of 20 years, but some of his family continued in the town. Jabez Harger lived on Sentinel hill, east of Edward Riggs. He died in 1678, but his widow and 10 children long survived him, and their descendants took rank among the leading people of the Housatonic valley. In 1675 12 families resided in old Derby, and as many more were listed to soon settle there. Four years later the proprietor's list was enlarged by the addition of Isaac Nichols, Samuel Brinsmade, John Pringle, William Tomlinson and Isaac Nichols; and a short time later lands were allotted to Hope Washburn, William Washburn, John Davis, John Johnson, John Beach, Jonas Lum, Joseph Guernsey and Henry Williams. The same year Abel Holbrook and Daniel Collins were among the proprietors. In most cases the lands allotted were selected in the most fertile sections, in the valleys or most attractive upland parts of the old town. In 1685 the estates and persons were 38 in number. For several years there was an increase of a few proprietors each year, when a decrease took place, and there were less persons in 1699 than 12 years earlier. In 1700 there were about 50 estates; 18 years later the number was some eight or ten larger, and was composed of the following persons: Colonel Eben Johnson, Captain Joseph Hulls, Ensign Samuel Riggs, Abel Gunn, John Johnson, Jabez Harger, Ensign Samuel Nichols, William Moss, Isaac Tomlinson, Abiram Canfield, Lieutenant John Riggs, John Hulls, Eben Harger, Mr. John Durand, Francis French, Jonathan Hill, George Black, John Munson, Andrew Smith, Jonathan Lum, John Davis, William Washborn, Samuel Moss, John Weed, Stephen Pierson, Jr., Thomas Wooster, Samuel Tomlinson, William Tomlinson, John Twitchell, John Towner, Samuel Bowers, Josiah Baldwin, Mr. Samuel Gunn, Samuel Bassett, Peter Johnson, Abraham Tomlinson, Joseph Hawkins, Samuel Washborn, Timothy Wooster, John Pringle, John Tomlinson, Joseph Smith, John Smith, Sr., Eph-

raim Smith, Ensign Eben Johnson, John Chatfield, Jeremiah Johnson, Benjamin Stiles, Stephen Pierson, John Tibbals, Joseph Nichols, Abraham Pierson, Abel Holbrook, Joseph Johnson, Mary Wooster, Abraham Binto, Michael Denman, James Humphreys, Samuel Brinsmade.

Of the foregoing estates, but few were valued at more than £100, viz.: Colonel Eben. Johnson, £146; Captain Joseph Hull, £226; Abel Gunn, £158; Lieutenant John Riggs, £160; Andrew Smith, £101; Thomas Wooster, £117; Joseph Hawkins, £157; Jeremiah Johnson, £106. The total estates were rated at £3,823. In 1725 the valuation was £5,310.

The population now increased steadily, and the number of proprietors was also increased, there being, when the fourth division of land was made in 1756, 83 proprietors, many being the children of the first settlers.

Of the first settlers at the landing J. W. Barber said:\* They "were Thomas Parsons, Samuel Plumb, Joseph Hull, Ebenezer Chatfield, Ebenezer Johnson and two families of Weeds. Thomas Parsons' house stood on the ground where the Episcopal church now [1836] stands; Plumb located himself about half a mile north. Joseph Hull, the great-grandfather of Commodore Hull,† had his house about half a mile north of Plumb; Chatfield settled a little north of Hull; Johnson built his house about a mile southeast of the Landing; he was a captain, afterward a colonel. The Weeds located themselves about a mile northeast of the Landing, at a place since called Squabble Hole. This place is said to have derived its name from the circumstance of the two first families who lived there having much contention with each other."

An effort was made by the settlers of Paugasset, as early as 1655, to secure corporate privileges as a township, the general court, at New Haven, having been petitioned to that end. But the inhabitants of Milford were so strenuously opposed that the project was for the time being abandoned. The area of the plantation having been enlarged by the purchase of more Indian lands, which had the effect of attracting other settlers, the petition was renewed, and upon proper representation was granted by the general court at Hartford, May 13th, 1675.‡

\* See Historical Collections, p. 198.

† Joseph Hull, 3d, was the father of Lieutenant Joseph Hull and General William Hull. The latter was born in Derby, January 24th, 1753, and when 20 years old graduated from Yale. He served with distinction in the revolution, and with scarcely less credit, though under adverse circumstances, in the war of 1812. He died in November, 1825. Lieutenant Joseph Hull was the father of Commodore Isaac Hull, who was born in Derby, March 9th, 1775. He was a brave, skillful sea captain, and Isaac also early imbibed a love for the sea and naval affairs. His service in the war of 1812 as commander of the frigate "Constitution" gave him undying fame. He died at Philadelphia, in 1843.

‡ A more satisfactory charter was granted in 1720, and some writers date the incorporation of the town from that period.

Captain John Nash, Captain William Curtiss and Lieutenant Thomas Munson were appointed a committee on the bounds of the new town, and to see to the proper distribution of the lands "so as may be best for the upholdment of a plantation as it is now granted to the inhabitants,"

"The plantation of Pawgasuck (or Pawgasset) is by this court named DERBY,\* and is freed from Country Rates for three years, next following, they defraying their own charges."

There were, at this time, living within the newly constituted plantation 12 families, viz.: Edward Wooster, Francis French, Stephen Pierson, John Hulls, Joseph Hawkins, Samuel Riggs, Ephraim Smith, Abel Gunn, Jeremiah Johnson, Jabez Harger, Ebenezer Johnson, John Tibbals. Lands had also been granted to 11 other families, upon their representation that they intended "to come forthwith," viz.: Reverend John Bowers, George Beaman, Deacon Abel Holbrook, John Brinsmade, Captain John Beard, Henry Tomlinson, Nicholas Camp, Jonas Tomlinson, Joseph Hawley, Henry Bottsford, Moses Johnson. Some of these were already living in the town as single men, and a few, probably, never occupied their lands.

The earliest town records are exceedingly brief, imperfect and not all of them, evidently, have been preserved. From various sources, however, a list of the selectmen or townsmen, as they were called for about one hundred years, with the exception of a few years missing, has been compiled † and from which the following names are gleaned. Among the different persons who were honored by an election to that office, prior to 1715 were: Samuel Riggs, Ebenezer Johnson, John Hulls, William Tomlinson, Edward Wooster, Jeremiah Johnson, Sr., Isaac Nichols, John Hubbell, Francis French, Ephraim Smith, Abel Gunn, Philip Denman, Samuel Nichols, John Davis, Nathan Nichols, Samuel Brinsmade, Thomas Wooster, John Bowers, Joseph Hulls, Abel Holbrook, John Tibbals, Jonathan Lumm, Stephen Pierson, Ebenezer Harger, Joseph Hawkins, Adino Strong, Abel Gunn, Jr., Stephen Miles, Edward Riggs, Jeremiah Johnson, Abraham Pierson, John Pringle, Josiah Baldwin, John Twitchell, Andrew Smith, Samuel Bowers, John Riggs, William Moss. These names also fairly represent the families living in the new town up to that period. From three to five townsmen were chosen each year.

Since 1715 the first selectmen of Derby have been: 1715, Joseph Hawkins; 1716, Captain Joseph Hulls; 1717, Jeremiah Johnson; 1718, Captain Joseph Hulls; 1719, Joseph Hawkins; 1720, Samuel Brinsmade; 1721, Lieutenant John Riggs; 1722, Jeremiah Johnson; 1723, Sergeant Samuel Brinsmade; 1724, Ensign Samuel Bassett; 1725, Captain John Riggs; 1726, Timothy Wooster; 1727, Francis French; 1728, Ensign

\* Probably named for Derby, England, the native place of some of the inhabitants of Paugasset.

† See Beardsley's History.

Samuel Bassett; 1729, Francis French; 1730, Gideon Johnson; 1731, Isaac Tomlinson; 1732-3, Lieutenant Ebenezer Johnson; 1734, Samuel Tomlinson; 1738, William Moss; 1739-40, Captain Samuel Bassett; 1741, Francis French; 1742, Samuel Bassett, Esq.; 1743, Joseph Johnson; 1744, Samuel Riggs; 1745, Samuel Tomlinson; 1746-52, Captain Timothy Russell; 1753, Abiel Fairchild; 1754-5, Timothy Russell, Esq.; 1756-8, Abiel Fairchild; 1760, Samuel Bottsford; 1761, Captain Abel Gunn; 1762, William Clark; 1763, Captain Jabez Thompson; 1764, Captain James Wheeler; 1765-6, Captain Zachariah Hawkins; 1767-9, Joseph Hulls, Jr.; 1770, Joseph Riggs; 1771, Captain John Tomlinson; 1772, Deacon Eliphalet Hotchkiss; 1773, Elijah Hotchkiss; 1774, Captain John Tomlinson; 1775, Colonel Jabez Thompson; 1776, Captain Nathan Smith; 1777, Abraham Beecher; 1778, Abraham Hawkins; 1779, James Beard, Esq.; 1780-1, Abraham Hawkins; 1782, John Humphreys; 1783-6, Captain Daniel Holbrook; 1787, Isaiah Strong; 1788, Abijah Hull; 1789, Eliphalet Hotchkiss; 1790, Abijah Hull; 1791, Captain John Riggs; 1792, Reuben Lumm; 1793, Abijah Hull; 1794, Captain Ebenezer Riggs; 1795, Reuben Lumm; 1796, Captain Ebenezer Riggs; 1797, Captain Joseph Riggs; 1798, Reuben Lumm; 1799, David Hitchcock; 1800-1, Levi Hotchkiss; 1802-4, Reuben Lumm; 1805, David Hawkins; 1806-7, David Hitchcock; 1808, Sheldon Curtiss; 1809, Wilson Hurd; 1810, Sheldon Curtiss; 1811-15, Reuben Lumm; 1816-19, Sheldon Curtiss; 1820, Robert Gates; 1821, Sheldon Curtiss; 1822, Sheldon Smith; 1823-5, Sheldon Curtiss; 1826, Abiram Stoddard; 1827-8, Sheldon Curtiss; 1829, Josiah Nettleton; 1830, Isaac Tomlinson; 1831, Lyman Chatfield; 1832, William Lumm; 1833, Sheldon Curtiss; 1834, Ezekiel Gillett; 1835, Daniel L. Holbrook; 1836, Sheldon Smith; 1837, Daniel L. Holbrook; 1838, Lemman Chatfield; 1839, Sheldon Smith; 1840-2, Lemman Chatfield; 1843, Robert Gates; 1844, Samuel French; 1845, Robert Gates, Jr.; 1846, Sidney A. Downes; 1847-9, Sheldon Smith, Jr.; 1850-1, Sidney A. Downes; 1852, Sheldon Smith, Jr.; 1853, Truman Gilbert; 1854-60, Sheldon Smith, Jr.; 1861-3, Fitch Smith; 1864, John Lindley; 1865-6, Egbert Bartlett; 1867, Willett Bradley; 1868, Horace Casterline; 1869, Nathan C. Treat; 1870-3, Egbert Bartlett; 1874-6, William B. Bristol; 1877, Henry Somers; 1878-82, Erwin W. Webster; 1883-6, Robert O. Gates; 1887, John B. Quillinan; 1888, Joel M. Wheeler; 1889, George H. Peck; 1889-90, Charles S. Chaffee. Associated with the latter as selectmen in 1890 were Dickerman Bassett and John O'Hara. Henry J. Smith and Patrick McManus also served on the board of selectmen, a number of terms, within the past ten years.

Charles E. Clark has acceptably filled the office of town treasurer, a number of years.

The compilation of a complete list of town clerks, for the reasons above given, has also been impossible. But it is believed that the names and years below given indicate nearly all elected to that office;

1666, Abel Gunn, with the Reverends Joseph Webb, in 1691, and John James, in 1701, each a few years until a regular clerk was elected; 1711, Stephen Miles; 1713, John Pringle; 1720, Joseph Moss; 1723, Timothy Russell; 1744, Charles French;\* 1784, John Humphreys; 1805, Josiah Dudley; 1811, John L. Tomlinson; 1816, Sheldon Curtiss; 1835, Sheldon Bassett; 1838, Julius Hotchkiss; 1839, Sheldon Bassett; 1840, Joseph P. Canfield; 1861, Thaddeus G. Birdseye; 1863, Sylvester Barbour; 1864, Thaddeus G. Birdseye; 1866, Charles E. Baldwin; 1868, Sidney A. Downs; 1869, Samuel M. Gardner; 1873, John C. Reilly; 1874, Henry J. Smith; 1876, Chester A. Hawley; 1879, Daniel E. McMahon; 1884, Reuben H. Tucker; 1889, Daniel E. McMahon.

In 1858 the town of Derby, as it was at that time constituted, was set off from New Haven as a separate probate district. Of the Derby district the following have been the judges of the court: 1858, William B. Wooster; 1860, Sidney A. Downs; 1866, Sylvester Barbour; 1868, George H. Peck; 1871, Samuel M. Gardner; 1873, Verrenice Munger; 1877, John B. Quillinan; 1879, William C. Atwater; 1881, Charles Reed; 1883, William C. Atwater; 1889, Daniel E. McMahon. The district embraced, in 1890, the towns of Derby and Ansonia, the courts being held at Birmingham.

The town court of Derby was established by an act of the general assembly, which became effective in May, 1885. The jurisdiction extended over the entire town of Derby, and embraced both criminal and civil cases in limited actions, the maximum penalty being \$200 or six months' imprisonment in jail. The main object of the court was to secure speedier and less costly trials than was afforded by the old system of trial by justices of the peace. The officers of the court are a judge, deputy judge, prosecuting attorney and assistant prosecuting attorney. These were first: Seabury B. Platt, of Birmingham, judge; John B. Gardner, of Ansonia, deputy judge; Daniel C. McMahon and William Sidney Downs, attorneys. In May, 1889, Verrenice Munger, of Ansonia, was elected judge, and John B. Gardner, of the same place, was continued as deputy judge.

On the division of the town of Derby, the same year, Edwin B. Gager was appointed judge to serve the unexpired term, ending May 1st, 1891, and Henry A. Nettleton, deputy judge for the same period. Andrew J. Ewen became prosecuting attorney, and Robert L. Gilbert assistant attorney, to serve for the same period.

Of the town court of Ansonia, which was established in July, 1889, with the same powers in the new town as the old court in Derby, Judges V. Munger and John B. Gardner continued in office, Dennis T. Walsh being the prosecuting attorney.

The early town meetings were held monthly, the business transacted being confined mostly to the disposition of the public lands, the establishment of a church and minor regulations. In 1678 Abel Gunn

\* Died November 9th, 1783, aged 77 years.

and William Tomlinson were appointed surveyors, and Ebenezer Johnson was licensed as an ordinary, being probably the first tavern keeper in the town. In 1679 George Beaman was appointed town marshal. A mill was also ordered built and roads to be opened, which, with the improvement of their own farms, kept the settlers busy.

The general court had ordered certain rules for the encouragement of sheep keeping in the colony as early as 1666, legislating subsequently upon the same subject, in 1670 and 1673. These laws provided that the underbrush should be cut, so that grass could grow in the woods, each inhabitant being required to do a certain amount of the work at stated times. Upon the commons thus prepared, the sheep were kept in flocks, in care of a shepherd hired by the sheepmasters of the town. In 1703 the latter were, in Derby, William Tomlinson, Sr., Stephen Pierson, Sr., and Sergeant Thomas Wooster. The town flocks were kept many years, and much revenue was derived from them.\*

As showing the singular customs of those times, we note a record in 1703: "Voted that Josiah Baldwin beat the drum whenever it is necessary that the town be called together for and to any meetings, except the training days, and that he have eight shillings for so doing." This Josiah Baldwin had been settled as a physician a few years previously, and was probably selected to beat the town drum, because he lived centrally. The previous year John Pringle, the town treasurer, had been ordered to buy an hour-glass, out of the funds of the town, which seems the only way they had of measuring time.

In 1723 the town entered upon the work of exterminating wild animals, offering a bounty for the capture of wolves, etc. It also authorized several hunts, under the call of Colonel Johnson, Lieutenant Hulls and Sergeant Brinsmade, and imposed a fine in case any of the inhabitants failed to respond to their summons.

In 1745 a town house was built on Cankwood plain, part of which was improved for a school house. In 1768 a new town house was built on Academy hill, a tax being laid for that purpose of 1d. rate on the pound of valuation. Captain Joseph Riggs, Deacon Eliphalet Hotchkiss and Nathaniel Smith were the building committee. There was some difficulty about the site, but in December, 1767, a joint committee from Waterbury and New Haven set the stake in the locality named. The building was 28 by 32 feet, with 10 feet posts, and was used as late as 1831. The town meeting in 1832 was held on Great

\* About 100 years after this action of the town on sheep raising, that industry received a wonderful impetus through the efforts of a native of Derby, General David Humphreys. In the spring of 1802 he introduced Spanish Merino sheep into this country, bringing a flock of 91 animals to Derby Landing by sloop from New York, where they had been landed from Spain. Many were kept in Derby, and others were sent to Vermont and Massachusetts. From these have sprung many of the fine flocks in New England.

hill, and the following year in the Academy, at old Derby. From that time they alternated between the northern and southern parts of the town, it being impossible for the voters to agree upon a place for a new town house. Since 1888 the town has found a home for its records and a place for its meetings in the new Borough Building, at Birmingham.

Soon after the town was created measures were taken to establish a ferry across the Naugatuck, so that communication could be had with Woodbury and Mattatuck. In 1676 a committee reported upon the location of such a ferry, on the old channel of the river, between old Derby village and Ansonia. Woodbury united in maintaining the ferry, as at first but few of Derby's inhabitants lived on the west side of the stream. Henry Williams was the first ferryman and a house was built for him on the west side of the stream. It is probable that the ferry was used only in high stages of water. In many seasons the river could be readily forded. In 1717 the ferry was displaced by a bridge. It was not built without some difficulty as to the means and site to be used. Finally a place near Doctor Durand's house was selected and the bridge was there built. About the same time a ferry privilege was granted to Joseph Hawkins, giving him the right to convey man and beast across the Housatonic, near his house, at the same rates of toll as those charged at the Stratford ferry. This ferry was kept up about 50 years. Sometime about the revolution a ferry was established at Derby Landing, and later, in connection with the old turnpike, was much patronized. For many years a quaint character by the name of Parks was the ferryman.

The maintenance of the bridge across the Naugatuck caused the town much expense. In 1739 it had to be rebuilt and in 1741 a flood carried away the new bridge. Another bridge was now built by a company, which was given the right to charge toll, which arrangement continued until 1760, when the bridge was made free, but was again carried off by the floods, and in 1762 the town built a new one. In 1783 this bridge was again rebuilt and also a new one below the falls at Seymour, a lottery being authorized to aid the project. The scheme did not prove profitable and that plan of raising money lost favor. A part of the means were to be used in building the Woodbury road along the Housatonic.

The bridge across the latter stream, at Birmingham, was first built in the last century, at the old Leavenworth ferry, a short distance above the old red house. An ice flood damaged it not long after, but it was rebuilt at the old place. Being again damaged, it was in 1831 removed down the stream to Hawkins' point, where it was rebuilt by Donald Judson and Philo Bassett. In February, 1857, it was almost wholly destroyed by a disastrous flood, but was at once rebuilt and was used as a toll bridge until 1875, when it became the property of Derby and Huntington. On the 19th of August, 1889, the towns trans-

ferred the bridge to the counties of Fairfield and New Haven and a fine new iron bridge will here be built in the near future. The old covered wooden bridge has not only become unsightly, but has been condemned as unsafe.

The courses of the first highways have been much modified. At first they were mere paths and were so called. The oldest led to Milford. The one to New Haven was located soon after. In 1683 the Woodbury path is first mentioned. The same year a highway was built from the Naugatuck ferry, up the west side of that river and thence across the hills into the Woodbury path, which started at a point in Derby Neck. The Woodbury road along the Housatonic was built 100 years later, the help of a lottery being asked to that end. In 1795 began the era of turnpike building, which continued about 20 years. The Oxford turnpike, chartered in 1795, was the oldest in this section and the second in the state. It was completed before 1800 and was used as a toll road more than 80 years. It passed through Oxford Center down the valley of Little river and crossed the Naugatuck below the falls.

In the fall of 1796 the town appointed a committee to coöperate with a legislative committee in laying out a desired road from New Haven to Derby, thence west to Litchfield. It was purposed to make it a turnpike from New Haven to Derby Landing, with the expectation of making the latter place an important shipping point. It was believed that a good road from the east would draw trade from that section. Into this project Leman Stone, a merchant at the Landing, after 1790, entered most heartily and he had the coöperation of other leading citizens. After some years labor and the expenditure of much money a good road was secured; but the hopes of those interested in Derby Landing were disappointed. Not only did the farmers east of the Landing fail to come, but the western farmers, now having a good road, passed by, going to New Haven to ship their goods. An effort to attract those coming by way of the Oxford turnpike, from Seymour to the Landing was scarcely more successful. With that view a road was laid out from Shrub Oak (the west part of Seymour village) to Derby Narrows, and the work of construction began in 1805. Although the turnpikes in Derby did not prove as potent commercial factors as was anticipated, they greatly aided in making communication more easy than the travel over the cumbersome country roads, and to this day the abandoned turnpikes are the principal thoroughfares.

The development of the water powers along the Naugatuck hastened the building of a railway in the valley of that stream. The first charter for the Naugatuck railroad was granted in 1845, but in 1847 and 1848 it was amended. At first the road was projected to run from Bridgeport to Waterbury, but afterward it was concluded to extend it to Winsted. The company organized in February, 1848, and the survey of the route was adopted the following month. In April, 1848, the



work of construction was begun, Alfred Bishop, of Bridgeport, being the contractor. He had just completed the Housatonic railroad, which was among the first lines built in the United States. The people along the route aided by donating \$75,000, which was raised by committees in each town in the valley. As built the road extends from Winsted to Naugatuck Junction, in the town of Milford, where an intersection is made with the New York & New Haven railroad. The entire length is 55 miles. The road northward was completed to Derby village in May, 1849, to Waterbury the following June, and to Winsted in September, 1849. From the beginning the road has been a success in affording the desired accommodations for the enterprising inhabitants of the valley, and although the nature of the country through which it passes has made it difficult to maintain, it has the reputation of being one of the best branches of the consolidated roads, of which system it became a part in April, 1887. Since 1868 George W. Beach has been the superintendent of this road or division. Of Derby station, Benjamin B. Woodford was one of the first, if not the first agent. This position was held in 1890 by N. J. Bailey.

The New Haven & Derby Railroad Company was chartered in 1864. Among the incorporators were two Derby men, William E. Downes and Robert N. Bassett. The company was organized April 24th, 1867, and that fall the route was surveyed. The following winter the work of construction was begun, but the road was not completed until the summer of 1871. Regular trains between New Haven and Derby commenced to run August 9th, 1871. The road was extended to Birmingham and Ansonia a little later. At the former place the station was opened in March, 1872, with Sanford E. Chaffee as the agent, and he has since filled that position; at the latter place the depot facilities are in connection with the Naugatuck railroad.

The mileage of the company was small, being but a little more than a dozen miles, and the company did not enjoy the measure of prosperity it deserved, in spite of the fact that the line was a great convenience to the people along its route. In the latter part of 1887 the "Little Derby" became a part of the Housatonic railroad system and it was extended, by way of Shelton, to Botsford, on the main line. It now forms a part of a great route to the West, and the business has much increased. The value of the shipping facilities to Derby and the contiguous villages has also been greatly enhanced.

The first enterprise of a commercial nature was the Indian trading house, on Birmingham point, commenced in 1642 by some New Haven men and continued by them about a dozen years. In 1654 they sold out to Richard Baldwin and others, of Milford. Three years later Lieutenant Thomas Wheeler, of Stratford, here bought 40 acres of land and engaged in shipbuilding, having as a partner, Alexander Bryan, of Milford. The latter became the sole owner in 1664 and probably also here had a small store. In 1682 the name of his son,

Richard, appears in connection with these interests in Derby. A warehouse was maintained and produce was shipped from it by means of small sloops. Later this warehouse was owned by Joseph Hawkins, son of the first prominent settler on this point of land, and from whom it received its name. In 1709 grain was stored there for the account of the town, the selectmen being instructed to have it converted into money. Cattle and beef were commodities of shipment before 1690. In that year packers were appointed to see that the meats were put up according to law, before they were shipped to foreign countries. The shipment of fish caught in the Naugatuck and the Housatonic was an item of profit, and was carried on soon after the organization of the town, and before 1700 several fish houses were put up on the above streams and roads built to them. Large quantities of fish were caught, by the inhabitants of the town and by others who paid the town for the privilege. In 1680 Benjamin Fenn, Daniel Baldwin and others, of Milford, were given liberty to fish anywhere in Derby bounds, "provided they damuify no man's corn or grass." For many years fishing was an important interest, many of the present inhabitants remembering the large quantities of shad here taken annually. The Derby Fishing Company,\* organized after 1805, was engaged in the cod fishery business, the products being carried to Mediterranean sea-ports.

Before the revolution quite a trade was carried on between Derby and the West Indies, sloops of 80 to 100 tons burden carrying cattle, horses, staves, casks and farm products thither and returning were laden with the commodities of that region, much of the imports being rum. It is said that as high as 60 hogsheads of rum were landed on Derby Dock in a single day. This was carted to all parts of the country by the teams which had come to the docks with articles for shipment. Often the teams thus laden and waiting their turn to unload made a string half a mile long.

It may be said of the commerce of Derby that it first became important about 1765. The revolution interrupted it somewhat, but after the war it again increased, until it had reached its greatest proportions, soon after 1800. In March, 1799, New Haven was made a port of entry and in this district Derby, Branford, Guilford and Milford were constituted ports of delivery. Derby now appeared to have every assurance of continued prosperity. The number of vessels sailing from here was greater than those leaving the port of New Haven, and it was nearer the base of export supplies. The hill towns north and west were then in their prime, as an agricultural region, and their products were largely brought to Derby for shipment. It was at this period that Captain Henry Whitney exported such large quantities of horses to the West Indies, that his reputation extended far beyond the limits of the county.

\* See Banking Interests.

But various causes soon tended to reverse this condition of affairs, causing the decline of the commercial supremacy of Derby. The chief ones were the more rapid growth of New Haven and Bridgeport, whose natural advantages as shipping points were increased by the building of good turnpikes to those towns from sections which had before been tributary to Derby. Even the New Haven and Milford turnpikes, in which Derby had been so much interested, were used to its disadvantage, and some of its warmest projectors saw long lines of teams pass by their warehouses on their way to the Long Wharf, at New Haven. The Washington bridge, on the lower Housatonic, also impeded the free course of vessels, which were now attracted to the neighboring ports; and after the unfortunate ventures of the Derby Fishing Company, which ended in its collapse about 1815, the foreign shipping business of Derby rapidly declined. Many of the seafaring men who had sought homes here removed to other parts or engaged in other occupations, and the population in consequence was much diminished.

Among the sea captains who lived in this locality in the period named, are recalled the names of Captain Ebenezer Gracey, sometime about 1783; Captains William Clark, George Gorham, Thomas Horsey, William Whitney, Clark Elliott, Frederick Hopkins, Giles Martinbrough, James Hickock and Mordecai Prindle, who with seven men from Derby was lost at sea before 1812. Ithiel Keeney, said to have been the first white child born at Derby Landing, who died in 1837, aged 83 years; Joseph Prindle, John Fowler, James and Elijah Humphreys, William Whiting and his sons, William and Henry; Captain Thomas Vose, Captain Francis M. Franch, Stephen Mansfield, Jabez Thompson and his sons, William and Sheldon; James Lewis, Silas Nichols, Eugene Olmstead, Jared Bartholomew, Carlton White and some others, were also seafaring men.

In addition to the ship-building in Derby proper, already noted, the Leavenworths, of Huntington, at what is now Shelton, were active in that industry, after the revolution. In a yard between the old Red House and the Leavenworth tavern, Captain Edmund Leavenworth and his sons, Gideon and Edmund, built in all 21 vessels. Two of the last built, called the "George and Jane" and the "Fox," and owned by the latter, were lost in the war of 1812. At other points, in Shelton, small packets or sloops were built, among those best remembered being the "Hannah" (nicknamed the "Pulpit"), by Reverend Mr. Ruggles, after his service as the Congregational minister in Derby.

On the Naugatuck packets, sloops and schooners were early built by Captain George Gorham and several others. The former built a number of vessels at what later became known as the old Hallock yard, near Reuben Baldwin's distillery. He had served in the war of the revolution and was one of the party that stretched the famous iron chain across the Hudson, to prevent the British from going up the

river. Sometime about 1810 Captain Bradley came from Guilford and built several vessels for the Derby Fishing Company, the largest and finest of which, the "Ocean," was captured and her cargo confiscated by the French. This proved a heavy loss to the company and the people of Derby. Other ship builders in this locality were, about that time, Ezra Hubbell and John Lewis. Talmadge Beardsley was on Sugar street, Birmingham, where he turned out very superior work. He is credited with building the first center-board vessel on the Housatonic. This was named the "Commodore Hull," and was a very fast sailing vessel. He later assisted Robert Fulton in building the first steamboat.

In 1816 Captain Lemuel Chatfield built a sloop on the west side of the Housatonic, north of the bridge, having as workmen Zephaniah and Israel Hallock, brothers, who afterward succeeded him and became famous shipbuilders. He soon secured a better site for a yard, on the east side of the river, at the head of Sugar street, which embraced in 1820 ten acres. It was, however, found difficult to launch large vessels at that place, and in 1824 the Hallock Brothers removed their yard to Derby Landing, where the new site included the Baldwin distillery, which they discontinued. At this place ship-building was carried on until 1868. The last vessel built was the "Modesty." It was of 200 tons burden, and fitly ended their successful career as builders. It is said of them that of the 52 vessels they built, all but one was successfully launched; and all their vessels were characterized for their substantial construction.

A number of the vessels built at Derby plied between that place and other points, and when the first steamboat commenced running, in 1824, those then in service strongly opposed the new method of transportation. In this they were in a measure successful. The first steamboat was the "Lafayette," commanded by Captain Thomas Vose. She was a small boat and had an uncouth appearance. Unable to withstand the opposition of the three Derby packets, at that time also sailing to New York, she was sold to parties in Bridgeport and ran from there to New York. A new steamboat was now built, under the direction of Captain Vose, which received the name of the "Housatonic." Although better adapted for the service between Derby and New York, she remained on the line but two seasons and steamboating on the Housatonic was abandoned until 1836.

When Sheldon Smith founded Birmingham, he promised the inhabitants that they should have steamboat service to New York. With this view he built a dyke and deepened the channel across the river. In 1836 he put on the "Caroline," and she not proving successful secured a smaller boat, the "Maria," which made several trips in 1837, ending her experience here by running upon the dyke embankment in high water. Mr. Smith then abandoned this project.

In 1845 and later the Naugatuck Transportation Company put in

service the small steamboats, "Naugatuck" and "Ansonia," and before 1861 the Atwater Iron & Steel Company, of Birmingham, built a small boat, the "Valley City," which after running here a short time, was sold to the government, for use in the civil war. Since that time other steamboats have been run for short periods, none proving successful in a financial sense. The latest venture was made by the Naugatuck Valley Steamboat Company, which placed two boats on the line, from Derby to New York, in June, 1886; the "Naugatuck" and the "Housatonic," both of which carried freight and passengers. The line was continued about three years. At the same time the Derby Transportation Company was running a steam propeller and two barges, mostly in the coal carrying trade. The former company was chartered in 1886; the latter in 1888, and in 1890 its boats plied regularly between Derby and points on the North river. Sailing vessels were also in the carrying trade and the aggregate shipping reached considerable proportions.

The name of Derby village may now properly be applied to all that part of the town lying east of the Naugatuck and west of Sentinel hill, south of the town of Ansonia. It thus embraces the old town of Derby, the Landing or Narrows, with the intervening territory. In these limits are several thousand inhabitants and all the elements of a modern, progressive village, which are enjoyed on account of the relation the place sustains to Birmingham and Ansonia. It has the same system of water works, street cars, gas and electric lighting as those thriving boroughs.

In the north part of the village, in the "Old Town," a store was kept soon after 1700. In 1712 Edward Pierson, a merchant, was at that place, and in 1742 William Clark was already here established in trade. His sons succeeded him and about the time of the revolution Sheldon Clark was a merchant in the town, having his store at the Landing. Ebenezer Keeney had here built the first house, about 1754, and may also have been a small merchant before his death in 1795. In 1762 Stephen Whitney bought a piece of land on which he built a store and traded until 1768, when his business passed into the hands of his creditors. The following year Captain Grassee built a store at the wharf and in 1763 he entered into partnership with Joseph Hall, trading as such a firm several years. From this time on, for the greater part of 50 years, the Landing was a busy place and there was so much expectation of making this a great commercial part that the place was called New Boston. At one time the question of regarding New Haven as a business rival hardly entered into the minds of the merchants of the Landing, since this was comparatively the more important place and everything seemed to tend toward its prosperity. In this period of great activity Lemman Stone was one of the prominent merchants. He came from Litchfield about 1790, and built a large store and warehouse on his wharf, which was so arranged that part of

the building overhung the water. Here for more than a score of years he prospered as a merchant and shipper. He was very public-spirited, projecting or aiding many public improvements. After the commercial decay of Derby Landing he and Benjamin Hodge engaged in the raising of garden seeds, using the warehouse for a storage room. In this business they were successful. Lemah Stone died in May, 1847, aged 96 years, but to this day his name is associated with those stirring times in Derby's history, which are recalled by the ruins of the old Stone warehouse. About 1800 Henry Whitney was in trade, engaged largely as a shipper of live stock to the West Indies. He died in 1811, aged 75 years. Canfield Gillette, the first president of the Derby Fishing Company, was an active business man in the same period. Robert Gates and others were later merchants. Every branch of trade had many representatives in 1890.

J. W. Barber, in his "Historical Collections of Connecticut," said of this place, as it appeared to him in 1836, that Derby Landing had "about 50 dwellings, four or five mercantile stores and a number of mechanic shops. These buildings stand mostly on three short streets, running parallel with the river and on the side of the hill, which from its summit descends with considerable abruptness to the water, and of course the eastermost street is considerably elevated above the others."

The Congregational and Episcopal churches are spoken of as being a mile north of the Landing, or about midway between it and the "old town." The new Birmingham bridge, completed in 1831, at a cost of \$14,000, and the few straggling buildings of Birmingham, which had just been founded, were visible in the distance to the northwest.

Of Derby and its early surroundings, J. W. Osborne, son of Captain Stephen Osborne and grandson of Captain George Gorham, both of the revolutionary army, who is now an octogenarian, writes as follows:

"When I came to Derby Narrows in 1817, I found a ferry in full operation on the Ousatonick river. Its home was on the Derby side of the river, a few rods north of the Derby Sash and Blind factory as now situated. There were two packets (sloops) running between Derby and New York. One was named 'The Mary,' the other 'The William.' The first was owned by French, Gates & Co.; the other by Captain James Lewis, who was also a merchant. Both carried passengers and freight to and from New York. While the season was favorable they made one trip a week. The 'Mary' left Derby on Monday evenings; the 'William' Friday evenings. Their freight consisted of ship timber, wood and manufactured articles, such as women's shoes, hogsheads, barrels and shooks, live poultry and other things, such as a country town would naturally export. They brought back merchandise for the stores, the heavy articles consisting of salt,

sugar and molasses, with several full loads of staves for the coopers during the summer, and leather for the shoemakers, from which many thousands of pairs of shoes were made. There was also a packet called the 'Caroline,' owned by Captain William Tompson, which made trips between here and New York for a while.

"There were at this time but two stores in Derby Narrows. The principal one was that of French, Gates & Co., the firm consisting of Colonel Robert Gates, Bazaleel Gates, Jerry and Samuel French; the other of Captain James Lewis; and a store Uptown, owned by Josiah Smith. All these kept a general assortment of dry goods, groceries, hardware and stone ware, with liquors, not as a rule to be drank on the premises, but to be carried away in bottles and jugs the same as molasses. A few years later Lyman Osborn built a store for mercantile purposes, and William Bassett & Son bought out Captain James Lewis and added to the stock boots and shoes. There were no saloons in the place. There were seven shoemakers, three of whom lived Uptown, employing many workmen manufacturing shoes for the New York market; the others doing custom work.

"There were six coopers, two of whom carried on business in Sugar street, above the present Ousatonic bridge. There were three tailor shops, four blacksmith shops, one hatter, one saddle and harness maker, who at a later period made the collars for the horses of President Jackson. There was a place where one man made small articles from brass, also a manufactory of furniture, where a number of hands were employed. There was a tanning and currying establishment, which employed a number of workmen, and turned out a fine quality of leather, which was owned by a Mr. Warden, who in a few years sold out to Wallace & Wheeler, and they, sometime later, sold to Isaac J. Gilbert. The latter was a firm temperance man, and to be revenged on him his whole establishment was set on fire by an enemy and burned to the ground. The incendiary was consigned to state prison, where he died.

"My grandfather, George Gorham, before my day, built vessels at the Gorham place, half a mile below Derby Landing. In my boyhood Ezra Hubbell built the sloop 'Laura' in the yard of Samuel Hubbell, east of the river road running through the Narrows and a number of feet higher than the road; north of the street running past the carriage shop of the late Jesse Brown to Bank street, near to the old Derby Bank building. The descent to the river was so steep that when launched she shot with the speed of a rocket into her native element, swiftly crossed the narrow stream and grounded near to the meadows. A rope was attached to her and brought to the shore, and by the aid of those who came to the launching, she was drawn to the dock. Talmadge Beardsley built for John Lewis, son of Captain James Lewis, the 'Commodore Hull.' She was the first center board vessel

ever run on the river. She took the place of the 'William,' as a packet to and from New York, and was a success.

"In those days there came up the river vessels with two masts, flat-bottomed, drawing little water, loaded with lumber. They had large lee boards to keep them from drifting when beating against the wind, answering the same purpose as a center board, though not so handy. They were called *periaugers*. Messrs. Zephaniah and Israel Hallock built a number of vessels above the present bridge, at Sugar street, and later carried on shipbuilding at Derby Landing. There were no builders in the whole country that stood higher in the estimation of seafaring men.

"John L. Tomlinson was the only lawyer, but he had a student by the name of Ira L. Ufford, who soon after practiced law in this place, so that in our local courts one of these attorneys would be for the plaintiff, the other for defendant.

"There were two churches in 'Uptown,' neither having chimnies or bells, though the Episcopal church had a steeple, being the more modern of the two. Not long after it had both a chimney and a good sized bell. It was situated on the west side of the road leading to 'Uptown,' a short distance south of the village, on the high bank of the Naugatuck river. The rector was the Reverend Calvin White, as genial and pleasant a man as could be found, who finally became a Roman Catholic, but always was beloved and respected. The old church on the hill was called the Presbyterian church. It was very old and nearly square. Its pulpit was so high and so far away from the hearers that a large sounding-board (so called) was placed over the pulpit, so that the congregation could the more easily hear the preacher. The pews were square, high and perpendicular, surmounted by a baluster or banister, as now called, with seats on three sides, and a door on the other, so that the people in the pews would be facing three different ways, some with their backs toward the minister. These churches had no stoves or fires in the coldest weather, no carpets on the floor or cushions on the seats, though our mothers did have their foot stoves, but the sermons were of such a nature that the hearers feared a warmth quite different from that of God's own sweet summer.

"Reverend Zephaniah Swift was pastor of this church for over 30 years, and was considered one of the most faithful and efficient pastors of his day.

"The physician in 'Uptown' was Doctor Kimberly, and those in Derby Narrows were old Doctor Crafts and his son, Doctor Pearl Crafts. This latter gentleman had his seat in the old church directly under a place in the roof where the shingles had been blown off. He was worshipping with the congregation, for he was a good man, when suddenly quite a quantity of water which accumulated from the



melted snow, came down upon the doctor's head. He sprang from his seat exclaiming: 'I am sitting under the droppings of the sanctuary.'

"A Boston coaster, commanded by a Captain Wheeler, whose wharf was in Shelton, made regular trips to Boston. Her cargo, as far as Fairfield county was concerned, was principally corn.

"There were thousands of shad caught in the Ousatonic, and when sold at the seines where caught, brought about \$6 a hundred. Shad of fair size were retailed from 10 to 15 cents each. I once saw a shad which weighed  $7\frac{1}{2}$  pounds, and heard the proprietor of the seine remark: 'That shad ought bring a quarter of a dollar.'

"A vile young man by the name of David Cain stole poultry from Captain William Thompson and was sentenced to be publicly whipped, which was done in Derby Narrows, near the Mansion House. He was stripped of all clothing down to his waist, and while the lash was being laid on to his bare back Captain Thompson stood by singing out: 'Lay it on well, Mr. Sheriff, lay it well. But tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon that the pole he was forced to hug was the liberty pole with the cap of liberty at its top.'

"The old town house stood 'Uptown,' nearly opposite the home of the late Joseph H. Remer, and near by were the stocks where criminals were confined for a short time, usually with both feet through the holes, when they were unmercifully pelted with eggs, rotten or otherwise, by a mob of young men. A culprit was here once confined, but only by one foot, when he was so pelted that he became frantic, and rising on one knee, seized a large stone with both hands, dashed it with all his might upon the lock, broke it to pieces, lifted the plank, took out his foot and ran like a frightened deer, with the whole pack of tormentors at his heels, but he outran them all and escaped.

"A tremendous gale passed over all this part of the country September 4th, 1822. No other gale in these parts has equaled it since. The wind was from the south, and so strong that the windows facing the south were washed more or less by water blown from Long Island sound, and the salt was found dried to the glass next day.

"In the country tailors and shoemakers came to the homes of the farmers and made up the shoes and boots for the whole family and clothes for the men, the farmers furnishing the leather and cloth. Women taught the schools in summer and men in winter. All the teachers 'boarded round.' On very old houses a horseshoe would be found nailed to the house as a protection against witches. Many old men wore queues. Long flowing beards were not tolerated, and were in those days not seen unless worn by strangers, who at that time were usually shysters. The old gentlemen when in their best dress wore a cutaway blue coat with brass buttons, a buff colored vest, short breeches with knee buckles, white top boots and long worsted or silk stockings reaching above the knees, so as to cover the limbs between

the top of the boots and the pants; with powdered hair. It was a most elegant dress when worn by men fully developed."

The principal shoe shops spoken of by Mr. Osborne were at "Up-town" and were carried on by the Remer Brothers, Lewis and Abram. George Blakeman was also a shoe manufacturer and a merchant, being for a long time a member of the firm of Blakeman & Downes. The principal cooperages were those of Willis and Levi Hotchkiss and Isaac Thompson, at the Narrows; and on Sugar street were John Carrington and Alva Bunnell. It is said of the latter that in a single season he manufactured 1,000 casks for the New Orleans market. After the development of Birmingham as a manufacturing center these interests gave place to other industries, employing power machinery.

The first machinery in Derby operated by water power was in the small grist mill, whose construction was ordered by the inhabitants at a meeting held in the summer of 1681. It was agreed to build the dam and pay £20 to some suitable man who should undertake the work. Doctor John Hull engaged to do this, and the mill was built on Beaver brook, half a mile east from Cliff street, in Ansonia. It may have been operated more than a score of years, when larger facilities being required, a new mill site was improved, on the Naugatuck, where is now the dam of the Birmingham Power Company, on the "Old river," so called. It was probably built by Captain Joseph Hull sometime in 1706, and with the additions made to it, became widely known as Samuel Hull's mills. But more generally they were called the "Yellow mills." Besides the machinery for grinding grain, there were also saw and oil mills. The latter was in full operation, more than a century and a half ago, much oil being shipped in 1745; and the shipment of linseed oil and kiln dried corn meal from these mills, for many years thereafter constituted a considerable interest. While the property of John Lewis, he endeavored to build a canal to the mills so that boats could load directly at that point. At this place wool was also carded and cloth fulled until after the beginning of the present century. From Lewis these interests passed to Sheldon Smith, of New York, who removed them when his Birmingham enterprises were inaugurated.

Nearly a hundred years ago another oil mill was built on Two Mile brook. This remained, but was converted to other uses. It was long known as the Hitchcock mill. In later years it was used as a turning shop. On this stream other important improvements were made, the sash and blind factory of David Bradley & Son having a capacity for turning out large quantities of work. Much of the material used in the first buildings of Birmingham was there prepared. On a less extensive scale the mills are still continued. On this brook was also the Gilbert Plane Factory; and at other points in the town small industries were established, but ceased to exist after a few years.

At the Landing the principal manufactories in the present century have been, aside from the ship-building, the tannery of Isaac J. Gilbert,

later carried on by his son, A. H. Gilbert, and the mills of the Derby Building & Lumber Company. The latter business was established in 1836, by Willis and Lewis Hotchkiss, who had the mill at Birmingham. In 1840 other members were added and the firm became Hotchkiss, Clark & Co. In 1850 they consolidated with Lindley & Johnson, of Ansonia, when the above company was formed with a capital of \$55,000. The plant at Derby Landing was then established. In 1868 the mills were swept away by fire, but more spacious ones were erected in their stead, which have since been occupied. Steam power is used and a large business is transacted, employment being given to half a hundred men. In 1890 W. E. Downes was the president of the company, but its general manager was Clark N. Rogers.

Burtville is the name applied to a small village, below the Landing or Narrows, and extending along the road to Turkey hill. There are several hundred inhabitants, most of whom find occupation elsewhere, the place having no business of its own. In addition to the several dozen residences there is a mission chapel, which was occupied in July, 1879. The site was donated by Mrs. Almon Ticknor and the house was built under the direction of a committee composed of Lewis Young, Almon Ticknor and David Bradley. In this building a Sabbath school is regularly maintained and other religious meetings are also occasionally held.

The flourishing borough of Birmingham occupies the point of land lying between the Housatonic and Naugatuck rivers, at the place of their junction. The most of this area is elevated, giving the village an attractive and picturesque location, and having good natural drainage, tends to the healthfulness of the place. In scenic surroundings, but few villages in the state surpass Birmingham. The Housatonic is here already characterized by some of the features which higher up that stream have given it character as one of the most picturesque rivers in the Union. On the east, standing in bold relief, is fine old Sentinel hill, whose lawn like fields make it look still more attractive; and on the north are the Naugatuck hills, with their varied forms, stretching beyond West Ansonia until they culminate in Great hill, half a dozen miles distant. These features, coupled with its prosperity as a manufacturing center, have conduced to make the village a place of many handsome homes, elegant business blocks and attractive public improvements, which also indicate the thrift and prosperity of the inhabitants. It became a borough in 1851 and the population in 1890 was about 5,000. There are all the improvements of a progressive American town, national and savings banks, daily and weekly papers, a score of manufacturing establishments, four fine churches, an elegant school building, and other interests noted in detail in the following pages.

Although at Hawkins' point, on the Housatonic, had been established the first trading post in all the valley, several hundred years ago,

business had been diverted to Derby Landing; and sixty years ago the village site was nothing, practically, but a farm.

The founder of Birmingham was Sheldon Smith, of New York. He was a native of Derby, being born here March 16th, 1791. Removing to New York, his energy and perseverance enabled him to acquire considerable means in that city and Newark. He now returned to his native place and determined to build up a manufacturing village. To this end he bought the old "yellow mills" property, the Smith farm and the Hawkins Point property. The old dam was thoroughly rebuilt and the mill site being vacated, a long raceway was dug along the side hill to a reservoir at Birmingham. A head and fall of 14 feet was secured by this system and many new sites were afforded. On these improvements work was commenced September 1st, 1833, and the following year they were completed. The same season the first wheel in Birmingham was turned, being in the grist mill built on the raceway west of the reservoir. It was built by Fitch Smith, a brother of Sheldon, and contained some of the old "yellow mills" machinery. The building afterward became a part of the Shelton Tack Company's property and still remains a humble pioneer of the many large factory buildings afterward erected.

In carrying out these plans Sheldon Smith expended large sums of money, much of it being lost in the vain effort to redeem his promise that the new village should be connected with New York by a steamboat line. He built a wharf at Hawkins' point and constructed a costly dyke so that boats could reach it more safely, all to no purpose, for in 1837 that scheme was abandoned as impracticable.

Not long after these improvements had been begun Sheldon Smith had enlisted the interest of Anson G. Phelps, a copper merchant in New York, in this project, with the result of securing him as a partner. In the course of a few years, the firm of Smith & Phelps was dissolved and the work was carried on by Mr. Phelps alone, who, when the success of this village was assured, founded Ansonia. Sheldon Smith's real estate interests passed to his brother, Fitch. Disappointed in the realization of his hopes, he returned to New York city, where he died in 1863.

Until the spring of 1836 the village on the point was known by the name of Smithville, but, in May, 1836, the name of Birmingham was adopted as being more appropriate for a manufacturing town. The subsequent events have demonstrated the wisdom of making this change. Of this place, J. W. Barber said, July, 1836: "The village was commenced in 1834. There are at present about twenty dwelling houses and three mercantile stores; there is in, and about to be put in operation, one factory for making sheet copper and copper wire; one for making augers; one for making carriage springs and axles; one for making nails or tacks; one for flannels and satinets, with some other minor manufacturing establishments. The water by which the

mills and factories are put in operation is taken from the Naugatuck by a canal which extends upward of a mile and a half northward of the village. A steamboat is about to commence running between this place and New York. \* \* \* A small round structure forms a *reservoir* from which water is supplied to the inhabitants of the village. It is raised fifty feet from a well, under the grist mill, on the canal below."

Considering that the first house was built in 1835 this growth was quite rapid. For the first six years John Clous, an Englishman, was the agent of the proprietors and had staked off the first streets, graded them and planted trees along their sides. The first lots were sold on the promise that they would be improved within a year's time, so as to discourage undue speculation. This had the effect of encouraging a permanent growth, which was but little affected by the stringent times of 1837, and much capital and enterprise were drawn to Birmingham. For the next score of years manufacturing was so popular an occupation in the Naugatuck valley, that many new industries were projected in Birmingham. Some of these were ill-timed, and, consequently, short-lived. Others outgrew the capacity of their original quarters and were transferred to more spacious plants elsewhere, where, in most instances they continued to prosper. In this era was developed much inventive and mechanical skill, whose use in the establishments of Birmingham and Ansonia has given their products good reputation.

The Phelps Copper Mills were, next to the grist mill of Fitch Smith, one of the earliest industries in Birmingham. They were commenced early in 1836 on the lowest power of the raceway, near the old wharf, by Anson G. Phelps & Co. Peter Phelps was the agent at Birmingham; Almon Farrel was the millwright. The building was so spacious that it was called the "big copper mill." It had chilled rolls and other machinery brought from England, this being one of the pioneer industries of the kind in America. Many of the workmen were Welsh and English, about 100 persons being employed. In the fall of 1838 the mill was burned, but a one-story stone factory immediately took its place the same season. Business was now more actively carried on than ever until 1854, when the interest was removed to Ansonia and merged with the copper mill at that place. Several years later the building was occupied by the Hawkins Manufacturing Company, and after 1865 became the property of the present owners, A. H. & C. B. Alling, the site being occupied by their hosiery mill.

The interest which became known as the Shelton Tack Company was contemporary with the above. It was founded in the spring of 1836 by Edward N. Shelton and Nathan C. Sanford. They were persons of means, and at once warmly identified themselves with the new village, building a factory on the north side of Main street. The business prospered, but in June, 1841, Mr. Sanford died, universally

lamented. Soon after the firm became E. N. Shelton. In 1854 the Shelton Company was formed, with a capital of \$80,000, which has been increased to \$100,000. The plant at Birmingham being too small, a branch factory was operated in Shelton, to which place the entire business has in later years been transferred. Fine small bolts, tacks and small nails are manufactured, and half a dozen buildings are occupied. More than 100 men are employed, and the company, under the management of E. N. Shelton, George Blakeman and E. De Forest Shelton, continues to be one of the leading industries of this locality.

The Plumb & Beach Woolen Factory was also built in 1836. The principal mill, which was a stone building, stood on the north side of Main street, near the above factory. It was carried on successfully about 10 years by David W. Plumb and Benjamin B. Beach in the manufacture of woolen goods, such as flannels, beavers and cassimeres. Blankets were also made. At the end of the period named, Mr. Plumb removed to Ansonia, and the factory was soon after devoted to other uses. Upon the site of the stone mill E. N. Shelton erected a large brick block, a part of which is now occupied by minor manufacturers.

David Bassett's Auger Shop was started, in the fall of 1836, on the raceway near the Housatonic. In 1842 the property passed to his son, Robert N. Bassett, who added the manufacture of galvanized pump chains to the former manufactures. Since 1859 the products have been mainly hoop skirt wires and metal corset material. The original plant has been much enlarged by Mr. Bassett.

On the lower part of the same street a planing mill was put up in 1836, by Willis and Lewis Hotchkiss, which was operated about 14 years, when the interest was merged with the Derby Building Company, at the Landing. The site was next occupied by the Globe Carriage Company, which did a large business for a few years. Later, A. H. and C. B. Alling there manufactured stockinet goods. The building was burned, and with it a Mr. Cooper, in January, 1864.

Upon part of the above site a corset factory was built, in 1888, by Cyrus Brewster. It is a large, three-story brick building, and 100 people are employed, under the superintendence of W. H. Smith. This industry was begun several years earlier by Joseph Tomlinson and Cyrus Brewster, in the Sheldon Block.

On the site opposite was, in early times, the mill of Colonel Jackson, where later George T. Bushnell and Deacon Lyman Osborne had a wood-turning establishment for the manufacture of novelties. Still later L. and C. H. De Forest there made plane woods and spirit level frames, occupying the place from 1857 to 1860. From Robert N. Bassett the property passed to Henry S. Sawyer, and it has been converted to its original use—a feed mill.

Another of the pioneer manufacturers of Birmingham was Charles

Atwood. He was a native of Hardwick, Mass., where he was born in 1801. After learning the art of manufacturing woolen goods, he turned his attention to inventions, and discovered a way of making steel pens which was entirely different from the methods then in use. Coming to Birmingham, he built what became known as the Atwood Factory, in which he manufactured pens and German silver ware, mostly spoons. He invented a hook and eye machine, and the process for fastening them upon cards. The patent for this method he sold to a Waterbury company for \$20,000. He next invented a simple machine for making jack chains, well chains, etc. He also invented a pin-making machine, which has been perfected and is still known as the "Atwood Machine." The foregoing articles were manufactured here by Mr. Atwood, S. and S. M. Colburn and others prior to 1854. Later his step-son, George Kellogg (father of the prima donna, Clara Louise Kellogg) and Henry Kellogg made surgical instruments at that place, but moved to New York. In 1858 Stephen N. Summers and L. C. Lewis, as Summers & Lewis, purchased this factory and engaged in the manufacture of furniture, which is still carried on at that place by George C. Bedient. Summers was a pioneer in the latter industry, at Birmingham, engaging in that trade in 1836. Mr. Atwood died in 1854, greatly lamented. Not long after the Atwood factory was built, the basement was occupied by Thomas Wallace, who with his sons, John, Thomas and William, was there engaged in wire drawing. They removed from here to Ansonia, where they became distinguished manufacturers.

On the same raceway, south of the Atwood factory, George W. Shelton and Lyman Osborne had a factory in which wooden novelties were made by them, until about 1854, when as the Shelton & Osborne Manufacturing Company, they there engaged extensively in the manufacture of hoop skirts, being among the first in that industry in the place. Novelties in wood work were also there made by Henry Summers and Isaac Howe and still later George G. Shelton & Brothers there manufactured baby carriages. In recent years the building was converted into a tenement.

The Hawkins brothers, Abram and William, in 1837 began the manufacture of carriage springs and axles, in a part of the Beach & Plumb factory, but two years later built for themselves, on the south side of Main street, a place which later became known as the Sharon Bassett factory. Here they prospered and in 1845 they took in partnership Henry Atwater, of New Haven, who proved a valuable addition to the manufacturers of the village and for 16 years was foremost in advancing the general prosperity of the place. He died in 1862, aged 43 years. In 1847 the firm moved to a new plant, on the north side of the street, where the business was incorporated in 1850 as

The Birmingham Iron and Steel Works, which became one of the largest industries in the place. Extensive buildings were erected and

when the business was most prosperous 200 hands were employed. When this corporation was formed, in 1850, William Hawkins withdrew from the firm, whose business was carried on mainly by A. Hawkins and Henry Atwater. After 1862 Thomas Elmes was at the head of the works. In the course of years the interest declined and, sometime about 1878, while the property of a new local company, only half a hundred men were employed. The works finally passed into the hands of the Peck, Stow & Wilcox Company, of Southington, and were by them discontinued. Some of the buildings were burned in 1886; others have been demolished. A part of the office building was for a time occupied by Cornell & Shelton, manufacturers of patent folding paper boxes, until their removal to Shelton.

The old factory building, south of Main street was, after the removal of Hawkins & Atwater, occupied by Sharon Bassett, in the manufacture of carriage bolts, etc. In 1872 that interest was transferred to Shelton, where it is still carried on by D. M. Bassett and others.

After withdrawing from the old firm in 1850, William Hawkins continued the manufacture of carriage axles and springs, having others associated with him, as the Hawkins Manufacturing Company. The old Plumb factory was occupied until 1859, when larger quarters were found in the old copper mill. An extensive plant was maintained until the dissolution of the company in 1865. Subsequently William Hawkins and Robert Gibson had a skate factory, on the east side of the reservoir. Augers and bits were later made there. Robinson & Cook followed and they, in turn, were succeeded by the Excelsior Manufacturing Company, incorporated in 1880, manufacturers of boring tools and general hardware. In 1888 the company removed to Shelton.

In the period when the manufacture of carriage goods was so popular, Smith & Osborne also made axles in a factory near the old grist mill, and at the next power below Nelson H. Downs & Co. manufactured stump joints. The latter industry was transferred to another place and in 1890 the site was occupied for the manufacture of files.

The Birmingham Iron Foundry is the most important iron manufacturing interest the borough has had for many years. The business was here established in 1836 by the twin brothers, Sylvester and Sullivan M. Colburn, who had previously carried on a small foundry at Westville. A site east of the reservoir was occupied, and the business prospered from the beginning. In 1838 their brother, Doctor Josiah M. Colburn, came from Orange and engaged with them as a partner. Still later Sheldon Bassett became a member of the firm. In 1850 the Colburns retired from this firm to engage in enterprises at Ansonia, when a stock company was formed with the above title, and a capital of \$100,000. Of this corporation Sheldon Bassett was the president until his death in 1865, when his son, Royal M. Bassett, was chosen to that office, which he has since filled. Another son, Theo-



dore S., has long been treasurer of the concern; and H. F. Wanning, the secretary. The first castings in the foundry were made by Henry Whipple, who continued in that department several scores of years. Many other skilled workmen have long been in the service of the company. More than 200 workmen are employed in the various departments at this plant, which covers an area of more than half a dozen acres. The output yearly is very large, and embraces every variety of heavy machinery for nearly all kinds of manufactures or milling purposes. Many of the articles produced are peculiar to this establishment, whose reputation extends throughout the entire Union.

In extending its plant these works have absorbed several other privileges on the reservoir, one of them being the shops of the De Forest Manufacturing Company, which was engaged in the manufacture of horse nails, etc. The outgrowth of this industry was transferred to Shelton.

The manufacture of pins has for more than 50 years been a most important industry at Birmingham. The pin factory of the Howe Manufacturing Company, on the west side of the reservoir, is also one of the pioneer establishments of the kind in the Union. The company was formed in New York, in 1835, to manufacture pins by means of Doctor John I. Howe's machines, and he was placed in charge of the enterprise, managing the manufacturing department more than 30 years. Doctor Howe was an inventor of no mean note, having obtained a patent on rubber compounds in 1828, but the inventions of Charles Goodyear had already occupied that field, which caused him to turn his attention to pin-making. He completed a satisfactory machine in 1832, and a second one the following year. Associating his brothers-in-law, James Brush and Edward Cook, with him, the manufacture was begun in New York. But in April, 1838, the interest was transferred to Birmingham, where it has since been very successfully carried on. Doctor Howe here perfected his machinery, and so judiciously managed the affairs of the company, that its capital stock of \$60,000 became very profitable. Large brick buildings are occupied, and several scores of people are given employment. In 1890 the president and the secretary of the company were William E. Downes and Charles E. Atwater.

Doctor Howe died suddenly, September 10th, 1876, in the 84th year of his age, but his worth is still keenly remembered. He was a strong Union man in the late civil war, contributing several thousand dollars in Derby to further the cause.

Pins were also made in the old Atwood factory.

The Star Pin Company was organized in 1867, with a capital of \$40,000, and operations were begun at Wells' Hollow, in Huntington township. George H. Peck was elected president. In 1875 he became the secretary, treasurer and general manager of the company, succeeding J. Tomlinson. D. W. Plumb was elected president, and both

have since continued, making the "Star" one of the most successful pin companies in the state. The same year a large brick factory was erected in Shelton, whose capacity has been further enlarged, so that, in 1890, about 100 persons found employment therein. The products are brass and adamantine pins, hair pins and hooks and eyes, which have an excellent reputation.

On smaller scales other pin manufactories have been carried on in Derby by Charles H. Johnson and others. Closely allied with this industry has been the production of hoop skirts and corsets. The manufacture of the former article was very popular from 1854 for about 10 years, among those engaged in it being Downs & Bassett, Edwin Wooster and Osborne & Cheesman. The latter began in 1858, but the following year moved to Ansonia. Nelson H. Downs and Edwin Wooster were among the first manufacturers to become interested in the Shelton improvements, the former building the first factory there in 1871; the latter completing one in 1872. He had, at Birmingham, occupied a factory on the east side of the reservoir. On the 20th of April, 1876, the community was startled and pained by his accidental drowning at the Housatonic dam, which he had helped to build at the sacrifice of time and means.

After the demand for hoop skirts had diminished, the manufacture of corsets became an important industry. The Birmingham Corset Company, with works at Shelton, and composed of I. W. Birdseye, Richard Hubbell and others, is a flourishing concern, employing skilled labor and modern machinery.

The corset factory of Lyman L. Loomer & Sons, at Birmingham, is another flourishing establishment, in which the yearly output is several hundred thousand dollars. A fine four-story building, on Main street, is occupied, and a large number of people are employed. In the factories of Cyrus Brewster, on Caroline street, and L. Kraus & Co., on Sugar street, immense quantities of corset goods are made, and several hundred more people are employed in these factories.

The Paugassett Mills of A. H. & C. B. Alling, on First street, Birmingham, are the most important textile factories since the Plumb & Beach Mills. The business was established by the Alling family, in Orange, in 1845. In 1858 they purchased the old Globe carriage factory, and operated there until January, 1864, when the buildings were destroyed by fire. The following year the old copper mills property was purchased, and the present plant begun. Several three and five-story buildings are occupied, which are supplied with machinery for producing first-class hosiery and underwear. Over 300 hands are employed. The Alling Brothers are not only enterprising manufacturers, but have erected a dozen of the finest business blocks in the borough, some of which would be creditable to a large city.

In Shelton the hosiery mills of the Radcliffe Brothers, built in 1874, and the extensive Derby Cotton Mills of Robert Adams, are in-

dustries whose output approximates half a million dollars, and which employ hundreds of people.

The Sterling Company has an extensive plant on the east side of the reservoir, in Birmingham. There are a number of attractive buildings, aggregating more than a thousand feet in length, and both water and steam power are used. Many hundred skilled workmen are employed in the production of a great variety of reed organs and pianos, whose excellence is generally acknowledged. This industry was here begun, in 1868, by the Page & Potter Organ Company, which previously built musical instruments in Ansonia. In June, 1869, the name was changed to the Birmingham Organ Company, a corporation which embraced some of the members of the old company. In July, 1871, the last company gave place to the Charles A. Sterling Organ Company, and in 1886 the name was changed to the Sterling Company. The capital has also been increased from \$30,000 to \$210,000.

In 1875 the works were destroyed by fire, but were at once rebuilt, and have been enlarged a number of different times. Charles A. Sterling was for many years the president of the company, and R. W. Blake the general manager since 1873, serving also as president in 1890. James R. Mason is the secretary and treasurer; and Charles H. Hubbell the general superintendent.

The water power for the foregoing factories originally belonged to the firm of Smith & Phelps, falling into the hands of Anson G. Phelps sometime in the forties. In 1869 it became the property of the present proprietors—the Birmingham Water Power Company, composed mainly of the Bartholomew family, of Ansonia. Although this was one the first improvements of the kind in the Naugatuck valley, it remains substantially as at first constructed, and is still a valuable privilege.

It is said that when Sheldon Smith first contemplated his enterprise in Derby, he purposed getting his water power from the Housatonic, but abandoned the project on account of its appearing too formidable. In 1839 the legislature authorized an improvement of the power at Birmingham and Shelton, but would not allow a dam to be built. Hence the matter was allowed to rest until a more liberal charter could be secured. This was granted in 1864, and two years later the Ousatonic Water Company was organized under its provisions. By this company, which embraced among its members the leading manufacturers of Birmingham, the dam at Shelton was built, though not until some had become disheartened, because so many obstacles beset the undertaking. Others persevered and were richly rewarded in the ownership of one of the finest water powers in the state.

The Housatonic (also called the Ousatonic) is, next to the Connecticut and Merrimac, the most powerful river in New England, draining about 2,000 square miles of land, in which are many mountain

lakes and springs, having a constant flow. It is estimated that, in consequence of these conditions, the average flow at Birmingham, at lowest water, yields 2,500 horse power for 12 hours per day. The curbing of such a vast volume of water was an effort of no small magnitude, but it was successfully accomplished by the supervising engineer, Henry T. Potter, after three years of painstaking labor. He began the construction on the east side of the river, the first mason work being done July 17th, 1867; and the last capstone was laid October 5th, 1870. The dam is a solid mass of masonry, huge blocks of rock being carefully laid in water cement, and is capped with granite from Maine. It presents a fine appearance, and has an entire length of 800 feet. Of this distance 637 feet are in the river proper. The breast of the dam is 22 feet high, and so level that the water falls over in an unbroken mass. The reservoir formed by this dam is about five miles long, and is confined between high hills most of the distance.

On the 22d day of January, 1891, an unusual flood in the Housatonic caused a break in the dam 150 feet long, and involving a loss of about \$300,000. But little other property was destroyed, and no lives were lost.

From each side of the dam canals lead down the banks of the river, affording a large number of manufacturing sites. Each of the factory lots faces on the river, which gives them transportation facilities, the dam being at the head of tide water navigation on the Housatonic. The dam and the attendant property are valued at \$1,000,000. The directory of the company, in 1890, embraced: E. N. Shelton, president; D. S. Brinsmade, David W. Plumb, W. E. Downes, E. De F. Shelton, A. B. Ruggles, A. H. Alling, T. L. Cornell and David Torrance.

Mr. E. N. Shelton has been identified with this enterprise from the beginning. From him the growing manufacturing village of Shelton, on the west side of the river, took its name. Although it is in Fairfield county, the place has such a close connection with Birmingham, that the interests are difficult to separate, and the village has had its beginning in the interest transferred to it from Derby, after the completion of the Housatonic dam. In 1890 there were a score of manufacturing establishments in Shelton, there being, besides those already noted, the Birmingham Plane Company, the Cornell & Shelton Company, the Derby Rubber Company, the Derby Silver Company, the Silver Plate Cutlery Company, and the Whitlock Machine Company. The latter corporation is the outgrowth of the business of Sturges Whitlock, a builder of printing presses and printing machinery and which had been carried on in Birmingham about a dozen years prior to its removal. The Whitlocks became noted as being ingenious mechanics.

At Shelton the manufacture of paper has been an important industry since 1871, and the manufacture the past few years has

included the United States postal cards. The Derby Gas Company has its gas house in Shelton and its electric light plant in Birmingham, taking power from the canal on the east side of the dam. The two villages are connected by a centrally located bridge, and have many interests in common.

The increase of manufactures stimulated the mercantile and other interests in the town, and many business places were opened. Besides the principal merchants already noted in the foregoing pages, Thaddeus and Ephraim Birdseye were merchants from 1836 to 1840. J. W. Osborne opened a store in Birmingham in 1843, in which he engaged in general merchandising, at the corner of Main and Water streets. In 1845 he formed a partnership with George W. Cheesman, when they moved into the "stone store" built by Donald Judson in 1836. As Osborne & Cheesman the firm transacted a large business until 1859, when they disposed of their interests to engage in manufacturing at Ansonia. In the same period Sheldon Bassett, Edwin Wooster, P. McEnerney and George C. Allis were among the leading merchants. The latter has been in the book, jewelry and notion trade since 1852, when he established himself at the age of fifteen years. In 1856 he founded a circulating library, which contained in 1890 more than 3,500 volumes. Sidney Downs was also one of the first merchants, and traded nearly 40 years, when the business passed to E. S. Gibbons. Lucius Blackman engaged in trade in 1845, and the business he established is still continued. Edwin C. Johnson was for many years associated with him. In 1850 F. Hallock began merchandising, associating E. Hallock with him in 1863, and they have since traded at Birmingham. In the latter year George H. Peck engaged in the drug trade; and the dry goods house of H. B. Curtiss was established in 1868. J. H. Brewster became a merchant here about the same time, and the extensive dry goods business of E. R. Howard and G. E. Barber was begun many years ago by Samuel H. Brush, the present firm dating from 1884. Its business is one of the largest in the valley. G. & D. Curtiss were here about the same time, and H. Somers came a little later. In 1890 every branch of trade had from three to ten representatives.

The town has had many public houses, inns and hotels. In 1675 Colonel Ebenezer Johnson was licensed to keep an ordinary or tavern at his farm on the south of Sentinel hill. In 1704 Abel Holbrook and Samuel Nichols were licensed as keepers of ordinaries. The latter lived in the locality which was afterward called Baldwin's Corners, where, in 1716, John Pringle was the tavern keeper. Coming down to more recent times, Joseph Wheeler was a popular innkeeper at the Narrows, his house standing nearly on the same site as the present Mansion House. In the same locality Ithiel Keeney had a tavern about 1800. At Birmingham the Preston P. Warner tavern at the east end of the Housatonic bridge, was a very popular hotel from 1845, for

about 20 years. On the opposite side of the river the Leavenworth Hotel was known favorably, near and far. Of the modern hotels the Birmingham House was opened a quarter of a century ago; the Globe Inn but recently, and the widely known Bassett House has been a popular home for the traveling public about a score of years. It has a very pleasant location, and under the management of William G. White has achieved a reputation as one of the finest hostelries in the Naugatuck valley. His immediate successor was William Kellogg, also a popular host, who died here in the early part of 1888. Aside from these, the present town of Derby has half a dozen more public houses, all of which are in striking contrast with the primitive inns of two centuries ago.

The first monetary institution in the town was established in 1809 in connection with the Derby Fishing Company. This was chartered in 1806, and had as officers: Canfield Gillett, president, and James I. Andrews, secretary. Others interested were: James Lewis, Lemman Stone and Philo Bassett. The capital stock was fixed at a minimum of \$50,000, and the shares were mostly held by the people of Derby. The main object was to engage in the cod fishery, and for that purpose they built and fitted out vessels, among which were the "Eliza," commanded by Captain Clarke Elliott, which was captured by the French after several successful voyages to the West Indies had been made; the "Ousatonic" and the "Naugatuck," also built by the company and launched near Baldwin's old cider distillery, at Derby Narrows. The business was successful until the war of 1812 broke out and interrupted it, and speculative enterprise added to the financial ruin already brought on by the loss of valuable cargoes at sea, several vessels being captured and confiscated by the French. As showing the decline of its affairs, it is said that on commencing business the president of the company received a salary of \$1,500 per year, but after 1812 his salary was barely nominal, only 6¼ cents being voted him yearly. By act of the general assembly in 1815 the office of the company was transferred to New Haven, and soon after its affairs were wound up by a receiver.

In connection with the above company the Derby Bank was established in 1809, and was controlled mainly by the Fishing Company. A banking office was opened in a brick building on a back street at Derby Narrows, and for a time a prosperous business was done in connection with the Fishing Company, which was also the principal patron. William Leffingwell, of New Haven, was the president and John Fitch the cashier of the bank. It closed an unsuccessful business soon after the discontinuance of the Fishing Company, but to the credit of the managers it is said "no man lost a dollar by its suspension. It paid in full before stopping business."\*

The charter of the bank, after lying dormant until 1824, was re-

\* Beardsley's History, p. 276.

vived by the Canfield brothers, of New York, and others of Derby, and the banking business was again established. By the terms of the charter a capital of \$200,000 was authorized, the bank being permitted to begin business when a certain part was paid in. The Fulton Bank of New York was made the place for the redemption of the notes of issue, and the impression was conveyed that the two institutions were in a measure connected. This had the effect of inspiring confidence, which was farther increased by the selection of John L. Tomlinson as president of the bank and Edward Crofts as cashier. Both were citizens of worth, highly esteemed by those who knew them. A large sum of money was deposited with the Fulton Bank, and the notes of the Derby Bank were issued to the extent of the authorized capital and widely circulated at home and abroad. Having done this the managers withdrew their deposit in the New York bank and devoted it to their private uses, the public all the time believing that the bank was upon a thoroughly sound financial basis. As a natural consequence the failure of the Derby Bank soon followed amidst the most intense excitement, causing in more than one instance financial distress. The president was summoned before the general assembly in 1825 to explain his connection with the affair, when, although he could not make a clear statement, it did not appear that he had profitted by their vicious schemes, but had been duped by the wily New Yorkers. But the assembly promptly revoked the charter of the bank.

For many years the feeling against those connected with the bank was most intense at home, and abroad a stigma attached which reflected against the good name of the town. There was also created a prejudice against banks at Derby, which awakened much opposition when application was made to the general assembly for that privilege. However, that body, in 1848, chartered the Manufacturers' Bank of Birmingham, with a capital stock of \$100,000 and with authority to increase the same to \$300,000. This bank was organized the same year, with Edward N. Shelton as president, James M. Lewis as cashier, and J. I. Howe, Lewis Downs, Fitch Smith, William Guthrie, Thomas Burlock, Edward Lewis, Sidney A. Downes and H. S. Nichols as directors. Nearly all of the foregoing were active manufacturers, and as the bank proved a great convenience in their business, it became necessary in 1851 to increase the capital stock to the full amount authorized. This was paid in the course of the next two years, and the capital has since remained \$300,000. In 1853 the cashier, James M. Lewis, left to become the president of a bank in New York city, and Joseph Arnold, of the Meriden Bank, became the cashier, most acceptably filling that position until his death in January, 1884. At that time the present cashier, Charles E. Clark, was elected. From 1866 up to that period he was the teller of the bank, a position now filled by Edwin T. Swift. Another old employe of the bank is William T. Browne, the book-keeper since 1854. The bank has had but one

president, Edward N. Shelton being the only one who was elected to that office.

In 1865 the bank was reorganized under the national banking laws as the Birmingham National Bank, the capital and officers remaining the same as those of the old bank. The first place of business was in a small room over the Shelton Tack Factory, but in 1850 a brick banking house was built on Main street opposite the old steel works. This was abandoned in 1857, on account of the low nature of the ground, and the present bank, on the corner of Main and Caroline, occupied. It is substantial and has been made very attractive.

The affairs of the bank have been most successfully conducted, there being in the fall of 1890 a surplus of \$150,000, with undivided profits amounting to \$60,000. The deposits are about \$300,000. The present board of directors is composed of E. N. Shelton, D. W. Plumb, Merritt Clark, William E. Downes, Charles H. Nettleton, C. E. Clark, C. H. Alling, William C. Atwater and H. F. Wanning.

The Derby Savings Bank was chartered in May, 1846, the corporators named being John I. Howe, Donald Judson, Thomas Burlock, David W. Plumb, George W. Shelton, Fitch Smith, David Bassett, George Kellogg, Thomas Wallace, Samuel French, George Blakeman, S. M. Colburn, Henry Atwater, S. N. Summers, Isaac J. Gilbert, Edward Lewis, Sheldon Bassett, Henry Hubbard, Sheldon Smith, Jr., John W. Davis and Sidney A. Downes, all of whom were prominent and active business men of that period.

Doctor John I. Howe was chosen president, Edward N. Shelton, vice-president, and Joseph P. Canfield, secretary. The bank at once entered upon a career of prosperity, having at the end of 16 years, when Mr. Canfield resigned, deposits amounting to \$187,103.50, with a surplus fund of \$5,337. In 1862 Thaddeus G. Birdseye became the secretary, and successfully carried out a policy which placed the bank amongst the foremost savings institutions in New England. So much money was offered that the deposits were limited as to amounts, and later the depositors were confined to wage earners. For many years the deposits exceeded a million of dollars, upon which a dividend of 5 per cent. has been paid. In October, 1890, the deposits amounted to \$1,774,521.96, and there was a fixed surplus of \$60,000. The business of the bank being conducted on a basis of regarding the securities at their *par* instead of their *market* values, the surplus does not appear as large as it really is, many securities commanding larger premiums. At this time the depositors numbered 5,125. The place of business is in the banking house of the Birmingham National Bank.

In 1880, upon the death of Thaddeus G. Birdseye, he was succeeded in the office of secretary by his son, Thomas S. Birdseye, who has since so served. Doctor Howe was succeeded as president by Joseph Arnold, and since January, 1884, William E. Downes has been the president. His associate directors in 1890 were David Torrance, vice-



president; E. N. Shelton, Clark N. Rogers, Charles H. Nettleton, Henry A. Nettleton, George W. Beardsley, Benjamin Nichols and George B. Clark.

The *Derby Journal* was the first newspaper published in the town. It was started in December, 1846, by Thomas M. Newson and John B. Hotchkiss, two young newspaper men from New Haven. The former was the editor, and, being talented and energetic, succeeded in making a live paper. In the course of ten years he attempted a daily paper, which failed on account of the sparseness of the population at that period. Later he sold out his interest and removed to Minneapolis, Minn., where he became the successful proprietor of an illustrated magazine. A number of changes now took place, and the name was changed to the *Valley Messenger* and still later to the *Derby Transcript*. In 1868 the printing establishment passed to William T. Bacon, with whom his son, Daniel H., and others were associated as the Derby Printing Company, an unchartered body, but which was incorporated by the legislature in February, 1889. Of this company Daniel H. Bacon was the head, and although the organization is no longer kept up he retains control of the printing house, which is a well equipped establishment.

December 1st, 1888, a daily edition of the *Transcript* was begun, with D. H. Bacon as the editor. In that position he was succeeded in April, 1889, by Henry I. Hazeltine, who served a little more than a year. On the 3d of March, 1890, the daily and weekly *Transcript* were sold to Charles E. Meservey, of Rockland, Maine, who has since successfully conducted them. Both editions are growing in popularity and patronage—a support which is well merited.

The Derby post office was one of the first established in the county—April 1st, 1798—and Joel Atwater was appointed the postmaster. A wide area of country was supplied, but the business of the office, owing to the high rates of postage, was small. The subsequent appointees of the old Derby office were the following: Samuel J. Andrews, 1790; Russell Hitchcock, 1816; Thomas Durham, 1828; Russell Hitchcock, 1832; Robert Gates, 1833; Henry Whitney, 1849; Robert Gates, Jr., 1853; Henry Atwater, 1853; Thomas Shelton, 1854; Thaddeus G. Birdseye,\* 1860; Robert C. Narramore, 1861; Ezra Sprague, 1874.

On the 9th of June, 1876, the name of the office was changed from Derby to Birmingham, and Ezra Sprague was reappointed as the first postmaster. He held the office until 1880, when William J. Clark was appointed, and he in turn was succeeded in 1888 by Theodore S. Bassett. Since 1885 the deputy postmaster has been William L. Brown. In May, 1869, the post office was placed in a building on the raceway, on the north side of Main street, in Birmingham, where it remained until 1885, when the present fine office in the A. H. & C. B. Alling building, on West Main street, was occupied. This was handsomely

\* He was the first presidential appointee.

fitted up for that purpose. On the 1st of July, 1887, the free carrier system went into effect at this office, extending to Birmingham, old Derby and Shelton villages, the revived Derby office, held by A. F. Sherwood, now being discontinued. Starting with four carriers, the number has been increased to five, two of whom are mounted. Collections are made from 36 street boxes. The business of the office increases at the rate of about \$500 per year, amounting in 1890 to about \$14,000.

Derby has had many professional men, who can here be only briefly noted. Doctor John Hull was the first physician. He came in 1674 and remained until 1689, when he removed to Wallingford. While in Derby he was active in the affairs of the town, and built the first mill. Doctor John Durand was here next, 30 or more years. He lived at "Uptown." His son, Noah, was also a physician a short time. Contemporary with the former was Doctor Josiah Baldwin, who was encouraged by the town, in 1696, to locate in Derby. To eke out his living the town voted, in 1703, to pay him for beating the public drum, when the meetings were to be warned. He remained in practice several scores of years. Doctor Silas Baldwin was, later, several years in practice in Derby. In this period, about 1712, Doctor James Pierson was also in Derby a short time, but removed to Wethersfield.

Doctor Samuel Canfield, a native of the town, was the physician from about 1750 until his death in 1766. His brother, Doctor Josiah, had just begun practicing, and continued several years. At the same time Doctor Leverett Hubbard was here. Probably Doctor Edward Crafts was the next settled physician in this part of Derby. He came about the time of the revolution and continued until his death in March, 1821, aged 69 years. His son, Doctor Pearl, began practice sometime about 1812, and may have continued a dozen years, dying young. Both lived in the village of Derby. In the same locality and about the same time Doctor Liberty Kimberley was in practice. In the northern part of Derby (the present town of Seymour) Doctor Samuel Sanford was located as the first physician, and after his death Doctor Abiram Stoddard located there in 1804. He died in 1855. He was a popular doctor, although eccentric, and his practice extended to what is now Derby.

Before the death of Doctor Pearl Crafts, a Doctor Isaac Jennings located here in 1820, and continued until 1837, when he sold his office to Doctor Ambrose Beardsley. Two years later he removed to Oberlin, Ohio. He was highly educated and had at first a large practice, but after a time discarded the use of medicine and adopted the "theory of the remedial powers of nature as more curative in diseased action than pills or powders." This theory he promulgated and defended in several able books. But the reforms he advocated were not popular, and he failed to obtain the pecuniary benefits to which he was entitled by his talents. He died in Ohio, in 1874, at the ripe age of 85 years.

Doctor A. Beardsley's practice was one of the longest continued in the town, extending from the time of his settlement in 1837, until his death, November 1st, 1884, aged about 73 years. Besides being a skillful practitioner he was an orator of reputation and a popular writer. His "History of Derby" is a work of much merit, from which much of the data in this sketch have been gleaned.

Among many other physicians who practiced in Derby, at the time when it was first developed by manufacturing, were Doctor Josiah H. Whiting, a few years after 1845, when he removed to New Haven; and Doctor S. P. Church was in practice from 1850 to 1857, when he removed to Poughkeepsie, N. Y. About the same time Doctor A. H. Carrington located in town, but remained only a few years. In 1857 Doctor W. B. De Forest became one of Derby's physicians, but after three years removed to New Haven. A little earlier Doctor Paul Skiff came, but after a few years' practice removed to the same city. Doctor Charles Case came about 1858, and after several years' practice he removed to Detroit. Two years later, in 1860, Doctor Stephen Hill located to practice, but soon removed.

Doctor H. Bowen, a homeopathic physician, was in Derby 1861-2; Doctor D. S. Lessey located in Derby in 1873, and died the following year. In 1874 Doctor S. C. Sanger located as a physician, and died in 1876. Near this time Doctor Frederick Hall was here as a physician.

Since 1853 Doctor Charles H. Pinney has been a practitioner in Derby, while his son, Royal W., has but recently located here in the same profession, both residing in Derby village. Since the civil war, in which he served, Doctor A. W. Phillips\* has been a successful homeopathic physician at Birmingham; and not long after, in 1869, Doctor G. A. Shelton began an extensive practice in Shelton, which extends to Derby. Later Doctor Thomas B. Jewett became associated with Doctor A. Beardsley.

Doctor George L. Beardsley has been one of Birmingham's foremost physicians since 1874, having as contemporaries in later and more recent years Doctor William S. Randall, Doctor Thomas J. O'Sullivan and Doctor C. T. Baldwin.

Jesse Beach was probably the first lawyer in the town, living here a dozen years after 1792. In the same period came Josiah Dudley, as the first regularly educated attorney. In the time of Derby's first commercial prosperity he had an extensive practice, but as he suffered from ill health it was not long continued. John L. Tomlinson, a native of the town, was a student in his office, and followed as the next lawyer. He was an able man, but a poor advocate at the bar. Becoming the president of the old Derby Bank, he was unwittingly duped by his associate officers in New York, who basely manipulated the affairs of the bank, and his reputation suffered in consequence. In 1832 he left the town, and as a Congregational minister in the West his work was

\* See Biographical Sketch.

crowned with success. Ira L. Ufford studied law with Tomlinson, and after being admitted to the bar, practiced in Derby. In 1836 he opened an office in Birmingham, and was the first resident attorney in the place. In 1845 William E. Downes graduated from the law department of Yale College and practiced law until 1863, since which time he has been devoted to other pursuits in Birmingham and Derby.

The oldest attorney in the town is Colonel William B. Wooster. Extended biographical sketches of the members of the law firm of Wooster, Williams & Gager and of Judge David Torrance are given in Chapter X., this volume.

Charles Lindley was an attorney at Birmingham from 1844 until his removal to California, in 1849. Daniel E. McMabon and William S. Downes have been attorneys in Derby since 1879. The former practiced first at Ansonia, but for the past year has been at Birmingham; the latter studied with Samuel M. Gardner, who had an office at Birmingham in that period. Since being admitted, in June, 1879, he has practiced in Birmingham. Andrew J. Ewen has been here since his admission to the New Haven County Bar, June 24th, 1885. Other attorneys at Birmingham in 1890 were Seabury B. Platt, C. W. Shelton, and C. B. Whitcomb in Derby. A number of other attorneys were in the town for short periods, and some of the citizens of Derby became distinguished attorneys elsewhere.

BIRMINGHAM BOROUGH was incorporated by an act of the general assembly, which was ratified by the voters of the village June 30th, 1851. The following were then chosen as the first officers: Warden, Thomas Wallace; burgesses, John I. Howe, Edward N. Shelton, George Kellogg, Charles Atwood, S. N. Summers; clerk, Augustus Tomlinson.

Edward N. Shelton, George W. Shelton, Horatio N. Hawkins and Fitch Smith were appointed to draft the by-laws for the new corporation.

Since the first set of officers the following have been in service as wardens: 1852, Thomas Wallace; 1853-5, Abraham Hawkins; 1856, John I. Howe; 1857-9, Henry Atwater; 1860-2, R. M. Bassett; 1863, L. L. Loomer; 1864, Thomas Elmes; 1865, William Hawkins; 1866, S. Bassett; 1867-71, Henry Whipple; 1872-80, Ambrose Beardsley; 1881, R. M. Bassett; 1882-5, Henry Whipple; 1886, Patrick McManus; 1887-8, George S. Arnold; 1889, Patrick McManus; 1890, Sheldon H. Bassett. The clerks have been: 1852-3, A. Tomlinson; 1854-5, H. A. Nettleton; 1856-69, J. H. Barlow; 1870-1, John C. Reilley; 1872, John W. Storrs; 1873-6, John C. Reilley; 1877, H. A. Nettleton; 1878-81, John C. Reilley; 1882, D. L. Brinsmade; 1883-5, William Sidney Downes; 1886, Joseph W. Fitzpatrick; 1887-8, C. E. Bunnell; 1889-90, Andrew J. Ewen.

The area of the borough of Birmingham, as incorporated, was small and the corporate powers limited. Hence it has been found necessary, in keeping pace with the rapidly increasing population,

that the charter should be several times amended in order that the improvements of a well ordered community might be secured. It was amended in 1879, again in 1885, and still further in recent years. In 1880 systematic grades for the streets were established and their more substantial improvement begun. The construction of sewers was also begun with good results, and both have been advantageously continued. About \$25,000 was thus expended in the next six years. In 1887 the outlay upon the streets was much greater, on account of the opening of new streets and building street railways and improvements being made. The location of the principal part of the borough is unfavorable to the easy care of the streets, as many are readily affected by heavy rains. The need of more substantial paving being urgent, the use of Belgian blocks was begun in 1889, with the hope of securing permanent results. In this manner Main street from the Housatonic railroad to Sugar street has been paved. In late years the sidewalks have also been greatly improved, many miles of fine concrete walks being constructed all over the borough.

The improvement of the public park or green received a great deal of attention in 1883, and since that time, each year, until it has become one of the most attractive spots in the place.

Facing the green, at the southwest corner, is the handsome Borough Building, an edifice which is in every way a fit exponent of the enterprise and public spirit of this community. The matter of building was determined April 7th, 1887, and George S. Arnold, Thomas J. O'Sullivan and Almon B. Glover were appointed a committee to carry out the project. A suitable lot was bought for \$6,000, on which the edifice was built, after plans prepared by H. E. Ficken, of New York. It is an imposing brick structure with accommodations for the hook and ladder company, police station house, warden's office, court room, offices for judge of probate and town clerk, and contains also a fine public hall, seating 1,000 people. The entire cost was about \$45,000. The Beardsley Building Company was the contractor. The offices of the building were occupied January, 1889. The hall, which received the name of the "Sterling Opera House," was opened April 2d, 1889, when the domestic drama, "Drifting Apart," was produced before 900 people. It has since become a popular place of amusement, and the building itself proves a profitable investment.

About the same time the Borough Building was being erected, the telegraph fire alarm system was established in Birmingham, at a cost of more than \$3,500. The large fire bell was placed in a tower, on an elevation in the northwestern part of the village, but its removal to a belfry, on the Borough Building, is contemplated. There are about a dozen alarm boxes connected with the system, which has proven to be effective and helpful.

The Birmingham Fire Department embraces three companies. One of these, Storm No. 2, was formed in 1854, becoming a chartered

body on the 19th of July that year. It then had 60 members. Additional apparatus was purchased in 1855. The R. M. Bassett Hook & Ladder Company was formed several years later. In 1878, after the companies had been reorganized, on account of the extended system of water works, Hotchkiss Hose, No. 1, had 31 members; Storm, No. 2, 35 members, and the R. M. Bassett Hook & Ladder Company, 22 members. In equipments Storm, No. 2, had new apparatus, part of which was secured by trading off the old engine, which had practically been out of service for 20 years. In 1889 these three companies had an aggregate membership of more than 100 men. Each company had comfortable quarters, some being attractive in their arrangements. The engine house of Storm, No. 2, was remodelled in 1888, and the property is reported worth \$3,000. The Hotchkiss property is valued at \$1,500.

The entire real estate of the borough is valued at \$55,000. The indebtedness is somewhat larger, but the affairs of the borough are in a very satisfactory condition. Many substantial benefits have been derived since the village has been incorporated, Birmingham having become one of the most desirable places of residence in this part of the state.

The Birmingham Water Company, through the efforts of Colonel William B. Wooster and William E. Downes, was incorporated in 1859, and organized the following year. A reservoir was constructed the same year on the old Holbrook farm, on Sentinel or Derby hill, about a mile distant from the central part of Birmingham. The original plant has been much improved, an additional reservoir being constructed, and in 1890 the entire storage capacity was 150,000,000 gallons. The flow is by gravity, and the elevation being nearly 200 feet, a pressure of 91 pounds to the square inch is afforded at the corner of Main and Elizabeth streets. There are eight miles of street mains, and 63 fire hydrants. The water is of superior quality and ample for all needs. The original capital of the company has been much increased, being \$100,000 in 1890. The officers of the company were: William B. Wooster, president; David Torrance, secretary, and Charles H. Nettleton, treasurer and superintendent. In the latter capacity the last-named has served since 1874.

An earlier system of water works, for use in case of fires, consisted of a small reservoir on Caroline street, into which water was pumped by means of a force pump at the grist mill of Fitch Smith, on the canal, near Main street. This was abandoned when the present system came into use.

The Derby Gas Company was chartered in 1860, but no organization was effected until 1871. Gas works were then established in Shelton, on a lot having tide water privileges, permitting the receipt of coal by boat. The public use of gas began the following year and has since been extended through the villages of Shelton, Birmingham,

Derby and Ansonia. In 1890 there were about 18 miles of mains. The works have been enlarged to meet the demands upon them, the present capacity being 150,000 cubic feet of gas, which is stored in two gasometers.

In 1885 the company added electricity as an illuminating agent, using the Thomson-Houston system. Its use soon became quite general and has continued to increase. The streets of the village were first lighted by this means in January, 1886, and in October, 1890, 86 arc lights were in use. The plant in Shelton had become too small, and a new one at the head of Sugar street, in Birmingham, was nearly ready for occupancy. The power, to be drawn from the Housatonic dam, will be of 400 horse power capacity, and will be the first used on the Birmingham side from that source. The machinery in use is capacitated to illuminate 190 arc and 600 incandescent lights, and will be improved to adapt it to the new plant, which will be one of the most extensive in the county.

The capital of the company is \$180,000. William B. Wooster is the president, and Charles H. Nettleton the secretary and treasurer. All the principal streets of the four villages are well lighted.

The Derby Street Railway Company is the outgrowth of several corporations formed to construct and operate horse street railways in the towns of Derby and Ansonia. The oldest of these was the Birmingham & Ansonia Horse Railroad Company, incorporated in 1876, with an authorized capital of \$25,000. But the company was not organized until some years later, when it constructed a line from the Derby depot to Ansonia, *via* Main and Elizabeth streets and Atwater avenue, in Birmingham, through West Ansonia, across the upper bridge, in Ansonia, and over the principal parts of Main street, in that village. A part of this road was not built until the fall of 1887, and the company continued operations about two years from that time. It had its stables in West Ansonia, and six cars were run. It operated under discouraging circumstances, but had an encouraging patronage. The rolling stock has been shipped to other points, and most of the track material passed into the hands of its competitor. In 1890 its affairs were in the hands of a receiver. The younger corporation, the Derby Horse Railway Company, was incorporated in 1885, with a capital stock of \$50,000. It was organized early in 1887, with John B. Wallace as president, William J. Clark, secretary and treasurer. The following year a new set of officers was chosen, namely: President, H. Holton Wood; vice-president, Charles F. Bliss; secretary, George O. Schneller; treasurer, Charles E. Clark. These officers managed the affairs of the company in 1890, at which time the road was accounted one of the most successful of the kind in the country.

By this company the work of construction was commenced in May, 1887, the line first extending from State street, in Ansonia, *via* Main street and Derby avenue to Derby Landing, and thence to Birming-

ham *via* Main street to Peck's Corner. The entire length was a little more than three and a half miles. Before the road was equipped it was determined to employ electricity as the motive power, and the charter was modified to permit the use of that agent. Another principal feature was to operate the road mainly for freight purposes, in connection with a line of boats plying from Derby Landing. For this purpose the company equipped its road with five freight cars, which were operated by the Van Depoel system, the electric plant being located at Derby Docks. Passengers were also carried, but for more than a year the transportation of freight from Ansonia to tidewater formed the principal business of the company. The first electric car was run April 30th, 1888, and the following day operations were begun on a regular schedule. On the first of October, 1889, the steamboat company running in connection with this road went out of service, when the freight department was discontinued, and since that time the passenger traffic has almost exclusively engaged the attention of the company. In October, 1890, the number of passengers carried averaged 1,500 per day.

In November, 1889, the equipment of the road was changed to conform to the system of the Thomson-Houston Company, a single trolley being used. The company is thus enabled to cover the distance between the termini in Ansonia and Birmingham—more than three miles—in less than 20 minutes. There are in use five motor trucks, each being supplied with two ten horse power motors adjusted to both axles of the car. The carrying capacity of each car is from 50 to 80 passengers. The plant at Derby Landing is well equipped and a repair shop is maintained at Ansonia. Eighteen men are employed and B. W. Porter has been the superintendent of the company since its organization.

The Derby Driving Park was opened in October, 1886. It has a fine location on the meadows about midway between Ansonia and Birmingham and is much patronized. The park was improved and is controlled by the Derby Agricultural and Driving Company, which was incorporated in May, 1886, with a capital of \$7,000. Of this body R. O. Gates is the president.

To better promote the prosperity of Birmingham, Ansonia, Derby and Shelton, a board of trade for these villages was organized in November, 1889, which had the following officers: President, H. Holton Wood; first vice-president, Charles H. Nettleton; second vice-president, Royal M. Bassett; secretary, F. W. Simmons; treasurer, Charles E. Clark. Efforts are being made to give the advantages of the above places a proper representation, so as to induce their further and speedy development.

Among the many secret and social societies organized in the town of Derby, none is more important, by reason of its age and widely extended influence, than King Hiram Lodge, No. 12, F. & A. M. It



was instituted under a charter granted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, January 3d, 1783, upon the petition of the following: Charles Whittlesey, Elijah Humphreys, Henry Whitney, Benajah Strong, Henry Tomlinson, Jr., Ebenezer Gracey, James Manville, Charles Pond, Richard Mansfield, Jr., Micha Poole, John Lawrence, David Lawrence, David Sackett, Reuben Lamb, Thomas Horsey, John Smith, Nathan Davis, John Harpin, William Grinnell, Ebenezer Keeney, Jonas Green, John Fowler, Joseph Hull, Abijah Hyde, William Nott, Bowers Washburn.

When the Lodge was formally organized at Derby Narrows, March 11th, 1783, Charles Whittlesey was chosen the master. The Lodge met at the house of Ebenezer Gracey. Under the Massachusetts charter the meetings were held until May 12th, 1792, when the Lodge passed under the jurisdiction of the Connecticut State Lodge. In 1793 the meetings were transferred to the public house of Joseph Wheeler, also a member, but in March, 1796, it was voted that £100 be applied to the building of a hall, 20 by 42 feet, one story of which should be a Lodge room, the other to be used for school purposes. The following year the corner stone was laid, on the northeast corner of the foundation walls, and the hall was dedicated June 26th, 1797. After the 15th of July, 1797, the regular meetings of the Lodge were held in this hall until 1827, when the meetings were divided and were held in this hall and Humphreysville, where many of the members resided. In 1841 the Lodge's interest in the hall was sold to the school district, and not long thereafter the building was demolished. But the Masons of Derby have preserved the inscribed corner stone and it is still shown as a relic.

After 1829 King Hiram Lodge held its meetings mainly at Humphreysville, and for several years its membership increased. But the Lodge did not escape the virulent abuse and misrepresentation which attended the anti-Masonic agitation in the early part of the thirties, which, however, did not swerve it from its faith. Firmly believing in their order, the Lodge signed, with great unanimity, on the 11th of June, 1832, the declaration of Masonic principles as promulgated by the Grand Lodge of the state. This paper bore the names of the following: Newell Johnson, James S. Greene, Ebenezer Fisher, Josiah Nettleton, Hiram Upson, Anthony H. Stoddard, Samuel French, Noah Kelsey, W. H. Fowler, Nehemiah Bristol, Bennett Lum, James Smith, Sheldon Canfield, Edmund Leavenworth, Orville C. Morse, C. D. Frisbie, David M. Nettleton, Moody M. Brown, John C. Humphreys, William Lewis, John S. Moshier, Henry La Forge, David Hitchcock, Frederick Bradley, Elias Tibballs, Samuel Daniels, Andrew French, Isaac Dickerson, Nathan B. Church, Russell Hitchcock, Abijah Wilcoxson, George Blakeman, Henry Wooster, John Martin, Oliver H. Stoddard, J. H. De Forest, Isaac White, John L. Daniels, J. M. G. Corey, David Sanford, Samuel B. Hine, Samuel W. Dickinson, Lemah Chatfield,

Robert Gates, Stephen Jewett, Rivinton Martin, Chester Jones, Josiah Merrick, Ephraim Peck, William Gurney, Jeremiah French, Levi Hull, Abram Smith, Gipson Lum, Joseph Connor, Jason Bassett.

Only one of these signers was living at the time of this writing, viz.: George Blakeman, who survived at an extreme old age. While this address had the effect of assuring the community that Masonry was not antagonistic to the civil and the religious interests of the country, there were not, for many years, any noteworthy additions to the membership and but slow progress was made. From 1836 until 1843 the meetings were held at Humphreysville, in what was known as Masonic Hall, owned by E. Gilbert, and thereafter, for several years, the Lodge met in various places. In 1848 the Lodge was moved to Birmingham, but the meetings were soon after alternately held at Ansonia, so continuing until March 2d, 1853, when it was voted to hold all meetings at Birmingham, in Odd Fellows Hall.

The following year the Lodge was rent by contention, in consequence of the imprudent use of the black-ball when voting on the application of candidates for Masonic privileges, which resulted in the arrest of the charter September 30th, 1854. It was restored in May, 1857, and since that time the life of the Lodge has been peaceful and harmonious. But meantime a movement for a Masonic Lodge had been made, which resulted in the establishment June 15th, 1855, of Friendship Lodge, No. 81, U. D. Of this body Robert C. Narramore was the master; Henry Whipple, senior warden; Warren S. Waterbury, junior warden; and William Whitney, secretary. In all 57 communications were held, and the degrees of Masonry were conferred upon 25 persons, when its meetings were suspended on account of the refusal of the Grand Lodge to fully charter it. Although contributing so largely to the formation of other Lodges within its original jurisdiction, King Hiram has had an aggregate membership of more than 800, numbering among those who attended its communications men in every avocation of life, its members being representative citizens of an intelligent community.

In 1802 the Lodge devoted \$100 toward the formation of a library, which had, in 1812, 96 volumes of historical and standard books. In 1878 the Lodge united with the Odd Fellows in furnishing a new hall in the Tower Block, expending \$500 for that purpose. This was swept away by fire January 12th, 1879, in which most of the property of the Lodge was destroyed. A new room was secured the same year, which has afforded an attractive home for the order, and the Lodge has there proportionately prospered.

On the 5th of January, 1883, the Lodge celebrated its first centennial, on which occasion an exhaustive historical discourse was delivered by John H. Barlow, from whose account this sketch has been compiled.

The masters of the Lodge from the time of institution to the present have been the following: 1783, Charles Whittlesey; 1784-5, John

Fowler; 1786\*, Webb Tomlinson; 1792, Elisha Sanford; 1793-8, Samuel B. Marshall; 1799-1800, Sheldon Curtiss; 1801-2, Francis French; 1803, Josiah Dudley; 1804, Abijah Wilcoxson; 1805, Francis French; 1806-8, Sheldon Curtiss; 1809, Jesse Beach; 1810, Francis French; 1811-14, Robert Gates; 1815, Abijah Wilcoxson; 1816, Francis French; 1817, John L. Tomlinson; 1818, Jeremiah French; 1819, Abijah Wilcoxson; 1820, Pearl Crafts; 1821-4, Jeremiah French; 1825-6, Harvey Downs; 1827, George Blakeman; 1828, Titus C. Pratt; 1829-31, William Lum; 1832, Newell Johnson; 1833, William Lum; 1834, Hiram Upson; 1835-7, John L. Daniels; 1838-9, Hiram Upson; 1840-3, John L. Daniels; 1844, Ebenezer Fisher; 1845-7, John L. Daniels; 1848, Ebenezer Fisher; 1849, Samuel French; 1850-1, Foster P. Abbott; 1852-3, John W. Flowers; 1854-6, Hiram W. Hubbard; 1857-8, Robert C. Narramore; 1859, Henry Whipple; 1860, George A. Peck; 1861-2, Henry Whipple; 1863, Charles Rood; 1864, Nathan C. Treat; 1865-6, John H. Barlow; 1867, David W. Boyd; 1868, Hyland W. Granger; 1869-72, Robert C. Narramore; 1873, Charles A. Sprague; 1874, Albert F. Sherwood; 1875, Edward M. Platt; 1876, Clark N. Rogers; 1877, Arthur R. Blakeslee; 1878, Henry N. Beardsley; 1879-80, Clark N. Rogers; 1881, Leonard Jacobs; 1882, William T. Gillett; 1883, H. Stacy Whipple; 1884-5, Fred V. Bowman; 1886-7, Lucius P. French; 1888, Andrew E. Burke; 1889, J. Frank Terew; 1890, Charles H. Beecher.

The first treasurer of the Lodge was Henry Whitney. Ithiel Keeney served about a dozen years in the same office after 1800. Ransom Tomlinson was the treasurer a number of years after 1839, and in 1861 William M. Hull was elected to that office, which he has since filled.

The first secretary of the Lodge was Richard Mansfield, Jr., who served several years; in the same office was Edward C. Remer, six successive years after 1858; and since 1866 John H. Barlow has most efficiently filled that office.

Solomon Chapter, No. 3, R. A. M., was instituted at Derby July 16th, 1795, under a warrant issued by Washington Chapter of New York city. The members present at the first meeting were: Jesse Beach, H. P.; John Beers, K.; Reverend Edward Blakeslee, the S.; Pierre Brandin, the R. A. C.; Francis French, the Z.; and Abel Hall, Charles Munson, William Morris, Benjamin Stiles. Other members who belonged prior to 1800 were the following:

Abel Allis, James Beard, Reverend Ashbel Baldwin, Henry Beardslee, David Burrell, Abijah Bradley, Roswell Beardslee, David Beard, Levi Beardslee, Curtiss Sheldon, Jonathan Courzon, Doctor Edward Crafts, Medad Candee, Levi Candee, Watrous Clark, Henry Cooleigh, Moses Candee, Josiah Dudley, David C. De Forest, Joseph French, James Flagg, Joseph Fabrique, Francis Forgeue, Ebenezer Gracey,

\* No record from 1787 to 1792.

Nathaniel Gage, Sheldon Gracey, Uriah M. Gregory, Reverend Alexander V. Griswold, Daniel Holbrook, Nathaniel Holbrook, Daniel Holbrook, Jr., Benjamin Hall, William Herron, Joseph Hull, Sylvester Higby, Lemuel Judson, Christopher Johnson, Leverett Judd, Isaac Judson, Chester Jones, Samuel Judd, Jasper D. Jones, Liberty Kimberly, Reuben Lum, Ezra Lewis, Edward Leavenworth, William Leavenworth, Samuel R. Marshall, Josiah Masters, James Masters, William McNeal, Giles Mardenborough, John Nobles, Silas Nichols, Roger Perkins, Josiah Prindle, Stephen Porter, Lemuel Porter, Hezekiah Sperry, Samuel Sanford, James Sperry, James Smith, Daniel Tomlinson, Henry Tomlinson, Reverend Ambrose Todd, Joseph Wheeler, Abijah Wilcoxson, Henry Whitney.

Not all of these lived in Derby, but many were residents of Milford, Waterbury, Woodbury and other nearby towns, but in every community were among the leading citizens. There has always been a large membership, the number belonging in 1890 being 130.

The following have been the high priests of the Chapter, being elected in the order of their names, some serving a number of terms: Jesse Beach, Reverend Edward Blakeslee, Daniel Holbrook, Francis French, Reverend Menzies Rayner, D. B. Newton, Jeremiah French, Merritt Bradley, J. W. Flowers, H. W. Hubbard, J. A. Bunnell, Ransom Matthews, Henry Whipple, E. C. Remer, John H. Barlow, Arthur R. Blakeslee, A. F. Sherwood, Henry Bradley, Henry N. Beardsley, E. M. Platt, C. A. Sprague, George C. Bedient, Leonard Jacobs, John L. Beardsley, Frank W. Beardsley. The secretary since 1869 has been Arthur R. Blakeslee.

Union Council, No. 27, R. & S. M., was instituted January 22d, 1860, with the following members: Henry Atwater, George Baird, John C. Barlow, Charles L. Bassett, George Blakeman, Willett Bradley, Joseph A. Bunnell, John Carroll, George Hall, William M. Hull, William W. Lee, John Lindley, Edward C. Remer, Truman B. Smith, Martin Warner, Henry Whipple, John D. Wymbs. The aggregate membership has been very large for a place the size of Birmingham, where the stated assembly of the Council is held, 118 persons belonging in October, 1890. Arthur B. Blakeslee, John H. Barlow and Frank G. Bassett, of this Council, have served as grand masters of the Grand Council of the state.

The Odd Fellows have several well established organizations in Derby, numbering hundreds of members and having a wide influence. The oldest body is Ousatonic Lodge, No. 6, which was instituted October 13th, 1841, under a dispensation granted to five persons: Sheldon Bassett, Robert Gates, Peter Phelps, Richard Evans and Robert R. Wood. The meeting was held in a small room at Derby Narrows, and but eight persons were at that time initiated. As the order was popular the Lodge had, in the course of a dozen years, 168 members and a benefit fund of \$2,000. Then came a season of apathy and declining

interest, which affected all the Odd Fellow Lodges in the state, reducing the number from 69 to 20, and the membership from 5,000 to about 1,600. Only 68 of the members of the Ousatonic Lodge remained faithful to the principles of the order, but these steadfastly persevered until the Lodge was again revived and was placed on a better footing than before. In this condition it was when the great fire of January 12th, 1879, destroyed its Lodge room and most of the property, including a library of 600 choice books. The same year a more elegant hall was provided, and since that time the Lodge has had renewed prosperity. A large library for the free use of the members has been furnished, and the surplus fund exceeds \$5,000. In the history of the Lodge about \$28,000 has been disbursed for charitable purposes. More than 500 persons have been members of the Lodge, the number belonging in 1890 exceeding two hundred. Of the entire membership 78 have presided over the meetings of the Lodge, the first noble grand being Sheldon Bassett. Other pioneer presiding officers were Robert Gates, Edward T. Stanley, Robert R. Wood, Sidney Alling, Simon Tomlinson, Lewis Hotchkiss, Eli Burritt, Horatio N. Hawkins, William N. Priestley, George Bristol, Charles Smith, Matthew Donnelly, Nelson M. Beach, Abijah Hawkins, L. R. Sperry, Edward Bradley, John Lindley, Chipman S. Jackson, Charles C. Jackson, John Wallace, William B. Ashley, William Baldwin, Charles B. Johnson and Philo Curtiss, all prior to 1850.

Excelsior Encampment, No. 18, was instituted September 25th, 1850, its first officers being: C. P., Sheldon Bassett; H. P., John Wallace; S. W., Charles C. Jackson; scribe, Henry Atwater; treasurer, Thomas Elmes. The chief patriarchs prior to the war were: Sheldon Bassett, R. R. Wood, Matthew Donnelly, Hiram W. Hubbard, David R. Cook, Nathaniel Jones, H. N. Sherman, Wales Terrill, William S. Downes, James H. Beatty, J. H. Barlow, Charles C. Jackson, Chipman S. Jackson, David W. Boyd, H. M. Jackson, Charles L. Russell, William Baldwin, Eli B. Stevens, Hobart Sperry, William E. Hine, D. T. Johnson, Joseph A. Bunnell. J. H. Barlow has been the past scribe since January, 1863. He was also in 1864 the grand patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Connecticut, a position which was likewise filled by John Wallace in 1856, Charles C. Jackson in 1855, David M. Boyd in 1863 and Matthew Donnelly in 1875.

The Encampment suffered the same loss of property by the fire of January 12th, 1879, as Ousatonic Lodge, and as the records were burned no extended account can be given. Since that time the organization has grown to fine proportions and is in a prosperous condition.

Valley Lodge, No. 14, K. of P., was instituted March 4th, 1870, with about 30 charter members, a few only continuing until the fall of 1890, when there was reported an entire membership of 148. The Lodge has a good hall on Main street, Birmingham, and a beneficiary fund of \$13,000. In common with other Lodges, it lost its records in the great

fire of January 12th, 1879, when Odd Fellows' Hall was burned. Henry A. Warren has been the master of exchequer a number of years, and J. A. Fenwick the keeper of the records. Charles Buckingham, George E. Munson, Henry L. Smith and Otto Marshall are among the oldest members.

Endowment Rank, Section No. 163, K. of P., was instituted April 16th, 1878, of members of the above Lodge, and has held its meetings annually since that time. In 1890 its officers were: Charles Buckingham, president; George E. Munson, vice-president; C. B. Wooster, secretary and treasurer, and Doctor William S. Randall, medical examiner.

Gould Division, No. 9, Uniform Rank, K. of P., was formed in 1889, and in the course of a year had 32 members. The Division has become quite proficient, having a fine reputation among similar bodies. Its officers in 1890 were: S. R. captain, E. C. Johnson; S. R. lieutenant, James E. Sherwood; S. R. herald, John Young; S. R. recorder, W. W. Bemis; S. R. treasurer, C. B. Wooster; S. R. guard, Will. H. Fourtin; S. R. sentinel, F. I. De Forest.

In addition to the foregoing societies are a number of others connected with the minor orders, which are equally important in their respective spheres, among them being Derby Lodge, No. 2,302, Knights of Honor, which meets at Birmingham and is reported prosperous; Paugasset Council, No. 28, Knights of Columbus, meeting at the same place and having a liberal support from Irish citizens; Court Housatonic, No. 6,859, Ancient Order of Foresters, another successful beneficiary organization, which has its membership largely from citizens of foreign birth; Woodsworth Lodge, No. 2, United Workmen, instituted in 1880, which had, in October, 1890, 71 members; Arnold Lodge, No. 88, N. E. O. of P., is a prosperous beneficiary order; as is also Pootatuck Tribe, No. 8, I. O. of R. M., which has a large membership.

Among the temperance organizations Birmingham Division, No. 6, Sons of Temperance, holds a deserving place. There are also several temperance societies connected with the Catholic church, the Young Men's Temperance Association having a large membership, as has also the St. Mary's Roman Catholic Total Abstinence Society. Both have done good service for the cause to which they are devoted. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is more of a beneficiary body, its object being to raise and disburse charities to the poor.

Among the societies whose principal object is the cultivation of the social feelings, the Pequot Club is one of the oldest and most popular. It was established many years ago through the instrumentality of Doctor Thomas A. Dutton, and its membership is limited to 25 kindred spirits. Among the conspicuous features of the club are an annual hunt or feast at the seaside and a masquerade assembly, at which the members appear arrayed in Indian costume. The first sachem of this tribe or club was William C. Beecher; the present is Robert O.

Gates. The club room is handsomely fitted up and is centrally located at Birmingham.

The Nons Club, of Birmingham, was for a number of years a popular society, whose members were persons of literary tastes. Many of the best citizens belonged to it, and its intellectual entertainments were pleasant features of the social life of the village.

The Derby Choral Union indicates the object for which this society was organized, but interest in it abated after a useful existence.

Kellogg Post, No. 26, G. A. R., was instituted at Birmingham July 30th, 1868, with 64 charter members. David Torrance was the first post-commander. This position has also been held by the following: Daniel W. Boardman, William H. Farrell, Selah G. Blakeman, Sanford E. Chaffee, Lewis H. Monroe, David F. Chadeayne, William H. Thyther, Andrew Dean, Samuel Miller, George H. Croak, Freeland Brazie, L. P. French, O. F. Lathrop, O. W. Cornish, Thomas H. Gilbert and Ezra Sprague. The Post has suffered the loss of its records, which prevents a full account of its history. In October, 1890, there were 98 members, with L. P. French as the commander and Charles E. Hauxhurst as the adjutant. The Post aided largely in the building of the soldiers' monument, on the public green at Birmingham, and in a general way has promoted the interests of the survivors of the late war. Under its encouragement

Charles L. Russell Camp, No. 26, Sons of Veterans, was organized a few years ago at Birmingham and has succeeded in fully establishing itself among the numerous societies of the community. The latter organization is also prosperous and has a growing membership.

The Soldiers' Monument was completed in 1883. The matter of building a monument to the memory of the soldiers of the late civil war was agitated as early as 1875, by members of the G. A. R. and other patriotic citizens, and a committee was appointed to begin the work. In 1878 the base for such a monument was laid, near the center of the park at Birmingham, when, for want of means to carry on the work, it was allowed to rest several years. In 1883 the project was again taken up, and about \$3,000 was raised to carry it to completion. The base was removed to its present site, on the northeast corner of the park, and the contract for the bronze work awarded to M. J. Power, of New York. The local committee was composed of William B. Wooster, William E. Downes, R. M. Bassett, Charles E. Clark, S. E. Chaffee, George H. Peck, William Wilkinson, F. D. Jackson, William Ford, David Chadeayne and J. W. Storrs. The monument was completed and dedicated July 4th, 1883. It is composed of granite bases and die, with metal tablets and a bronze figure of an infantry soldier at rest surmounting the pile, the entire height being 21 feet. On the base are in large relief letters the names of Gettysburg, Newbern, Atlanta and Chancellorsville. On one of the metal tablets above is inscribed:

In  
 Memory of the  
 Men of Derby and Huntington  
 who fell  
 in the service of their Country  
 In the  
 War of the Rebellion,  
 1861-1865,  
 as  
 Defenders of Liberty and Nationality.

On the tablet on the reverse side:

Erected  
 by the  
 People of Derby and Huntington,  
 A. D. 1883,  
 In honor of all who fought  
 In the Service of their Country,  
 That the Government of the people  
 By the people and for the people  
 Should not perish from the Earth.

On the north and the south side tablets are the names of the honored soldiers; 29 killed in battle, 14 died of wounds, and 40 from other causes while in the service. Guarding the approaches to the monument are four pieces of artillery, which were donated by the government on the request of surviving Union soldiers of this locality. The monument is a most attractive object, and gives ample evidence of money wisely appropriated.



## CHAPTER X.

### THE TOWN OF DERBY (Concluded).

Educational Interests.—Early Religious Interests.—First Congregational Church in Derby.—Birmingham Congregational Church.—Young Men's Christian Association.—Episcopal Churches.—The Methodist Episcopal Denomination.—Union Chapels.—African M. E. Church.—Roman Catholic Church.—Cemeteries.—Biographical Sketches.

NO reference to public schools is found in the meager records of the town, prior to the fall of 1701. But it is altogether probable that some kind of schools were kept in the town earlier than that date. In December of the year named the selectmen, Captain Ebenezer Johnson, Ensign Samuel Riggs, Isaac Nichols and Sergeant Samuel Brinsmade, being authorized to provide a school "according as the law in that matter requireth," secured the services of the minister, Reverend John James, and so far as known he was, so to speak, the first public school teacher in the town. It was arranged that he should teach "reading and writing to such of the town as shall come to that end," during the winter months from December to the following April. His compensation appears to us a mere pittance, but that was "in the days of small things," and it required some sacrifice to raise even those meager amounts. Yet the need of instruction was great, especially in writing. Many of the men were deficient in that useful art, and it was quite the usual thing for the women to make their mark in signing deeds. The general court had long before this time recognized the necessity for such instruction, and had passed laws commanding or encouraging the object. But the inhabitants of sparsely settled sections found it difficult to comply with them. Yet, now that schools were established, at public expense, they appear to have been regularly maintained, with apparent good results. As illustrating the advance in this matter, in the short space of a single decade, it was recorded in 1711 that the inhabitants were willing to further tax themselves, in addition to the expenditure of the money provided by law; it was also arranged that night schools should be taught for the benefit of those who could not attend in day time. These schools were usually kept at the houses of those who could provide the necessary room.

In the course of years the town was divided into nine districts, in which lived more than 1,000 people. These districts were in the cen-

ters of population, in which are now the towns of Derby, Ansonia, Seymour and Oxford, and some of them were divided about the time of the revolution. The first and the second districts were in what is now Derby and the lower part of Ansonia, on the east side of the river. In the latter a school house had been built in 1711, but no record of a school house in the former appears until 1781. It is probable that most schools were long taught in private houses. A part of the so-called town houses were also used for school purposes, and in 1745 mention is made of the Cankwood Plain school, in the town house at that place. The school house on Great hill also antedated the revolution.

The rearrangement of the districts after the revolution necessitated the building of new houses in some localities. Hence when it was proposed, in 1785, to build a new school house in the old part of what is now Derby village, a proposition was made which resulted in the building of an academy in 1786. It was put up by a school house company at a cost of a little more than £240, and was a two story building, the lower part being used for common schools, the upper part for a school of a higher grade. The house had an oblong appearance, and standing on an elevation, which is still called Academy hill, it was a conspicuous object in the early history of Derby. The building was supplied with a belfry, in which was placed a bell which was purchased, and for a long time jointly used by the Congregational and Episcopal societies. After the abandonment of the academy there was considerable contention as to the ownership of the bell, and an interesting account of the figure this harmless object cut in Derby's affairs is given in Beardsley's History of Derby.\*

The usefulness of the academy was ended more than half a century ago, but in its day it served a most benign purpose. Doctor Beardsley is also authority for the statement that the academy had but seven teachers, viz.: a Mr. Kerkson, Charles Whittlesey, Doctor Pearl Crafts, Shelden Curtis, Josiah Holbrook, Truman Coe and John D. Smith. Some of these were very successful teachers, and while they were at the head of the academy gave it a reputation which extended far beyond the limits of the town. Many young men here received the rudiments of a classical education. After the academy was discontinued the building was devoted to private uses.

Two of the foregoing teachers, Josiah Holbrook and Truman Coe, established another school in Derby which here deserves mention, for, most likely, it was the first of its kind in the Union. In 1824 they founded, at the old Holbrook farm on Sentinel hill, an agricultural seminary, which aimed to afford the youth of those times a system of education, on a practical basis, like that on which many of our modern institutions so successfully rest. The course of study was not only practical, but comprehensive, and these enterprising educators were

\*See account of Academy Bell.

undoubtedly well qualified for that kind of work; but insufficient patronage compelled the abandonment of the project in the fall of 1825. An old citizen of the town said of this school, "that it was an attractive and a pleasant one, and those who were so disposed made good progress in useful learning. There were in the summer of 1824 about sixty pupils of both sexes, to whom Mr. Coe gave especial instruction in practical or applied mathematics; and Mr. Holbrook taught natural history and the allied subjects, leading his boys over hills and through forests in the course of their study, seeking the object treated in their text books." Several boys earned a part of their expenses by working on the farm. Of these teachers, it may be said that Truman Coe, born on Sentinel hill, December 9th, 1788, obtained his education under great difficulties, and mostly in a shoe shop, where he always kept a book before him while working on the bench, and mastered a single subject at a time. Becoming a school teacher, he was successful in that profession, but about 1828 entered the ministry of the Congregational church. He was ahead of his time in classical learning, and became a logical and entertaining preacher, in the state of Ohio.

Josiah Holbrook, also a native of Derby, was born the same year, but received a regular college education, graduating from Yale in 1810. After teaching in the old academy he engaged in other lines of educational work, in many of which he was the pioneer. He may thus be credited with attempting the first agricultural college, the lyceum system of popular education, and the manufacture of philosophical apparatus for common schools, in Boston, in 1826. His active and useful life was terminated by his accidental drowning at Lynchburg, Va., May 24th, 1854.

Since the discontinuance of this academy the public schools of the town have been advanced to a very high standard, three of the four districts having graded systems of instruction. In each of the districts a public school library is maintained, the aggregate number of books in 1890 being more than 1,200, and the value about \$1,500. The expenditures on account of the schools the past year approximates \$18,000. In all, 27 teachers are employed, 15 being connected with the Birmingham school, which, under the principalship of John W. Peck, is enjoying a most excellent reputation. Large classes are graduated annually, and the interest of the public in the schools of the town is highly commended. For a number of years George L. Beardsley has been the acting school visitor.

In nearly every district excellent school buildings have been provided, the one at Birmingham being especially a fine edifice. It was erected in 1869, under the direction of Joseph Arnold, Royal M. Bassett and Father O'Dwyer as a building committee, and cost about \$40,000. It is a noble looking structure, of brick, stone and slate, four stories high with the basement, and contains twelve separate divisions.

The early inhabitants of Derby were long deprived of church privileges in the midst of their new homes. More than twenty years had passed after the coming of the first settler before a church organization was effected. So discouraging were the circumstances attending the settlement of the town that in 1659 the general court ordered that the place "should be deserted with reference to settled habitation" within one year, unless its prospects improved. One of the reasons given for this order was that the court could see no likelihood that the inhabitants would attend to their duty in regard to the Sabbath, being at such a distance from the means. They were at this time obliged to attend meetings at Milford, which required a long journey through a roadless region; and thus being cut off from what was deemed most essential in a new plantation, their numbers increased very slowly. For a number of years they were practically without either church or state privileges. Desiring the enjoyment of both of these privileges an effort was made in 1671, in spite of the manifest poverty, to demonstrate the ability, or at least to show the willingness, to conform to the existing conditions. Hence, in that year, Reverend John Bowers, a Congregational minister of Guilford, was invited to settle among them and twelve acres of land were set aside for his use. After preaching in Branford in 1672, he decided to cast his lot among this people, and November 18th, 1673, they agreed to build a house for him, and he, on his part, agreed to preach the following year and "to take what the inhabitants would voluntarily give as they are at great expense in building." This house stood near where the first meeting house was afterward built and his lot adjoined the lands of the pioneer settlers, Francis French, Samuel Riggs and Jeremiah Johnson, who were naturally anxious to have the first minister reside in their locality.

The support of a minister at this time was no easy matter for the 12 resident and 11 non-resident planters, for none of them were in affluent circumstances. But in addition to the above considerations, which encouraged them to persevere, they were actuated by a pious zeal and their faith sustained them. In a few years both a town and a church were secured. In 1675 the general court established the Plantation of Derby, and the act carried with it the powers and privileges of an ecclesiastical society without the order of a separate organization. But the unsettled state of affairs, in consequence of the Indian troubles, prevented the immediate realization of their hopes. A further hindrance was found in the unwillingness of Milford to release the planters from the payment of their rates, so that for a few years a double tax was imposed upon these planters for the support of the Gospel.

In the early part of 1677 the town of Derby with great unanimity determined upon the organization of a church, and the general court was petitioned May 6th, 1678, by John Bowers, John Hulls and Joseph Hawkins for the sanction of the colony upon this measure. This was granted May 9th, 1678.

The accounts of that period are somewhat vague, but there is reason to think that the First church in Derby (Congregational) was organized in 1678, and that for several years its meetings were held in private houses. But a meeting house must be built, and November 22d, 1680, the town voted on the question of a site, with the following result: Those favoring the locality which afterward became known as "Squabble Hole" were John Bowers, Edward Wooster, Joseph Hawkins, William Tomlinson, Samuel Riggs, Ephraim Smith, Abel Gunn, Francis French, Samuel Nichols, Thomas Wooster, John Beach—11. Opposed were Jeremiah Johnson, Philip Denman, Stephen Pierson, John Tibbals—4. Absent from the meeting were John Hulls, Jabez Harger, George Beaman, David Wooster, Ebenezer Johnson, Abel Holbrook, Isaac Nichols, Samuel Brinsmade, Jonathan Nichols and Jonas Tomlinson—10. It will be seen that of the 25 planters but 11 were committed to a definite site. The matter was now allowed to rest a year, when the former site, about a mile north of the present meeting house, was confirmed, the point being "near the tree where the town met and sat down, shall be the place where the meeting house shall stand, without any more trouble." Sergeant John Hull, Joseph Hawkins, Abel Gunn and Philip Denman were appointed a committee to carry out the wishes of the town. The house was a plain frame, 20 by 28 feet, with four windows in the sides and one at each end, and was mainly built by the labor of the inhabitants, each man according to the value of his estate. In 1707 it was seated after the manner of those times, having first been enlarged and repaired, and was used until about 1722 in that condition.

The town in 1681 voted that the minister, John Bowers, should have 88 loads of wood, and in 1683 voted him a salary of £50 in "good, merchantable pay." This sum was assessed upon 26 persons, comprising, at that time, the inhabitants of Derby. In 1684 he was very ill, and it is thought that he ceased preaching here in 1686. He died in 1687, and is buried in the old cemetery. From 1690 to 1693 Joseph Webb was the minister, and in the former year a parsonage was built, under the direction of Captain Ebenezer Johnson, Isaac Nichols and Philip Denman. In the spring of 1694 Reverend John James was settled as the pastor, and remained until 1706, being also, after 1700, the schoolmaster, and, like Mr. Webb, serving as town clerk part of the time.

Reverend Joseph Moss having preached here in 1706, was, in the spring of 1707, installed as the pastor of the "Church of Christ in Derby," as it was for many years called. He was a popular preacher, and appears to have been better liked than his predecessor. He spent his entire ministerial life here, dying in his 53d year, in 1731, and was buried in the Uptown cemetery.

One of the most important events of the pastorate of Mr. Moss was the building of the new meeting house in 1721-2. This was ordered

at a town meeting held in December, 1719, when it was voted "that the town will build a new meeting house, and that it shall be set in some convenient place, near where the old meeting house now stands, and that the dimensions shall be as followeth, viz.: Forty feet long and thirty-two wide, and twenty feet posts." A six-penny rate was laid, and every man was given the privilege of working out his tax, provided he could labor in any way to advantage on the building. Colonel Ebenezer Johnson, Captain Joseph Hull and Lieutenant John Riggs were the building committee. The house was raised in the spring of 1721, and was what was called in those times a two-story church edifice, having galleries on all but the pulpit side. Mr. Moss was given liberty to build a pew six feet square, joining to the pulpit stairs, for his wife and family; and the rest of the meeting house was seated "by such rules as followeth: Col. Ebenezer Johnson, Ens. Samuel Riggs, John Tibbals, Stephen Pierson, Ens. Nichols shall sit on the first seat next to the pulpit; Doctor Durand, Mr. Samuel Bowers and Jeremiah Johnson shall sit in the second seat of the square next the pulpit; John Pringle, Sergeant Brinsmade, John Chatfield, Senr., shall sit in a short seat by Mr. Moss' pew." The remainder of the inhabitants were seated according to the list.

"Sabba-day houses" were first built in 1725, and a rather better building of that nature was permitted to be built on the common in 1728 by Jonathan Lum, Gideon Johnson and John Smith. This, when not used by them as a "Sabba-day house," was used as a school house. It was the first building of the kind in the town, and its site was afterward used for a building wholly devoted to school purposes. "Sabba-day houses" and "horse houses," on both sides of the highways, were authorized in 1764.

The meeting house, though roomy, appears to have been devoid of all comforts, and is remembered as a musty, huge, barn-like structure. It was occupied nearly a hundred years, but before its abandonment, in 1821, it became totally unfitted for its purpose.

The building of the third meeting house was not accomplished until there had been much controversy in regard to the site, which caused some of the members to withdraw permanently from the society. But the more rapid growth of the south part of the town demanded that the new house should be built southward, and in March, 1820, the present site was selected. In July of the same year the contract for building was awarded, and the present meeting house was in due time built. But this entailed such a heavy burden upon the society that its usefulness in other spheres was crippled a number of years. In 1873 a lecture room was built, and the meeting house remodelled and refurnished. Since that time the church property has been kept in good repair, and both the church and the parsonage presented a substantial appearance, in the fall of 1890.

After the death of Mr. Moss, in 1731, the church was without a

settled pastor several years, when Reverend Daniel Humphreys was, on March 6th, 1733, ordained. He had graduated from Yale the previous year and was a bold and spirited man in religious opinions, and his views were not accepted by all his parishioners, who seemed to be divided on the then prevailing questions, some favoring the "old light" and others the "new light" doctrines. Mr. Humphreys was inclined to the "new light" theories, and had made himself liable to the censure of the Consociation several times in the early years of his ministry. But after the lapse of 20 years he practiced church discipline in consonance with the Saybrook principles.

This inharmonious feeling in the town, on matters of such vital interest, conduced to the easy establishment of the Episcopal church in Derby. It was also an incentive to the formation of other ecclesiastical societies of the established church in the town. Of these the Society of Oxford, formed after 1733, made the first demand upon the membership of the First church; Great Hill, in 1775, the second; Bladen's Brook (called Humphreysville and Seymour later), in 1789, the third, when 26 members withdrew. Later the church contributed to the formation of the Methodist church, and January 4th, 1846, 60 persons left in a body to form the Birmingham Congregational church. In 1850 four members left to aid in the formation of the Ansonia church.

In 1787 the church had 43 male and 53 female members, which was probably the maximum strength in the last century. In later periods in the main the church has prospered, and has been a most beneficent moral agent in the community. In 1890 there were about 180 members, and the following official board: Pastor and clerk, Reverend Dorrall Lee; deacons, George T. Bushnell, N. J. Bailey and T. B. Minor; society's committee, F. N. Bradley, E. Hallock, W. N. Sperry; superintendent of Sabbath school, E. W. Parmalee. The school has a membership of about 200.

The pastorate of Reverend Daniel Humphreys was long continued, extending through the troublous times of the revolution. He died September 2d, 1787, just about 100 years after the death of John Bowers, the first minister. He was a stately, cultured gentleman, and his wife, Sarah Riggs, who had been the former wife of John Bowers, and whom as a widow he married in 1739, had such an elegant personal appearance, and was so refined in education and manners, that she became widely known as "Lady Humphreys." She was greatly beloved, and thoroughly dignified the title so long bestowed upon her. They were the parents of General David Humphreys, who was born in Derby, July 10th, 1752. His distinguished service in the revolution, and his connection with the manufacturing interests of Seymour are elsewhere noted. In the last four years of Mr. Humphrey's pastorate he had as a colleague Reverend Martin Tuller, who was

ordained July 1st, 1783. From 1787 until December 29th, 1795, he was the pastor of the church. He died in 1813.

The subsequent pastors were the following: Reverend Amasa Porter, graduated at Yale College in 1793, settled in Derby in 1797, dismissed March 20th, 1805 (He was a man of rare piety, and was long remembered with affection by his people); Thomas Ruggles, 1809-12; Zephaniah Swift, settled 1813 (His pastorate was a long and successful one; in fact, it was the most eventful pastorate in the history of the church. Mr. Swift remained senior pastor until his death, which took place February 7th, 1848); Lewis D. Howell, installed April, 1836, dismissed May 19th, 1838; Hollis Reed, installed November 21st, 1838, dismissed in 1843; George Thatcher, installed November 20th, 1843, dismissed October 10th, 1848; J. Guernsey, called October 8th, 1849, dismissed August 22d, 1853; R. P. Stanton, settled November 2d, 1853, dismissed January, 1856; C. C. Tiffany, called July 15th, 1857, dismissed January 20th, 1864; W. E. Brooks was engaged as supply in 1865, and remained until 1867; Thomas M. Gray, installed December, 1867, dismissed in 1871; C. B. Whitcomb, called January, 1872, remained with the church one year from the 1st of April following; H. T. Staats, 1873, until the autumn of 1874; J. H. Vorce, called in April, 1875, resigned in 1879; J. B. Thrall, called in January, 1880, resigned in 1884; O. G. McIntire, supplied the pulpit from January 1st, 1885, to April 1st, 1886; Dorrall Lee, called October 1st, 1886, the present pastor of the church.

The church, during its history, has sent out the following ministers: Reverends Amos Bassett, D.D., Daniel Thompson, Charles Nichols, Isaac Jennings, Daniel S. Dickinson, Archibald Bassett, John L. Tomlinson, Truman Coe, Wales Coe, William E. Bassett, George F. Prentiss.

The Birmingham Congregational church was formally recognized by a council called for that purpose, February 25th, 1846. The constituent members were mainly the 60 persons who had withdrawn from the First Derby church, January 4th, 1846, and who had organized with the above name February 13th, 1846. The Congregational or Ecclesiastical society had been formed the previous year, when the following persons thus associated themselves July 30th, 1845: David Bassett, George W. Shelton, Josiah Smith, 2d, Asa Bassett, G. Smith, David Nathans, F. T. Frost, Edward Kirby, Samuel P. Tomlinson and Ephraim Birdseye. The latter was the first clerk and treasurer of the society and the three first named its first committee.

The same year the society began the erection of a church on the lot donated by Anson G. Phelps, on the west side of the green. It originally cost about \$6,000 and was dedicated January 28th, 1846, Reverend Joel Parker, D.D., of New York, preaching the sermon. In the summer of 1859 the building was extended in the rear 17 feet and otherwise improved at a cost of \$2,500. In 1871 the interior of the church was changed, and since that time repairs and improvements



have made the church quite comfortable. The parsonage was built in 1866.

On the 9th of March, 1846, Reverend E. W. Cook became the first minister of the church, serving for six months. But Reverend Charles Dickinson was installed as the first pastor in September, 1846, and served until his death in 1854.

Reverend Zachary Eddy was next installed, December 19th, 1855, and at his own request was dismissed February 11th, 1858. The pulpit was now supplied about three years, but February 13th, 1861, Reverend C. C. Carpenter was ordained to the pastorate, in which he served until his resignation, June 27th, 1865. After an interval of more than a year, Reverend Stephen S. Mershon was installed pastor, and at his own request was relieved March 17th, 1869. Again there was a vacancy of several years, Reverend John Willard acting pastor, when Reverend Charles F. Bradley was inducted to the pastoral office December 30th, 1873, in which he continued until January 25th, 1885. The services of Reverend Charles Ware Park, the present pastor, began April 1st, 1885. He was ordained to the ministry in 1870 and has here served very acceptably. In 1890 the parish contained 160 families and the members numbered 225. Connected with the church is a Sunday school of nearly 200 members, whose first superintendent, George W. Shelton, was appointed February 13th, 1846. This position was held in 1890 by D. H. Bacon.

The deacons of the church and the years of their election and service have been as follows: Josiah Smith, 1846-9; David Bassett, 1846-72; Truman Gilbert, 1850-6; E. G. Atwood, 1856-63; G. W. Shelton, 1863-77 and 1880-2; Henry Somers, 1867-71 and 1883-9; J. R. Hawley, 1871-6; S. M. Gardner, 1871-6 and 1879-80; Joseph Tomlinson, 1878-82; E. C. Maltby, 1881-2; N. A. Howd, 1882-4; James Ewen, 1884-90; S. S. Wilcox, 1884-5; Robert May, 1884-90; Lewis W. Booth, 1888-90.

In 1890 the clerk of the parish was D. S. Brinsmade; the society's committee, D. M. Bassett, L. W. Booth and J. D. Dayton.

Derby, Birmingham and Shelton Y. M. C. A. was organized May 6th, 1889, when the following board of directors was chosen: D. L. Durand, president; Charles E. Clark and E. N. Barrett, vice-presidents; N. J. Bailey, recording secretary; George H. Peck, George W. Beardsley, T. J. Chadeayne, H. B. Curtiss, David Torrance, J. H. Barlow, Edward Hallock, J. D. Dayton, E. W. Peck, Sylvester Rounds and C. R. Howard, representing the several Protestant churches in the above places. In 1890 the officers were: E. W. Peck, president; G. H. Peck, vice-president; H. B. Curtiss, treasurer; and N. J. Bailey, secretary. The association has enrolled many active members and about \$5,000 has been expended in the prosecution of its work. In the fall of 1889 the second and the third stories of the Henry Somers building on Main street, Birmingham, were fitted up for association uses. These embrace parlors, reading room and library, school and assembly rooms

and a gymnasium. November 1st, 1889, the practical work was placed in charge of R. F. True, as general secretary, who was succeeded, August 1st, 1890, by N. B. Prindle.

It has already been said that after the ministry of Reverend Joseph Moss, in 1731, there was so much difference of opinion as to the proper church order in the town of Derby that the way was opened for the formation of other religious societies. In this period the Church of England commended itself to those who were inclined to reject the views of Reverend Daniel Humphreys, the new pastor of the Congregational church. The visit of Reverend George Whitefield and his preaching in Derby added to the religious unrest and awoke a spirit of inquiry as to what methods or church practices most nearly conformed to the Scriptural requirements. Among the first in the town to incline to the worship of God after the manner and discipline of the Church of England were John Holbrook and half a dozen others, among whom Episcopal gatherings were frequently held.

Reverend Jonathan Arnold, of West Haven, an itinerant missionary of the London Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, conducted the first stated services in the town, the meetings being held in private houses until a central place of worship could be provided, after 1737. Determined to build, it was proposed to set the church upon a corner of the common in "Uptown." But in that they were disappointed, the town forbidding its use for any such purpose. Yet, wishing to be as near the center of the town's affairs as possible, a lot was secured directly opposite the residence of Pastor Humphreys. It was deeded to Reverend Jonathan Arnold, in trust for the Episcopal church, November 7th, 1738, by John Holbrook and his wife, Abigail, and comprised 42 rods of land, to be used for church and cemetery purposes. The latter use is continued, the place being still known as the old Episcopal Cemetery. Upon this lot there had already been raised the frame of a church, whose timbers had been hewed the previous year by John Holbrook and his associates, Abel Gunn and half a dozen others.

By these eight men the entire expense was borne, and as none were rich the work was done piecemeal, so that the house was not completed until 1746. The architecture of the building was plain, but was an improvement on the first meeting house of the Congregational society, its appearance distinctly indicating its use. To the credit of the members of the latter society be it said that they were more liberal toward the churchmen than their brethren in some other towns, voting in 1739 to exempt them from paying toward the support of the Congregational ministers. The building, being ready for the purpose of worship, it was called "Christ's Church." "Here in this little barn-like structure, with its raftered walls, the worshippers for half a century went in and out to their morning and evening devotions, loving the church as the apple of their eye."\*

\* History of Derby, p. 152.

The next step was to provide a home for the rector. To that end, in 1747, John Holbrook, Jonas Smith, Thomas Wooster, Abel Gunn and others, in behalf of the new parish, bought several parcels of land for a glebe. One of them contained three acres, and on it were an orchard and a barn, and as the land was near the church it was improved for the home of the ministers. Reverend Richard Mansfield was probably the first to occupy it, and he lived in it until his death. He was the fourth missionary of the London Society to visit this people, the second being Reverend Theophilus Morris, who preached about three years, and the third Reverend James Lyon, who labored here about the time the church was completed.

The pastorate of Reverend Mr. Mansfield was one of the most noted in the history of the old parish. He was a man of marked ability, giving such abundant evidence of his intellectual powers in early youth that, at the early age of 11, he was prepared to enter college, but by its rules could not do so until he was 14. In 1741 he graduated with the first honors of his class, in Yale, which in after life conferred upon him the degree of D.D. In 1748 he went to England, where he was admitted to the Holy orders of the Episcopal church, and returning to America, placed himself under the tutelage of Doctor Johnson, of Stratford, which still better fitted him for the work he was about to undertake as a missionary of the venerable "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," and in whose service he remained until after the revolution. This fact had much to do with his position in the struggle for American independence, when he remained a firm, but not offensive loyalist. But so well were his patriotic neighbors convinced of his sincerity in this matter that he remained with this people until his death, August 12th, 1820.

When Doctor Mansfield began his ministry here the parish included the present towns of Derby, Orange, Woodbridge, Seymour, Oxford, Southbury, Naugatuck and Waterbury, but after 1755 his labors were limited mostly to Derby and Oxford. Of the former church he was the rector 72 years without a break—a most unusual instance in the history of any church in this country. In the discharge of his duties he was most industrious, teaching from house to house, and was particularly tender toward the young, who loved and sincerely venerated him, his personal appearance greatly conducing to this feeling. He was tall, of spare habits, and wore a white, large wig. He generally traveled on horseback and was a familiar object to all the people. On the 10th of November, 1751, he was married to Sarah Anna, eldest daughter of Joseph Hull, 2d, of Derby. Although so busy in his ministerial life, he found time to cultivate his lands, in which he took particular pride. The children of Doctor Mansfield and their descendants attained honorable distinction, and the name abroad, as well as at home, commanded esteem. In the later years of his rectorship he was assisted by Reverend Calvin White, an able preacher

and a popular man. On the death of Doctor Mansfield he was buried in the old Episcopal graveyard. An imposing monument has, in recent years, been erected over his grave. A fine memorial window in his memory has also been placed in Christ's Episcopal church in Ansonia. A like token has been placed in St. James' church.

After the revolution and the return of an era of better feeling, which caused nearly all former prejudices to be forgotten, Christ's church had a largely augmented growth. It partook, to a great degree, of the prosperity which lower Derby at that time enjoyed, whose height was attained about 1800. These conditions called for a new or more commodious house of worship, and as the center of population had now shifted from "Uptown" to the "Narrows," it was deemed advisable to have the church follow it. Hence, the parish voted to move the church southward and locate it on a commanding site on the road to the "Narrows." The corner stone of the new edifice was laid in 1797, and in the course of a few years the spacious and more comfortable building was occupied. After its completion the members of the parish resolved to change the name of Christ's to that of St. James' Church and Parish, by which title they were designated when the church was consecrated, in 1799, by Bishop Jarvis. The new site and new church fitly met the wants of the community, and the parish continued to prosper under the rectorship of the successors of Reverends Mansfield and White, who were, in the order named, Reverends Blakeslee, Stephen Jewett, with Reverend Bradley as an assistant, and Reverend Joseph Scott.

While Mr. Scott was the rector the village of Birmingham had its first spurt of growth, and drew to itself many of the members of St. James' church. These found it inconvenient to attend church in Derby, and the question of a new site for the church edifice was forced upon the parish. Hence, May 5th, 1841, Reverend Joseph Scott, in accordance with the wishes of his parishioners, reported that the old church was poorly located, and the prosperity and permanent welfare of the parish made the question of selecting a more central site one of vital importance. E. N. Shelton, Benjamin Hodge and Levi Hotchkiss, representing various parts of the parish, were now appointed a committee on a new site. As a result of their labors and the expression of the will of a majority of the parish they reported, May 26th, 1841, in favor of Birmingham. A very desirable lot, on the east side of the public park, was donated by the proprietors, Smith & Phelps, and the work of raising funds was begun. So encouraging was the support tendered that it was decided to erect the substantial stone edifice which now graces the ground. The corner stone was laid in 1842, and after about a year's work the present St. James' church was consecrated, April 11th, 1843, by Bishop Brownell. The wooden tower on the church was subsequently displaced and a fine stone tower was erected, in which a chime of bells has been placed. The

church was also enlarged, and has since been much improved, being greatly beautified by the eight handsome memorial windows recently placed in it. A comfortable rectory stands on an adjoining lot, and the property is one of the most valuable in the town. The church has 650 sittings.

The area of the parish has been much reduced by the formation of Christ Parish at Ansonia, and in 1890 embraced properly only the villages of Birmingham, Derby and Shelton. In this territory were 315 Episcopal families, having 1,400 individual members. The registered communicants numbered 365. The parish has an endowment fund of more than \$4,000, and raises about \$5,000 per year for all purposes of church work.

The rectors following Reverend Joseph Scott were: Reverends Ashley, Guion, Flagg, Coxe, Fuller, Brainard, Chamberlain, Baldwin, Witherspoon, and, since February, 1887, Reverend George Hickman Buck. Most of the pastorates were short, the longest continued being that of Reverend Joseph Scott, at the building of the new church, eight years; John Brainard, 1856-63; Leonidas B. Baldwin, 1870-80; Orlando Witherspoon, 1880-86. He died suddenly, at Birmingham, April 14th, 1886, two weeks after he had relinquished the rectorship.

Among the later wardens, E. N. Shelton and George H. Peck deserve mention for the long and faithful service they have given the parish. The latter has served in that office continuously since 1866. Edward Lewis is the clerk of the parish, and Charles H. Nettleton the treasurer.

Connected with the parish are a fine Sunday school of 274 members; a chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood, organized in 1889, which is doing most excellent work; and a Ladies' Benevolent Society, which is one of the mainstays of the church. It has about 50 active members.

The following account of Methodism in Derby and the Methodist Episcopal church at Birmingham was prepared from data furnished by John W. Osborne. In the year 1789 Reverend Jesse Lee came through Derby and preached his first sermon here, probably under a tree in that part of Derby since known as Uptown. Among his auditors were John Coe and his wife Ruth, by whom the preacher was invited to make their house his home on his next visit to the place. In about a month after he came again and preached in Mr. Coe's house. Reverend John Allyn was his colleague. He subsequently preached in the house of Philo Hinman and at other places.

The first Methodist Episcopal church in Derby, according to the record of the church, was organized in the year 1793 by Reverend Jesse Lee. In the fall of the same year Bishop Asbury held services here, and soon after the appointment was connected with Middletown

circuit; and the preachers traveling it prior to 1800 were Reverends Daniel Ostrander, Evan Rogers, Joel Ketchum, Peter Choate and James Coleman. In the year last named a revival took place at Derby Neck, where meetings were now held, and it is said that 30 persons united with the church, constituting for many years a class at that point. They met to hear preaching once a month, and for prayer, praise, testimony and exhortation once or twice a week in the "old red school house" at Derby Neck, where Sheldon and Davis Smith, Samuel and David Durand, John Allyn Coe and Agur Curtiss, with their families and many others, worshipped.

For many years the eloquent preaching of Nathan and Heman Bangs and of Laban Clark was cherished as wonderful exhibitions of pulpit power, which resulted in many conversions. The work had taken so firm a hold upon the hearts of the people of this section that "Derby Circuit" was established, embracing under that name many appointments in the northwestern part of the county. In the dozen years following, from 1820 to 1832, the itinerant preachers were Belden Smith, James Coleman, Laban Clark, J. Nixon, F. W. Sizer, Julius Field, S. D. Ferguson, W. Beach, E. Barnes, N. Kellogg, H. Banks and R. Francis.

About 1830 the services at Derby Neck were discontinued, and preaching was established at Derby Narrows, in the old Masonic Hall, which was rented by I. J. Gilbert and others for that purpose.

In the spring of 1835 Reverends Josiah Bowen and Oliver Sykes were appointed to the Derby circuit, and soon after was set on foot a movement which resulted in the establishment of the church at Birmingham, which, as a village, was then in its infancy. A few houses only, scattered here and there, occupied the beautiful site of the present borough. The late Sheldon Smith, of New York, proprietor of the land, with a large generosity offered to the Methodist society of Derby a building lot for a church and all the stone required for its foundation and basement walls, and \$200 in cash toward the erection of the building. This generous offer was gratefully accepted.

The society subsequently bought the lots east and west of the church at an outlay of \$1,500. October 5th, 1835, the following were appointed the first board of trustees and the building committee: Sheldon Smith, Samuel Durand, David Durand, Stephen Booth, Isaac J. Gilbert, Agur Curtiss, Albert Hotchkiss and John E. Brush. It was completed for dedication August 17th, 1837, and was the first church building in Birmingham. The cost was about \$3,000, about half the sum remaining as a debt. Regular preaching was now held, the services being conducted by Reverend Thomas Ellis, a local preacher from Seymour, in the absence of the circuit appointee. Birmingham circuit was soon after formed, and the first stationed ministers were Reverend Orlando Starr and Reverend J. B. Beach, the latter being here in 1840.

In 1841-2 the preacher was Reverend Nathaniel Mead, and under his pastoral care the church more than doubled her membership, and subscriptions of over \$1,000 were taken to liquidate, in part, the debt upon the church, which debt was cleared off in 1849.

In 1850 Reverend John M. Reid was appointed pastor of the Birmingham church. Under his supervision the front of the church was enlarged and built anew and a high steeple added, but before it was thoroughly secured at the base a strong gale of wind brought it to the ground a complete wreck. Then the present steeple was put up a few feet higher at the option of the builders, as the word was freely passed around when the other fell that "the society built their steeple higher than they owned."

The church was rededicated in June, 1851, by Reverend Joseph Hagany. A series of meetings were commenced in the fall and continued through the winter, and the membership of the church was increased by 100 additions.

In 1859 and 1860 Reverend Reuben H. Loomis was the pastor, and during his administration 25 feet were added to the rear of the church and lecture room, at an expense of about \$3,000.

From 1866 to 1868 Reverend Ichabod Simmons was the pastor. During his term of service the present parsonage was built, and an organ costing \$4,000 placed in the church. In 1886 the debt of the church, amounting to \$2,550, was paid, and the society is now free from debt.

The Methodist Episcopal churches in Ansonia and Shelton are both offshoots from the church in Birmingham, causing a large loss in the membership of the home church, which, notwithstanding, has now within her fold nearly 400 members. These form classes, led in 1890 by G. W. Cheesman, J. W. Osborne, J. P. Curtiss and S. H. Lessley. The former was also the superintendent of the Sabbath school, which had about 375 members. This valuable aid of the church was organized previous to the dedication of the church building in 1837, and has since been regularly continued.

The entire church property is valued at nearly \$25,000, and in 1890 was in charge of the following trustees: C. B. Alling, H. B. Curtiss, E. W. Peck, E. D. Beebe, A. H. Gilbert, G. H. Crook, W. A. Dibble and A. H. Alling.

The pastors of the Birmingham church since the time of Reverend Mead have been appointed as follows: 1843, Reverend J. B. Wakeley; 1844, C. C. Keys; 1845, J. D. Marshall; 1846, F. W. Smith; 1848, W. Gothard; 1849-50, J. M. Reid; 1851-2, T. G. Osborn; 1853-4, C. Fletcher; 1855-6, G. A. Hubbell; 1857-8, F. Bottome; 1859-60, R. H. Loomis; 1861-2, W. T. Hill; 1863, J. S. Inskip; 1864-5, J. W. Home; 1866-8, Ichabod Simmons; 1869-71, J. S. Breckenridge; 1872-3, C. S. Williams; 1874-5, J. Pullman; 1876-8, William McAllister; 1879-80, J. L. Peck; 1881-2, H. E. Burnes; 1883, G. L. Thompson;

1884-6, A. C. Eggleston; 1887-8, J. H. Lightbourne; 1889, W. A. Richard.

In addition to the foregoing there are union chapels for the use of Protestant worshippers at Burtville, and on Jewett street, in Derby village. These command the support of many active workers of various denominations, and are especially useful for Sunday school purposes, which are regularly held in them.

In Derby village is also a house of worship for the African Methodists, which is occupied by the "Zion church" organization, of which George A. Given was the pastor in 1889. This body also maintains a Sabbath school.

St. Mary's Church of the Immaculate Conception (Roman Catholic) is most desirably located at Birmingham. The present stately church edifice was commenced in March, 1882. The corner stone was laid on the 25th of June, the same year, by Bishop McMahon. On the 21st of November, 1883, he and Bishop O'Reily dedicated the church, which was at that time regarded as one of the finest church buildings in the state belonging to this denomination. The edifice is impressive by its massive and substantial appearance, being built in the best style of architecture, of brick and stone, and it has a beautiful interior, being embellished with fine paintings and three attractive altars. The main one is composed of 1,000 different pieces, marble, onyx and other valuable minerals entering into its construction. The body of the church has a seating capacity for 1,058 persons. In the tower is a very heavy and finely toned bell. Adjoining is the fine parsonage and other church property, the entire value being about \$125,000. More than \$100,000 of this has been amassed since 1878, when the present priest, Reverend Father P. M. Kennedy, became connected with the affairs of the parish. He has not only been energetic, but most devoted in his efforts to advance the well-being of the parish, which numbered in October, 1890, about 3,500 souls. In his work he had the assistance of curates Reverends Thomas Finn and Michael Barry. In the management of the temporalities he has the coöperation of Lay Trustees William Barry and John Dockery, the latter being also the superintendent of the Sunday school.

It appears that there were no resident Catholics in what is now the flourishing parish of Birmingham until the fall of 1833, when John Phalan, William Foley, John O'Connors and Matthew Kellady took up their abode here. They were soon joined by Michael Stokes, Patrick Quinn, John Regan, Farrel Reily and others, and not long after they were visited by Catholic missionaries. In 1845 the number had increased so much that a small church was built, a spacious lot being donated for this purpose by Anson G. Phelps. This building was afterward enlarged and was used until displaced by the present church. Among the priests, prior to the settlement of Father Kennedy, were Fathers McDermont, Smith, O'Neal, James Lynch, John Lynch, Sher-



idan and P. J. O'Dwyer, who was transferred to Ansonia as the first resident priest in that village.

The town's first places of burial were on the hill, on the east side of the Naugatuck, in the old Uptown locality. Several yards are still kept up in that locality, although no longer much used. At first the dead from every part of the old town were brought here, and there are numerous graves, many of them being neglected. In 1683 George Beaman is spoken of as the first appointed grave digger. The town has generally cared for these places of interment.

The beautiful Birmingham cemetery is on the banks of the Housatonic, below the dam. It has a commanding location and embraces about 15 acres, which have been tastefully improved. It is controlled by the Birmingham Cemetery Association, organized in 1844 and re-organized in 1864. For many years Robert O. Gates has been the president and Charles H. Coe the secretary and treasurer. The cemetery contains many handsome monuments.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Amos H. Alling, born in Orange, Conn., January 3d, 1823, is a son of Charles W. and Lucy (Booth) Alling, the former born in New Haven in 1793, and the latter born in Woodbridge, Conn., in 1798. They had seven children, six of whom are living. The father of Charles W. Alling was Amos, whose father, Silas, was a son of Daniel, whose father, Samuel, 2d, was a son of Samuel the 1st, who was a son of Roger, who came from England, and was one of the first settlers of New Haven colony. Amos H. and his brother, Charles B., commenced the manufacture of woolen cloths in Orange in 1845, and continued until 1858, when they removed to Birmingham and established the manufacture of knit woolen goods, which they have continued to the present time. Amos H. married Sarah E. Prudden, of Orange, in 1847. They have had three daughters, two of whom are living: Louisa M., wife of Doctor Beardsley, of Birmingham, and Carrie E. Mr. Alling was a member of the legislature in 1865, and has been selectman several terms.

CHARLES B. ALLING, manufacturer, Birmingham, Conn., was born in Orange, Conn., June 20th, 1824. The topographical formation of Birmingham and vicinity is a very interesting study from the geologist's point of view. He is carried back to the glacial period for his explanation of the land formation. Here are found the tumuli distinctly marked, and one of them a little toward the west side of the village is bounded by streets of the borough, Olivia and Fourth streets, on two sides. This tumulus occupies nearly a whole borough square; and this well cultivated mound, set here and there with large trees, has upon its summit the spacious and richly furnished residence of Mr. Charles B. Alling. Mr. Alling is now a woolen manufacturer. He and his brother are partners under the firm style of A. H. & C. B.

Alling. His mill covers a large plot of ground near the junction of the Naugatuck and Housatonic rivers. The waters of the Naugatuck borne in a canal furnish only a part of the motive force, and must be aided by a very powerful steam engine to run the entire machinery. The floor space of the mill is multiplied by several stories in height. About 350 hands compose the full working force, and the product of stockings and underwear is correspondingly large.

It is not a little interesting to trace along the business growth of a great manufacturer like Mr. Alling. He belongs to a family of six children, four sons and two daughters. In this family are represented the professional, the manufacturing and the home phases of society. One of the brothers is a distinguished lawyer of New Haven, John W. Alling, the other three brothers are manufacturers, while the two sisters represent the thrifty, hospitable, high-minded women of New England.

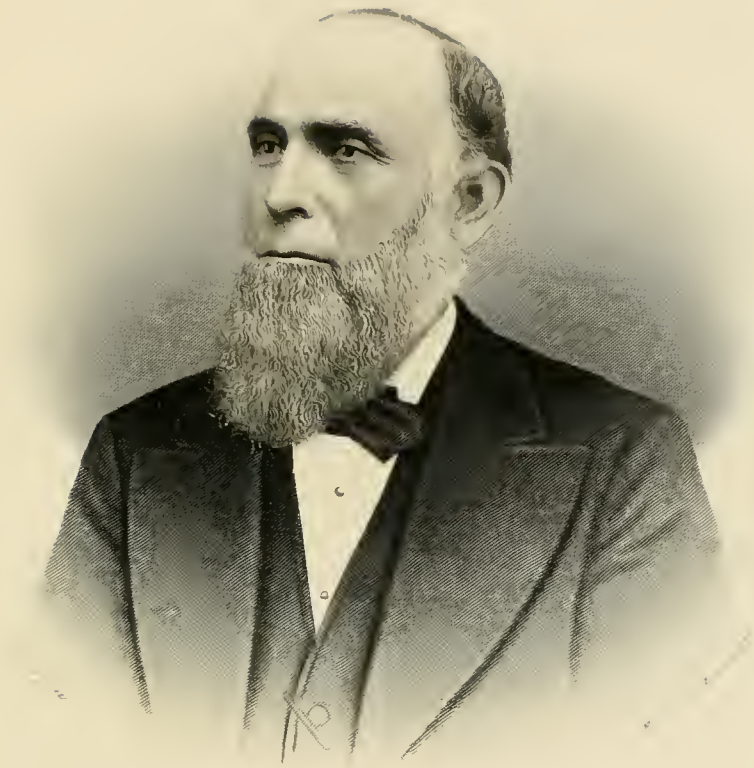
This family of children was born and brought up in the town of Orange, and illustrates well the truth that the ablest and most successful men of the cities and business centers of the land have come from the country. The Alling family here alluded to, has an honorable and extended lineage, and traces its name back to Roger Alling, one of the first settlers of the New Haven colony.

The father of Mr. C. B. Alling was Charles W. Alling, born in Orange. His mother was Lucy (Booth) Alling, daughter of Walter Booth, of Woodbridge, a revolutionary soldier. Charles W. Alling began in Orange the manufacture of woolen cloth in a small way. Despite the hindrances of which the farmers of Connecticut now complain, the farmers of those days kept large flocks of sheep. The spinning of the yarn was done at home, and then the farmers patronized the mill for manufacturing the yarn into cloth and dressing it. But the processes of manufacture were rapidly changing, and not many years passed before all the work of manufacture of the large wool-growing district, in which the Alling mill of Orange stood, was done at the mill.

And now while yet a boy, and his school days hardly over, C. B. Alling gathered wool from the farmers, and so furnished his father's mill with raw material. But at 17 years of age he took charge of the manufacture, for the farmer customers—the wool carding, and spinning, and weaving and finishing of the cloth.

Mr. Alling continued in charge of his father's mill until he was 21 years of age, and then in 1845 began business for himself, renting from his father the Orange mill. Still he had not a dollar of capital, but by his economical management and sagacious methods, he was able not only to continue business, but to increase it. The Orange mill was run by water, and contained only one set of machinery.

But business increased more and more in Orange, and as the times demanded, changed in form. The custom manufacture of cloth for the farmers now decreased in demand, and, following a business fore-



*L. B. Alling*



sight, Mr. Alling turned his attention to yarn and hosiery, and in after years to hosiery and underwear. Orange became too strait for the manufacture. The location must be changed, and Birmingham was sought out as offering an excellent water privilege, and easy means of transportation. Here the Paugasset Mills have grown to the dimensions already suggested; and to the progress of the industry Mr. C. B. Alling has devoted his personal energies and direction from year to year.

Mr. Alling is one of the typical business men of New England. Whatever it may be needful to do, can be done, is one of his principles of action; and if it be along the line of the manufacture in which he is engaged, he can do it. His business foresight is remarked upon by his neighbors, and to him they often go for counsel. His own success in life is proof of business ability of the first order.

In person Mr. Alling is pleasing, possessing a quick intelligence, and quiet, home-like manners. His kindness of nature is known among all his acquaintances, and so marked a trait is it that young people and children are drawn to him as to a father. It is not thought that he could do anything wrong, and is the soul of goodness itself. Hence, he is beloved among his acquaintances everywhere.

Mr. Alling is decidedly a public-spirited man. To him, more than to any other citizen, the borough of Birmingham is indebted for its finest blocks of buildings on its main street. In them he provided halls for societies, rooms for the Board of Trade, fine post office accommodations, and advantages to the business and social community. He was one of the chief promoters of the great Ousatonic dam and canal, upon which so much of the life and growth of Shelton and Birmingham depend.

Mr. Alling has shrunk away from all political emoluments, and has denied to himself positions on boards and directorates to which his fellow business men have urgently invited him.

Many years since a severe illness left him so deaf that he cannot hear the conversations of people, or the services in his church, except with a speaking-tube. Hence he has shrunk away from those associations, whether in business or society, where good hearing is a qualification for ready efficiency. And to the deep regret of his fellow business men, they have seen him draw away from those associations where his presence and counsel would have been so satisfying to them.

On May 10th, 1853, he married Miss Julia M. Prudden, a lady of much grace of manner and of heart, of whom her husband was exceedingly fond. Her fortitude of nature was equalled only by her cheerfulness in sharing with her husband the self-denials of earlier married life, and then just as gracefully did she pass with him to the amenity of wealth, and the prerogatives it gives. She was greatly beloved in the community for her gentle, winning graces, and foremost

also in society, the favor in which she stood by very force carrying her there. There were no natures so unhappily compounded but that fell in love with her. She was proverbially right in whatever she did, and it was the maxim among her children as of her husband that whatever she might do was necessarily right. She died August 12th, 1889, leaving the choicest memories of love and honor to him who wedded her, and to her family.

Two children were born to them, Charles H. and Susie. The son married Miss Josephine Slade Hill, of Ansonia, February 22d, 1886. Their children are Kenneth Slade, born April 23d, 1887, and Charles Booth, born August 4th, 1888. Their father died March 20th, 1890. The daughter of Mr. C. B. Alling, Susie, married Doctor Charles T. Baldwin, of Birmingham, September 14th, 1887. Their son, Harold Alling, was born in Rome, Italy, January 31st, 1890. Doctor and Mrs. Baldwin resided in the Italian capital three years. A highly lucrative practice was won there, but the death of Mrs. Alling summoned them home to minister to and comfort, as a daughter only can, her father bereft of her mother.

Mr. C. B. Alling is a Methodist in religious faith, and holds the leading truths of the New Testament with all the grasp of undying hope. He is liberal toward his church, and every good cause, and is held in high respect wherever known.

George E. Barber, the junior partner of the firm of Howard & Barber, was born in Illinois in 1859, but came to New Hampshire with his parents when three years of age. His mercantile life commenced in Canaan, N. H., at the age of 16 years. Three years later he went to Milford, N. H., in the employ of his brother, H. H. Barber, who had bought out a dry goods and carpet store there, and here he mastered the details of the business, remaining until the formation of the present firm. Mr. Barber belongs to the Masonic fraternity, is a P. G. in the I. O. O. F. and a P. G. Commander of the state of Connecticut in the U. O. G. C. The store of this concern at 268 and 270 Main street, occupying two floors, 38 by 85 feet, is the largest and best lighted in the Naugatuck valley. They carry a stock of dry goods, millinery, carpets and wall papers that for quality and variety can hardly be surpassed. By close application and constant attention to every detail of the many departments, and by the broad and liberal policy uniformly pursued, these gentlemen have had the satisfaction of a constantly increasing trade. The firm are about to enlarge their business by the occupation of the fine new block, just erected, adjoining their present store. Four floors, or nearly 12,000 square feet of floor space, will be used for the display and sale of first-class furniture.

ROBERT N. BASSETT, manufacturer, Birmingham, Conn., was born in the town of Derby August 8th, 1821, and is the son of David Bassett, who is remembered with honor by his townsmen. He was a distinguished citizen, who carried out the golden rule as closely as illus-



Walter A. Bapett





trations are found in human life. His son, Robert N., has inherited in large measure the qualities of his father, and is held in the community in like esteem. He succeeded to the business of his father, that of auger making, but the demands of trade brought about changes, and now he manufactures corset clasps, bone wire and skirt wire.

His manufacturing plant is located on the bank of the Housatonic river, and covers a plot of ground 85 by 368 feet. A large force of workmen is constantly employed turning out the products of the factory. Some of the workmen have been in Mr. Bassett's employ more than a quarter of a century. So unusually kind and confiding is the relation of all the employees to the employer that no workman has anything but love and esteem to express toward the generous employer. Mr. Bassett is very generous in his treatment of all, very considerate of their well-being, and seems never to forget what he would like if he were in their place. Hence there is no danger of a strike in Mr. Bassett's factory. This mutual trust and consideration has created a very pleasant feeling throughout the factory, especially between the employer and those who have been longest in his employ; so that the situation in this respect is as nearly ideally perfect as either the labor agitator or Christianity can hope to create.

The manner of life which has made Mr. Bassett so much a favorite in his factory has made him a favorite in the town where he lives. A little incident illustrates the general feeling. One of the sick whom he visited was a little boy. When the lad was recovering Mr. Bassett took him to ride in his carriage. In after years he was heard to say, "he wished he had a million; he would give half of it to Mr. Bassett." Mr. Bassett's wealth, family history and social position give him prominence where they should, but the poor, as the rich, speak of him in terms of neighborly love and honor. He is affable to all, he is generous to every good object, subscribing a leading sum often, and clean of character as he is honest of purpose. A large business has brought him into contact with many prominent business men, while his hearty, generous nature has made him foremost in many of the best enterprises of his generation. The soldiers found him to be their friend in need, and when Governor Buckingham called a conference upon military matters of Connecticut representative men during the dark days of the rebellion, Mr. Bassett was invited from Derby. It is proper to say just here that the material for this sketch, as the material for so many others, came from the neighbors of the subject. A character becomes measured quite accurately by life-long neighbors, and in the community where he has lived.

Of business positions besides his own manufactory, Mr. Bassett has been president of the Derby Savings Bank, director of the Birmingham National Bank, president of the Derby Rubber Company, director of the Ousatonic Water Company for several years and president of the Derby Comb Company.

He has steadily and quite persistently refused political honor, but in 1863 allowed his townsmen to elect him to the legislature, and some local responsibilities have been thrust upon him which he could not turn aside. His religious faith is that of his family history, the Congregationalist, and he has been an officeholder for the society for many years.

He married October 5th, 1842, Miss Elizabeth S. Downs, of Derby, and his family includes two daughters, Miss Mary E. Bassett and Mrs. Jennie B. Sawyer, of Derby.

ROYAL M. BASSETT, manufacturer, Birmingham, Conn., was born in Derby, Conn., October 22d, 1828. His ancestry is easily traced backward to John Basset, of New Haven. The colonial records speak of him in 1647, and give his death as occurring in February, 1653. His son, Robert, located in Stratford, where he married his wife. The settlement of the Bassett family now showed a tendency to move up the Housatonic and Naugatuck rivers. Sergeant Robert, son of Robert Bassett, purchased land in Derby, and presented it to his second son, Samuel Bassett. Samuel came to Derby when he was only 17 years of age. The land given him by his father embraced several parcels, and one of them was at the foot of Great hill, known now as the "Old Bassett Place"; and others were on Great hill. There lived Ebenezer, son of Samuel; and James, son of Ebenezer, the great-grandfather of Royal M. But William, son of James and grandfather of Royal M., was not born for farming so much as for trading. He acquired an early discipline in a country store up the Housatonic river. A thrifty nature made him saving of his earnings and ambitious to enlarge upon them. In time he was able to open a country store for himself, and chose Derby as the location. Derby had been a town of considerable commercial importance both because of its West India and coastwise shipping, and it was still showing the evidences of its fortune in having a large trade. Bridgeport by the turnpike northward into western Connecticut had sapped considerable of the business life of Derby, for Bridgeport was an open port all the year round, while the Housatonic river was closed to shipping a part of the year; still Derby was the port for a considerable trade. Mr. Bassett grasped "the skirts of happy chance."

One child was born to him and his wife, Lucy Smith—Sheldon Bassett. He was carefully trained under the loving eye of a judicious mother. But manners and morals were given strict attention to, for Mrs. Bassett was a model of propriety and grace, and strictly religious in all her habits. Having such a mother, Sheldon could not fail to be the admirable character he was. His father spared no pains to give the lad all the advantages of schooling and social life within reach of the home. Gradually Sheldon Bassett was introduced to the mysteries of successful trading, and became the partner of his father in the store. And when the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent,



Royal M. Bassetto



Sheldon Bassett opened a store in Birmingham. As a reason for the removal it may be said that the commercial status of Derby Center was now changing. Business was shifting its greater volume to the new location. Because of its superior opportunities for manufacturing, Birmingham, though contiguous to Derby Center, was outstripping her neighbor. As manufacturing was coming into the town, the thoughts of the more ambitious young men were widening with the expanding business life. The Colburns, of Westville, had established their foundry in Derby in 1836, and Sheldon Bassett perceiving a business opportunity of much promise, became a partner in the new concern.

His prominence in town matters was evidenced before this date, for he had already been town clerk and justice of the peace, and had established a reputation for public and administrative virtue. And the evidence of his business career only widened his influence in the town.

In 1850 the foundry was made a joint stock corporation under the name of "The Birmingham Iron Foundry," and Sheldon Bassett became more and more a controlling factor, until the management passed into his hands.

But Mr. Bassett held other business relations in town. He was one of the original incorporators of the Derby Savings Bank, and touched the business life of the town at many points. He was a good counselor, and his opinion was often sought for as valuable on the questions affecting the welfare of his neighbors and his town. He married Miss Harriett Hull, daughter of Lieutenant Samuel Hull, one of the officers of the revolutionary army. She was a woman of fine spirit, of earnest purpose and pure religious character—the well-suited counterpart of her husband. Her children have called her "blessed" since they were able to appreciate the value of the example she gave them.

To Sheldon Bassett and his wife, Harriet Hull, were born six children: William H., Royal M., Mrs. Ellen S. Norton, Mrs. Lavinia De Forrest, Mrs. Lucy P. Colt and Theodore S. Of this family of children only two are living: Royal M., whose portrait appears in this history, and Theodore S., one of the business men of Birmingham. Upon the death of Sheldon Bassett, in 1864, his son, Royal M., succeeded to the presidency of the Birmingham Iron Foundry, and his other son, Theodore S., was chosen secretary and treasurer. The capital stock of the company, which was originally \$32,000, has since been increased to \$100,000; and under the management of these two brothers, the business has been very prosperous.

Royal M. Bassett obtained his education in the common schools of his native town, and in academies in New Haven and in Haddam. The fortune he inherited was only slender, and, like many of his social peers, he must make his own business career. He was endowed with

executive ability of the first order, and his gift of administration was presided over by high moral purpose and social qualities, which won confidence and often love. Hence he became the companion of honorable men, among whom he maintained the distinction of wise foresight and virtue in all his transactions. If his business judgment sometimes failed, it is only fair to say that oftener it led him aright, and his accumulations of wealth are visible to all observers. Mr. Bassett was one of the principal promoters of the Ousatonic Water Company, which has made the great mills of Shelton a reality, giving to the enterprise the strength of his influence, and investing capital in its stock. He was also one of the incorporators of the Derby Gas Company. Besides, his interest in popular education has made him an ardent friend of the public schools, and the splendid school building in the Sixth district of Birmingham is largely a monument of his wise persistent efforts.

But Derby and its affairs were not large enough to compass the breadth of his spirit. He is seen outside of his state, along the line of the Pacific railroad, building an expensive rolling mill, and preparing the iron rails for the rolling stock of the trans-continental highway. He is also seen in Utah as president of the Northern railroad, and again as trustee of the Utah Western railroad, and later, when that railroad was reorganized under the name of the Utah Nevada, he was appointed president. He is also vice-president and secretary of the Rubber Reclaiming Company, having an office in New York but embracing five factories in different manufacturing centers. And though his investments are held at many points, they are so appointed and controlled that he has abundant leisure for what recreation or travel he may care to enter upon.

On November 9th, 1858, he married Miss Frances J. Stratton, of Bridgeport, Conn., a lady of kindred tastes, shown both within and without their home; but she died February 14th, 1876. Three children were born to them; Lucy L. Bassett, who died at the age of 19 years, February 4th, 1879; Royal E. Bassett, about 4 years of age, who died January 9th, 1865, and Sheldon H. Bassett, born April 11th, 1867, now of New York.

Doctor George L. Beardsley, son of Doctor Lucius N. Beardsley, of Milford, Conn., was born May 12th, 1848. He received his preliminary education at the Milford High School, and subsequently was graduated at the Hopkins Grammar School, New Haven. He graduated from Yale College in 1870. He was a high stand man, and by virtue of his scholarship, became a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. In 1873 the degree of A. M. was given him. He attended the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, receiving the degree of M. D. in 1873. Subsequently he was appointed surgeon in charge of the out door department for the surgical relief of the poor, remaining till the fall of 1874. In February, 1875, he commenced practice in

Birmingham, Conn. Doctor Beardsley has held several prominent positions, serving as assistant surgeon of the Second Regiment, C. N. G., for five years, a member for twelve years of the board of education, and acting school visitor for the past three years. He is the medical examiner for Derby, having been appointed five years ago. Doctor Beardsley is a literary man in medicine, as well as a surgeon, and a contributor occasionally to the leading medical journals. In 1874 he married the eldest daughter of A. H. Alling, a leading manufacturer of Birmingham. He has a son, 13 years old, and a daughter four years old.

William D. Billerwell was born in Westport, Conn., in 1851, and came to Birmingham May 15th, 1870. He had previously been engaged in New York as machinist. He entered the employ of the Birmingham Iron Foundry Company in 1870, and was made foreman in 1882. He was master mechanic at one time, but resigned the position. He now has charge of the light machinery department. He married Flora Burt, of Hillsboro, N. H., in 1883. He is a member of Birmingham Lodge, F. & A. M., and Ansonia Chapter, R. A. M.; also the Pequot Tribe of Birmingham.

THOMAS S. BIRDSEVE, of Birmingham, Conn., was born in Huntington, Conn., October 11th, 1840, and removed to Birmingham the following spring. The Birdseye family of Connecticut is one of the oldest and most honorable in the list of notable families. Its numerical strength is equaled only by the generally high character of the family name. The descendants are now found in most of the states and territories of the Union. The first ancestor of this family known in Connecticut was John Birdseye, who came from Reading, in Berkshire, England, in the year 1636. It is stated in history that he came first to New Haven, thence to Milford in 1639, but soon removed to Stratford. He was the first deacon of the Congregational church in that town, and in those days the diaconate was an institution of great power and dignity—a conspicuous person—second only to the parish minister of the established church. Of the only two grandsons bearing the name, the eldest, Abel, located near Middletown, Conn., and dropped the final “e” of the name; but Joseph, who remained in Stratford, retained the name in its original form.

Although a representation of the “coat of arms” was until recently known to be in Stratford, that branch of the family might have felt the significance of their name, had they also known that in “The Register of the Book of Heraldry” of the English Nobility the following account of the origin of the name is given: “During the reign of one of the Edwards, Utopha, a maid of honor to the Queen, was hunting with her hawk. The hawk was disappointed in seizing its expected prey, turned in a rage of passion and directed its maddening flight towards its mistress, for the purpose of injuring her, when, on the spur of the moment, one of the attendant cavaliers, Eldred by

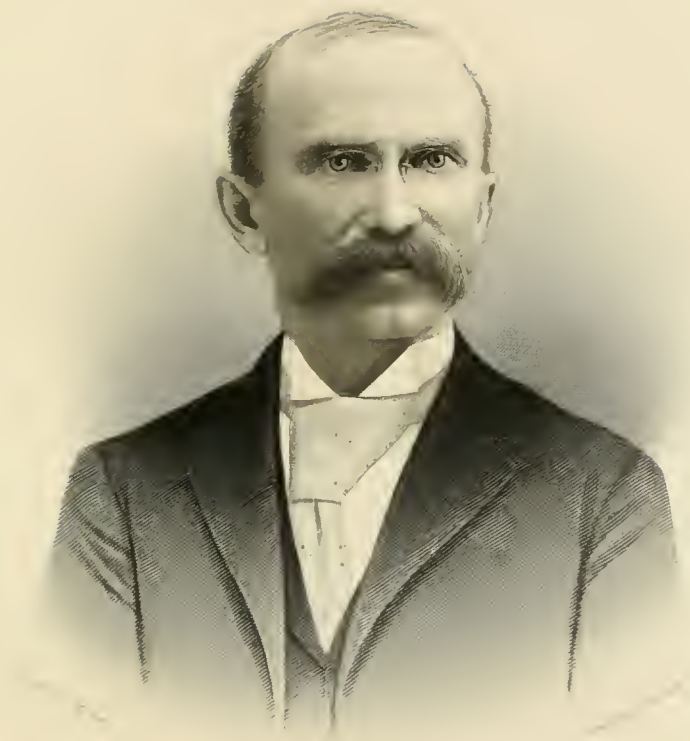
name, shot an arrow from his bow, piercing the bird through its eyes, thus saving his mistress from all harm." For this service and his skill at archery, Eldred was knighted with the name of "Sir Birdseye." His "Coat of Arms" was a hawk, with both eyes pierced by an arrow. The motto on the shield was in Latin, rendered in English, "Held the bird by sight."

There were eminent men in the line of descent, among whom were Reverend Nathan Birdseye, his children and grandchildren, who became noted in many professions—as soldiers, as statesmen, as college professors and ministers of the Gospel. Reverend Nathan Birdseye was born in Stratford in the year 1714, and lived to be more than 103 years of age. He was college bred and took his degree from Yale University in 1736, and became pastor of the West Haven Congregational church in 1742; preached there 16 years and then moved to his patrimonial estate in Stratford, where he lived until his death. His descendants were very numerous, and seven of the fifth generation had been born at the time of his decease. About 100 of his own descendants composed a part of the great concourse who attended his obsequies. He retained his mental faculties in remarkable vigor until his death. He was a man of deep piety and great faith, a firm believer in the efficacy of prayer. When 100 years of age he ascended the pulpit stairs in the Presbyterian church, and blind and tottering as he was, preached an acceptable sermon at the ordination of his grandson to the ministry, and offered prayer with old-time fervor. At the age of 103, a short time before his death, the venerable preacher again prayed in the church.

It is not purposed to now trace the lineage of the Birdseye family—a task which could only be embraced by a large volume. A writer of an article, published in "Lippincott's Magazine," July, 1879, says "the Birdseye pedigree is the central stem of all Stratford genealogies."

In the present day the Birdseye family is represented in Birmingham by Thomas S. Birdseye. His father, Thaddeus G. Birdseye, was born at the family homestead, a farm only a few miles from Birmingham, in the town of Huntington. There is in the home of his son a large oil painting of great value, reproducing minutely the old homestead. There is the ancient house, the well sweep, the servants, the horse, and the other buildings, all speaking of the home life of those early settlers. There Thaddeus G. Birdseye was born September 9th, 1810, and lived, until as clerk with a New York wholesale grocery house, he began his business life. Soon after he entered the post office at Bridgeport, Conn., where he remained some years. In the spring of 1836 he moved to Birmingham, and he was engaged successively in the grocery and dry goods trades. He became postmaster as the successor of Henry Atwater, and held the office eight years; he was town clerk also four years, and was then chosen secretary and





Thos S. Pridgen



treasurer of the Derby Savings Bank, a position he filled for 20 years, until his death at 70 years of age, August 15th, 1880.

Mr. Birdseye is described as a quiet, unobtrusive, genial man, one who always minded his own business, a devoted member of the Episcopal church, a faithful official, who gave great satisfaction in the discharge of his financial duties, a tried and trusted friend of the poor. There is an inner history here, beautiful as rare. There are many in every community who have but little of this world's goods and who are in need of a faithful, wise, loving counselor and friend, one who will kindly and discreetly help them, invest their money, counsel in its outlay, devise, make and be custodians of their wills, perhaps become administrators of their estates; and Mr. Birdseye was the rare person to whom this considerable class turned for that brotherly aid they needed. Without remuneration he did for the love of man all the helpful things that only those who so received can appreciate, and their numbers were amazingly large. He married Miss Mary A. Shelton, daughter of Alfred and Ruth B. Shelton, of Huntington, July 25th, 1839. Their children are Thomas Shelton and Mary Louisa Birdseye.

The same general and many of the special traits of the father appear in the character of his only son, Thomas S. Birdseye. He entered the Birmingham post office and served as assistant for eight years, and later acted as assistant town clerk during his father's incumbency. After the death of his father, in 1880, he was chosen his successor as secretary and treasurer of the Derby Savings Bank, a position he fills with all the efficiency, fidelity and popularity of his honored predecessor. Cautious, wise, faithful, loving, he has succeeded to all the respect and esteem in society which his father held. The widow, the orphan and the aged all trust him and seek his counsel and his friendly service, and advice is given willingly and gratuitously to all. It is needless to say that a man of such character is held in high esteem and loving respect. The very gold of worth has been shown in the hearts of both father and son.

He married Miss Mary A., daughter of William and Eleanor Smith, of Birmingham, Conn. Their children are: Bessie Rebecca, Henry Shelton (teller in the Derby Savings Bank), Eleanor Louise and Mary Anna.

RUFUS W. BLAKE was born in Norfolk, Mass., May 3d, 1841. The careers of some of the typical self-made and prosperous business men of New England have a dramatic interest attaching to them, and all the more so since the dramatic element is enacted in real life rather than in the imagination of the playwright. Mr. Blake furnishes an excellent illustration of the self-made and prosperous business man. He was helped forward at the beginning by no favored birth or inheritance of wealth. He was the son of a farmer, but did not take to farming as though he was born for it. Nor was he satisfied, when

first he began work, with being a bobbin boy in a cotton factory, nor yet with the painter's trade, which he afterward learned. And yet the painter's trade seems now to have been genius seeking out its calling. He next learned the art of cabinet making, and this art introduced him to the employ of Taylor & Farley, of Worcester, Mass., manufacturers of melodeons. The smallness of that enterprise in 1863 demanded an all-around fitness in the employees, and they each and all became familiar and really expert in all parts of organ building and finishing.

Four years later (1867) Mr. Blake formed a partnership with J. W. Loring, under the firm style of Loring & Blake, for the manufacture of organs. But six years later (1873) the Sterling Organ Company, of Derby, Conn., needed an infusion of new life, and Mr. Blake was offered the position of manager. The financial structure on which the company then rested was weak. To those who knew that structure it is indeed surprising that the storm which centered in Black Friday, a date only a few months later than Mr. Blake's entrance into the company, did not sweep it away. But the manager's ability and indefatigable energy kept it intact in all those terrible stormy days.

Again, its recuperative energy was sorely tried in 1875, for fire swept away the entire plant, except what could not burn, and destroyed much of that. As fast as the factory could be restored it was, and organs were built as before. But in 1887 another disaster befell the company in the failure of a great musical house of New York, and a loss of \$75,000 to the company seemed inevitable. But by methods carefully worked, which it seems no other than he could have devised, and at the same time worked them, the indebtedness to the company was paid. Since that time the company has been very prosperous, losing nothing and greatly increasing its product.

In 1885 it was deemed advisable to add piano making to the industry. Enlargement of the factory followed, until now it is one of the largest establishments of its kind in the country, having more than 150,000 feet of floor space. As an indication of its growth, the statistics show an output in the new factory, following the fire of 1876, of 100 organs per month, but in 1878 1,200 per month. And from the piano department have been sold more than 12,000 pianos since 1885. At the annual meeting, in August, 1890, the capital stock was increased to \$210,000.

The credit of this great growth and thrift has been attributed chiefly to Mr. Blake, who was secretary and treasurer from 1874 until 1887, and, since that time, the president of the company.

An analysis of Mr. Blake's habits as a business man, places his success in life in three particulars.

1. *A thrifty management of the factory he controls.* He is the personal supervisor of the factory. Knowing by wide and long experience in organ building how every part can be most economically and rapidly



*Rufus W Blake*



made, he also knows at a glance when the workmen are best serving the factory's output. And trained himself, he can select trained men, and put them, only, in every department. There is no concealment under his eye, and the employees strive for the best results. Skilled in designing as well as construction, Mr. Blake exhibits an elegance in his organs and pianos which attracts public notice and makes his instruments popular.

2. *Thrift in the outside management of the company's purchases and sales.* The materials to be worked up into organs and pianos are purchased with keen foresight of the best interests of the company's treasury; while the completed goods of the factory are laid, by wide, judicious advertising, in sight, if possible, of the people of all lands.

3. *Conscientiousness, or high quality in manufacture and the scrupulous keeping of all business engagements and contracts.* The instruments offered to the public are found to have character in them, and to be void of disappointment, while the money centers where the company's financial transactions are done are inspired with perfect confidence in the pledges of the factory. The inner history of saving to the company the impending loss occasioned by the New York failure already referred to, is a striking proof how fully the word and character of the company's president can be relied upon in business circles.

These three elements of business manhood have given Mr. Blake a very high standing as a business man. He has sought to be nothing else than equal to the most worthy of business men. Politics have not allured him from his industry, though his townsmen have insisted that he should serve them as one of the burgesses of the borough of Birmingham.

Mr. Blake's religious affiliations are Baptist. December 29th, 1865, he married Miss Hannah Marsh, of Worcester, Mass. His residence, on Elizabeth street, both within and without, exhibits everywhere the evidence of cultured taste and manners of life. Mr. and Mrs. Blake are much enjoyed by their friends for their domestic and social virtues and graces.

GEORGE BLAKEMAN, born in Derby October 10th, 1799, was the son of Gideon Blakeman, carpenter and builder. At that early date the school advantages were limited as compared with those of the present time; yet Derby could boast of an academy, situated on what is now known as Academy hill. Mr. Blakeman attended school there until he was 14 years of age, then learned the trade of shoemaking, and became master of his time at 17 years of age.

A few years were spent as journeyman, and then, at about 21 years of age, he began business for himself, employing men to manufacture shoes and boots and selling the surplus product in New York. He conducted this business until 1837, and then went into partnership with a well known Derby citizen for the sale of dry goods and groceries. But in 1846 he entered as manager the joint stock enterprise of

the Ansonia Boot & Shoe Company. But the term of service lasted only four years, when he became secretary and treasurer of the Ansonia Clothing Company. He then went to Birmingham, and at the organization of the Shelton Company—a company manufacturing tacks, all kinds of small nails and all sorts of bolts—Mr. Blakeman became secretary and treasurer. Here he continued until December, 1889, when failing eyesight, at the age of 90 years, seemed to counsel him to put the work in charge of younger men.

A glance only at this long business life suffices for the conclusion that Mr. Blakeman has been a man of remarkable vitality. And now with intellectual power but slightly, if at all, impaired, he might go on casting up accounts and managing finances. His memory is vigorous and quite ready, and his nerves are steady as those of much younger men. His powers of conversation are entertaining, and the past is a vivid panorama which he takes pleasure in reviewing by explanation and recital.

All this is the more remarkable since, in youth and early manhood, he was so sickly and feeble it was thought he could live but a very short time. In fevers and sickness, in pain and suffering, he was given over to die, and for more than 30 years was little better physically than an invalid. But he had immense energy that could not be curbed into quietness, and hence he kept at business or work until his infirmities passed by, and now for 50 years has been comparatively rugged in health.

Mr. Blakeman attributes his long life and gradual physical improvement to his total abstinence from all medicines whatever, and he desires to commend his habit to people in general. Not since earlier than his twenty-first year has he taken any medicine whatever, believing that nature is the great healer, nor has he employed a physician, however sick he might be, believing that drugs are poisons rather than aids to the enfeebled body. He has aimed to select food, such as nature, in normal condition, craves, and has not drunk tea or coffee since 1833.

Mr. Blakeman has, at different times, held positions of trust outside of his own office work, as director of the Birmingham National Bank, and of the Derby Savings Bank; but has now resigned all these to other hands. In politics he is a republican, and in religion casts his allegiance to the faith of his ancestors and of his family, who are Congregationalists.

Mr. Blakeman has been twice married; first in February, 1824, to Miss Julia Ann Tomlinson, of Derby, who died April 21st, 1879. He was married again April 14th, 1880, to Miss Mary A. Johnson, of Orange, N. J. Mr. Blakeman's residence is on Broad street, Derby, overlooking a picturesque portion of Birmingham and Shelton. And now retired from active business life, he occupies his time attending to his estate and family and entertaining friends. For amusement he





*Geo. Blakinnon*



plays the organ, of which he is fond, and takes photographic views with his camera, of beautiful scenes in Derby and vicinity.

Frederick N. Bradley, born in Derby in 1835, is descended from David, born 1803; Abijah, born 1769; Enos, born 1726; Enos, born 1699; John, born 1674; Abraham, born 1650, and William. The last named came to Saybrook from England in 1637, and was made a freeman in 1644. Enos, the second, was the first of the family to come to Derby in 1746. He had 11 children. One of his sons was killed in the revolutionary war, at New Haven. David Bradley married Susan C. Clark, of Milford, in 1834. Their children are: Frederick N. and Sarah F. Frederick N. married Louise G. Hooper, of Ansonia, in 1873. David Bradley died in 1885. He was the founder of the sash and blind factory, situated in the southeast part of Derby on Two-mile brook, in 1832. Agur Gilbert was in company with him for a time. He retired and Mr. Bradley's son, Frederick N., became a partner. The business is still carried on by the latter, under the firm name of D. Bradley & Son

CHARLES S. CHAFFEE, machinist, Derby, Conn., was born in Windsor Locks, Conn., January 25th, 1836. His parents, Anson and Sally M. (Whipple) Chaffee, moved to Derby when he was quite young, and placed him early in the district school. But it was not his good fortune to continue there longer than his tenth year of age. He then went out from home to work on a farm in Stratford. Four years passed by and he returned to Derby to work with his father in the rolling mill. But at 17 years of age he went to Meriden to learn the trade of machinist, and remained there until 1858. He then returned to Derby again, and after a few years found employment in the factory of R. N. Bassett, where he has been a trusted, efficient, superior workman ever since.

In this long period of service in a single factory, Mr. Chaffee has won to himself the good name which is better than riches. His townsmen know they can rely upon two qualities, his good judgment and his integrity, and hence they have chosen him to responsible public positions. He was made justice of the peace, and before his court, during his two years of office, many cases came. He did not have the technical legal education, but he made of purpose the law of right between man and man his guide, supplemented by what legal lore a private and diligent study of the statutes of the state might afford, and his court acquired the reputation of impartial justice, tempered by humanity.

It was the year 1886. Labor agitation had made the choice of a representative of the working classes desirable, and Mr. Chaffee, as an intelligent, upright citizen, trustworthy in the highest sense, was chosen by the people at the polls for representative to the general assembly. In the "House" he was made a member of the labor committee. Again, in 1888, the choice of the people rested on him for the

same office, by an increased majority. And when his term of service at the capitol expired, he was chosen first selectman of the town of Derby for two successive years, a position he held in 1891.

His political status is that of moderate democracy, and he has so fully the confidence of his townsmen that, though he cannot command the patronage which wealth naturally bestows, numbers of the opposing party have voted for him at different times. The tax-payer knows that while his administration may not be distinguished as brilliant in new schemes, it is yet judicious and thoroughly honest and abreast of the times.

Mr. Chaffee is president of the Up-Town Burying Association and member of the school committee. He is also treasurer of the North American Endowment Association, a member of the Pequots, and of the Improved Order of Red Men, and of the United Friends. His relations to the G. A. R. are most cordial, and while he was never on the field with the veterans, his father and four brothers served in the Union army.

September 2d, 1858, he married Mary J., daughter of Benjamin and Polly Chalker, of Durham, Conn. One daughter has been born in the family, May 3d, 1859—Mrs. Ida May Hubbard, wife of Frank C. Hubbard, of Middletown, Conn. They were married November 16th, 1881. Two daughters have been born to them—Ruth and Julia.

Captain Sanford E. Chaffee, born in East Windsor, Conn., in 1833, is a son of Anson Chaffee. With his father and one brother, James W., he enlisted April 19th, 1861, in Company D, 2d Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, for three months. They were in the first battle of Bull Run. Sanford E. was then first lieutenant. At the expiration of the term the father, Anson, reënlisted in the 10th Regiment as musician. Another son, Harvey, enlisted as private in the same regiment, and served till the close of the war. James W. reënlisted in the 1st Regiment Cavalry for three years, and was promoted to orderly sergeant of Company B. Sanford E. raised a company of 140, received his commission as captain, and joined the 20th Regiment. He was in all the battles with this regiment until after the battle of Gettysburg, when he was sent to the Baltimore Hospital. He afterward rejoined his regiment, and was transferred to the Southwest, under General Hooker. He remained in the service until after the battle of Chattanooga, when on account of the injuries he had received, he resigned, and was appointed by the governor of the state as recruiting officer, serving as such until the close of the war. He then removed to Virginia, and took part in the reconstruction of the state as superintendent of registry of votes under the reconstruction act. He remained in Virginia till 1872, when he returned to Birmingham and entered the employ of the Derby Railroad Company as depot agent, which position he still holds. He was elected a member of the



Chas. S. Chaffee



legislature in 1886. He has always taken a deep interest in the G. A. R., and has been post commander two terms.

CHARLES E. CLARK was born March 18th, 1850, in Derby, Conn. In the first years of the nineteenth century the town of Orange was peopled by many families by the name of Clark. One of those families was the ancestor of the subject of this sketch. His grandparents were Nehemiah and Sarah Clark, well-to-do and excellent farming people. In the year 1820 they both died, stricken with the same fever, and passed away each within a few days of the other.

Their son, Merritt Clark, and father of Charles E., was born in 1815, and was left an orphan at the tender age of five years. But a favoring Providence watched over him, and when he had grown to sufficient age he entered as an apprentice to the trade of carpenter. Having learned the trade he did joiner work for a few years in New Haven, and then came to Derby in December, 1839. Here he carried on the business of builder and contractor, in partnership with Mr. Willis P. Sperry, and later, in 1842, under the firm name of Hotchkiss, Clark & Co. This company was afterward merged in the Derby Building & Lumber Company, in existence at this writing. It is remembered of him that during his career as a builder in 1845, he built the first house in Ansonia. He remained with the Derby Building & Lumber Company until 1861, when he retired to enter the coal trade. But in 1877 he turned over his coal interests to two of his sons, George B. and William J. Clark.

He was married October 27th, 1841, to Mary A., daughter of Benjamin and Anne Hodge of Derby, a woman of great motherly goodness and piety, whose instructions are not departed from by her large family. She died November 27th, 1889. Their children were: Emily, Mary E., wife of Edson L. Bryant, of Ansonia; George B., Julia V., wife of William R. Steele, of Ansonia; Charles E. and William J. All of this large family are living at this writing, and it is a very happy feature of the family life that all are settled near home. The three sons have built residences close to the homestead for the purpose of living as near as possible to the parents who gave them training and love for so many years. The family associations and life of these children, with their parents in the center, were of the most delightful kind. Possessing natures of great affability, these children worked steadily for the happiness of each other, and found their highest earthly joy within the family circle. And when the circle was broken in 1889 by the death of the mother, the common pleasure was only chastened into the greater fondness for each other.

Mr. Merritt Clark is a man of sterling virtue and character. He has lived a life of every day usefulness in the community in which he has so long had his home. His reputation for sound judgment and business ability is of the best, his keen perception and untiring industry having brought him success in all his business undertakings.

It is a tribute to his business standing that for over a quarter of a century he has been a member of the board of directors of the Birmingham National Bank. He is now passing the evening of his life greatly respected and loved, and the more so where he is known best, and though he has retired out of the active business community to live principally in the circle of his special friends, he has left the good name which will not die in the wider world.

The second son of Merritt Clark is Charles E. His early fortune did not favor him with an extended period of school life, for at 14 years of age he went from the school to a clerkship in the Birmingham post office. This position he held for only two years, when at the age of 16 years he was chosen teller of the Birmingham National Bank, February 12th, 1866. So well did he discharge the duties of this position that he was certainly in the line of promotion, and was made assistant cashier June 22d, 1880. Scarcely four years passed by when Mr. Joseph Arnold, who had served as cashier with distinguished ability for more than 30 years, died, and Mr. Clark was unanimously chosen his successor January 15th, 1884.

The able president of the bank is Mr. Edward N. Shelton, of Birmingham, but outside business matters have rightfully absorbed much of his attention, and the internal management of the bank has fallen largely upon the cashier.

Mr. Clark's long acquaintance with the business men and business condition of Birmingham and vicinity, gave him the ground work for a successful administration. His own good judgment and affability in all circles, whether business or social, have made him a competent and popular officer, with whom the business community has ever been in the most cordial relations. The high standing of the Birmingham National Bank has not only been fully kept up, but advanced under Mr. Clark's administration. His wide acquaintance in Derby and elsewhere has been gained in part by his genial manners. Any one can approach him, and may be sure of coming from the interview with that feeling which great good nature inspires in one meeting another who has it. And this quality, united with unsullied business integrity and dispatch, has made him one of the most trusted and popular of officers.

Mr. Clark's banking duties have given little time for other matters, but he has been called to serve in many directorships, treasurerships, etc. He is a director of the Ousatonic Water Company, the Derby Silver Company, the Derby Gas Company and the Young Men's Christian Association, and has been the treasurer of the town of Derby for a number of years. He is also treasurer of the Derby and Shelton Board of Trade. He has been a member of Ousatonic Lodge, No. 6, I. O. O. F., for some 15 years, and an active supporter of the purposes of the order, and is the treasurer of the Lodge. He has recently become a member of King Hiram Lodge, No. 12, F. & A. M.





Chas Clark



He has from his youth been a member of St. James Episcopal church, Birmingham, and for many years a member of the vestry. He is a broad churchman.

There are only two questions respecting a matter, and upon the answer his coöperation hinges. Is the matter in question a positive good in itself? and secondly, will it advance either the material, social or moral welfare of the community? If these questions are answered in the affirmative, he becomes at once a friend, and his friendship is not cool or sluggish, but ardent and active.

He married October 21st, 1874, Miss Lillie Hawkins, daughter of Moses H. and Eunice E. Hawkins, of New Haven. Their children are: Frank M., born August 11th, 1877; Emma A., born August 25th, 1879, and Ralph H., born April 24th, 1888. Mr. Clark lives on Academy hill, Uptown Derby, the oldest and one of the most pleasant portions of the town. There the friends and acquaintances of the family meet a cordial welcome, which makes them desire to come again.

JOSIAH M. COLBURN, M. D., was born in Stafford, Conn., December 20th, 1799. Doctor Colburn's ancestors are easily traced backward a little way to Daniel Colburn. Trumbull, in his "History of Connecticut," says that the town of Stafford was surveyed in 1718, and that the settlement of the town began the next spring, 1719. And one of the few pioneer settlers whose name he records, was Daniel Colburn. It is the tradition of him preserved in the family that he owned a large tract of land in the town, and by division of it was able to furnish his several sons with farms. He is described as a man of many ideas and enterprises. In addition to farming he manufactured potash and bricks. He built a saw mill and grist mill for their several uses. He was a man of very generous nature, so that the amount of his own estate was several times lessened by reason of his endorsements of his neighbors' financial paper. Certain it is that the family stock has been thrifty in all worldly affairs. So marked has this quality been that there was such a thing recognized as "Colburn luck," and frequently referred to. From the precision of many counting houses, the place of storing securities and vouchers, often, indeed quite constantly used, does not seem to be as safe as it was handy, but what if the hat worn from day to day should be half full of valuable papers they seemed to be safe enough, while also "Colburn luck" attended the daily business.

There was in the family stock a vein of wit and pleasantry which would even turn an occasional misfortune into an occasion of merriment. So everything was made to go well and not ill; and the Colburns shared to an unusual degree the pleasant side of life. They were hearty in manner, humorous, happy, and sometimes apparently careless, yet always fortunate in the outcome of events.

Doctor Josiah M. Colburn sprang from this stock. He lived in his native town in early boyhood, and while yet a boy of only 14 sum-

mers walked to New Haven, for the purpose of entering a lawyer's office there as office boy. As soon as he could he undertook the management and tuition of district schools in the suburbs of New Haven, and afterward he moved within the city to be instructor in a private school. In these years of opening manhood he gathered the means for a course of medical training at Yale University.

He commenced the practice of a physician in Orange in the summer of 1822. His patients were not numerous for the few first years, for the young physician must have time to win the confidence and patronage of the community; but his patrons multiplied with every year, until they spread far beyond the limits of the town, and especially into Derby and vicinity. Doctor Colburn now felt the need of being in the midst of a larger population; hence in 1840 he moved to Derby, taking up his residence nearly opposite the Congregational church. Here a large practice demanded his attention; but after a few years failing health made him less able to care for his patients. But his interest in them did not allow him to deny to them his services so much desired, until he was absolutely obliged to. In 1849 he gave up his practice, and attended, as he was able, other matters which claimed his attention.

As a physician Doctor Colburn was painstaking and self-sacrificing. Whatever he might do, he threw all his energy and power into. His temperament was so sympathetic, that he bore his patients as a constant anxiety on his heart, often losing sleep in wakeful thought of them. And no sacrifice was too great to be made, if only by making it he could give his patients relief from suffering.

But Doctor Colburn's tastes led him outside of his special profession. He possessed the practical judicial mind, and but few people were better equipped than he, by mental poise, to be arbitrator, or referee, or judge, in matters of difference between man and man, while his sense of right made him unswerving and unbiased. His fellow townsmen perceived these qualities in him, and chose him to be justice of the peace. Very naturally then a large volume of business drifted to him; and not a little of his time was occupied in business of a legal nature.

It should be said, too, that the Colburn's proverbially thrifty instincts in worldly affairs enabled him to gather property. He made investments wisely and nurtured dividends, and multiplied them in new investments. He held a number of important positions in business. At one time he was president of the Ansonia National Bank. He was also United States assistant assessor, besides being selectman of his town.

In matters of religion and piety, Doctor Colburn bore a likeness to the old-time Congregational physician. His Christianity was not so emotional as practical. It consisted more in good living than in the lively singing of hymns. In his opinion the old forms of faith and



*Imbolburn*



long recognized institutions of religion were true and steadfast, and must be observed for peace of mind and virtue in society. Hence he was a strict observer of the quietness and restfulness, as of the worship, of the Christian Lord's day. The recreative manners of Sabbath observance wounded his feelings, for he believed that the purpose of the day did not make it a holiday, but a holy day.

Doctor Colburn's partner in life was Miss Susan Clark, of Orange, Conn. They were married September 18th, 1825. Mrs. Colburn is a lady of fine tastes and cultivated manners. Her kindness of heart has made her always a very valuable friend, while her genial nature has made her a very agreeable companion.

Five children were born in Doctor Colburn's family, three of whom lived to adult years and two passed away in infancy. But the father and the mother outlived their children, and an untold pathos in their bereavements is felt here. Doctor Colburn was very domestic in his habits and loves, and the life of his family was one continuous summer day, except as clouded so dark by the death of every one of his children. One by one his grown daughter and two sons passed away, and he lived to bury them all. Then the father, too, passed out of sight, March 19th, 1882, leaving the wife and mother, whose evening of life already referred to, is beautiful.

The children were: Susan M., wife of Doctor William J. Whiting, died March 29th, 1874 (Doctor Whiting died August, 1889); Benjamin Colburn, manufacturer, Bridgeport, died June 25th, 1860; Addell Colburn, died in infancy, March 6th, 1837; Howard Colburn, manufacturer, Bridgeport, died February 4th, 1872; and Charlotte Colburn, who died in infancy August 14th, 1849. The grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Doctor and Mrs. Colburn are now living, and any of them who knew him cherish the fondest love of him, and honor his memory for the noble qualities he possessed. In these memories, and in the traditions of him which linger in the family, as inspiration and example, he still lives in the higher life of his descendants.

Edward J. Condon was born in Middlebury, Conn., in 1848, and came to Birmingham in 1859. He first engaged in manufacturing hoop-skirts in 1866. He was engaged with the Birmingham Iron Foundry as apprentice boy and was made foreman of the foundry department in 1880. He is a member of the A. O. F. of Birmingham. He married Bridget McMahon, of Derby, in 1870. They have three sons and four daughters.

Martin Fennelly, born in Ireland in 1841, came to America when nine years old. He came to Birmingham and learned the machinist trade here with the Birmingham Iron & Steel Company, remaining with them from 1858 to 1874. Since the latter year he has been in the employ of the Whitlock Machine Company, and has been foreman since 1880. He has about 60 men under his charge. He was married in 1868 to Mary A. Commerford, of Boston, Mass. They have three children.

EDWIN B. GAGER, lawyer, Birmingham, Conn., was born in Scotland, Conn., August 30th, 1852. It was his fortune to be a farmer's boy, son of Lewis and Harriet Gager, and to gather from farm life as from inheritance, a good stock of health and of practical sense for use in after years. Like most farmer's boys, he worked in the summer and attended school in winter until he was 17 years of age. Then, perceiving the advantages of a college education, he began to prepare for college at the Natchaug School, Willimantic, Conn. Among the first lessons he learned was that of self-reliance, for to gain the funds for further study he taught school in Hampton and Abington, Conn., and after completing his preparation he taught school in East Hampton, Conn., for one year. He then entered the Academic Department of Yale University, class of 1877, and during his academic life at Yale taught school two terms. In the university he so distinguished himself that he received several of the honors open to students. He was one of the editors of the *Yale Courant*, one of the Townsend speakers, and the class orator of the class of 1877. He was one of the competitors for prizes in English composition in both the sophomore and senior years, and won highest honors in both years.

After graduation, and in the fall of 1877, he accepted the position of principal of the Ansonia, Conn., public schools, and held it for four years. In the first of those four years he pursued post-graduate studies in history at Yale, and in the remaining three, law studies under the direction of Wooster & Torrance, of Birmingham. In the second year of public duty in the schools, Mr. Gager determined to study law, and applied for counsel to Judge Torrance, of Birmingham. The result of the conference was the selection of elementary law books, and Judge Torrance entered him in the firm of Wooster & Torrance as a student at law, little thinking of the close business relation which would exist between them before many years had passed.

Mr. Gager entered the office of Wooster & Torrance in July, 1881, and was admitted to the bar of Connecticut in October, 1881. He became a partner in the old and established firm in which he had been a law student, and the firm name of "Wooster & Torrance" was made to read "Wooster, Torrance & Gager," January 1st, 1882. After three years of prosperous law business had been conducted, in 1885 the firm was dissolved because of the appointment of Judge Torrance to the bench of the superior court. On April 1st of that year Mr. Gager entered into the new law partnership of "Wooster, Williams & Gager," and since then has continued in the active practice of the law.

Mr. Gager's interest in education has not died out, and he has served on the school board of the town of Derby. He became judge of the town court of Derby in May, 1889. He is a republican in politics, though never a seeker for political preferment. In June, 1890, he was appointed by the superior court one of the "Examining Committee for Admission to the Bar" of Connecticut. This is a distinction





Edwin B. Gager



worthy of notice, since it was the first state committee appointed for that purpose, and Mr. Gager is the only appointee from the bar of New Haven county, other than three of the professors of the Yale Law School.

Mr. Gager has literary tastes of a high order. His English is pure and chaste, idiomatic and expressive. He is an excellent literary critic. His speeches are sought for at local banquets and public meetings both in his town and elsewhere; and they always exhibit the thought and taste of the scholar. His law papers, so far as they betray the sources whence they come, are manifestly drawn as to form and literary style, from a scholarly mind and a cultured taste. He is fond of the work being done week by week by the *Nous Club*, of which he is a member, and follows the line of philosophical inquiry with keen relish. He has shown his interest not merely in the weekly discussions, but on the anniversary occasions, when his poems and addresses are among the exquisite parts of the programme.

Mr. Gager was married in October, 1885, to Miss Nellie A. Cotter, daughter of Samuel A. Cotter, who was for many years superintendent of the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company. He continued his residence in Ansonia until the spring of 1889, when he moved to his present residence on Atwater avenue, Birmingham. There himself and wife make their home delightful, not only to themselves, but for all their numerous friends. One son, Edwin B., Jr., was born to them July 15th, 1889.

Sidney E. Gesner, born in East Haven in 1852, is a son of John E. and Maria N. (Knapp) Gesner, and grandson of William H. Gesner. John E. died in July, 1858, when Sidney was six years old. Six years later he came to Birmingham with his mother. He had one brother, Eugene N., who died in 1876, and one sister, Araminta S. Sidney E. commenced to learn the carpenter trade when he was 18 years old, with the Beardsley Building Company, and finished when he was 21 years old. He has since followed his trade. He became a contractor and builder, and has built some of the finest structures in Ansonia, including the houses of Franklin Farrel, Thomas Wallace, Jr., and R. H. Tucker, and the Colburn Block, Ansonia, and many in Birmingham, including the residences of Frederick Hull, Henry Haugh, H. B. Peck and D. E. McMahon. He employs about 15 men. Mr. Gesner is also gaining quite a reputation as an architect, and is doing a large amount of work. He has held the office of selectman and member of the town committee of Derby. He married in 1872, Frances Beardsley, of Derby, and they have two children: Ada M. and Edwin S.

Agur Gilbert was born in Huntington, Conn., in 1807, and came to Derby in 1828. He learned the joiner's trade, and was at one time in company with David Bradley, in the manufacture of sash and blinds. Afterward, with his three sons, he built the turning factory in the southeast part of the town of Derby, on the Two-mile brook, in 1866.

He married Mary L. Johnson, of Orange. They had two daughters and three sons: David J., died 1872; William F., and Alfred L. The father died in 1887, and since this time the business has been conducted by the sons, William F. and Alfred L. The daughters are: Susan M. and Mary E. William F. married Sarah B. Clark, of Milford, Conn., in 1877. Alfred L. married Harriet E. Williams, of Milford, in 1880, and has one son, Harry F., born in 1887.

Patrick Gorman, born in Ireland in 1849, came to this country in 1869, and settled in Derby. He was baggage master at the Derby depot of the Naugatuck railroad for eight years, then resigned that position and engaged in the grocery business of Mrs. P. McEnerney three years. He married Mrs. P. McEnerney in 1883, engaged in the coal trade at Derby in 1884, and succeeded the Scully Brothers after being in company with them one year. He is still in the same business. He was elected representative to represent Derby with G. H. Peck for two years, commencing January 7th, 1891. He has one brother, Timothy, and two sisters living in this country.

EDWIN HALLOCK<sup>7</sup> is a son of Zephaniah<sup>6</sup> (William<sup>5</sup>, born 1764, died 1817; William<sup>4</sup>, born 1722, died 1782; John<sup>3</sup>, died 1737; William<sup>2</sup>, died 1684; Peter<sup>1</sup>). Prominent in the history of Derby are the names of two brothers, Zephaniah and Israel Hallock. They came to Derby from Stony Brook, Long Island, in 1816, and engaged in ship-building at what is called Sugar street, near the Ousatonic Water Company's dam, in Birmingham.

The Hallocks, as are nearly all who bear that name in this country, are the descendants of Peter Hallock, one of thirteen pilgrim fathers who landed at the colony of New Haven in 1640, removing the same year to Long Island. A portion of land near Orient, Long Island, bears the name of "Hallock's Neck," and marks the original location of the name on the island.

The grandfather and father of Zephaniah and Israel Hallock, both named William, served in the war of the revolution. The father was taken prisoner and confined by the British in the famous old Sugar House in New York, and his son, Zephaniah, was a pensioner of the war of 1812.

The two brothers, Zephaniah and Israel, carried on ship-building at Sugar street in Birmingham from 1816 to 1824. At that date it was evident Derby needed more docks for the loading and unloading of the increasing ship trade, of which the Housatonic river was the natural channel. The Hallock brothers, discovering the most favored spot for the location of docks, purchased it. A distillery was already there, but the new owners at once ordered the business carried on in it stopped, in obedience to their strict temperance principles. New docks were built, and the ship-building interest at Sugar street moved to the vicinity of the new landing, known since as the Derby Landing. Here ship-building was carried on extensively, and came to its



*Edwin Hallowell*



ending only in 1868. The firm of Hallock Brothers bore on excellent name, and was successful from a business point of view. It aided materially in establishing the business reputation of Derby in the state, besides the incidental advantages accruing to the town itself. It gave employment to a large force of workmen during the 54 years of its existence. The Hallock brothers were men of strict integrity, and were in some respects radical reformers. They were strong apostles of anti-slavery and of total abstinence, at a time when the advocacy of these measures was less popular than they are at present.

Israel Hallock married Rosanah Easton, of New Haven, November 1st, 1826, and died September 5th, 1864, aged 69, leaving no children. Zephaniah Hallock married Miss Sarah Hall, of Cairo, N. Y., at Oxford, Conn., November 12th, 1823. Five children were born to them, as follows: William Henry, who died October 6th, 1861; Franklin, who died May 6th, 1890; Frederick, who died August 2d, 1833; Mrs. Ann Augusta Viets, and Edwin.

Franklin was engaged for a period of 40 years in the wholesale and retail hardware trade in Birmingham, first in 1850 as clerk for the firm of Downs & Sanford, then as partner under the firm name of Downs, Sanford & Co., and in 1865 in partnership with his brother, Edwin, who bought out the other owners in the business, under the firm name of F. Hallock & Co.

Franklin Hallock died May 6th, 1890, aged 62 years, after an illness of a few days. His long business associations in Birmingham, his integrity and social qualities made his death deeply regretted by the whole community. His widow, Mrs. Mary B. Sherwood Hallock, and two children, F. William and Edith May, survive him. F. William Hallock married Miss Minnie Adams, of Springfield, Mass., February 18th, 1885, and to them was born Donald Adams Hallock, August 28th, 1889. Edith May Hallock married Robert S. Gardner, of Birmingham, May 29th, 1890.

Edwin Hallock, the surviving partner of F. Hallock & Co., continues the business, and is the personal manager. Mr. Hallock was born in Derby, Conn., August 16th, 1840, and was educated in the public schools of Derby; and by the maintenance of the good principles taught him and imbibed in early life, he has the confidence and esteem of the community. He is a strong advocate of social reforms, as temperance, and earnestly promotes all measures which work for the well-being of society. He has never entered the political arena, but has given his attention closely and almost exclusively to the large and many-sided business in which he is engaged.

Merritt L. Hotchkiss, born in Derby in 1839, is a son of Merritt, who was also a native of Derby. Merritt L. began work for Robert N. Bassett in his factory in 1857, and was made superintendent in 1869. He is a member of Ousatonic Lodge, No. 6, I. O. O. F. He married Ellen C. Smith, of Orange, Conn., in 1862. They have three children: Jennie A., Harriet S. and William M.

C. R. Howard was born among the rock-ribbed hills of New Hampshire at Amherst, in 1851. Graduating from the Milford Normal Academy at the age of 18 years, he at once entered upon his business career as clerk in the largest dry goods store in the last named town. He remained in this town as clerk, and later as proprietor (with the exception of one year spent in the West) until shortly before the formation of the present partnership of Howard & Barber in January, 1884. Mr. Howard is an ardent admirer of the principles of Odd Fellowship, and has filled the chairs in both the subordinate and encampment branches of the order. He was also chosen by his brethren as their representative to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire.

Isaac P. Howe is manager of The Wilcox & Howe Company of Shelton, manufacturers of carriage hardware. The business was established on a modest scale by Messrs. Terrill & Wilcox in 1866, who began making fifth wheels in Ansonia. Mr. Wilcox removed to Birmingham in 1869, and in 1885 Mr. Howe bought one-half interest in the business. Both are natives of New York, and are practical business men. Mr. Wilcox retired from the firm in March, 1890, and is now president of the D. Wilcox Manufacturing Company, Howard, Centre county, Pa. A stock company was organized January 1st, 1891, under the name of The Wilcox & Howe Company, with Mr. Howe as manager.

Lyman L. Loomer, born in South Hadley, Mass., in 1814, removed to Collinsville when 18 years old, and two years later went to Seymour, where he learned the trade of auger maker with Wheeler & French of that town. In 1836, he came to Birmingham, and worked at his trade for David Bassett. A few years later he engaged in the butcher and market business in Birmingham, and continued six years. He then ran a stage route from Birmingham to Bridgeport, six years before the Naugatuck railroad was built. Afterward he ran a stage from Seymour to Woodbury, and carried the mails from Litchfield to Newtown. This was about 1850. He returned to Birmingham, and was again engaged in the butcher and market business for 14 years. In 1865 he engaged in manufacturing corsets with his sons. In 1880 he retired, and since that time the firm has been L. L. Loomer's Sons. Mr. Loomer was married, in 1836, to Lucy Ann Sperry, of Woodbridge. They have had four sons and six daughters. Mrs. Loomer died August 30th, 1890.

GEORGE HOBART PECK, manufacturer, Birmingham, Conn., traces back his family pedigree to Joseph Peck, of Milford, Conn. Ephraim Birdsey Peck, of the sixth generation, the father of George H., moved to Woodbury, Conn., in 1792. The mother was Mrs. Betsey (Porter) Peck. The father is described as "a Christian gentleman in faith and manners, in walk and conversation;" the mother as a woman of deep piety and earnest devotion to duty. They gave a combination





W. F. BROWN

*G. H. Peck*



of these qualities as an inheritance to their son, George H. Peck, which has been a benediction to him all his life.

In his early years he attended the district school, and when old enough to be of real service, worked on the farm in summer. Woodbury was favored in those days with having an academy excellently managed and taught by its founder, and named for him Thompson's Academy. There Master Peck pursued the ordinary academic studies. At his 19th year, and afterward for four winters he taught school, but went back upon the farm in summer to aid his parents, and later gave all his attention to the homestead farm.

But his marriage was a turning point in his life. It took him to Tecumseh, Michigan, and there he married Miss Maria P. Stillson, December 25th, 1856. He now saw the growing West, and was captivated by its promise. In 1858 himself and wife moved to Tecumseh, and he entered into the drug business. But in 1860 he returned to Woodbury and purchased the drug store and good will, of George P. Allen.

And now after nearly four years more spent in the town of his boyhood, he was ready for a larger field still, and came to Birmingham in November, 1863, and purchased the business and good will of the drug store located on the corner of Main and Minerva streets. Here he remained the active manager of the business until 1875. But in 1866 events were visibly forming for a life of less detail, more activity, and for business on a more extended scale. The Star Pin Company, of Shelton, was organizing, and Mr. Peck was one of the principal stockholders, and was made its first president. He continued in this official relation until 1875, and then bought a larger interest and took the entire management of the company, and has held it ever since.

The Star Pin Company is one of the substantial enterprises of Shelton, Conn. From small beginnings it has developed to strength under Mr. Peck's administration. It manufactures not only pins, but hooks and eyes and hair pins. It makes its own boxes and does its own printing. It has no occasion to ask for credit in any quarter. It carries a considerable surplus capital. About 120 hands are employed in the factory, and a common interest in the profitableness of the business seems to pervade the workmen. This spirit is no doubt due in chief part to the truly kindly bearing of Mr. Peck toward all in his employ.

Mr. Peck has been the recipient of honors at the hands of his townsmen. He was judge of the probate court of Derby for several years, and in 1873 and 1891 was elected representative to the general assembly. He has served the borough of Birmingham as burgess for several years, and for 15 years was on the board of school visitors.

No higher testimonial to the common regard for their neighbor could be given than in the petition presented to him May 4th, 1889, by 67 of the prominent men of Derby, requesting him to allow him-

self to be elected first selectman for the town of Derby. He very reluctantly consented to stand as a candidate, and was chosen without opposition, and when his term of office expired the public press of the town spoke in highest terms of the administration of himself and his partners, and commended it as the example for future selectmen to follow.

But even more in the church of which he is a member than in the town, is Mr. Peck esteemed. He has been senior warden of St. James Episcopal church, Birmingham, for 25 years. His devotion to his church is shown not only in the length of service, but in the variety, for there are but few services in either parish or church he has not rendered, for very love of what the church is and stands for. In all those years he has had a co-worker in his wife, quite equal to himself. He has been the superintendent of the Sunday school for many years, and the children have loved him with a fondness remarkable and equalled only by his own love for the young people and the children. Mrs. Peck is known beyond her household for Christian graces and character, which have made her greatly beloved. The poor call her blessed, and her neighbors are blessed in her example.

Their family has consisted of five children, three of whom have died: Ina Gertrude, September 6th, 1884, 23 years of age; Julia and Bessie, who died in infancy. The two sons living are Irving H. and Howard B.

ALBERT W. PHILLIPS, M. D., was born at Marcellus, N. Y., July 26th, 1838. His parents were George and Betsey (Cleg) Phillips, of Marcellus. Doctor Phillips spent his early years on the farm of his father and in attending school. The latest years of his life at home were occupied in part by teaching the district school, or by employment with a physician. It was during this service that the purpose of becoming a physician was fully formed. Then at 18 years of age he began the regular study of medicine at Syracuse, N. Y., and in 1861 graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, Ill.

He was then invited by two of his former preceptors in succession, at Syracuse, to become partners with them in the practice of medicine. But just then President Lincoln issued his famous first call for troops to suppress the rebellion, and the young physician, not counting the pursuance of his profession of so much moment as the suppression of the rebellion, volunteered his services, enlisting as private in Company A, 12th New York Volunteer Infantry. But on June 1st, 1861, he was appointed hospital steward of the regiment of which his company formed a part. In this office he had charge of the medical supplies, general care of the hospital, and supervision of the nurses. His efficiency in office and his physician's training kept him well in the line of promotion. Hence he remained hospital steward only until October, 1862, when he was promoted to be assistant surgeon of the 149th New York Volunteer Infantry.



*A. A. Phillips*



Thus far he was connected with the army of the Potomac. But the federal forces were meeting some reverses in Tennessee. General Rosecrans had fallen back from Chickamauga to Chattanooga and needed reinforcements. The 11th and 12th Corps of the Army of the Potomac were now transferred to General Rosecrans' assistance, and Doctor Phillips with the 12th. But on November 1st, 1863, he resigned his commission in the army, and in the following spring came to Birmingham, Conn., to pursue the profession he had chosen in 1856.

Some of Doctor Phillips' Grand Army friends remember his service with them in the army of the Cumberland. Doctor Kendall, who was acting as brigade surgeon, says that he saw him at a distance before the young physician had reported for orders, and said to himself: "What boy have they sent me for an assistant?" But it did not take long to discover that a trained and able physician had come in the hearty, robust, young man.

Nor did Doctor Phillips' official dignity swell with pride of manner in the presence of the soldiers. If need be, he marched with them, carrying his medicines in his pockets. When the battle was on he kept near to wait upon the wounded, and his strong shoulders often bore the gun or knapsack of a weary soldier. At Gettysburg, as the terrible struggle of Culp's Hill was coming on, he worked harder building breastworks than many of the soldiers who were in special need of them. Another of his comrades, reporting from the field in 1863, says of him: "He is an intelligent gentleman, a jovial companion and a brave and fearless soldier." Doctor Phillips' army life is remembered by him as one of the most interesting chapters, and no associations of the present time are more agreeable to him than those of the Grand Army. He is an enthusiastic member of Kellogg Post, No. 26.

Doctor Phillips has allied himself with the chief social orders. He is a member of the Ousatonic Lodge, No. 6, I. O. O. F.; also of King Hiram Lodge, No. 12, F. & A. M.; of Solomon Chapter, No. 3, R. A. M.; of Union Council, No. 27, R. & S. M.; of New Haven Commandery, No. 2, K. T.; and is a 32d degree Mason of Cerneau Consistory, No. 1, New York.

There is one room of Doctor Phillips' house which illustrates certain phases of his individuality. It is devoted chiefly to mementoes and souvenirs of his army life, and of the social orders of which he is a member, and whose anniversaries he has attended. Upon entering the visitor is struck with the number and variety of them, and the amount of travel done to obtain them. This is indeed the work of an enthusiastic comrade of the army, and of one who delights in the friendship and society of the social orders. Nearly every object in the room has a history. Doctor Phillips is familiar with it, and in relating it the glow of enthusiasm betrays the ardor of his nature, whether as companion or friend. Hence his popularity at home, and

his untiring agreeableness while traveling, or in the woods and beside the lakes in a vacation outing.

In addition to a large practice in Birmingham, Doctor Phillips has taken great interest in the borough; and though he has had no desire for office of any kind, his fellow-citizens have insisted that he shall not go free. He has been a burgess of the borough by their choice for nine years, and for a term held the office of registrar of vital statistics.

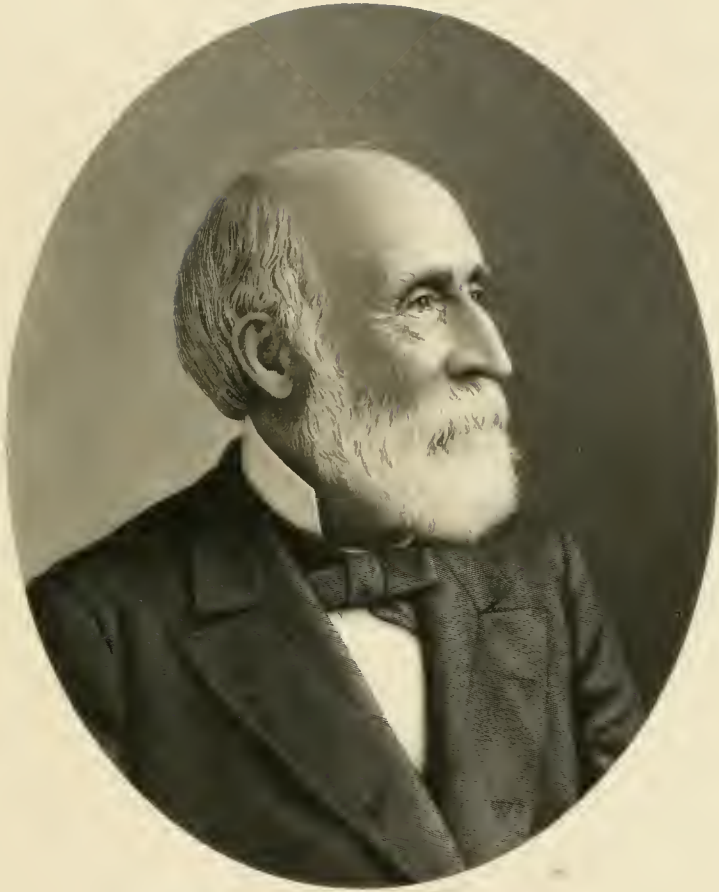
Doctor Phillips married, October 16th, 1862, Miss Nancy P. Owen, of Syracuse, N. Y. Three children have been born to them: Harry Bowdish, born December 28th, 1864, died November 1st, 1865; Ellen Pauline, born May 23d, 1869; and Albert W., born September 22d, 1870, died November 13th, 1876.

Doctor Phillips resides in his own house on Caroline street, Birmingham. A visit to it discovers a home tastily and richly appointed, where friends and guests receive cordial attention from Doctor and Mrs. Phillips.

DAVID W. PLUMB, born October 13th, 1808, in Trumbull, Conn., is of English ancestry, Robert Plumb, on the paternal side, having been one of the first settlers of Milford in 1639, and Thomas Welles, on the maternal side, was governor of the state in 1655 and held other offices as early as 1641. The family removed to what is now the city of Bridgeport, then a part of the town of Stratford, when he was five years old. He was educated at the common schools of the day, with a few terms at academies and select schools. He was employed on the farm until 1831, when he started a small country store at the factory village in the north part of Bridgeport. He removed from there to Birmingham in 1836, and engaged in woolen manufacturing on the then new water power there, with B. B. Beach. In 1848 he removed to Ansonia, and built a new mill on the new water power which Anson G. Phelps had established there, the partnership with Mr. Beach having been dissolved some years before. In 1865 he sold out this business to the Slade Manufacturing Company, and in 1868 he removed to the new village of Shelton, where the Ousatonic Water Company had brought the water of the Housatonic river into use, and in which enterprise he had engaged at its organization, having been one of its directors and its vice-president from that time to the present. Since he sold his manufacturing business, in 1865, he has not engaged actively in any similar business, though he is a stockholder in several companies and an officer of some.

He is still active and busy with matters that concern himself and the public. He represented the town of Derby in the Connecticut legislature in 1838, 1852, 1860, 1862 and 1864, and the Fifth senatorial district in 1841. During this time charters were obtained for the borough of Ansonia, the savings bank of Ansonia and the Ousatonic Water Company and the removal of the Bank of North America from Sey-





*D. M. Plumb*



mour to Ansonia, and change of title to the Ansonia Bank was accomplished. He was the treasurer of the Ansonia Savings Bank during its existence, was president of the Ansonia Bank until he resigned, and is now vice-president of the Birmingham National Bank. He was the first warden of the borough of Ansonia. He has devoted much time and attention and some means to the development of "River-view Park," a beautiful place in the borough of Shelton, dedicated to the public use for recreation, enjoyment and health, and of which he is one of the commissioners. He has participated earnestly in political excitements, especially in his earlier life, and when temperance and slavery were important elements in politics, having been strongly in favor of temperance and opposed to slavery and in favor of the free soil movement.

He married, in 1841, Miss Clarissa Allen. She died in 1865. In 1875 he married Miss Louise Wakelee, who still survives. He has no children.

Doctor William S. Randall, born in Brookfield, Conn., August 5th, 1861, is a son of the late Charles W. Randall, a native of Bridgewater, Conn. Doctor Randall received his preliminary education at the Birmingham High School, and entered the scientific department of Yale College in 1880, taking the biological course. Graduating in 1883, he attended Yale Medical School, then attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of New York city. He graduated from the latter institution in 1885, then returned to New Haven and spent one year as house physician and surgeon in the New Haven Hospital. He came to Birmingham in November, 1886, and has practiced here since. He is a member of the State and Ousatonic Medical Societies. He married, in 1887, Hattie L. Beers, of New Milford. They have one son, Harold B., born March 12th, 1889.

Luzon Rowell, born in Monroe, Conn., in 1820, is a son of David and Sarah (Blakeman) Rowell, and grandson of Jacob, who came from Scotland and settled in Fairfield county before the revolutionary war. Both David and Sarah were born the same day in 1780. Luzon came to Derby in 1846, and settled near where he now lives. He learned the trade of ship carpenter, and followed it until 1861. Since that time he has been engaged in repairing mills, moving buildings, etc. He has held the office of selectman seven years, and has been assessor and collector of taxes. He married Phebe A Fairweather, of Monroe, Conn., March 7th, 1841. They have had six children. Two enlisted in the war of the rebellion, David B. and Charles B. David B. was killed in battle at Tracy City, Tenn., January 21st, 1864. Charles B. resides in Aiken, S. C. The other children are: George B., Carrie L. (died 1873), Ella M. and Ida J.

EDWARD NELSON SHELTON, of Birmingham, Conn., is a descendant of Daniel Shelton, who came from England to Stratford, Conn., in 1686. He married, in 1692, Elizabeth Welles, granddaughter of

Thomas Welles, one of the early governors of Connecticut. Mr. Daniel Shelton finally retired from business in Stratford and resided on his farm in Huntington (then a part of Stratford), about two miles south of the present village of Shelton.

Mr. Edward Nelson Shelton is of the fourth generation in descent from Daniel Shelton. He was born in the home of his ancestors September 4th, 1812. He had the benefit of the educational advantages of his native town, and of the more important academy at Derby; and also of Captain Partridge's Scientific School at Middletown and lectures at Yale College. He commenced business at Birmingham in 1836, manufacturing tacks, in connection with Mr. N. C. Sanford, under the name of Sanford & Shelton. Mr. Sanford died in 1841, and the business was continued under the name of E. N. Shelton until 1854, when it was organized as the Shelton Company.

Mr. Shelton has been president of the Birmingham National Bank since its organization in 1848. It is principally due to Mr. Shelton that the thriving village of Shelton, named in honor of him, with a business capital rated at \$2,000,000, and employing 2,000 hands, exists. He was able in 1867 to see the first work done toward the construction of the great dam across the Housatonic, which was to develop the largest water power in the state, and one of the largest in New England. His long cherished project was brought to a successful completion in 1870, resulting in the founding and satisfactory growth of the village of Shelton. He has been the president of the Ousatonic Water Company, which built the dam, since its organization in 1866.

Though a member of the state senate in 1869, Mr. Shelton has not cared for political life or office. His interest has been principally in the development and growth of the two villages, Birmingham and Shelton. His public spirit and desire that whatever is best for the benefit of the many should be accomplished have always been marked characteristics, as well as his unquestioned honor and integrity. His energy, perseverance and business ability have been proved in various enterprises in his own town and elsewhere, and much success for others as well as himself is due to his keen business foresight. He has always been an earnest supporter of the Episcopal church, as his forefathers were.

Samuel Sherwood and his son, Oliver B., settled on Sentinel hill in the town of Derby in 1816. Oliver was born in Ridgefield, Conn., in 1799, married Charlotte Fowler, of Milford, in 1837, and had two sons and two daughters. One son, William O., lives in New York. The other, Albert F., lives on the old homestead where his father and mother are still living; the former is 92 years old, and the latter 81. Albert F. married Emeline Chatfield, of Derby, in 1866. They have two sons: Charles G. and Joseph B. Charles G. married Alice Tucker, of Seymour, Conn., in 1887, and has two daughters: Grace E. and Helen G. These four generations all live under one roof on the old



E. Shetton



homestead. Albert F. was postmaster of Derby eight years, and was engaged in the drug trade there many years. He is deputy sheriff, and is engaged in the settlement of estates.

DAVID TORRANCE, judge of the supreme court of errors of Connecticut, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, March 3d, 1840. No better illustration of merit and ability winning its way from unpromising beginnings to the most honorable position in society can be given than a truthful sketch of the eminent judge whose life is here outlined in tracery all too rude. He came from Scotland to this country with his widowed mother, when he was only nine years old. The family came to Norwich, Conn., for residence, and there Master Torrance attended the common schools, but only for five years. Then it fell to his lot, though a mere lad, to work in a cotton mill. When 15 years of age he went into the Chelsea Paper Mills, Greenville, Norwich, to learn to make paper. And there he worked until the call for volunteers for service in the army became so loud he must heed it. The 18th Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry was now making up. Company A was forming, and in June of 1862 he enlisted, and was chosen second sergeant of the company. The fortunes of the regiment were his, until he was captured at the battle of Winchester, Va., by the enemy, and sent to suffer the horrors of Libby Prison and afterward Belle Island. But in July, 1863, he was paroled. At the close of the year he was appointed to a captaincy of a colored regiment, the 29th Connecticut Volunteers. Subsequently he was advanced to the position of major, and then of lieutenant-colonel, serving in this position until the regiment was mustered out, in October, 1865.

The war being over, he came home with Colonel William B. Wooster, under whose superior command much of his army life had been spent, and entered Colonel Wooster's law office in Birmingham, Conn., January, 1866, as a student. Before entering the army he had cherished the purpose of pursuing legal studies, and now found a helpful counsellor and friend in the brave, incorruptible officer who had given him orders on the field. While waiting somewhat impatiently for the disbanding of the regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Torrance began the study of law under the direction of Colonel Wooster, and now in Colonel Wooster's office in Birmingham, only continued what he had already begun. So rapidly did the student familiarize himself with the prescribed curriculum that he applied for examination, and was admitted to the bar in 1868, for the practice of law in all the courts of the commonwealth. He soon entered into partnership with Colonel Wooster, under the firm name of Wooster & Torrance.

The firm now bore a magnificent title with which to go before the people of Birmingham for patronage. Colonel Wooster was already known and eminent as a counsellor, and his partner won decided respect for his ability wherever he conducted cases in court. Both were army men, and brought to their office the prestige of brave leadership

in the army; both possessed those manly graces which win favor from the public and secure popularity; and both were known to be honest men, tried and true, whom their clients could trust to the farthest extreme. A large and lucrative practice was the logical result.

In 1871 Judge Torrance was chosen representative for the town of Derby in the general assembly, and again in 1872. His presence in the assembly was a recognized element of strength for legislation. A certain positive and clear vein of Scotch sense and intellectuality appeared in all his committee work and in his addresses on the floor of the house. And when his party nominated him for secretary of state in the fall of 1878 his name added weight to the general excellence of the party ticket. He held the office of secretary of state for two years. In 1881 he was appointed judge of the court of common pleas of New Haven county, which held its sittings in New Haven; and in 1885 he was reappointed judge of the same court, but before entering upon his second term he was made judge of the superior court of the state; and in 1890 he was advanced to the highest judicial tribunal of the state, the supreme court of errors.

It is apparent at once that the career just sketched is unique, if not phenomenal, and the inquiry at once arises, what were the elements and traits composing this noteworthy life. Nothing more than suggestions of them is here attempted. Judge Torrance is wholly a self-made man. The colleges cannot claim him, though Yale University has conferred upon him the honorary A. M. The law schools cannot declare that they gave him his sustained intellectual power and logical acumen. His education has been his own work, and the curriculum of his studies, his own planning, and the zeal with which he has pursued them has been determined by his own tastes. He was by nature liberally supplied with good Scotch sense, and with the metaphysical tendency of the Scotch mind. The world is not all one-sided to him, but every *pro* has a *con*, and without effort both of those will appear at the same time in his mind, each to be weighed and credited with its value. And then, when the balance is struck, it does not need revision.

The trend of his mind has an illustration in a matter somewhat private, and yet not exclusively so. For many years a club composed of a few of the citizens of Birmingham, drawn together by kindred tastes for philosophical studies, has held weekly meetings. Its name is taken from the Greek word for mind, and hence it is called the "Nous Club." Judge Torrance has been the leader in its discussions, though his modesty would forbid him from claiming to be more than a peer among equals. All the members are *en rapport* with the objects of the club. The latest subject of investigation in metaphysics has been "Kant's Critique of Pure Reason." Such subjects as that are both informing and recreative to this inquiring company, and no one takes more pleasure in these analytic, acute and logical excursions into the





David Torrance



realm of pure and applied reasoning than Judge Torrance. He is an independent thinker, and wherever truth may lead he will follow, whoever may keep him company. It is easy to see how such a mind naturally gravitates to the judge's bench.

But with this Scotch metaphysical intellectuality is united an affability of manner which can state an independent judgment frankly, and even vigorously, and yet not give offense in any quarter. He has that quality of agreeable genuineness which wins a liking from its very frank sincerity; and hence few men have created fewer antagonisms than he in all the walks of life—hence, too, his popularity wherever he is known.

Judge Torrance is in demand, too, in a social way, and his speeches at dinners and anniversaries are features of the occasions. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Grand Army of the Republic, and of the Army and Navy Club of Connecticut. He never allows himself to forget his old comrades in arms; and when he is not sitting on the tribunal of justice, makes himself as one of his many friends.

During his army life he came home on furlough, and while in Norwich, Conn., the city of his boyhood, was married to Miss Annie France, also of that city, February 12th, 1864. Three children have been born to them: Margaret G., Walter S. and James F. The whole family are parishioners of the Congregational church of Birmingham, as well as prominent constituents of Birmingham society.

THOMAS WALLACE, SR., manufacturer, Birmingham, Conn., was born in Manchester, England, November 15th, 1797. Mr. Andrew Carnegie, of Pittsburg, Pa., in his work entitled "Triumphant Democracy," quotes Lowthian Bell as remarking upon the numerous inventions made by Americans and their wonderful aptitude in manufacturing by means of inventions, but he discovered after all that Britons had done a large part of what he remarked upon. Mr. Carnegie found the statements corroborated by the horseshoe machines of Mr. Burden, a sturdy Scot; the smelting of pig-iron with anthracite coal by Mr. Thomas, a Welshman; the steel rail and steel wire mills at Cleveland, Ohio, created by Mr. Chisholm, of Dumfermline, Scotland; the weaving of tapestry in Philadelphia, by Isaac Stead, an enterprising Englishman; and the founding of the famous brass mill at Ansonia, Conn., by Mr. Wallace. The reference is to Mr. Thomas Wallace, Sr., who died April 30th, 1875.

Mr. Wallace's parents died while he was yet young, his father when he was seven years of age, and his mother when he was eleven. But the impress of his mother, Elizabeth Chapman Wallace, abode on his heart as long as he lived. There is now in the keeping of one of his daughters, Mrs. R. R. Wood, of Ansonia, the old Bible, substantially bound, but revealing age and use, of his mother, which he carried by her side to and from church, and the Sunday school, which

she organized. Sunday schools were very rare in those days, and to Mrs. Elizabeth Chapman Wallace is to be credited the special and lasting honor of opening the first Sunday school in the city of Manchester, England. Her little son, Thomas, was one of her regular pupils, and the old Bible belonging to her and borne by him for her sake, was a life-long treasure to him.

But left an orphan at 11 years of age, he passed to the care of his eldest sister. She sent him on to London, and though robbed on the way of the few pounds she gave him, he pressed on, hoping to find employment in the store of a confectioner. His hope was fulfilled. Here his natural taste for reading developed. It was his duty to carry the delicacies of the confectioner to the residences of gentlemen and ladies of wealth. He was soon desired to bring along with him newspapers, and for this service he was rewarded with the gift of pennies. But "Tommy," as he was familiarly called, did not lay out his pennies for the delicacies of the palate, but for those of the mind. The lad had heard of America, and dreamed of America, and his pennies were laid out for American newspapers. He read them when he could, not infrequently by the light of the fire, while he lay on his back on the floor. In this way an American fire was kindled in his heart, which never died out.

A little later in his life he was apprenticed to learn the trade of pin-wire drawing to a firm in Manchester, and from the work room he passed to the office, where he remained, until he, with his wife and children, came to America, entering the harbor at New York, July 4th, 1832.

From this point it is interesting to observe the education which indirectly came to him from the English life about him, in all these years of young manhood. He was a lad of work, and a young man of work, and his daily associations made him familiar with the life of the working people. He shared their hardships with them, and being a gifted mind and an independent thinker, he was necessarily prominent among his peers in that troublous period of English history. It was the period when the labor agitations of all succeeding years had their birth, and Manchester was the particular nursery of the potent ideas which have since developed into the future comparative prosperity of the laboring man in England. The social condition of England during that period could hardly have been worse for the poor man, seen from whatever point of view may be taken. The laws of the land were exceedingly oppressive. Many were starving, work was scarce, bread was high, prisons were crowded, the criminal courts were active, the penal code was terribly severe, misery abounded, and the groans of the people found no redress.

Mr. Wallace's naturally strong, independent mind drank all this in, and his sympathies were with the down-trodden people among whom he classed himself. He was ready for great action, but too



*Tho Wallace*



wise to forestall the natural order of events, and enact the Harper's Ferry disaster in the history of American liberty. He uttered his political and social faith, but so discreetly as not to center upon himself the malignity of the aristocratic power. And yet he was several times on the verge of imprisonment or transportation for his active, outspoken sympathy for reform and his laudation of American liberty. It is remembered now that when his eldest daughter was only seven years of age, her father was absent, and it was said he was in the "bread riot" occurring in the streets. But he was so popular with some of the officers, that it is known one of them saved him once by saying: "Tom, follow me, and act as though you were on our side, and will lead you out."

Mr. Wallace, Sr., was a democrat by nature, and could ill brook the social tyranny of the titled or the wealthy. Why should his wife and daughter per right courtesy to the passing aristocrat? Why should the church bailiff be empowered to knock off his hat in the church doorway? A little while before coming to America, at the church door he was a little too spry in the removal of his hat to allow the gesture of the bailiff to take effect, but not so spry as to forestall the gesture. He reported the event of the bailiff's effrontery to his family, and said: "Never occur to me again, we will go to America." More and more he was working into action in behalf of the working people, at the same time he was extolling America. His own judgment counselled him and his friends advised him to go to America before he should become an object of aristocratic hatred.

The early Manchester reformers were his dear friends. A little old album of that date has in it the photograph of Richard Cobden, and written by his own hand under it, "My most intimate friend." In that same album are other pictures of his choice Manchester friends, Abel Heywood, Thomas S. Woodcock, John Heywood, Robert Dale Owen. The annotations of Mr. Wallace to these photographs are evidence how true the friendship was.

Upon coming to America, in 1832, he expected to form a partnership in Providence, R. I., for the manufacture of wire, but the plans miscarried. Attempts were made up the Hudson and in New Jersey.

An incident which occurred in Annsville will show one phase of the noble Briton. In his factory there were eight apprentices, and three evenings of the week he gathered them about a large table in his own house and taught them penmanship, and had them read together some of the master works of English literature, closing with a familiar talk on some interesting topic.

But not till 1841 did he become settled in Birmingham, Conn., and without detaining the narrative by dates, it is enough to say that the magnificent corporation of Wallace & Sons in Ansonia is the direct outgrowth of the industry founded by the really great and noble character whose name stands first in the corporate title, "Wallace & Sons."

Mr. Wallace brought with him to America his whole self. Fond of America before he ever stepped upon her shores, he became most loyal and patriotic. His freedom of thought came with him, his grace and courtliness of manner, his pity for the slave, his love of temperance, his hate of tobacco using, his orderliness, his gentlemanliness, his kindness, his love of right, and his ability to stand for conscience and freedom and liberty unto the very last, and all alone if need be, his power of keeping friendships in the midst of all differences of opinion, and his fine face. All these came with him to America, and so distinguished him in the town of Derby as to make him one of the most honored and popular citizens.

He had a natural taste for education, as he was intellectual in his cast of mind. He was fond of schools, and took great interest in those of Birmingham. It delighted him to see young men and women aspiring to knowledge, and in some cases he aided those who hungered for it and could not of themselves attain it. There is an unwritten history here of great beauty. As showing his own literary tastes, it may be said that it was his sustained habit, when the business of the day was over, to take a bath, then sit at his table in his library reading a book, making annotations such as adorn the pages of his volume of "Ecce Homo," or writing a newspaper article, perhaps for the *Liberator*, of his great friend, William Lloyd Garrison.

He chose for his marital partner, while yet in England, a true and typical English woman, Miss Agnes Lord, born April 24th, 1797, daughter of a physician. She was a woman of great energy and character, often proving to be a motive force, and often a guide to her husband. If there were excelling on either side, it is only true to say that she was not less in her sphere than he in his. They were married, and celebrated their golden wedding in Birmingham December 7th, 1868.

As a testimonial given by the employees on that occasion, there is now in the possession of one of the sons, Thomas Wallace, a case properly inscribed, containing 50 gold dollars. Congratulations and tokens of esteem sent to them or presented in person on that occasion were very numerous. Their children are: Mrs. Elizabeth Wood, John (deceased); William and Thomas (the two sons now in the corporation of "Wallace & Sons"); Mrs. Agnes Jackson, Mrs. J. A. Wooster and Mrs. Margaret E. Hayes. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wallace were among the first citizens of Birmingham, and gave to their children an inheritance of noble worth, better than the wealth bestowed. They live in the hearts of their children and their neighbors.

Sturges Whitlock, born in Ridgefield, Conn., in 1844, is a son of John Whitlock, who was born in Ridgefield, Conn., in 1821, and grandson of Thaddeus, whose father was Jonathan. Three brothers came from England; one settled in New York, one in New Jersey, and one in Connecticut. John Whitlock came to Birmingham and founded the



Whitlock Machine Company. His son, Sturges, moved the business to Shelton, and organized a stock company, of which he is president.

WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS, lawyer, Birmingham, Conn., was born in Bethany, Conn., June 7th, 1850. There were no special advantages of wealth or society clustering about his birth. Hence from the first he must win for himself whatever of position or influence he might gain in the world. His earliest schooling was had in Durham, Conn., in the district school, and then only for a brief year or two, for at seven years of age he left home for the varied fortunes of a farmer's boy, working on the farm in the summer and perhaps attending school for a few weeks in the winter. He then worked in a woolen mill or a grist mill or sold goods from a peddler's wagon, as the exigencies of the time might determine.

But a date may be fixed, September 12th, 1870, as indicating the future of Mr. Williams. He then went to live with the late Judge Harris P. Munson, of Seymour, under conditions which admitted of his studying law in the judge's office and under his direction. For the first two years about half of the time was spent in farm work, and the other half diligently improved in conning the principles of jurisprudence and their application. The third year was devoted assiduously to legal studies and to those preliminary attempts at legal practice allowed to law students before justices of the peace. He was now ready for examination for admission to the bar, and applied in September, 1873, to be admitted. The examining committee could not be assembled until after the fall term of the superior court had adjourned. The examiners met in November, and the candidate successfully passed their scrutiny. The next term of the superior court opened at New Haven in January, 1874, with Judge Pardee, of Hartford, on the bench. At the opening of that court January 6th, Mr. Williams was admitted to practice the profession of law in all the courts of the state.

It will be remembered that he already had some experience in the trial of petty cases, and that preliminary work was a favorable introduction to the larger arena which he had now entered. He continued with Judge Munson, and his relations to the judge brought him into acquaintance with the judge's daughter—an acquaintance which ripened into fondness. For on May 5th, 1874, he was married to Miss Iris E. Munson. The union was delightful, for they were of kindred tastes, only it was broken in upon so soon by death. The fall and winter of that year she spent in the warm climate of Florida, but consumption had fastened its fatal grip upon her, and in September of 1876 she died.

Returning a little now, it is fitting to allude to an experience in Mr. Williams' early practice which many, accustomed to observe the public life of Connecticut men, will call to mind. And it will be remembered all the more pleasantly in respect of Mr. Williams, for in the judgment of men of high virtue he bore himself so honorably throughout it, and won a good name in all the state. He was ap-

pointed prosecuting agent under the new liquor law of 1874, and came under obligation to the state to administer the law faithfully. Its spirit and intent were manifest, its language was plain, and it threw on the prosecuting attorney an onerous responsibility, especially in those towns which refused to grant licenses. Liquor men in some of those towns were defiant and sought in various ways to intimidate the prosecuting attorney, and failing to quiet him, then to remove him from office. But in all the long struggle Mr. Williams retained the support of the moral and law-abiding forces of the commonwealth to such an extent as to vindicate completely his course as a faithful protector of the public good. He issued from the struggle bearing the confidence and honor of the best portions of society, and really laid the foundations for rising to higher distinctions than he had yet attained to.

In 1878, June 17th, he again married a Seymour lady—his present wife, Miss Nellie A. Johnson, and the happiness of home life with another genial spirit, both like and unlike that held in sacred memory, was renewed. Like the former wife, the present Mrs. Williams is an Episcopalian, and the family sittings are under the Episcopalian ministry.

On April 1st, 1880, Mr. Williams opened a branch office in Birmingham, where the late I. M. Gardner, who had just died, had practiced law, and in the spring of 1882 he moved his family to Birmingham. In 1887-8 he built his present elegant residence, 115 Atwater avenue, overlooking a large part of Ansonia.

Three years only passed by, and Judge David Torrance had been appointed to the bench of the superior court. A vacancy was thus created in the law firm of Wooster, Torrance & Gager, and it was desired that it should be filled. The remaining members of the firm, in conference with Judge Torrance, looked about for the available lawyer, and found the qualities and standing desired in Mr. Williams, who was invited to enter the copartnership, and he did so April 1st, 1885.

Mr. Williams shares in the social distinctions of his town, being a member of New Haven Commandery, No. 2, K. T., and also a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the Knights of Pythias.

Looking back now over this sketch, we observe what native worth and steady industry, with the upward gaze, may accomplish. Given the aspiring mind and heart, and the patient toil of years, and the young man thrown upon the world with no resources but himself may come to eminence in the professions, and to equal esteem in the community where he lives.

COLONEL WILLIAM B. WOOSTER, born in Oxford, Conn., August 22d, 1821, was the son of Russel and Avis (Burr) Wooster, of that town. His birthplace suggests that the occupation of his father was agricultural, and that the son shared in the experiences of farm life. His education was pursued in the district school and the academy, and at 19 years of age he began to teach.



*Wm. Williams*



He now seemed to himself, as he did to others, to be born for a larger sphere of operation, and after a few years entered the law school at New Haven, and graduated at Yale University in 1846, bearing a diploma signed by President Day. Judge William L. Storrs had been his instructor, and took such pride in his pupil as to give him counsel which determined the graduate's future. It had been the dream of the student to cast his fortunes into the great West, whither so many were tending, but Judge Storrs said, "I want to give you unsolicited advice. I know you and I know this locality. Don't you leave Connecticut. Don't leave New Haven county, and come here as soon as you can." Birmingham was quite near New Haven. In Mr. Wooster's horoscope of the future there appeared what has since come to pass in fact; a growing borough with suburbs which might become populous, and he carried out the advice of his eminent legal instructor by establishing himself for the practice of law in Birmingham, Conn., October 1st, 1846.

There was another item in the advice of Judge Storrs which is not recorded above, and it was that the young lawyer should let politics alone, and give himself wholly to the practice of his profession. This he did, and was first successfully tempted into the political arena in 1858, when he had given 12 years closely to professional pursuits. He was then chosen representative to the general assembly from the town of Derby, and in 1859 was elected senator from the Fifth district, and again in 1861 went to the house.

His most conspicuous service in the state government was performed on the military committee, and the splendid manner in which Connecticut bore her part in the volunteer service of the army, and took care of the soldiers' families, is to be credited largely to his efforts. He drew many of the acts and resolves which make up Connecticut's legislative war record, and supported them in their passage through that busy session of the general assembly.

At the same time and later, he was actively engaged in enlisting volunteers, making patriotic and war speeches, even to the neglect of his own professional business. And when President Lincoln issued his famous "call" for 300,000 volunteers, Colonel Wooster felt it to be a call to him personally, and his sense of duty led him to act. He was commissioned, August 22d, 1862, lieutenant colonel of the 20th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry. The battle of Chancellorsville followed the next May, and for distinguished gallantry on the field he was made colonel by brevet. His command held the ground against bold and fierce assaults, and only when the federal line on both sides of him had given way, did he order a retreat. His forces filed out along the base of the hill, and to escape he mounted two stray horses in succession, but both of them were shot under him. He soon found that the enemy had closed behind him. He was captured, his sword taken from him, and he was marched in the direction of Libby Prison to undergo its terrible ordeal.

How strangely interesting are some of the happenings in life! The colonel now has the sword taken from him on the field of Chancellorsville, and the old hat put in place of his own, taken from him a few hours after, while he was sleeping on the ground, under rebel guard, in front of General Maury's quarters. The sword he prized for association's sake. It was the gift to him of some of his townsmen, Wallace & Sons, and was properly inscribed. He received it as he left home to take his command in 1862. In a battle on the Weldon railroad, in August, 1864, our forces, Lieutenant-Colonel Finnicum of the 7th Wisconsin Volunteers commanding, captured an officer of a Mississippi regiment carrying this sword. Lieutenant-Colonel Finnicum returned it to its owner.

On release from Libby Prison and exchange, Colonel Wooster hastened to join his regiment, and led his command at Gettysburg. His regiment was in the thickest of the fight, and his own particular command was at the very front, led in person, in the terrible conflict on Culp's hill, on the morning of the third day of battle, when his command with other forces made the attack. No detail of his eventful army experience is here attempted. It is sufficient to allude to two or three items of it, only to suggest the personal quality and career of the man so widely and highly esteemed in Connecticut.

In March, 1864, he was assigned to the command of a colored regiment and made colonel of it, the 29th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, and henceforth his fortunes in the war were identical with the fortunes of that brave regiment. It is an item of special interest that his command was the first to enter Richmond upon its evacuation by the rebel troops; and Colonel Wooster was detailed judge under martial law in the city, a position for which his past legal life eminently qualified him.

But the enumeration of these army events do not sketch the man as the soldiers under him knew him, or as his neighbors at home, by long acquaintance, knew him, and have known him since. His bravery and calmness in the peril of battle could not be improved upon. His care of the soldiers under him was constant, painstaking, self-sacrificing. He could take no rest himself unless his soldiers were provided with the food and clothing and accoutrements they were entitled to; and if need be, he would jeopardize his popularity in certain quarters by complaints at headquarters, if the supplies were not forthcoming. His bravery and ability of command, and his devotion to the well being of his men, made them confide in him to the fullest extent and love him. Hence they were ambitious to acquit themselves in the best manner, and would follow him anywhere. While he was the impersonation of bravery, and if needful, his nerve was equal to any tension, he was yet tender-hearted and kind. After the battle of Chancellorsville, and he was a prisoner, he induced the rebel commander to allow him to go under guard back over the field that he might see who



Wm B. Brewster





of his men were killed and gather up messages and mementoes from the wounded and dying to send back home to their friends and families. So full of loving tenderness is his nature.

The war being over, Colonel Wooster returned and opened his law office once more in Birmingham. The tide of business set toward him again, and his clients multiplied. They gave the verdict of having found a perfectly honest lawyer, considerate, able, a very safe counsellor and a successful advocate. Colonel Wooster is naturally a man of affairs—eminently a man of action rather than of theory. He is a born leader of men, whether on the field of battle or in civil matters; and so transparent is his sincerity, so frank is his manner, so open his utterance, that the shadow of deceit is impossible to him, and men trust him and his neighbors honor and love him.

He was married October 11th, 1870, to Miss Wallace, of Birmingham, the daughter of Thomas Wallace, of whom Andrew Carnegie speaks in his "Triumphant Democracy": "Mr. Wallace was one of the great Britons in America who founded one of the greatest industries in this land." Colonel Wooster's residence is situated on Clifton avenue, Ansonia, and is a model of elegance throughout. There he lives a retired life, surrounded with luxury.

## CHAPTER XI.

### THE TOWN OF ANSONIA.

Location and Description.—Civil Government.—The Borough of Ansonia.—West Ansonia.—Manufacturing Interests.—Banks.—Post Office.—The Press.—Opera House.—Water Companies.—Physicians and Lawyers.—Lodges and Societies.—Soldiers' Monument.—Congregational Church.—Christ Church.—Young Men's Christian Association.—Emanuel Free Church.—Methodist Episcopal Church.—Baptist Church.—Second (Colored) Baptist Church.—Roman Catholic Church.—Schools.—Biographical Sketches.

ANSONIA is the youngest town in the county. It was set off from Derby in the spring of 1889, and lies north of that town and south of Seymour. The area is not large, and the principal interests of the town are confined to the valleys of the Naugatuck river and Beaver brook. The latter is a small stream flowing from the northeastern part of the town and empties into the river in the southern part of the borough of Ansonia. This angle of land was early called the "Little Neck," to distinguish it from the larger or "Derby Neck," along the Housatonic, where is now the northwestern part of Birmingham. The low lands in this "Little Neck," near the mouth of the brook, were early called Plum Meadows, and were probably the first farmed in the old town of Derby. In 1654-5 Edward Wooster improved some of them for a hop garden, whose products most likely were used in the brew house at Milford. In 1680 his son, Thomas, was granted one-half of Plum Meadows, and he was one of the first settlers within the present limits of Ansonia. He built a house some distance north of his father's, at "Uptown," in Derby, where he lived until his death, in 1713. He is said to have been a substantial, successful farmer.

Higher up Beaver brook were also farming lands, less fertile, at a point on that stream, half a mile east from Cliff street, in the borough of Ansonia, and at what was called the upper end of Plum Meadows the first grist mill in old Derby was built, in 1681, by Doctor John Hull. This naturally caused a small settlement to spring up at that place. In October, 1684, the town granted to Doctor John Hull and John Griffin "each of them a home lot in the Little Neck, near the ponds." No doubt this referred to the ponds made by the mill dam. Doctor Hull removed to Wallingford five years later, but members of his family remained at the mill, which was here discontinued sometime about 1700, and the interest transferred to a power on the Naugatuck,

in the lower part of the town. Thereafter the power was probably devoted to lesser use, Doctor Beardsley being of the opinion that many years later James Humphreys had a hat shop at that place, which he removed to Humphreysville.

In 1682 an allotment of land at Plum Meadows was made to Samuel Griffin, the first blacksmith in the settlement, and it is probable that he had his shop at the mill. It appears that he was also a farmer, and in 1685 entered his ear-mark for cattle and swine—"a hapeny cut out of the under side of the offer eare, or right eare." John Griffin probably settled here in the year last named, and was a farmer. David Wooster, John and Joseph Hull, Jr., also lived in this locality, which became known as the "North End," on account of its being the north part of the original Derby village settlement, and after the removal of the mills this was almost wholly a farming community.

Along the Naugatuck, north of the meadows, the land was of the nature of a sandy plain, and not adapted for the uses of agriculture. But the hills, though high and not free from rocks, were to some extent utilized for farming purposes. On the west side were the Samuel Durand and the Bassett farms, each having a generous acreage. They have long since been devoted to suburban uses, Ansonia having become distinctively a manufacturing town, which was called into existence less than half a century ago. Its most interesting history consequently is confined to the present population, accounts of which are given in the following pages.

On the 30th of November, 1888, 1,100 inhabitants of the upper part of Derby petitioned the general assembly, asking that they might become a separate town corporation. After a full consideration of the matter by that body, in which the lower part of Derby presented counter petitions, the prayer was granted April 17th, 1889, and the town of Ansonia was, by legislative enactment, at that time created. The old Derby Neck and Town roads and Clark avenue were made the lines of division between the two towns. The bridge across the Naugatuck was held to belong to the towns in common, and the almshouse and poor farm of Derby, falling within the limits of Ansonia, were assumed by this town, at a valuation of \$5,907. The debts of the old town were divided on a basis of the list of 1888, and by these arrangements Ansonia began its civil existence with an indebtedness of \$51,347.49.

Under this act the first town meeting was warned by Egbert Bartlett, to be held at Ansonia Hall, April 29th, 1889, when the following officers were elected: Selectmen, Erwin W. Webster, Eli H. Wakelee, Samuel Scott; town clerk and registrar, Reuben H. Tucker; assessors, William B. Bristol, George E. Lindley, Egbert Bartlett; treasurer, Hobart Sperry; board of relief, Benjamin Nichols, Jacob A. Fiske, Henry C. Spencer; auditors, Joseph G. Redshaw, Lockwood Hotchkiss; grand jurors, William H. Barnes, Jeremiah Flahaven, Nicholas F. Mc-

Laughlin, John W. Schumacker, Peter Larkin, Samuel B. Bronson; school visitors, Albert S. Terry, Morgan J. Flaherty, Frederick W. Holden, Edward L. Smith, Herbert A. Willard, Thomas J. Kelley, M. Gaylord Bullock, Albert Phelps, J. Mead Whittacoe.

At the town meeting in 1889 the selectmen reported that the highways of the town were in bad condition and in need of repairs; and with the streets in the borough of Ansonia their improvement would cause a great burden. Of the bridges across the Naugatuck, some were pronounced unsafe and all needed attention. In 1889-90 the town expended, on account of the bridges, \$5,552.24; and for highways, \$7,504.93. Not only were the highway bridges put in good order, but a new foot-bridge across the Naugatuck was built, at an outlay of more than \$1,000. This proved a great convenience for the workmen in the upper factories of Ansonia living in West Ansonia. The expenditures of the town that year for all purposes were \$62,851.37.

The principal town officers elected for 1890 were the following: Selectmen, Jonah C. Platt, Samuel Scott, Erwin W. Webster; clerk and registrar, Reuben H. Tucker; treasurer, Frederick M. Drew; auditors, Joseph G. Redshaw, Morgan J. Flaherty; school visitors, Herbert A. Willard, Charles H. Vandercock, Thomas J. Kelley.

As nearly all the interests of the town are centered in the borough of Ansonia and West Ansonia, a movement has been set on foot to simplify the forms of government and make them more effective and advantageous by having the entire town incorporated as a city. This will probably be accomplished in the near future.

The borough of Ansonia contains by far the greater part of the population of the town. It is, next to Waterbury, the most important place in the Naugatuck valley, as well as one of the most prosperous in the state. Here is the terminus of a branch of the Housatonic railroad, 11 miles from New Haven. It is also an important station on the Naugatuck Valley Division of the Consolidated system, 16 miles from Bridgeport. For the accommodation of these roads a fine station, with modern conveniences, has lately been built. Along the railroad and the river are grouped many manufacturing establishments, whose magnitude gives evidence of the importance of this place as an industrial center, while on every hand may be seen the signs of wealth and prosperity. On the hills, overlooking the works, are many attractive and costly residences, and hundreds of plainer but neat homes, whose appearance indicates the industry and frugality of their owners. The business houses are large and well stocked with goods, and the public buildings are commodious and inviting. There are a large opera house, Catholic, Episcopal, Congregational, Methodist and Baptist churches, a Young Men's Christian Association, daily and weekly newspapers, banks, a good system of drainage and public water works, gas and electric lighting, an electric street railway, a fine fire depart-

ment, splendid schools, lodges and social privileges, and other accessories of a live, progressive town having a population of 10,342.

Ansonia was founded by Anson G. Phelps for a manufacturing village, and derived its title from his given name—Anson, with the letters *ia* added to make it more euphonious. Anson Green Phelps was born at Simsbury, Conn., in March, 1781. His father died when he was an infant and his mother when he was but 11 years of age. After spending seven years in learning the saddlers' trade, he engaged in merchandising, having a store in South Carolina. In 1815 he located in New York, where he became a large and successful importer of copper, tin, brass, iron and other goods, amassing a large fortune. He now turned his attention to manufacturing, and in 1836 Sheldon Smith succeeded in enlisting him in his Birmingham enterprises. Of these he not long after became the principal owner, and by his skillful management greatly promoted the early prosperity of that place. While thus engaged he conceived the idea of extending the village of Birmingham north several miles, making another improvement of the power of the Naugatuck, by a system of reservoir and raceway on the west side, the land being admirably adapted for that purpose. With this view he purchased large tracts of land on the west side, but failed in securing the old Bassett farm, at that time owned by Squire Booth. The latter set such a high value upon it that the persuasions of Mr. Phelps and of prominent citizens of Birmingham who were interested in the welfare of the village, failed to induce him to sell unless he could get six-fold the value of the farm. Booth felt sure that Phelps must own his farm in order to carry out his plans, and when, finally, \$15,000 was offered him, declined to sell, and the result was the abandonment of the scheme to extend Birmingham northward, on the west side of the Naugatuck, and the founding of a new village on the east side of that stream. The greed and obstinacy of Booth not only prevented Birmingham from becoming one of the largest manufacturing villages of the state, but it was also the primary cause which brought into existence its wide-awake competitor, Ansonia.

“The first survey of the grounds now teeming with the busy life of Ansonia was made by John Clouse, Anson G. Phelps, Almon Farrel and other gentlemen. After nearly a day's tramp around the lots Clouse planted himself upon a high rock, near where the Congregational church now stands, and casting his eyes around, said: ‘Mr. Phelps, this is one of the finest places for a village in this Western world. I would be content here to live and die, and be buried near this very spot, with no other monument to my name than this rock and the memory of those who may come after me.’”\*

Acting on this opinion of the old surveyor, Phelps secured large tracts of lands on the east side of the river. In December, 1844, he also purchased the improvements and privileges of Raymond French,

\* Orcutt and Beardsley's "History of Derby," p. 416.

who had that year built a dam at "Kinneytown," on the west side of the river, a mile above Ansonia, so as to make possible the construction of a grand system of water power along the base of the hills on the east side. In the spring of 1845 a large force of men was put to work upon the embankment of the reservoir, which was built a mile and a half long. It was completed the following year under the direction of Almon Farrel and Abraham Hubbell, two of Ansonia's pioneers. At the same time the building of the village was begun, and the growth of the place and the development of the manufacturing interests have been intimately connected ever since. The vigorous spirit exhibited in making the first improvements soon attracted many energetic citizens. A number engaged in manufacturing and others entered upon general business. In the line of the latter was erected, in 1846, the Ansonia Hotel, by Lindley & Johnson, and was one of the first buildings in the place. It is, in an enlarged condition, still continued as a public house, and while under the management of A. H. Dayton became widely known, and retains his name. In recent years several modern hotels have been erected, there being half a dozen hostelrys in 1890.

Eleazer Peck built the first store in Ansonia, and was in the dry goods trade until 1870, when he was succeeded by Robert Peck. The former died in 1878, aged 70 years. John Lindley, who came to Ansonia in 1845 as a carpenter and builder, putting up some of the first factories, etc., established a furniture and carpet trade in 1858, which is still continued by members of his family.

Egbert Bartlett here became a hardware mercant in 1852, and in 1867 retired from a business since carried on by Lockwood Hotchkiss. H. C. Spencer opened a store in the same line of trade, about six years later, which in 1861 passed to T. P. Terry, one of the veteran merchants of the place. In 1882 his son, Frank T., was associated with him, and the firm continues on a large scale as T. P. Terry & Son. The hardware business of W. B. Blackman and Charles M. Platt was established in 1879. Nathan Johnson was in trade before the war, at the stand of Hobart Sperry, who is also one of the oldest merchants in the place. H. C. Miles has for many years been a contemporary. Merritt Clark engaged in the coal trade in 1861, which interest is still carried on by his sons. Willis and Lewis Hotchkiss were extensive pioneer builders, and in 1883 W. R. Mott and C. Y. Woodruff succeeded to the building business of F. A. Lines & Co. In all there are more than a hundred business firms.

Ansonia was incorporated as a borough by an act of the May, 1864, general assembly, but its original charter was much amended in 1871 and subsequently. The limits were restricted to the village proper, north of Beaver brook and east of the Naugatuck river. The first election of borough officers was held August 1st, 1864, the meeting being called by J. H. Bartholomew. The following were then chosen as

the first board of officers: Warden, D. W. Plumb; burgesses, William B. Bristol, J. H. Bartholomew, Robert Hoadley, William Wallace, John Lindley, M. P. Wilson; treasurer, William B. Bristol; clerk, A. J. Hine; bailiff, D. F. Hoadley.

The successive wardens have been the following: 1866-9, William B. Bristol; 1870-1, Egbert Bartlett; 1872, Robert Peck; 1873, Charles F. Williams; 1874, M. J. Walsh; 1875, Henry B. Whiting; 1876-7, D. F. Hoadley; 1878, J. B. Quillinan; 1879-80, Henry A. Shipman; 1881-2, John B. Quillinan; 1883-4, John B. Gardner; 1885-7, Reuben H. Tucker; 1888-9, John M. Wheeler. In the latter year the burgesses were: Morris Drew, A. B. Clemens, Thomas A. Nelson, A. S. Terry, J. G. Redshaw, John E. Lowden and William Laphorn; B. A. Bradley was the clerk; Fred. M. Drew, the treasurer; John E. Lewis, the auditor, and Thomas S. Ellis, the bailiff.

From the records the following interesting facts pertaining to the borough have been gleaned:

In 1874 a map of the streets was made by George O. Schneller.

October 24th, 1879, extensive by-laws upon all matters of borough rule were passed and adopted for the government of Ansonia.

August 25th, 1884, J. Herbert Shedd, of Providence, R. I., reported his survey for a sewerage system, and soon after the work of laying street sewers was begun by Contractor M. S. Austin.

In 1885 the grade lines of many streets were definitely fixed. In the fall of 1887 many yards of street sewers were laid, the cost aggregating more than \$16,000. During the year more than \$23,000 was expended for that purpose. In 1888-90 about \$30,000 more was expended to still further extend the system.

On the 22d of February, 1888, it was ordered that Main street from State street to Bridge street should be paved with Belgian blocks, and appropriations to that end were made. Main street north has been paved with these blocks, as well as the principal cross streets from Main to the river, on the west. On the 1st of October, 1890, about 4,300 feet of streets had been thus paved, and the outlay for that purpose had been about \$35,000. In consequence of these liberal expenditures and an annual outlay of about \$4,000 upon the highways of the borough, the healthfulness and appearance of Ansonia were superior to most places of like nature and size.

The streets of Ansonia are lighted by gas and electricity furnished by the Derby Gas Company, the expense for this purpose being about \$2,000 per year.

Water for use in case of fires, etc., is supplied by the Ansonia Water Company, there being about 60 public hydrants, and the cost of maintaining them is about \$1,700 per year.

In connection with this system of water works is the Ansonia Fire Department, whose marshals in 1890 were Joseph F. Gilpin and William O. Wallace. The only fire company in the department in the

borough is the Eagle Hose and Hook and Ladder Company, No. 6, which was organized August 21st, 1871, with 29 charter members. In 1890 the number belonging was 75. The company is well supplied with effective apparatus, and its quarters are centrally located on Main street, near the Farrel foundries. They were opened for the use of company in 1879. Outside the limits of the borough, but within easy distance for active coöperation, is Fountain Hose Company, of West Ansonia, and the two companies working harmoniously together, have succeeded in reducing the losses to very small amounts. Both fire districts are equipped with a fire alarm telegraph, which system was introduced in the early part of 1889. From six hundred to a thousand dollars are expended annually in the maintenance of the department.

Aside from special disbursements in the way of these progressive betterments the corporation expenses are about \$15,000 per year, but the results of this outlay are plainly apparent in the orderly, well-kept and substantial appearance of the borough.

West Ansonia has a beautiful location on the hills west of the Naugatuck river, which separates it from the borough of Ansonia. A number of bridges span the stream, affording easy communication between the two places. For many years the village sustained a suburban relation to the borough, being almost wholly given over to residence purposes. In more recent years a number of mercantile businesses have been established, and the lower part of the village begins to assume the appearance of a trading point. There are more than a dozen stores and shops, several public and private halls, good school houses, a church, public water works, a hose company, and the principal streets are lighted by electricity.

The village contains many handsome residences on spacious and well kept grounds. There are also hundreds of less costly but neat and attractive homes, owned by the industrial classes of the town. The inhabitants number several thousand. The streets are in good condition and are being constantly improved, giving the place a prosperous appearance.

In the western part of the village, at the base of the higher hills, are the Roman Catholic and Evergreen cemeteries. Both are neatly kept and contain handsome memorials to the dead. In the latter is also Ansonia's Soldiers' Monument, a chaste token of the esteem to the memory of those who lost their lives in defense of the Union.

Ansonia became distinctly a manufacturing town with the building of Phelps' reservoir. But the capacity of the water power has long since been outgrown, and steam is extensively used as a principal or supplemental motor; still its water remains an important factor in the affairs of the town. Upon the death of Anson G. Phelps, in New York in 1853, his interests were placed in charge of representatives, who have still further developed and extended them. In 1869 the power and real estate at this place passed under the management of the An-



sonia Land and Water Power Company, of which D. Willis James and George P. and A. A. Cowles, of New York, have been principal officers a number of years. The real estate of the company, which was completely worthless in 1845, has become very valuable.

Almon Farrel, a native of Waterbury, where he learned the trade of a millwright of his father, and who subsequently became one of the leading machinists and contractor of factory buildings in the Naugatuck valley, was one of the principal spirits in the pioneer industrial history of Ansonia. Many of the first improvements were made under his direction. He was the father of Franklin Farrel, now one of the oldest and most successful manufacturers of the town. His death occurred in May, 1857, but the works of his handicraft still remain. Edwin Ells, who died in 1881, built the first wheel that was put in motion in Ansonia. The Colburn brothers, Sylvester and Sullivan M., who have also passed away, were among the first who here ventured to establish new industries; and David W. Plumb was one of the most active manufacturers and business men, from 1848 until 1868, when he removed to Shelton to help develop that village. The Wallaces, Farrels and Durands remain, and are pillars of strength in the industrial life of Ansonia.

The Ansonia Brass & Copper Company, popularly called the "A., B. & C. Co.," is the successor to the oldest manufacturing business in the town. The copper mills of Ansonia were the first industrial works. Their foundation was laid in the fall of 1844 by Almon Farrel, upon which Harvey Johnson erected a superstructure the following year. This was occupied by the Ansonia Manufacturing Company, incorporated May 12th, 1845, with a capital of \$50,000. Donald Judson was the president, and Sheldon Bassett the secretary and treasurer of the company. In 1854 the Birmingham Copper mills were removed to Ansonia, and the two concerns, in both of which Anson G. Phelps had been interested, were consolidated. The business was now successfully conducted by the Phelps management, and in 1869 the formation of the present corporation followed. Its capital stock has been increased with the expansion of business, being now \$1,500,000. The old buildings have also been displaced by more substantial, commodious structures. At Ansonia three vast plants are occupied, which are known as the brass and copper mills, the wire mills and the factories on Main street. In the latter large quantities of brass and copper goods in a great variety of manufacture are produced, giving employment to much skilled labor. The annual output aggregates several millions of dollars, and the company here has in its service hundreds of men, this being one of the most extensive industries in the place. The principal stockholders and officers reside in New York. The officers were, in 1890; W. E. Dodge, president, and A. A. Cowles, secretary and treasurer.

The Farrel Foundry and Machine Company also ranks as a leading

industrial institution, which was founded in the pioneer period of Ansonia. It was started by the Colburn brothers—Sylvester, Sullivan and Josiah M.—and Almon Farrel. The capital and the business were at first small, but increased from the time of commencing operations in 1848. Two years later the business was changed to an incorporated company, called the Farrel Foundry. Almon Farrel was the president, continuing until his death, in 1857. In September of that year the former corporation gave place to the present one. Of this company Franklin Farrel has since been the president and the leading spirit, increasing the value of the nominal capital of \$100,000 until its market value is half a million dollars. In 1890 his associate officers were: F. E. Hoadley, secretary; E. C. Lewis, treasurer, and C. F. Bliss, agent.

From its humble beginning at Ansonia the plant has been extended until it covers between four and five acres, upon which are capacious buildings, equipped with improved machinery for expeditiously carrying on the work of the corporation. An additional plant is also maintained at Waterbury, and more than half a thousand men are employed. The products consist of a great variety of heavy manufactures, a specialty being made of chilled rolls for every kind of mills; much of the products being exported to foreign countries. It is said that this establishment has manufactured some of the heaviest sugar mill machinery in the world. Several years ago these works shipped to Cuba the machinery for a couple of sugar mills, each weighing 320 tons. The chilled rolls were 44 inches in diameter and 7 feet long on the face. The company also manufactures on an extensive scale rolls for flouring mills, which have no superior in this country; and their patent ore crushers are reputed among the best machinery of that kind made. The excellence of their many other products has made the name of the corporation and of Ansonia widely known.

Contemporary with the foregoing enterprises was the establishment, in 1848, of a woolen mill by David W. Plumb. He had engaged in the same line of manufacturing at Birmingham in 1836, and came from that place in the year named. A large factory was built in the upper part of Ansonia, in which he successfully manufactured woolens, having an especially profitable business during the war. In 1865 he sold out to William R. Slade, who organized the Slade Woolen Company the same year. This corporation operated with a capital of \$100,000, and had an annual output of half a million dollars worth of cassimers, beavers, doeskins and other woolen goods. It occupied a four-story building 50 by 160 feet, and used water and steam as motors. In 1883 a part of the building was occupied by the Hill Knitting Company, incorporated that year with a capital of \$25,000, for the manufacture of knit underwear. Charles L. Hill was the president of the company, and about 50 operatives were employed. Since 1887 this in-

dustry has been known as the Ansonia Knitting Mills, and has been carried on under the proprietorship of R. W. Lewis & Son (E. H. Lewis), in the manufacture of all kinds of woolen knit goods. They run three sets of cards, 1,100 spindles, 10 knitting machines, and employ about 80 hands.

Another industry established at Ansonia in that period is the brass and copper manufacturing business of Wallace & Sons, who have, since 1853, been a corporate body with that name. This has also been developed from a meager beginning to an establishment of colossal proportions. The buildings are among the largest and best equipped in the town, the entire plant covering about five acres. An especial feature for some years has been a chimney 200 feet high, containing at the height of 80 feet above the ground a fine Seth Thomas town clock. A new office, erected in 1889, is in size, beauty of architecture and elegance of appointment surpassed by few others in the county. The interests of Wallace & Sons are among the foremost in the place. They produce not only the raw brass and copper in varied forms, but re-manufacture an astonishing variety of goods of the metals named, and employ a force of men which approximates 1,000 in number. Their goods also have a fine reputation at home and abroad, and although the output exceeds several millions of dollars worth per year, it is being steadily increased by the enlargement of the plant and the perfection of the machinery used.

The founder of this business was Thomas Wallace. He was born in Manchester, England, in 1797, and when fourteen years of age learned the trade of a wire drawer for pin-making. In 1832 he came to America, and to Birmingham in 1841. He there engaged as wire drawer for the Howe Pin Company, occupying the basement of the old Bassett factory, and continued about half a dozen years, having the help of his sons, John, Thomas and William, who also became skilled in the business. In 1848 they removed to Ansonia, where they began the brass business in a moderate way, on their own account, adding various lines of manufactures from time to time. Thomas Wallace died in 1875, but the business has since been carried on with untiring energy by his sons and grandsons, who also became skillful mechanics. The officers of the corporation are: President, William Wallace;\* secretary, John B. Wallace; treasurer and general manager, Thomas Wallace; superintendent, William O. Wallace.

Keeping pace with the progress of the times, the Wallaces have manufactured many lines of goods pertaining to the arts into which electricity enters, and in 1880 members of the above firm and others formed the Electrical Supply Company, with a capital stock of \$48,000. Thomas Wallace has served as president; Thomas Wallace, Jr., secretary, and Thomas W. Bryant and L. F. Anschutz, treasurer. A large plant on Main street, near the lower end of the reservoir, has been

\*See biographical sketches of William and Thomas Wallace in this chapter.

equipped, and is said to be one of the most valuable and complete in this county. The output includes the latest and most useful inventions and improvements in the vast domains of electrical science, including the telegraph, telephone, electric light, etc., etc. About 100 skillful workmen are employed, and with the improved machinery in use large quantities of work are produced. At this establishment are manufactured many of the goods used by the Edison Electric Light companies, in different parts of the Union; and some of the earliest inventions in electric lighting were made by members of the Wallace family.

But not all the pioneer manufacturers at Ansonia prospered. Some industries were established which were here for a short duration, and in 1852 a destructive fire swept away some factories, at a loss of \$75,000. Two years later the but recently located Ansonia Clock Company was burned out, at a loss of \$120,000. Their main factory building stood where is now the Osborne & Cheesman factory, on Main street. This was a heavy blow at the prosperity of a village as young as Ansonia was at that time. Subsequently the business of the clock company was conducted at Ansonia by the management of the Brass & Copper Company, and was here continued until about ten years ago, when it was removed and consolidated with the company's factory at Brooklyn, N.Y. At the latter place time pieces are still produced as "Ansonia" clocks. But in this line of industry are now at Ansonia John B. Gardner & Son and Phelps & Bartholomew Company.

John B. Gardner\* & Son, manufacturers of clock dials and clock parts, date their business from 1857. In that year the senior Gardner, who had invented a sunken dial, began their manufacture, soon putting his business upon a successful basis. The original factory on Main street was enlarged from time to time, until it has become one of the principal plants in the borough. Other lines of fancy work have been added, until the firm gives employment to about 100 men. In 1880 Mr. Gardner associated his son, Sturges B., with him, since which time increasing prosperity has attended their efforts.

The Phelps & Bartholomew† Company became a corporate body in 1886. But the firm of Albert Phelps and A. H. Bartholomew, as co-partners for the manufacture of clock movements, was established in 1881. In 1890 the four-story building known as the Savings Bank property, on the east side of Main street, was purchased, and the business transferred to the new and spacious quarters. The clocks of this company are very popular.

The Osborne & Cheesman Company was organized in 1866. For a number of years the firm of John W. Osborne and George W. Cheesman merchandised in Birmingham. In 1858 they also engaged in manufacturing hoop skirts. The following year they sold their mercantile

\*See sketch of John B. Gardner. †See sketch of A. H. Bartholomew.

business and removed to Ansonia to devote themselves exclusively to manufacturing. In 1861 they built their main factory building, on the site of the burned Ansonia Clock Works. Subsequently the building was enlarged, and the line of manufacture largely increased to include web goods, suspenders and wire woven tape for skirts. A shop on metallic goods was also run. In 1866 the above company was organized, as a joint stock corporation, with a capital of \$120,000. John W. Osborne was the first president; Charles Durand, the secretary, and George W. Cheesman, the treasurer. In the course of a few years Mr. Osborne retired from the company, and Charles Durand became the president, serving until 1875. The officers in later years and in 1890 were: Wilbur F. Osborne, president; Charles D. Cheesman, secretary; George W. Cheesman, treasurer.

The S. O. & C. Co., which was incorporated in 1882, with a capital of \$40,000, is an offshoot of the Osborne & Cheesman Company. The business of this company was begun several years earlier by an ingenious and skillful young German mechanic—George O. Schneller.\* He invented and constructed eyeletting machinery which revolutionized that branch of manufacturing, and which is used in the plant of this company. Other devices, equally labor-saving and ingenious, have been produced by him, and are here successfully used. The company also manufactures metal goods of various kinds, and has a growing business. Its plant in the southern part of the borough is one of the best located in the town.

The Union Fabric Company was incorporated in 1887, to cover steel and other wires for use in skirts, bustles, etc. The industry is new but is prospering. Of this company W. F. Osborne is the president, and the other offices are filled by George O. Schneller.

The Sperry Manufacturing Company are manufacturers of fifth wheels and other carriage hardware in great variety. Their plant is on Beaver brook, in the eastern part of the borough, where this industry was established about 1870 by Wales Terrell & Co. The present corporation, whose capital is \$50,000, was formed in 1882. Charles H. Pine is the president, and E. F. Sperry the secretary and treasurer. Several dozen men are employed, and steam is the motive power.

In the same locality were the works of the Derby Bit Company, incorporated in 1881. For several years a successful business was there carried on in the manufacture of augers, bits, etc., patented by W. L. Parmalee.

Among the successful minor industries are the brass foundry of Edward Carter & Son, at Slade's Woolen Mill, since 1882, and in Ansonia since 1858; Henry C. Cook, manufacturer of presses, dies, etc., in Gardner's Block, and established in 1882; the paper box manufactory of S. G. Redshaw, in the same block, and carried on by him since 1878, but established earlier by Hendrix & Bartholomew, and for some

\* See Biographical Sketch.

time the buckle factory of B. Goodman, at the same place, each employing from five to thirty hands.

The carriage manufactory of F. B. Pope & Sons, composed of F. B., Fred. J., Homer N. and Ernest L. Pope, was established in 1876 by the senior member, the present firm succeeding to the business in 1886. A factory building, 70 by 80 feet, is occupied.

Many other small interests were for short periods carried on, but no detailed account is here possible. New industries are yearly begun, some failing of a successful establishment.

The Ansonia National Bank is the oldest monetary institution in the town. This was originally organized as the Bank of North America, and its place of business was Seymour. Having suffered great losses at that place, its charter was amended to permit the removal of the bank to Ansonia, to which place it was transferred in July, 1861, and the name changed to that of the Ansonia Bank. The capital stock was \$100,000, but the growing business soon made it necessary to increase it to \$200,000, at which amount it still remains. In 1865 the bank was nationalized. In the fall of 1890 there was a surplus fund of \$80,000, and the deposits reached \$450,000.

The first president was Josiah M. Colburn, who was succeeded, in January, 1875, by the Hon. Thomas Wallace, and the latter, in January, 1886, by the present incumbent, Charles H. Pine, who had served as cashier from August, 1873, to the time of his accession as president, and was succeeded in his former office by Frederick M. Drew, the present cashier. At this time the board of directors is composed of Thomas Wallace, Franklin Farrel, William Powe, W. B. Bristol, A. H. Bartholomew, C. H. Pine and Charles E. Bristol, the latter being vice-president.

The banking house on Main street has been occupied many years, and while it has a plain exterior it was thoroughly refitted inside in 1889, and was made very attractive.

The Savings Bank of Ansonia was incorporated in 1862. The charter was granted to George P. Cowles, J. H. Bartholomew, Abraham Hubbell, Egbert Bartlett, Albert Hotchkiss, William B. Bristol, Sylvester Barbour, Richard M. Johnson, Eleazer Peck, John Lindley, J. M. Colburn, Thomas Whitney, Nathan S. Johnson, Thomas Wallace, Jr., David W. Plumb, Jonah C. Platt, Eli Hotchkiss, Willet Bradley. The bank was opened in the law office of Sylvester Barbour, who was the first secretary and treasurer. Not long after Egbert Bartlett was elected to the latter office, in which he served until 1888, when Franklin Burton became the secretary and treasurer. William B. Bristol has been the only president of the bank, and the Hon. Thomas Wallace has long been the vice-president.

In 1890 the board of directors was composed of the following: J. C. Platt, H. J. Smith, James Swan, Franklin Burton, Hobart Sperry, Lockwood Hotchkiss, George E. Lindley Hervey Hotchkiss, Charles F. -

Bliss. The bank is very prosperous, and its business has steadily increased. In March, 1880, the deposits amounted to \$367,865.31; October 1st, 1890, they were \$991,503.95, and the number of depositors was 3,720. The savings bank occupies offices in the second story of the national bank building.

The citizens of the upper part of old Derby were given better postal privileges in June, 1846, when the Ansonia office was established, with George Bristol as the postmaster. He was succeeded in January, 1858, by John Lindley, and he in turn by George Bristol, in April, 1861. Charles E. Bristol was appointed in August, 1869, and served until March, 1885, when John L. Lindley became his successor. The present postmaster, Morris Drew, was appointed February 14th, 1890. D. S. Parsons is the deputy postmaster. The office is in a spacious, well-appointed room in the Opera House Block, where it has been kept the past ten years. Since July, 1887, the free carrier system has been in operation, the public being served by five carriers. Thirty-three street boxes are maintained in Ansonia and West Ansonia, which is the area of the distribution.

The press of Ansonia has an able and enterprising representative in the daily and weekly *Sentinel*. This journal was the pioneer paper in the borough, and was founded November 9th, 1871, by Jerome & Carpenter, as the *Naugatuck Valley Sentinel*, a small local weekly. In April, 1872, Reverend Edward M. Jerome became the sole editor and proprietor, continuing until August, 1876, when the paper was purchased by the present owner, J. M. Emerson, who has had for short periods other parties associated with him. In 1879 the paper was enlarged to a sheet 29 by 46, nine columns to a page, and its form since that time has been changed and improved. The paper has become more distinctly the exponent of Ansonia's interests, and appropriately has had the name changed to that of *The Ansonia Sentinel*.

In the spring of 1883 a daily issue of the *Sentinel* was begun, which has been successfully continued, separate editions being issued for some of the neighboring villages. The circulation has steadily increased, the aggregate issues being about 8,000 copies per week.

The *Sentinel* occupies its own printing establishment, which was completed for use in April, 1882. It is a fine three-story brick building, and is equipped with all the appliances of a modern printing house. The *Sentinel* is republican in politics.

In June, 1885, the *Ansonia Journal*, devoted to democratic principles, was established by J. H. Whiting. It was discontinued the following September for lack of patronage.

The Ansonia Opera House was erected in 1870 by the Ansonia Hall Company, organized for this purpose in 1869. It is a substantial and attractive brick structure, 45 by 103 feet, and four stories high, and cost to build about \$40,000. The opera house proper is one of the finest halls in the county, seating 900 people. Its stage is 30 by 35

feet and is well supplied with fine scenery. For a number of years the property has belonged to the Bartholomew family and has been managed by Dana Bartholomew. This was the first spacious hall in Ansonia. Prior to its use the public hall was Colburn's, or the old Military Hall, having a small capacity. Other public rooms more recently opened are the Temple of Honor Hall and Y. M. C. A. Hall, both centrally located on Main street, the latter being in Gardner's Block.

The Ansonia Water Company is a corporation with a capital of \$30,750, organized for the purpose of supplying the borough with pure water for domestic use. Its first president was J. S. Bartholomew, and Sylvester Barbour was the secretary and treasurer. These offices have been filled the past ten years by Thomas Wallace and Dana Bartholomew, who, with William Wallace, A. H. Bartholomew, Theodore P. Terry and F. T. Terry, constituted the board of directors in the fall of 1890. The company constructed its water works in 1868, building a large reservoir on Beaver brook, about two miles from the central part of the village, and several hundred feet above the plain along the Naugatuck. Since that time additional reservoirs have been built, giving a storage capacity of about 33,000,000 gallons. The water is carried to the village by gravitation through 12-inch mains and thoroughly distributed by smaller pipes. At appropriate points are 55 hydrants for use in case of fire. At the highest points a pressure of 90 pounds is afforded, being sufficient, without the use of an engine, to extinguish ordinary fires. For drinking purposes the quality of the water is most excellent.

West Ansonia has its supply of water for domestic use from another source. It is furnished by the Fountain Water Company, whose capital is \$20,000 and which was organized in 1872. The works, established at a lake among the western hills, which is filled by living streams, afford a bountiful supply. The mains are being much extended to keep pace with this growing but widely scattered suburb, and provision for its use in case of fire has also been made by the erection of street hydrants. In 1890 David Torrance was the president of the company and J. A. Fiske treasurer and superintendent.

In connection with the above system was organized Fountain Hose Company No. 1, of West Ansonia, and supplied with proper apparatus. A hose house for the use of this company is maintained in a central locality, and the fire alarm telegraph has also been extended to this village, there being in 1890 half a dozen boxes.

One of the first resident physicians of Ansonia, although not in active practice, being more devoted to manufacturing, was Doctor Josiah M. Colburn.\* After graduating at Yale in 1822 he located at Orange, where he practiced until 1833, when he removed to Derby, where he actively followed his profession a few years longer, then en-

\*See sketch, Chapter X.



gaged in business with his brothers, S. & S. M., following them to Ansonia from Birmingham, soon after the former village was started.

Doctor William Terry located here in 1860. In the war for the Union he served as a surgeon in the military hospital at Alexandria, Va. Returning to Ansonia, he resumed his practice, and is still so engaged in the town. Doctor Charles W. Sheffrey, who had also been a surgeon in the war, became a practitioner at this place in 1866, but in 1871 removed to Bridgeport.

Doctor Frederick P. Blodgett was born in East Windsor, Conn., January 6th, 1847. He prepared for college at Ellington and Hartford, and graduated from the Yale Medical College in January, 1871. He came to Ansonia in September, 1871, where he has since practiced. He is a member of the Yale Medical Society. He was recorder of births, deaths and marriages for the town of Derby for two years. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and is medical examiner for the order. Doctor Blodgett was married to Martha J. Bill, of New Haven, in 1872.

Doctor Louis E. Cooper was born in Ansonia, March 15th, 1862. received his preliminary education at Ansonia, and at Hopkins' Grammar School, New Haven, graduated from Sheffield Scientific School in 1884, and from Yale Medical School in 1886. After spending a year in the New Haven Hospital, he came to Ansonia, practiced with Doctor Welch one year, then practiced in Seymour 18 months. July 1st, 1890, he formed a partnership with Doctor Welch, and returned to Ansonia. He is a member of the New Haven Medical Society. Doctor Cooper married Isabel Smith, of Buckingham, Pa., June 25th, 1890.

Doctor William H. Conklin was born in Fairfield, Conn., in 1860, and is a son of John Conklin. He received his preliminary education in the schools of Fairfield, and graduated from the University of the City of New York in 1882. He then traveled through Ireland and practiced medicine in the Hospital of Dublin six months, and spent six months in London hospitals. He returned to this country in June, 1883, and opened an office in Ansonia, where he has since practiced. He is a member of the New Haven County and the Ousatonic Medical Societies. He is medical examiner for the town of Ansonia. In 1888 he married Mary A. Walsh, of Ansonia, and has one son, Cornelius, born in 1889.

In 1872 Doctor William Johnson began a practice at Ansonia which continued a number of years. In 1876 Doctor Norman R. Bailey came from Seymour, but after a brief period moved to New York state.

Doctor Scott R. Baker studied medicine with Doctor A. Beardsley, of Birmingham, and after graduating from Yale in 1879, located at Ansonia, where he has since been professionally engaged. Contemporary with him, in active practice, were Doctors William C. Welch and R. Y. Downs,

As homeopaths Doctors A. and W. H. Pulford have for some time been in practice. A number of other physicians located here but remained only short periods.

The Ousatonic Medical Society, composed of the physicians of Ansonia and the neighboring towns, was organized a few years ago. In 1890 its officers were: President, Doctor George L. Beardsley, of Birmingham; vice-president, Doctor R. E. Warner, of Seymour; secretary and treasurer, Doctor S. R. Baker, of Ansonia; executive committee, Doctors William H. Conklin, of Ansonia, R. E. Warner, of Seymour, and G. A. Shelton, of Shelton. Its meetings have been instrumental in promoting the interests of the profession.

In the legal profession Sylvester Barbour was one of the first to locate permanently at Ansonia. He was admitted in Hartford county in 1856, and in December, 1861, opened an office in the borough. His practice continued here until 1875, when he returned to Hartford. While at Ansonia he was also active in business affairs, and held various offices.

Verrenice Munger, born in Litchfield, Conn., in 1847, is a son of Rufus E. Munger. He was educated in the public schools of Derby and Naugatuck, commenced the study of law in 1866 with William Cothren, of Woodbury, and afterward studied with George Hine, of Naugatuck. He was admitted to the bar in 1868, practiced in Naugatuck until 1873, when he came to Ansonia. He was elected judge of the probate court for Derby in 1874, and held the office four years. He is at present judge of the town court of Ansonia. He was married, August 15th, 1872, to Jennie C., daughter of Lawrence S. Lewis, of Naugatuck. They have one son and one daughter.

John D. Ballou was admitted to the practice of law in Tolland county in 1869, and began his professional career the same year at Ansonia. In 1872 he removed to the West, but returned in 1878, and has here since been an attorney, although not in active practice in 1890.

Frederick W. Holden was born at White River Junction, Vermont, July 28th, 1858. His earliest recollections are of Philadelphia and then of Windsor, Vermont, until at the age of 12 years he went with his parents to reside at Bridgeport, Connecticut. His education was obtained in public and private schools, supplemented by private tuition.

In October, 1879, he entered upon the study of law in the office of Charles A. Doten, of Bridgeport, and was admitted to the bar in March, 1883. During the time he was pursuing his legal studies, in 1881, he was appointed principal of the West Ansonia public schools, which position he held until July, 1885, when he resigned to enter upon the practice of law at Ansonia, in partnership with Judge V. Munger. This partnership continued until January, 1889; it was then dissolved by mutual consent, and Mr. Holden continued the business at the old offices.



*Frederick W. Holden*



Mr. Holden is a democrat of the Jeffersonian type, and since his residence in town has taken an active interest in politics. In 1888 he was elected to represent the town of Derby in the general assembly. In that legislature Mr. Holden served as a member of the committee on incorporations, and took an active part in the debates upon the floor of the house and in the work of the committee. In that session he worked earnestly for the passage of the secret ballot law.

The way was now opened for further political promotion. The Seventh senatorial district of Connecticut is strongly republican and has been so for many years. It was almost a forlorn hope for the democratic party to carry a nominee to the state senate, but Mr. Holden was almost unanimously nominated in the democratic convention of 1890, and after a spirited campaign was elected by 87 plurality. He was the youngest member of the senate of 1891, and commanded the close attention of the body when he had the floor.

Mr. Holden fills positions of honor in general society of Ansonia. His church relations are with the Episcopal church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of other local bodies, and has held a variety of the minor offices in the gift of his fellow townsmen. He has been a member of the board of school visitors for Derby and Ansonia; he has been also a justice of the peace, and now holds the position of clerk of the town court of Ansonia.

The record thus far made is an exceptional one and at once suggests an aptitude to success, whether as teacher, lawyer or legislator. During his term as principal of the schools of West Ansonia he won the esteem of both the scholars and the public, and no sooner was he prepared for the practice of law than patronage came to him and the qualities of an able advocate appeared. So, too, as a legislator, he has commended himself to the judgment and favor of his constituents to such an extent that the future will probably record still higher promotion and honor for him.

Charles Reed came in 1875, and was in practice a number of years. Daniel E. McMahon was admitted June 13th, 1877, and practiced here until two years ago, when he removed to Birmingham, where he serves as judge of the Derby probate court.

Dennis T. Walsh has been an attorney at Ansonia more than a dozen years, and contemporary with him is, in addition to those already named, Carlos H. Storrs, who also maintains an office at Seymour.

Soon after the village of Ansonia was founded several Lodges were organized, whose meetings have since been regularly held. Subsequently other societies were instituted, which declined and were discontinued after a brief existence; and in more recent years there has scarcely been a limit to the organizations which have been here effected, nearly every popular or new order having a society representation in Ansonia. A brief account of the principal bodies is here given.

George Washington Lodge, No. 82, F. & A. M., was instituted under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of the state, bearing date November 25th, 1856. Its charter from the same body is dated May 18th, 1857. The first principal officers were the following: W. M., Joseph A. Bunnell; S. W., John Wallace; J. W., Joseph S. Riggs; treasurer, Samuel A. Cotter; secretary, Thomas Wallace, Jr. The Lodge being organized at a time when King Hiram, of Birmingham, was in suspense, naturally at once entered upon a vigorous growth, which has not been much interrupted. In 1890 there were about 160 members in good standing, and the place of meeting was in Masonic Hall, a well ordered room on Main street.

In the same room are held the convocations of the Mt. Vernon Chapter, No. 35, R. A. M., which was chartered in May, 1872, and instituted by the grand high priest, William Wallace Lee, on the 25th of June following, with the following principal officers: High priest, J. H. Whiting; king, J. E. Remer; scribe, John Lindley; treasurer, N. Sperry; secretary, George O. Schneller. The chapter has had a reasonable degree of prosperity, numbering among its members many of the leading Masons of Ansonia and Seymour. Among others active in its affairs, as officers, have been D. F. Hoadley, Charles T. Beardslay, F. G. Bassett, J. H. Redshaw, J. W. Willis, Samuel D. Redshaw, William L. Parmalee, L. F. Anschutz, O. L. Dibble and A. C. Peck.

Naugatuck Lodge, No. 63, I. O. O. F., was instituted March 16th, 1849, with the following charter members: Robert R. Wood, Charles Cooper, Timothy E. Miller, Charles Root, Abijah Hawkins, William B. Bristol, Hiram Lyman, Richard M. Johnson, A. N. Prindle, John Lindley, Edward Root, David T. Johnson, Jonah Clark, Hiram N. Hubbard, Julius R. Pond, John R. Johnson, Giles B. Allen, H. Skinner. The first meetings were held in Creamer's Hall, but since that time a number of other rooms have been occupied, the increasing membership demanding larger accommodations. In 1890 the hall was on Main street, in the Hotchkiss Block, which has been the home of Ansonia's Odd Fellows for a number of years. Robert R. Wood was the first noble grand, which office has since been filled by more than 60 other members. The aggregate membership has exceeded several hundred, and the Lodge is in a prosperous condition. Its property the past few years has been in charge of trustees, J. A. Bristol, A. H. Bartholomew and A. S. Terry.

In the same room are also held the meetings of Hope Encampment, No. 26, which has a large and active membership; and also the monthly meetings of Canton Totoket (Patriarchs Militant), composed of Odd Fellows of this and the adjoining towns.

Ansonia Lodge, No. 24, K. of P., was instituted December 9th, 1870, with but 11 members, but in the course of two years had 70 members in good standing. Later it took rank as the banner lodge of the order in the state, and its high reputation is still maintained. It has a finely

furnished hall and a good library and cash fund. Robert Peck was the first presiding officer. For many years Homer A. Peck has been the keeper of the records and seal. The membership is large and increasing.

Endowment Rank, Section No. 131, K. of P., is composed of members of the above, and has a fine reputation in the order for the extent of its beneficiary work.

Among the orders at Ansonia are several prosperous temperance organizations, Garnet Temple of Honor, No. 24. T. O. H. & T., being one of the oldest and most successful. It was instituted December 17th, 1877, with 18 charter members. It soon drew to itself an active membership, and the meetings of the Temple were occasions of great interest. After the lapse of more than a dozen years the standing of the society is well maintained. In April, 1879, Ruby Social, No. 13, was established as a female branch of the above, and its meetings were held in the same hall.

Another noteworthy temperance society is Ansonia Division, No. 31, Sons of Temperance, whose meetings are also held in the Temple of Honor Hall. It is reported in a prosperous condition.

Connected with the Catholic church are the Y. M. R. C. T. A. & B. Association, the St. Aloysius Cadets and the Father Matthew T. A. B. Society, all of them being useful in their several spheres. The first and the last hold monthly meetings in Military Hall.

Conspicuous among the more important minor societies are the following: Union Lodge, No. 2,835, Knights of Honor, which holds semi-monthly meetings and has a good membership; Friendship Lodge, No. 34, A. O. U. W., organized in September, 1888, but which is already well established; Valley Council, No. 23, K. of C., which has a liberal support given by Irishmen; the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, organized in 1862, and still supported with unabated interest; Lord Nelson Lodge, No. 137, Sons of St. George, a young but vigorous body; Court Anson G. Phelps, Foresters; Tent No. 5, Knights of Maccabees; Wepawaug Tribe, No. 7, I. O. of R. M.; Hermann Lodge, No. 400, D. O. H.; Nangatuck Valley Lodge, No. 70, D. O. H.; Ansonia Council, No. 113, and Schiller Council, No. 234, Order of United Friends, are all young and vigorous beneficiary orders.

The Ansonia Club, the Independent Social Club and the German Turn Verein are social organizations which are well supported.

Thomas M. Redshaw Post, No. 75, G. A. R., was instituted at Ansonia December 8th, 1884. There were 37 charter members and the following principal officers: B. A. Cramer, P. C.; Charles French, S. V.; Joseph Killingbeck, J. V.; Julius A. Bristol, Q. M.; Austin P. Kirkham, adjutant; Charles M. Platt, S. M. At the first meeting only eight members were mustered, but the others were soon added, and in all 136 comrades were mustered up to October, 1890. At the same time the number belonging to the Post was 106. Those elected post command-

ers were as follows: 1884-5, B. A. Cramer; 1886, Charles French; 1887, J. A. Bristol; 1888, George Goodsell; 1889, S. M. Blair; 1890, Austin P. Kirkham. The latter, as the first adjutant of the post, served until 1886, when C. M. Platt filled that position one year. Charles French served in 1887-8, and C. M. Platt since that time.

In connection with the Post a Woman's Relief Corps was organized May 12th, 1887, with 22 members. The number has been largely increased, and the Corps has become a valuable auxiliary. In the same well furnished hall are held the meetings of

The William B. Wooster Camp, No. 25, Sons of Veterans, which was organized in 1888. This is also a prosperous body, having a constantly increasing membership.

Previous to the organization of Redshaw Post, there was at Ansonia a Veteran Soldiers' and Sailors' Association, whose object was benevolent, and which especially provided for the care of the graves of deceased comrades. It had a membership of more than 50, among those most actively interested being Wakeman R. Mott, Julius A. Bristol and Charles Stowell, who served for some years as the executive committee.

The Soldiers' Monument, in the Evergreen Cemetery at West Ansonia, was erected more than a dozen years ago. It consists of heavy bases and a die, all of granite, surmounted by a bronze life-size figure of a soldier in the artillery service, executed by M. J. Power, of New York. On the upper base are cut, on the four sides, the names of Antietam, Mobile, Malvern Hill and Gettysburg. The south side of the die is inscribed as follows:

Ansonia's Tribute  
To the Memory of Her Sons  
Who gave their lives  
To their Country  
In the Rebellion of  
1861—1865.

The monument stands on a green grass plat, whose appearance is made more impressive by four large cannon resting on the angles of the same. The pile is plain and unpretentious, but is very substantial and fitly serves its purpose.

Prior to the founding of the village of Ansonia, the histories of schools and churches of this section were the same as that of Derby. One of the oldest religious bodies is the Congregational church of Ansonia. This was temporarily organized in 1848 for the accommodation of such members of the old Derby church and others as had moved to this locality. The pastor of that church occasionally preached, and prayer meetings were regularly held. In the winter of 1848-9 stated services were held every Sabbath, but during the summer months they were remitted. The following winter they were again resumed, and from that time regular services have been maintained.



This encouraging interest led to the formal organization of the church, April 17th, 1850, when 31 persons entered into covenant relations.

The congregation held its meetings in Colburn's Hall, on Main street, having the Reverend J. R. Mershon as the stated supply. In the winter of 1850-1 a most extensive work of grace in the community took place, when 44 persons united with the church on their profession of faith. A frame church edifice was being built, meantime, which was dedicated July 1st, 1852. It served as a place of worship until October, 1865, when it was burned, having taken fire from the flue of the furnace, while some women were cleaning the church. A new stone edifice was at once erected, on the fine lot, on South Cliff street, which was dedicated May 25th, the following year. Improvements and repairs since that time have made it one of the handsomest and most inviting places of worship in the borough. On the opposite side of the street is the home of the pastor of the church.

The Reverend Owen Street was the first settled pastor. He was installed September 1st, 1852, and dismissed in May, 1857. In the next three years the church was supplied mainly by Reverends Chauncey Goodrich, Moses Smith and S. L. Thompson. March 22d, 1860, Reverend A. L. Frisbie was ordained as the pastor, in which capacity he served until July 11th, 1865. Again the church was without a pastor about three years, in which period Reverends William S. Adamson and James T. Hyde preached. Reverend Charles J. Hill was next installed as the pastor, in September, 1872, and continued until October, 1875. In December of the same year, Reverend Edward P. Payson was inducted into the pastoral office, where he remained about a dozen years. In October, 1887, Reverend Miles G. Bullock, D.D., here began his pastoral labors, which continued three years, the church in October, 1890, being without a settled minister. At this time there were 274 members, and the Congregational families in the parish numbered 258. The Sabbath school had about 350 members, and John B. Davidson was the superintendent. Dana Bartholomew was the clerk of the church, and Burnet A. Cramer the treasurer. Other official members were: Deacons, John Jackson, Robert Coe, J. H. Steinman, S. B. Bronson and Charles Thomas; society's committee, T. P. Terry, A. S. Terry, F. E. Hoadley; parish clerk, W. P. Judson; treasurer, H. W. Case; collector, S. B. Bronson. The parish is one of the wealthiest in the lower Naugatuck valley, and is yearly increasing in importance.

Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal) was organized November 27th, 1849, as the Trinity church and parish of Ansonia, the following persons associating themselves for that purpose: Samuel French, Charles Cooper, Eleazer Peck, Samuel P. Church, Charles Gale, William B. Bristol, Lorenzo Kinney, John Gray, E. B. Gillett, H. S. Hill, R. M. Johnson, John Lindley, H. L. Smith and L. A. Clinton. The

rector of St. James' church, of Birmingham, Reverend Thomas Guion, presided at these preliminary meetings, and aided in the organization. On the 28th of January, 1850, the first officers of the parish were chosen, namely: Samuel French, senior warden; Eleazer Peck, junior warden; R. M. Johnson, John Lindley, H. S. Hill, John Gray, Charles Gale and H. L. Smith, vestrymen. This being done, measures were taken to erect a house of worship on a lot centrally located, on Main street. The building was enlarged in 1864, at an outlay of \$2,000, and in that shape was used nearly a dozen years. Larger accommodations being demanded, they were secured in a new edifice, erected in 1875, at a cost of \$12,000. In this were placed beautiful memorial windows, commemorative of the services of the early rectors of the Episcopal church in old Derby—the Reverends Mansfield, Jewett and others. In 1883 the church was further beautified and enlarged by the addition of a Sunday school room, and the same year the rectory was repaired.

But the continued growth of the parish has necessitated the use of a still larger edifice, and, April 7th, 1890, it was voted to build a capacious and substantial new church as soon as a suitable site could be secured; and a fund for this purpose has been started.

Reverend Henry Olmstead was settled as the first rector of Trinity parish, and first held his services in two places—in what was locally called "Up Town" and in Ansonia. In the former locality, after the removal of St. James church to Birmingham in 1841, there still remained a few Episcopal families who desired the continuance of services in that neighborhood, and held them in the school house. Encouraged to believe that a regular church could be established, they applied to the diocese for organization as a parish, and in 1844 were admitted by that body, as is shown by the following action: "Voted, that the parish in Derby, organized on the first day of June, 1843, under the name of St. James Parish, be and the same is hereby admitted as a new parish into the union of this convention, by the name of Christ Church, Derby." After being thus officially recognized, the old parish of St. James, at Birmingham, relinquished its interest in the old church property in favor of Christ parish. The old church was now reopened and services held in it by Reverend N. S. Richardson, the rector. In the course of a few years Reverend Mr. Putnam succeeded him, and for a time he and Reverend Henry Olmstead, of the Trinity parish, labored conjointly. This had the effect of demonstrating the wisdom of a closer union of the two parishes, which was consummated April 21st, 1851, when Trinity parish dropped its name, and the consolidated parishes took the name of Christ Church and Parish. The "Up Town" church was vacated, and thenceforth all attended services at Ansonia. The rector of the two parishes having resigned in order to bring about this change, the united parishes called Reverend P. M. Stryker as their rector, in which office he served one year.

The subsequent rectors of Christ church have been the following: Reverends D. F. Lumsden, one year; Samuel G. Appleton, two years; John Milton Peck, ten months; Louis French, six years, leaving in 1863; Julius H. Ward, a little more than a year; Charles H. W. Stocking, three years; J. E. Pratt, from October, 1869, to June, 1872; Samuel R. Fuller, two years; Sheldon Davis, acting rector, thirteen months prior to December, 1875, when Reverend S. B. Duffield became the rector, and so continued until March, 1878; in April following Reverend H. J. Widdemer became rector, and continued until April, 1882; the same month Reverend Walter C. Roberts followed him, and remained until April, 1888. He had the help of assistant rectors, Reverend Robert G. Osborn, in 1885, and Reverend C. H. Proctor, in 1886. Since April, 1888, the rector of the parish has been Reverend C. E. Woodcock, and under his ministrations there has been a continuance of the unity and prosperity which attended the labors of his predecessors.

Among the more salient features of the later history of the church was the complete wiping out of the parish debt in 1886. The amount was about \$3,300, which was mainly raised by Senior Warden John Lindley, one of the most active members of the church, who died in September, 1887.

In May, 1887, a movement was set on foot to increase the permanent fund of the church, and in April, 1888, the Alton Farrel Memorial Fund was started, and the church officers appointed trustees of the same. He, also, was a devoted churchman.

March 3d, 1889, Bishop Williams visited the parish and confirmed 39 persons, which was one of the largest confirmations in the history of the parish.

In the old Episcopal church Abel Gunn and John Holbrook were the first wardens. Of Christ church the senior wardens have been, since 1850: Samuel French, George Bristol, T. C. Scroop, Eleazer Peck, Peter Tomlinson, J. H. Doolittle, John Lindley, for many years, and after his death, in 1887, Franklin Farrel, who had for some years previous been junior warden. He was succeeded by Edson L. Bryant in that office.

In 1890 the parish embraced 350 families, the whole number of individuals being 1,200. The registered communicants numbered 462. In the Sunday school were 360 members. The total amount of money raised in the parish for all purposes of church work was \$6,887.16. William T. Lyman was the parish clerk, a position which had long been held by Alton Farrel, who had also been treasurer of the parish. In 1890 S. W. Smith held that office.

The Young Men's Christian Association had its origin in a meeting held March 12th, 1866, and the constitution which was adopted that year was signed by 28 of the leading young men of the village. John J. Jackson was elected president; Samuel B. Blair, vice-president;

Charles E. Page, secretary. The latter office was filled in 1868 by Charles H. Pine and by Dana Bartholomew in 1869. In the latter year a popular course of lectures under the auspices of the association added to the interest of the movement. In 1873 the members numbered 37, increasing steadily the following years, twelve being added in 1876. In the latter year the eleventh annual convention of the State Y. M. C. A. was held at Ansonia. But the interest in the good work declined a few years later, and from 1878 until 1881, only a nominal organization was maintained. In September of the latter year a meeting was held to revive the association, when W. F. Page was elected president, V. Munger, vice-president, and W. H. Fielding, secretary. In February, 1882, many members were proposed, and an active existence was begun. In the fall of 1883 the services of a general secretary were secured, W. A. Fiske being called to that office; and since that time the association has been an aggressive factor in the community. In 1885 the expenditures of the association were about \$2,100, \$600 of which was paid for the rent of five spacious rooms, fitted up for this especial purpose in the Gardner Block.

In January, 1886, the association became an incorporated body, and the growth since that time has been constant and substantial. In October, 1890, there were 103 active and 117 associate members, and the association maintained regular religious meetings in its lecture room. Rooms had also been fitted up for a regular course of instruction in many branches in evening schools. There is a fine gymnasium, in which systematic instruction in physical culture is imparted. The reading room contains many of the current periodicals, and there is a library of about 1,000 volumes. Besides these there are reception rooms and parlors, invitingly arranged, about \$2,500 being expended yearly in carrying on the work of the association.

In December, 1885, Porter W. Hill became the general secretary, serving until July, 1887. He was then succeeded by Starr Cadwallader, who remained until October 8th, 1888, when the present general secretary, Charles M. Bryant, assumed the care of the affairs of the association.

Emanuel Free Church is located at West Ansonia, and was erected to afford the inhabitants of that locality a convenient place of worship, this being the only church edifice in that section. The prime mover in this laudable work was Reverend Sheldon Davis, a retired minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church. With this purpose in view he purchased a lot, in 1881, upon which the work of building was commenced April 8th, 1882. The plans of the house were prepared by Mr. Davis for a gothic frame structure, 35 by 65 feet, and several years were consumed in its erection. It was opened for the first public service April 3d, 1887, when Reverend Mr. Davis and others preached. The church has 300 sittings, and cost about \$3,600. During the lifetime of Reverend Sheldon Davis it remains in his control, but upon

his death becomes the absolute property of the Episcopal Diocese, to which it has been devised by him.

Since the 1st of November, 1887, Reverend Merritt H. Wellman, of the Episcopal church, has, with the consent of the bishop, maintained free services in the building, the people of this locality assisting by their free will offerings and increasing attendance. In October, 1890, there were in this congregation 30 communicant members; and, connected with it, was a Sunday school of six teachers and 60 scholars.

The Methodist Episcopal Church became a separate organization in 1851. The church was founded by Reverend David Osborn, in connection with his charge at Seymour, at which place he resided. But prior to that time Methodist meetings had been held in this community in connection with the above church or the society at Birmingham. Regular preaching was first held in Colburn's Hall, on Main street, and the society had many struggles and discouraging obstacles to overcome before it secured its own house of worship. In 1865 the commodious frame church on Main street, near the upper bridge, was erected, and has since been kept in proper repair. It has about 600 sittings, and from its central location accommodates large congregations. In 1890 there were about 300 members, forming classes led by S. N. Roberts, C. D. Evans, J. H. Bowes, R. Johnson and J. J. Allingham. The Sabbath school, having 325 members, is a most useful factor in the work of the church, and is ably superintended by John E. Lewis. The church property is valued at \$20,000. The relation of exhorter is sustained by W. F. Page, and the past few years the pastor has been Reverend R. S. Putney. Other ministers have been the following: 1852, Reverend J. L. Peck; 1853, E. S. Hebard; 1854-5, J. Pegg, Jr.; 1856-7, J. J. Wooley; 1858, W. Portens and William Tracy; 1859, W. Silverthorne; 1860-61, W. Howard; 1862-3, A. B. Pulling; 1864-5, C. T. Mallory; 1866-7, W. H. Wardell; 1868-70, C. S. Wing; 1871-2, G. P. Mains; 1873-4, S. H. Smith; 1875-6, L. Parker and Reverend Lindsay; 1877, J. M. Carroll; 1878, I. E. Smith; 1879-81, R. H. Loomis; 1882-3, E. Cunningham; 1884, G. A. Hubbell; 1885-7, S. M. Hammond; 1888-90, R. S. Putney.

The Baptist Church of Ansonia was established in 1874. After the discontinuance of the Baptist church at Seymour there remained no organization of that faith in the lower Naugatuck valley. But occasional meetings held at Ansonia led to the desire for a Baptist church in that community, and in consequence one was organized June 22d, 1874, under the direction of Doctor Turnbull, the secretary of the State Baptist Association. On that day 39 persons were enrolled as members, but the number soon increased, and the church and the society have, in the main, prospered since that time. In 1890 the church had 255 members.

After the ministry of Doctor Turnbull, Reverend E. M. Jerome preached, holding meetings in the Opera House, but soon secured a

more desirable room in the Hotchkiss Block. Meanwhile a church edifice was building, which was completed in April, 1877, and cost about \$15,000. Mr. Jerome occupied it as the first pastor of the church, which at that time numbered 75 members. He resigned his pastorate April 1st, 1879, and for nearly a year there was no settled minister, when in February, 1880, Reverend F. B. Dickinson became the pastor. In 1884 Reverend W. D. McKinney assumed the pastorate, and continued in 1890. The church property is valued at \$21,000, and the parish is in a prosperous condition.

A most important auxiliary of the church has been the Sabbath school, which was formed by Doctor Turnbull with 34 scholars. Deacon Sharon Y. Beach, of Seymour, became the first superintendent, energetically serving until 1879, when he was succeeded by Doctor B. F. Leach, under whose care the school continued to prosper. In the course of half a dozen years the membership was increased to 120. Later, Filmore M. Watrous was the superintendent, and in 1890 John A. Starkweather. It numbered at this time about 300 members.

The church has long had the services as deacons of William Spencer, Sharon Y. Beach, H. C. Cook and David Somers, all but the first named continuing in office. B. Whiting is the treasurer and W. H. Fielding the clerk.

The Second Baptist Church (colored) has lately been organized in Ansonia, and in 1890 the place of worship was on North Main street. Reverend Edward Johnson was reported as the pastor, and Moses Diggs, Noah James and Henry Matthews as the deacons.

The Church of the Assumption (Roman Catholic) is the largest church organization in the town. The services of the Catholic church were introduced into Ansonia not many years after it became a village, many of the laborers on the public works professing that faith. At first a mission relation to Birmingham was sustained, but in 1866 the parish of Ansonia was organized. The following year, through the instrumentality of the first resident priest, Reverend P. J. O'Dwyer, the frame church edifice was built, but has at different times since been improved. Becoming too small for the use of the parish, it was determined to erect a more commodious place of worship, this having become by far the largest church organization in the town. Accordingly, a most eligible lot on North Main and North Cliff streets was purchased on which to erect the new edifice, which will be one of the finest church buildings in the county. Ground was broken April 4th, 1890. Work on the building has since been pushed rapidly forward. The walls will be constructed of granite, and will be more than 46 feet high. The length is 168 feet, the front width 96 feet and the rear width 138 feet. The tower is to be 156 feet high. The estimated cost is \$160,000. The audience room in the main building will accommodate 1,200 people, and the room in the basement will hold as many more. The designs for this imposing structure were prepared by

Architect B. C. Keeley, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and the plans were laid out, as prepared by him, by J. M. Wheeler, of Ansonia.

Much of the credit for the inception of this project is due the priest of the parish, Reverend J. Synott, and his assistants, the Reverends Thomas J. Kelley and M. Cray; but they have been heartily seconded by the lay trustees, Patrick McAuliffe and Matthew Walsh, and the parish in general. The parish embraces about 4,000 souls.

Reverend P. J. O'Dwyer was the first pastor, and was transferred from this parish to Norwalk. He was succeeded by Reverend H. F. Brady, and he in turn, a few years ago, by the present incumbent, Father J. Synott.

In 1879 the parish erected a spacious parsonage on Main street, on which a large school building has also been provided. A Catholic cemetery in West Ansonia contains the graves of many deceased members of the parish. Some of these graves are marked by handsome monuments.

The schools of Ansonia are among the best in the Naugatuck valley and are largely attended. In 1889 the enrollment was over 1,500, the high school of District No. 4 having 52 members, of which 20 were in the class of '91. The school provides two courses of study, the Latin and scientific taking four years to complete, and the commercial two years. The successful principal for many years was E. S. Gordy, who was instrumental in enlarging the library by the addition of \$2,000 worth of books. He was succeeded by W. H. Angleton. The high school building will be enlarged to accommodate the increasing attendance, and when completed after the plans proposed, will be an attractive edifice. In other districts of the town the accommodations have also lately been enlarged, and the town appropriation for schools is about \$9,000 per year, in addition to about \$5,000 received from the state annually.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

William Adams was born in England in 1855, and learned the trade of metal rolling there, commencing when he was 11 years old. He came to America in May, 1881, and settled at Ansonia. He was with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company six years, then went to Rome, N. Y., as superintendent of the Rome Iron Works. He came back to Ansonia in 1888 and engaged with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company as superintendent in charge of the rolling and casting department. He is at present with the Manhattan Brass Company, New York city. Mr. Adams married, in 1882, Mary A. Greatorex, and has three children. He is an Odd Fellow and a member of the order of Sons of St. George.

DANA BARTHOLOMEW was born in Torrington, formerly called Wolcottville, April 8th, 1847. The Bartholomew family is a large one in this country, and can trace its ancestry to remote dates. The

most numerous and conspicuous branch of the family name in this country grew from William Bartholomew, of Ipswich, Mass. He was born in 1602-3. But little is known of his early life. One event has so much of historic interest attaching to it that it has been perpetuated in the annals of the family. The famous Mrs. Anne Hutchinson was entertained at his London house prior to September, 1634. In that year and month he landed in Boston, Mrs. Hutchinson and other persons of note being among the emigrants.

But beyond William Bartholomew, the emigrant, the annals of the Bartholomew family run away into the depths of the 16th century, until they are lost or become dimly obscure, in John Bartholomew, of Warborough, England, who was married there November 22d, 1551.

The family includes many persons of note in its long history, and is widely spread out over the land. At great pains and research Mr. George Wells Bartholomew, Jr., of Austin, Texas, has composed a large and finely constructed volume of the Bartholomew pedigree, and has earned to himself the lasting gratitude of his family name.

Jeremiah Hotchkiss Bartholomew, of Ansonia, the father of Dana, was in the seventh generation of descent. He was a resident of Plainville, Conn., and brought his family to Ansonia when his son, Dana, was only a year old. Here he was distinguished by an eminently successful career, managing some of the greatest industries of the town, prominent in railroad enterprise, possessing himself of much real estate in the most favorable parts of Ansonia, when in his mind's eye he saw what would be the growth of the town; and so laying for his family an honorable and fortunate inheritance in time to come.

Dana was his eldest son. He attended the district school until he was 16 years of age, and then in keeping with his father's opinion that the best school for a business life is the business life itself, entered the employ of the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company. For 14 years he familiarized himself with all the processes of brass manufacture, and became assistant manager and a stockholder of the company. In 1877 he severed his managerial connection with the company, and entered into partnership with A. B. Hendryx for the manufacture of wire bird-cages. This business venture was very prosperous, and when the business was moved to New Haven, Mr. Bartholomew's many interests at home requiring his attention, he severed his connection with this company, and formed another for the manufacture, under patent, of bits, augers, screw-drivers and braces; but in 1884 the floods swept the entire plant away by the breaking of the dam of the Ansonia Water Company, in which he was a large owner.

Since that date Mr. Bartholomew has occupied his time in the care of his invested interests. He is the secretary, treasurer and manager of the Ansonia Water Company, which supplies the town of Ansonia with water for family and commercial uses. He is also the president, treasurer and agent of the Ansonia Hall Company, owning the princi-





*James Bartholomew*



pal building in the town for offices and hall. He is a director of the Ansonia Savings Bank, and of the Ansonia Ice Company, a director and treasurer of the Meriden Ice Company, and vice-president of the Mallett Cattle Company of Texas, capital stock \$200,000. The ranch is about 40 miles square, and supports between ten and eleven thousand head of cattle. Besides he is a stockholder or capitalist in many other business enterprises, and owns considerable real estate.

Mr. Bartholomew is a public-spirited citizen, and his fellow-citizens have recognized his ability by sending him to the legislature of 1881, and by choosing him as one of the burgesses of the borough of Ansonia.

He has also been closely identified with the Christian forces of the town for many years. In the Congregational church, of which his honored father was a principal supporter, he served in the office of deacon for many years, and has been clerk of the church for a long term. Like his father, too, he has been one of the foremost members and supporters of the Young Men's Christian Association of the town, and whenever the general Christian enterprises of the town have been in need of special help, their appeals to him have not gone unheeded.

Mr. Bartholomew has been twice married—first to Miss Nettie Wightman, of Southington, September 17th, 1867. Four children were born to them: Nellie, Dana, Jr., Jeremiah Hotchkiss, and Valentine, who died in infancy. But the happiness of his elegant home, where everything heart could wish seemed to center, was broken in upon by death. The wife and mother passed away, after an illness of several months, July 21st, 1886. The present Mrs. Bartholomew was Miss Isabel H. Warner, of Springfield, Mass.—a daughter of one of the old and honored families of Enfield, Conn. They were married March 17th, 1888. Their first daughter, Pauline, died in infancy; their second, Helen Gertrude, was born November 25th, 1890.

Mr. Bartholomew's home on South Cliff street is a home where wealth has set its adornments, and the graces of culture have added their refinements. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bartholomew make society agreeable to all their friends.

ARTHUR H. BARTHOLOMEW was born where he now resides, June 3d, 1851, and was one of six children, a son of Jeremiah H. Bartholomew, of Ansonia, Conn. He received his education in the public schools of Ansonia, at the "Gunnery," Washington, Conn., and at Auburndale, Mass. But at 16 years of age he entered upon that other schooling which has given him prominence in the business and manufacturing world, his practical and executive father believing that a business life is a business school of the first quality. It was the purpose of his father to train him for the superintendence of manufacturing concerns, anticipating the time when the lad might surpass himself in those responsibilities. He began his apprenticeship for this future, under the most favorable opportunities, with the Ansonia

Brass & Copper Company. There he was employed in different departments, and became familiar with all the working and manufacture of brass and copper, especially with the manufacture of clocks. He now became fitted for what he afterward chose to make the leading industry of his life, the manufacture of clock movements in general, and of special time regulators to order.

The clock department of the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company was removed to Brooklyn in 1881. It was the signal for a step Mr. Bartholomew and his future business partner were to take. They formed a partnership for the manufacture of clocks under the style of Phelps & Bartholomew. At first the business was carried on in narrower quarters than those used now, but it proved so prosperous that in 1886 it was incorporated, and in 1890 the large, four-story stone building known as the Savings Bank property, standing on the east side of the Main street, was purchased, and the manufacture transferred to those spacious quarters. They were at once found to be none too large. Machinery of special invention is in use for both delicate and intricate operations, and production has been greatly cheapened by it, while the work done is exact and finished as the most skillful artisan could do by hand.

But Mr. Bartholomew's financial interests, while centering in this leading industry of which he has been treasurer from the beginning, are by no means confined to it. He is a director of the Ansonia National Bank and has served the Ansonia Savings Bank in a like relation; also of the Ansonia Water Company, and is secretary and treasurer of the Birmingham Water Power Company, and vice-president of the Pine Grove Cemetery Association.

But besides these financial trusts, he has received others by the suffrage of his townsmen in one form or another. He is the deputy warden of the borough of Ansonia, and second assistant foreman of the Eagle Hose Company, of which he was a charter member, and member of the board of managers of the Ansonia Club, of which he was treasurer for four years. His public spirit is shown also in the position accorded him in the public schools. He is chairman of the school committee, and has held the position for the past four years. He began this service appreciating somewhat the value of the public schools to the public welfare, but now regards them equally with the great industries as the pride of the borough.

In politics he is a republican, and represented the town of Derby in 1886 in the general assembly. In that legislature he was chosen clerk of the committee on cities and boroughs. He represented his town again in 1887, and was made chairman of the committee on corporations.

In the social life of his borough he has been prominent, and has been advanced to most honorable positions in many of the societies of the town. He ranks as past grand of Naugatuck Lodge, No. 63, I. O.



A. W. Bartholomew



O. F.; also as past chief patriarch of Hope Encampment, and commander for Totoket Canton, No. 7, I. O. O. F., Patriarchs Militant, and has been trustee of Naugatuck Lodge for several years. He is also a trustee of George Washington Lodge, F. & A. M., and member of Mount Vernon Chapter and Union Council, and New Haven Commandery, No. 2, K. T., besides being a trustee of the local New England Order of Protection and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Mr. Bartholomew believes in identifying himself with the social as well as the business and educational life of the town, for the general improvement of the town gained thereby. The completeness and progressiveness of a town depends on social institutions as well as corporate and industrial, and the young men should patronize them as contributing to the general good.

But Mr. Bartholomew's home, on Cliff street, is the garden of his life. It is a home of elegance and refinement within as of beauty without, made so within no doubt largely by the grace and culture of the lady chosen to be his wife, Miss Henrietta E. Cable, of Oxford, Conn. They were married January 14th, 1874. She was the daughter of Horace Scott Cable, of Oxford, one of the old, wealthy and highly respected families of the town. At Mr. and Mrs. Bartholomew's residence acquaintances and friends are welcomed always, and the hospitality is full of sunshine. Four children have been born in this home. The eldest, Emma C., died November 6th, 1876, at two years of age. The living are: Henrietta C., Eloise and Arthur H., Jr.

Mr. Bartholomew is a Congregationalist, and though not a member of the church of his boyhood, is yet really a son of the church, for as librarian, usher, clerk of society or organist, he has worked with it, and is now one of the chief financial supporters, having an excellent name not only of them that are without but of them that are within.

EGBERT BARTLETT was born in Salisbury, Conn., January 19th, 1819. His father was of Puritan stock and came from Plimpton, Mass., to settle in Salisbury, Conn. He was a blacksmith and carriage builder, and at the same time carried on farming in the town of Salisbury, where he was familiarly known as Colonel Loring Bartlett. He married Miss Phebe Everest, of Salisbury, a woman of high virtue, devoted to the church she loved, and distinguished by a practical turn for all domestic matters. Ten children were born to them, Egbert Bartlett being the fourth in order.

In his boyhood, Egbert Bartlett's time was divided between the farm, the shop and the school, and when 17 years of age he taught in district schools in the winter and worked on the farm in the summer. But his thoughts widened with the "process of the suns," as Tennyson says, and he graduated from the narrow circle of Salisbury life into a larger sphere. He found his way to Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where he became clerk in a store, and later to New York city, pursuing the same employment in several mercantile houses. But in January, 1852,

he came to Ansonia and opened a store for the sale of merchandise in general, but principally dry goods and hardware. Gradually the dry goods department gave place to the growing hardware trade, and Mr. Bartlett was settled for life in the village of Ansonia. In the one store he continued for 16 years.

During this time he not only became familiar with town affairs and prominent in them, but was entrusted with public service in different offices, and either during that period or later has passed through quite all the positions of emolument in the gift of the town, culminating in election to the general assembly in the years 1866 and 1868, as representative of the town of Derby. He is a trustee of the Pine Grove Cemetery Association, and compiled the well arranged and complete set of "Rules and Regulations" of the association. He is a republican in politics, and has been an ardent supporter of the historic principles of his party, since from the first he believed them to be true.

During the last years of his mercantile pursuits, he added fire insurance to the business done, so that upon the sale of the hardware business he entered naturally into insurance, and was pursuing it successfully when an event happened which drew him also into banking. He had been one of the original incorporators and directors of the Savings Bank of Ansonia. The affairs of the bank were now in a precarious condition. It had lost in popularity among depositors, the amount of deposits having waned many thousands of dollars to less than \$200,000. At the same time an impairment of the strength of the bank to the amount of \$10,000 had occurred, by reason of losses in investments. Mr. Bartlett was solicited by the directors to take charge of the bank's interests as secretary and treasurer. At the same time he might on his own account continue his private interest in insurance. The savings bank at once felt the profitableness of the new arrangement, and as a result of 14 years of administration the deposits were increased to about \$900,000 and a surplus of about \$50,000 accumulated.

Since Mr. Bartlett's connection with the bank closed in the fall of 1888, he has continued his business of insurance and brokerage in real estate, making investments not only at home, but in the West, through the Equitable Mortgage Company.

The honorable position which Mr. Bartlett holds in the opinion of his townsmen may be inferred from the choice made of him, whether by the courts or by the heirs, to settle estates. At no time for many years has he been without a number of these responsibilities.

Mr. Bartlett married Adeline, daughter of Henry Terry, of Plymouth, February 25th, 1852. The name at once suggests the horological occupation of her ancestry. She was the granddaughter of Eli Terry, of clock fame. Two children have been born to them: Frank





Ernest Bantock



L., who died January 15th, 1864, at the age of five years; and Egbert Terry, who died October 10th, 1879, at 26 years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett are Congregationalists, having the love and esteem of the church of which they have long been members. Their service for their church has been a very willing and happy service, because of the truths and virtues for which the church stands, and their good name has added strength and given impulse to every worthy cause, both in the church and in society at large.

CHARLES E. BRISTOL, of the Bristol Drug Company, Ansonia, Conn., was born in Derby, December 21st, 1847. He was the son of Charles Bristol and Harriet Bradley, both of Derby. The exigencies of early life circumscribed the opportunities of their son. His father died when he was only nine years of age. He had the advantages of the common schools during the winter terms until he was 16, working in the factories in the summer. He engaged in the drug business in 1864, but when eight months had passed by he obtained a position with Wallace & Sons, of Ansonia, remaining with them two and one-half years, and then returned to the drug business, buying one half interest in the store in which he first started as clerk. The quality of independent action, his own by gift of birth, quickly developed. He studied assiduously the business in which he was engaged, and in February, 1869, only a little later than his twenty-first birthday, purchased his partner's interest and became sole proprietor. This business he has pursued in Ansonia ever since, and in 1888 it was incorporated as a joint stock company (the Bristol Drug Company), that more time might be at his command to give to other interests in which he is engaged. He is one of the directors of the Ansonia National Bank and also its vice-president. He was a charter member of the Ansonia Club. He was one of the earliest members of the Connecticut Pharmaceutical Association, his membership dating from February 20th, 1877, and is also a member of the American Pharmaceutical Association, entering there on October 20th, 1880.

Soon after coming into possession of his drug business in Ansonia, he was appointed postmaster of that division of the town of Derby, August, 1869. His administration of that trust was distinguished by the same punctilious care and attention to details manifest in every department of his private business. It is spoken of only with praise by his townsmen. He continued to be postmaster nearly 16 years; he resigned in March, 1885.

Mr. Bristol is a positive nature, seeing what he sees so clearly that his opinions, though they may be tentatively held for a time, are yet strong and supported by reasons. So, too, the main structure of his thinking and belief rests on arguments which he himself has outlined or worked out, rather than received from another ready-made. He is full of method to the last degree. In friendship he is loyal and true, and it cannot be turned away, when once it is established, by a slight-

ing remark or a temporary misfortune. Whatever he identifies himself with has an earnest and able supporter. He knows how to gain a point and hold it, and at the same time to show a generous spirit toward those who differ from him in method or opinion. The objects to be attained are pursued indefatigably, and whether in business, society or politics his advice carries a weight that makes it not only respected, but often followed. In all his plans and purposes, which embrace the welfare of his neighbor or his town, there is the same high aim, the same critical judgment, and the same executive mastery. Hence he is one of those men who count for much in the building up of a community.

Mr. Bristol is an ardent friend of education, taking pride in the schools of his own town, and directing his children upward along the pathway of the academy and the university. He believes that if the alternative were an inheritance of wealth, and an education in the best schools of the land, the latter is to be preferred by great odds and sought for first of all with intense ardor. The power, the greatness, the splendor of a nation depend more upon its trained intellect than its bank vaults or its mountains of ore. Hence, first of all, he purposes to give his children the best education to fit them for efficient service and achievement in life; and already his eldest son is midway in the course at Yale University, and the second pursuing a preparatory course in one of the foremost academics, with a view to the university.

Mr. Bristol was married in September, 1867, to Miss Frances E. Bartholomew, daughter of J. H. Bartholomew, of Ansonia. His children are: Theodore L., born April 25th, 1870; Charles E., Jr., born October 17th, 1873; Howard B., born September 1st, 1878, died April 2d, 1880, and Ralph, born August 23d, 1881.

Edward B. Bradley was born in Newtown, Conn., in 1845. Most of his life has been spent in New Haven county. He ran the first train over the New Haven & Derby railroad in 1871, and has been conductor on that line ever since. He resided for many years in Seymour, removing to Ansonia in 1882. He was married in 1866 to Miss Celeste Steele, and has one daughter, Emma.

Egbert S. Bronson was born in Plymouth, Conn., in 1848, and came to Ansonia in 1866. He engaged with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company, and was in the clock department 10 years. In 1881 he went into the copper refinery department, and became foreman of this department in 1889. His parents were Spencer and Polly (Hemingway) Bronson. His father served nine months in the war of the rebellion, in Company D, 27th Connecticut Volunteers, and was in the battle of Fredericksburg. Egbert S. also enlisted from San Francisco in 1865, and served until the close of the war. He is a member of the G. A. R. and a Mason. He married Maggie A. Mathis, of Clinton, N. C., in 1869, and has two children, Roscoe E. and Bessie A.



*Chas. E. Bristol*



George S. Bronson, son of Abel W. Bronson, born in Southbury, Conn., in 1825, came to Ansonia in 1867, and settled in West Ansonia in 1868, on the site of the old stone house built by Harlow Smith. He followed the livery business on the east side one year, and in 1869 commenced keeping a livery and boarding stable in West Ansonia. He drove the omnibus between Ansonia and Birmingham for three years before the street car line was built. He abandoned the livery business in 1888, but still keeps a boarding stable. He enlisted in the civil war April 26th, 1862, from Denver, Colorado, in Company D, 2d Colorado Cavalry, and served three and one-half years. He is a member of the G. A. R. of Ansonia.

Horatio M. Brown was born in Maine in 1842. He removed to Woodbridge, Conn., March 1st, 1860, and engaged in the manufacturing of matches for William A. Clark. He enlisted in the war of the rebellion in August, 1862, in Company A, 10th Connecticut Volunteers, and served three years. He was wounded in the battle of Kingston, N. C., December 14th, 1862, receiving a gun shot in his left shoulder. After lying in the Newbern Hospital two months, he returned to his regiment at Morris Island, S. C. He was in the battle of Fort Wagner, and shortly after was detailed in the quartermaster's department, 10th Army Corps. He was mustered out June 5th, 1865, at City Point, Va. On his return he worked in John Whitlock's shop, in Birmingham, two years, then was with Osborne & Cheesman, in Ansonia, one year, and in 1869 entered the shop of the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, as machinist, remaining there three and one-half years. Since that time he has been foreman in the light machine shop of this company. He is a member of the G. A. R. of Ansonia.

Edson L. Bryant was born in Sheffield, Mass., in 1842. He has been connected with Wallace & Sons since 1864, as superintendent of the burner and lamp department since 1872. He enlisted in the 23d Regiment Connecticut Volunteers in 1862, and served one year. He was in Banks' division.

Andrew B. Clemens was born in Stratford, Conn., in 1824. He learned the art of mechanical drawing in Birmingham about 1846, and followed that occupation in Birmingham and Waterbury. He came to Ansonia in 1866. He engaged with the Farrel Foundry Company in 1852, and was with them five years, then was with the Birmingham Iron Foundry eight years. In 1866 he again engaged with the Farrel Company, and has since been general superintendent of the business. He drew the first lathe for turning chilled rolls in their foundry in 1866. He did all the designing and drawing for the company for many years. All of their machinery now in use was designed by him. Mr. Clemens married, in 1845, Catharine Gerrard, of Port Jefferson, Long Island. They have two sons and two daughters.

Everett R. Corey, born in Taunton, Mass., in 1848, went to New Haven when he was 10 years old, and was educated in the New Haven

High School. He commenced to learn the trade of machinist in 1867, attending evening school meantime. In 1870 he began work in the Birmingham Iron Foundry, and remained there 17½ years as foreman and draughtsman. In 1887 he engaged with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company as assistant master mechanic. He has charge of the brass mill department. He married, in 1871, Ellen A. Cooper, of New Haven. They have one son and one daughter. Mr. Corey is a Mason and an Odd Fellow.

Thomas Crane was born in Elizabeth, N. J., September 4th, 1832. He served five years there at the trade of rope and twine spinner. July 3d, 1852, he came to Ansonia, and was employed by the Ansonia Rubber Clothing Company three years, then for a number of years was with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company. He afterward engaged in the grocery business 18 years, then followed the wholesale and retail bakery business from 1879 to 1889. December 14th of the latter year he opened a new market, corner of North Main and Fourth streets, which he has successfully continued to the present time. He married Marion W. Brown, of New York city, in 1853. They have three children: William E., Emma J. and Carrie B. Mr. Crane has been burgess and school committee of Ansonia a number of years, and is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men of Ansonia.

Morris Drew was born in Huntington, Conn., came to the town of Derby in 1848, and to Ansonia in 1856. He was in the mercantile trade in Ansonia ten years, and was afterward with the Farrel Foundry Company. He is the present postmaster of Ansonia, having been appointed to that position February 14th, 1890.

FRANKLIN FARREL was born in Waterbury, Conn., February 17th, 1828; his father, Almon Farrel, was a thoroughly business man, whose reputation in the school of wisdom in engineering was widely known throughout the surrounding country. His wife, Ruth Emma Warner Farrel, was a true mother, was earnestly religious, ordering her household according to the Scriptures, of which she was a faithful reader. Their home was open to the clergy; in a graceful manner she could correct the divine who failed to give correctly the quotation from the book she held in modest veneration.

Franklin, their only son, received his early education at West Point, leaving his studies at last to assist his father. In December, 1844, Almon Farrel came to Ansonia as the adviser of Anson G. Phelps, respecting contemplated water power. Franklin at that time interested himself, as well, in locating streets, canals and business sites, finally making a permanent home in the little village which has grown to such large proportions under his and other helpful hands.

In 1848 the concern now known as the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company was organized for the construction of whatever machines were generally used in the Naugatuck valley. Many very necessary articles, such as sugar mills, chilled rolls, etc., are shipped to different





*Franklin Fanel*



parts of the globe. Castings weighing 21 tons have been made in the new foundry, which is 300 feet long and 130 feet wide. The special branch of manufacture is chilled rolls, which have given the company fame in all manufacturing countries.

In the early days of the brass and copper industry in New England the rolls were imported from the other side of the Atlantic, Franklin Farrel drawing plans of those desired, which were made and returned to him from England. The expense of importation was great and burdensome to the struggling industries of this country, and soon the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company undertook the manufacture of chilled rolls, of whatever size. The attempt proved a success beyond expectation, and now for many years the tide of importation has changed to a very tidal wave of exportation. The largest rolls of those days were small in comparison with those used at the present time.

Mr. Farrel, while holding for many years the position of president of the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, has left that business largely to capable men, he himself having inaugurated other money-making investments, giving his own attention to them until they are well established and prosperous, then submitting them to other hands for management, looking meanwhile for something new. Mr. Farrel is principal owner in the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, the Liverpool Silver & Copper Company, Liverpool, England; Parrot Silver & Copper Company, of Butte, Mont.; the Sugar Estate, Yingo, Porviner, Macoris, St. Domingo; the Larger Estate, Santa Teressa, Campechuela Manyanillo, Cuba; the Bridgeport Copper Works, and others.

While Mr. Farrel is the impersonation of business ability, knowledge and success, he has agreeable social qualities, is a genial companion for the holiday and enjoys his foreign journeys to Europe and the West. The gentleness of his features is but the reflection of his heart, which is true and ever generous in the extreme. His home in Ansonia is one of wealth, refinement and pleasure. Mr. Farrel has been twice married: first to Miss Julia Lockwood Smith, of Derby, who died leaving two children; later to Miss Lillian Clark, New Haven, daughter of a prominent lawyer of that city.

Mr. Farrel's son, Alton Farrel, his father's partner and second self in business, passed away on April 17th, 1885, leaving a large circle of sorrowing friends. The remaining children are: May Wells Farrel, Florence Adele Farrel, Alise Marion Farrel and Franklin Farrel, Jr.

In politics Mr. Farrel was a strict republican. He is a churchman, being a member of the Episcopal church of Ansonia, is a liberal contributor to its treasury, and is greatly esteemed in the community which he has helped to build and where he now resides.

Eugene R. Fisher was born in Essex county, N. Y., in 1855. He was employed by the Helpmate Sewing Machine Company of Plattsburgh, N. Y., as case hardener for three years. He married Dollie E. Parly, of that place, in 1875. They have three children: Ida M., Pearl and Bertie E. Mr. Fisher came to Ansonia in 1885, and was employed by Wallace & Sons in their lamp department, becoming foreman of that department in 1886. There are 15 men employed in this department.

William Gaffney, born in Waterbury, Conn., in 1856, came to Ansonia with his parents about 1859. He learned the plumber's trade with T. P. Terry, of Ansonia, remaining with him about five years. He commenced work with the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company in 1880, as plumber, and was made foreman of their plumbing department in 1887. He is a member of the T. A. B. Association, and has filled all the offices in this society. He was delegate to the convention at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1889. He is secretary of K. of C., No. 23; president of the C. B. L., No. 265, of Ansonia, and state secretary of the C. T. A. U. of Connecticut. He married, in 1882, Mary A. Keefe, of Derby. They have two daughters and one son.

William D. Galpin was born in Litchfield, Conn., March 21st, 1838. He came to Ansonia in 1854, and entered the store of his uncle, Roswell L. Johnson, one of the first merchants in Ansonia. After the death of Mr. Johnson, in 1861, his son, Nathan, succeeded him. Mr. Galpin remained with him four years, when the business was sold to Hobart Sperry. Mr. Galpin staid with him two years, and in 1867 engaged in the trade of men's furnishing goods with William H. Plummer. The business was sold to William H. Fellows in 1886, and Mr. Galpin retired from business. He was married, October 28th, 1868, to Ellen F. Little, of Sheffield, Mass. They have two children: Robert Irving and Annie Holmes. Robert is in the employ of the Holmes & Edwards Silver Company, Bridgeport, Conn.

JOHN B. GARDNER was born in Anspach, Bavaria, Germany, September 7th, 1828, and died January 25th, 1891. With his parents he came to America when he was about 14 years of age, and resided in Brooklyn, N. Y. But after a few years he found his way to the manufactory of the Jerome Clock Company, of New Haven, Conn. Here his future business life began to outline itself, and it became more and more a fixed certainty that his business pursuit should be somewhere in the time-measuring industry of the world.

It was in 1857 that he came to Ansonia, purchased property in the north part of the town, and began the manufacture of clock dials of all kinds, clock trimmings, scale dials, etc. And in 1869 he bought the land where now the factory stands, and in that and the succeeding year put up the main building. Additions have been made since as they were needed, until now the factory is one of the largest in the town of Ansonia.



*John H. Gardiner*



During all the early years of manufacture in this plant Mr. Gardner attended closely to business, putting the finest dials on the market both in form and finish, and hence the volume of his business rapidly increased to its present proportions.

In the year 1880 he took his eldest son, Sturges G., into partnership with himself, under the firm name of J. B. Gardner & Son. He now threw much of the detail supervision upon the younger shoulders, but by no means relinquished his own supreme control and general management of the running of the factory. Even if he was absent much of the time at his farm, he yet held the lines of manufacture well in hand.

His farming was more in the nature of pleasant recreation than of downright industry. He was fond of nature and of fine animals. He took pleasure in raising the largest and most handsome exhibits of pears or fruits at agricultural shows. He herded the finest Jersey stock, and so well fed and groomed were his cattle that, standing on the lawn, they won the admiration of the passer-by. It was not farming for profit, as one can readily see, but it was farming thoroughly done, even if expensive, and the thoroughness was a quality of the farmer.

This same liking for the domestic animals and their equipage appeared also in the equerry of Mr. Gardner. He kept his stable supplied with nice horses, and carriages to suit them. Indeed, the residence of Mr. Gardner and its surroundings on Clifton avenue show the same taste and elegance. Every part is only part of the complete whole.

But Mr. Gardner was not absorbed wholly in his private concerns and pleasures. He had both the ability and the spirit for public affairs. This is evidenced at once in the fact that for three terms of two years each he had by popular choice served the towns of Derby and Ansonia as associate judge of the town court, and when he died he was serving the fourth term. As a public officer of the law he had the fullest confidence of the community. Justice and humanity, amounting to philanthropy, were singularly united in him, and for this reason he was held in loving esteem. He has been known from his high sense of the responsibility of guardian of the public welfare to impose the proper fine upon the unfortunate prisoner, and then an hour after, when he had stepped down from the judge's bench into the ranks of private citizens, pay the fine, give the unfortunate culprit freedom and even find a "job" for him in his own factory. The people came to feel they had a philanthropist's heart in the judge when he was on the bench. Justice in the judge was tempered by mercy in the private citizen, and people honored him, both for his uprightness and his kindness. His charities were given, here and there, quietly, and without design on his part. All these qualities brought him the good name so much more valuable than his riches.

But his domestic virtues were even greater than his public. He was very fond of his home and his family. On October 11th, 1854, he married Miss Mary J. Gregory, of New Preston, Conn. She was a lady of many virtues and graces. They made her conspicuous for many years in society and church, and she made the home delightful. Never was home happier than theirs. There was nothing wholesome or good desired by the growing family which was not furnished them. It was Mr. Gardner's delight to fulfil all their wishes, and when business hours were over he could be found, almost without exception, at home with his family about him. He was very fond of song, having inherited the passion of his native land for it. For many years he had been the chorister of Christ church, of which himself and wife were parishioners.

He was not a stranger to bereavement. Two sons have died—Horace L., August 10th, 1862, at the age of seven years, and John B., July 3d, 1882, at the age of fourteen. After the second of these bereavements, Mrs. Gardner gradually withdrew from her public activities into the heart of her family, and on August 27th, 1890, after a short sickness, passed away, the husband seeming to be bereft of his greatest comfort. The surviving sons and daughters are: Sturges G., Louis F., Annie L., Mary Christine and Charlotte Gertrude.

In Mr. Gardner's death the borough and town of Ansonia lost a successful, foremost manufacturer, and the public a citizen of high character and reputation.

Joseph F. Gilpin was born in England in 1837. He was a machinist in Liverpool, came to America in 1862, worked in New York city until 1865, then came to Ansonia. He worked for Franklin Farrel from January, 1865, until 1866, when he engaged with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company, and has been with them since. As general superintendent and master mechanic, he has charge of all machinery buildings, water gates and water power of this company. He is fire marshal of Ansonia, and member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellows' orders.

Edward O. Goodrich was born in South Glastonbury, Conn., in 1855. In 1876 he began work for the Meriden Malleable Iron Company. He came to Ansonia in 1881, and engaged as time-keeper with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company. He steadily worked his way up until in January, 1889, he became superintendent. He has charge of the department of lamps and fixtures. Mr. Goodrich is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men of Ansonia, and past sachem of the Order. He is also a member of George Washington Lodge, No. 82, F. & A. M., and Mt. Vernon Chapter, No. 35, R. A. M.

Charles H. Hayes, born in Saugerties, N. Y., in 1833, learned the machinist business when young, and has followed that trade, and that of electrician. He enlisted in the war of the rebellion, 1st Regiment of Connecticut Volunteers in 1861, and served three months, partici-



pating in the first battle of Bull Run. After his discharge he was employed in Colt's Armory, in Hartford, until 1863, when he reënlisted in the 1st Connecticut Cavalry, and served until the close of the war. He then came to Ansonia, and has been connected with Wallace & Sons since. He has charge of the electrical department. He married Margaret E., widow of William Bristol, and youngest daughter of the late Thomas Wallace. She has two daughters: Mary C. and Carrie A. Bristol. Charles H. Hayes is a member of the George Washington Lodge, No. 82, F. & A. M., of Mt. Vernon Chapter, R. A. M., New Haven Commandery, K. T., Union Lodge, K. of H., and of the G. A. R.

Joshua Hibbert, born in Ludworth, Derbyshire, England, in 1855, came with his parents to America in 1863, and settled in Trenton, N. J., where he learned the trade of machinist and tool maker. He came to Ansonia in 1879, and entered the employ of the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company. He was made foreman in the brass mill of the rod department in 1888. He married, in 1881, Annie L. Singleton, of Ansonia, and has had three children. Mr. Hibbert is a member of George Washington Lodge, No. 82, F. & A. M., of the Improved Order of Red Men, and of the United Friends.

Doctor Melville C. Hitchcock was born in Trumbull, Conn., in 1855, was educated in the common schools of Bridgeport, and Strong's Commercial and Military Institute. He graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery in 1877, and located in Ansonia in the spring of 1878. He is a member of the Connecticut Valley Dental Society. He married, in 1884, Grace B. Espe, of Ansonia, and has two children: Melville E. and Carl. Doctor Hitchcock is a Knight Templar, and an active member of several secret orders.

CHARLES C. JACKSON was born in Derby, Conn., January 30th, 1823. Mr. Jackson was the son of a farmer-mechanic, Colonel David Jackson, of Derby, who served in the war of 1812, and earned his military title; and grandson of Jonathan Jackson, of Derby, one of the first settlers of the town. His mother was Lydia R., daughter of Levi Packard, of Wilmington, Vt. Mr. Packard was a revolutionary soldier, and was wounded in the battle of Bennington. He afterward was made a pensioner of the government for valiant service rendered. So that Mr. Jackson has an ancestry which bequeathed to him an inheritance of loyalty to the flag of his country.

But his parents were not granted to him for a long period. While yet a boy he must make his way in the world, and carve out his own fortune. He undertook it bravely by learning the trade of tack making in the shop of E. N. Shelton, of Derby, and there remained until 1858. He then went to Ansonia and began an independent business career. But only about a year passed by, when he was desired by the great manufacturing company of Wallace & Sons to superintend a department of their works. He accepted the position, and continued in it from 1859 to 1880.

At the latter date his health failed, and his friends became alarmed lest he might not recover it. He retired from business to win it back again, if he might, by diversions of various kinds, by travel, and by residence during the winter months in the South. Several of his winters since have been spent in St. Augustine, Florida, where he owns an estate, and to which himself and family now go as the cold weather draws on.

But his life as thus outlined, from a business point of view, has been filled in with a variety of social and political activities. It might be supposed that his military ancestry would give him a liking for military associations, and so it did. He took a loyal pride in his country and its defenders, and for a number of years, in his earlier manhood, was major of the 2d Connecticut Regiment.

Mr. Jackson disclaims prominence in politics, and yet his political associates are wont to declare an activity on his part, and a judgment in management which were efficient elements in the political life of his town. And they have left pleasantly their marks in the positions of trust to which he has been chosen from time to time, as town assessor and justice of the peace for a number of years.

But his greater pride has been taken in the social order of Odd Fellowship, and to that order he gives a crowning praise for having imparted to him its own high principles, by which he has sought to be governed all his life. He gained admission to the order while yet in his young manhood, became imbued with enthusiasm for the training it furnished in all the virtues and qualities of noble living, and passed on up through the various grades of ascent to the highest honors. He filled the chairs of Grand Master and Grand Patriarch of the order in the state of Connecticut. He was also chosen to be the representative of the Grand Encampment for two years, and of the Grand Lodge for two years more, to the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

But these social honors have not eclipsed what Mr. Jackson has regarded as more important still, his religious faith and Christian living, and his church affiliations. Both himself and family are prominent members of the Episcopal church of Ansonia, and Mr. Jackson has been vestryman, treasurer or warden nearly all the period of his residence in the parish. So he has led his family to all that is highest and best in life. He bears among all his acquaintances an unsullied good name, and is widely esteemed for kindly nature, for probity of character, and coöperation in good public measures.

In 1847 he married Agnes, daughter of Thomas Wallace, the founder of the corporation of Wallace & Sons, of Ansonia. Two sons and five daughters have been born to them: Frederick M., of Wilmington, Del.; Wallace B.; Mrs. E. V. Clemens, of New York; Hattie A.; Mrs. E. L. Smith, of Monroe, Conn.; Sarah Elizabeth, and Josie Wallace.



*C. C. Jackson*



Joseph Jackson was born in England in 1840, and learned the machinist trade. He was afterward apprenticed to learn the trade of moulder, and finished the trade in Brooklyn, N. Y., coming to this country in 1858. In 1868 he came to Ansonia and entered the employ of the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, becoming foreman of the foundry in 1880. He was married in 1864 to Susanna Auld, of Prince Edward's Island. They have five children.

William P. Judson was born in Ansonia in 1853. He was freight agent for the New Haven & Derby Railroad Company from 1877 until the road was purchased by the Housatonic Railroad Company, and continues in the same capacity for the latter company. July 28th, 1891, he purchased a coal business, which he now conducts. He married Katharine J. Hart, of New Haven, September 23d, 1890. He is a member of several secret organizations.

John T. Kent, born in Meriden, Conn., in 1851, is a son of Timothy and Ellen Kent, both natives of Ireland. He was educated in Cheshire, and learned the trade of carpenter there. He came to Ansonia in 1871, engaged at his trade with John Dixbury, afterward with D. T. Johnson, and later with Lines, Mott & Platt. In 1880 he began work for the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, and became their boss carpenter in 1882. He planned and built the wood work of the new foundry building and the new roll room, and set up the machinery in it.

Austin P. Kirkham, born in Middlefield, Ohio, December 25th, 1837, came with his father, Isaac J., to Connecticut in 1844. The latter was born in Guilford, and died in 1872. With his four sons he enlisted in the war of the rebellion. The father, with two sons, Austin P. and Guilford M., enlisted April 19th, 1861, and served three months, taking part in the first battle of Bull Run. They were in Company D, 2d Connecticut Infantry, and were mustered out August 7th, 1861. Austin P. immediately reënlisted in the navy as master's mate. He was in the engagements of Roanoke Island, Elizabeth City, Newbern, Plymouth and others. He resigned from the navy in the fall of 1863, and enlisted in the 2d Connecticut Heavy Artillery, served with that regiment in the peninsular campaign under Grant; was wounded at the battle of Cold Harbor June 1st, 1864; after an absence of 44 days rejoined his regiment; was engaged in the defense of Washington when Early made his raid; was wounded again at Cedar Creek, Va., October 19th, 1864, and taken prisoner; was released in March, 1865, and rejoined his regiment in time to participate in the closing scenes of the war at Appomatox; and was mustered out of the service September 11th, 1865. He enlisted as a private and was mustered out as a captain. Isaac J., the father, reënlisted with his two sons, Guilford and Leveritt, in Company A, 10th Connecticut Volunteers. Isaac J. and Guilford enlisted as musicians. Leveritt, the youngest son, took part in the capture of Roanoke, Elizabeth City, and at Newbern, N. C., March

12th, 1862, where he was wounded. He was removed to the hospital, and was discharged the following December in consequence of wounds received in action. Calvin C., the eldest son, resided in New Orleans at the outbreak of the war. He escaped with his wife and infant on the last steamer (the Ohio Belle) that went up the Mississippi river. They were captured, and held prisoners six weeks, and were then paroled. He came East, leaving his family at East Haven, and enlisted in the navy as paymaster's clerk. He was in the campaign of the Potomac and James rivers, on the U. S. steamer "Satellite," covering the retreat of McClellan. He was promoted to acting master, but his health failed, and he resigned.

George E. Lindley was born in Ansonia in August, 1853. His father, John Lindley, was born in Oxford in 1816, and came to Ansonia in the "forties." He was a carpenter and builder, and built some of the first houses in Ansonia. In 1858 he founded a furniture house, which he continued until his death, in 1887. This is the oldest furniture establishment in Ansonia. He was the first undertaker in Ansonia. George E. became a partner in 1878, and at the father's death succeeded to the business. Mr. Lindley has been twice married; first to Frances E., daughter of William Bassett, of Birmingham, in 1874. She died in 1880, leaving two children: William E. and Hattie E. For his second wife he married, in 1882, Nellie C. Wheaton, of New Milford, Conn.

John L. Lindley, born in Ansonia in 1850, is a son of John Lindley, one of the first settlers of Ansonia. John L. was educated in the public schools of Ansonia and Cheshire Academy, and engaged as clerk in Waterbury three years. In 1872 he returned to Ansonia and engaged in the insurance business. He represents the leading Hartford, New York and English companies, such as the Hartford Fire, Home, German American, Phoenix, Ætna, Imperial and Traveler's Life. He was appointed postmaster of Ansonia in April, 1885, and served until February, 1890. He was for six years chairman of the board of assessors of the town of Derby and is the present auditor of Ansonia. In 1875 he married Cecile Banks of Birmingham. They have three sons living: Floyd, born 1876; John L., Jr., born 1878; and Cecil, born 1889. One son, Victor, died in infancy.

Charles W. Lines was born in New Milford, Conn., and came to Ansonia in 1884. He is president of the Ansonia Flour & Grain Company, dealers in grain, flour, drain tile, baled hay, straw and potatoes.

Harvey W. Manville, born in Middlebury, Conn., in 1840, is a son of William Manville, of that town. He learned the trade of carriage painting and followed it three or four years. He came to Ansonia in 1864 and engaged in teaming. In 1880 he was employed by the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company as teamster, and was made foreman of their yard in 1882. He married, in 1866, Nettie J. Hubbell, of Hunt-

ington, Conn. They have one child living, Harvey Wesley, and have lost one.

George E. May was born in Bridgeport, Conn., in 1852. In 1874 he came to Ansonia, and was clerk for C. R. Smith, grocer, until July, 1889, when he purchased the business. The store is located at the corner of High and Maple streets, West Ansonia. Mr. May married Mary J. Reede, of Bridgeport, in 1871, and has four children. He is a Mason and an Odd Fellow.

J. W. Naramore was born in Bridgeport, Conn., in 1827, and came to Birmingham in 1838. In 1840 he began learning the pin trade in Birmingham, and has followed that business ever since. In 1866 he entered the employ of Wallace & Sons, of Ansonia, and has for many years had charge of the pin manufacturing department of their business. He is an expert in the business of pin making, and has invented several valuable machines which are used in the business.

Thomas A. Nelson was born in Perth, Scotland, lived several years in the North of Ireland, and came to America in 1849. He first settled in Fairfield county, came to Birmingham in 1851, and now resides in Ansonia, on his place called "Forestdale," which occupies a commanding position overlooking the borough and Naugatuck river. His farm is in the borough limits and adjoins the Ansonia reservoir, which furnishes power for the various manufacturing interests here. He settled on this place in 1884. He was engaged with the Downs & Bassett Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of corsets and importers of kid gloves, from 1859 to 1884. Since the latter year Mr. Nelson has not engaged in active business, simply devoting his time to his private interests in various parts of the country. In 1865 he married Clara M., youngest daughter of Abram Hubbell, of Ansonia, in the place where they now live. Their children are: Clara H., William A. and Susie L. Mr. Nelson is a member of King Hiram Lodge, No. 12, F. & A. M., of Birmingham. He has always been a staunch republican, but takes no active part in politics.

William Paul was born in Greenock, Scotland, in 1830. He early engaged in the machine business as a practical engineer, either building or running engines. He came to America in 1850 and traveled through several of the states, working at his trade. He was five years in Colts' Armory, Hartford, in charge of the gauge department. During the war he had charge of the Whitney Armory at New Haven three years. He came to Ansonia in 1866, and has since been in the employ of Wallace & Sons. He has charge of the machine department, manufacturing and repairing their machinery. He was married in 1855, and has had six children, three of whom are living.

Henry Pettit came to Derby in 1840, and settled on Kankwood hill, now in the town of Ansonia. He died in 1862. The farm is now occupied by his widow, Mrs. Eleanor Pettit, and her daughter, Mrs. Baldwin. The family was one of the first to settle in Ansonia. When

they came to Kankwood hill there was not a house built in Ansonia and only a few in Birmingham.

Joseph G. Redshaw, born in Ansonia August 14th, 1854, is a son of John M. and Sarah Redshaw, who came from Leeds, England, to the town of Derby in 1847. Joseph G. was educated in Ansonia; was in the Ansonia National Bank eight years, afterward was with Andrew B. Hendricks & Co. 1½ years, and in 1878 engaged in the clothing business with George H. Besse. The firm continued 15 months, when Mr. Redshaw sold out in December, 1880, and the following March he succeeded V. A. Page in the clothing business, which he has continued since. His store is located at 106 and 108 Main street, Ansonia. Mr. Redshaw was town auditor for Derby 11 years, and when Ansonia became a town was elected to the same office in the new town. He is a member of George Washington Lodge, F. & A. M., Mt. Vernon Chapter, R. A. M., and of the New Haven Commandery, K. T., and is an Odd Fellow. He is a vestryman of Christ church, Ansonia.

David E. Roberts, born in Wales in 1840, came to this country in 1851. He served his time in the Phenix Foundry, New York city, as machinist, remaining there five years, then spent five years in San Francisco, Cal., engaged as machinist for Captain John Ericsson, was with C. H. Delamater, New York city, as foreman five years, and with the Albany Street Iron Works five years. In September, 1868, he came to Ansonia and entered the employ of the Farrel Foundry Company, first as workman, and since 1875 has been foreman of the machine shop. He was married in New York city in 1866, and has four daughters. He is a Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias.

GEORGE O. SCHNELLER was born in Germany, June 14th, 1843. His father, Henry Schneller, of Germany, was a government civil engineer and architect, as was also his grandfather. His older brothers, too, are civil engineers, so that he received a home training in a family of scientific culture. He was educated in private schools and in a gymnasium of his fatherland.

But while his brothers went on through the full university course, George Otto came to America and entered business. He was in the employ, as bookkeeper, of Osborne & Cheesman, of Ansonia, when he resolved, in 1870, to return to Germany. It was a period of great national excitement, for the German people had just entered into the struggle of the Franco-Prussian war. Mr. Schneller passed on to spend the winter in Italy, and arrived in Rome in the week following Victor Emmanuel's occupation of the city. He then visited Naples, spending three months there, and remembers as not the least interesting of his diversions the exploration of the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii.

But the grand review of the German army in Berlin at the close of the war with France was soon to occur, and Mr. Schneller hastened from Italy to the capital city of the German empire. There he saw his victorious countrymen march for several miles between rows of cannon captured from the French.





George J. D. Bennett



It was in the winter of 1872 that he came again to America and began a manufacturing business in Ansonia. And while thus employed he also surveyed and mapped out Ansonia in detail according to the German system, to be used as a basis for all public works. But in 1874 he moved to the West. In 1876 he returned again to Ansonia, and purchased a spectacle factory. Not until now did he enter the field where his inventive turn of mind and his thorough training in the engineering schools of Germany might have full opportunity for achievement. He at once improved the construction of the machinery used in the manufacture of spectacles, and was able, after only six months, to sell his recent purchase for a large advance upon the cost price.

He then began the manufacture of eyelets and eyeletting machinery and of a variety of small brass goods. And again his inventive ability came into play, for he has invented not only the machinery to make the goods, but also the machinery to use them when made. His eyeletting machinery is in use in nearly all the corset manufactories of this country and of Europe. The construction is simple, and by one stroke of the machine the operator punches the holes in a corset, inserts the eyelets and fastens them. An operator can eyelet more than 300 dozens of corsets in ten hours. The button fastening device manufactured by the Scovill Manufacturing Company, of Waterbury, is his invention, as are other appliances in use here and there in the manufacturing world.

In 1882 a company was incorporated with the name of The S. O. & C. Company, for the manufacture especially of eyelets and the eyeletting machinery controlled by his patents. The company was organized with a capital of \$40,000, the late Mr. G. W. Cheesman, of Birmingham, being president and Mr. Schneller treasurer, secretary and manager. The company's plant is located favorably for manufacture, and extensive buildings have been erected to afford the needed facilities.

Mr. Schneller is a practical manufacturer, not by means of long-continued experiment, but by taking the principles of mechanical engineering in which he was thoroughly schooled and applying them to manufacturing uses. Nor does he confine his studies to the realm of mechanics or of physics, but has made himself familiar with other departments of knowledge. Led on by the drift of the age, he has been a student of social philosophy.

His townsmen have recognized his ability, and though he does not claim to be a politician, he is yet so well versed in political science as to know what legislative action conserves the well being of the people at large. On the economic question of the tariff, he stands for reform; not for free trade, but for such freedom as allows every man the largest return for his labor. For the years 1891-1893 he is the representative of the town of Ansonia in the general assembly of the state. His public spirit is represented in the construction of the street railway

between Ansonia and Birmingham, of which he was the most prominent promoter.

But Mr. Schneller is preëminently domestic in his tastes. His home is his earthly heaven, and nothing so much delights him as to be there in the midst of his family. On May 1st, 1873, he married Miss Clarissa Alling, of Ansonia. Six children have been born to them of whom three are now living—Elsie, Otto and Clarissa Bianca. Two died in infancy—Sadie in July, 1883, at four months of age, and Meta in August, 1886, at 11 months of age. Their eldest, Marea Eloise, was familiarly known at home and in society as "Birdie." She was not only the companion but also the adviser of her mother; and her father entrusted her with responsibilities in business matters far beyond her years. But so well informed was she and mature of judgment, that carrying them was a pleasant diversion more than labor. She was already in the last year of her high school course, preparing to graduate in a few weeks. Unusually bright and intellectual, she easily carried off the honor of valedictory of her class. Never in the history of the school has a pupil maintained so high a scholarship. Her physique seemed also to be as fine as her mind. But she was seized with typhoid fever, which developed into an alarming type, and on the morning of February 17th, 1891, she passed away, beloved by the community in which she lived, and especially by the young people of her acquaintance.

On graduation day the class historian, Miss Flora Elizabeth Billam, wove the following beautiful chaplet to her memory:

"She who easily won first honors in all our studies, is not here to give that farewell address which first honor wins. How empty after all, are earthly honors. The sad experience of that early death will undoubtedly remain with us through life. That Providence which took our brightest member is inscrutable. We who knew her best oftimes recall her pure unselfishness, her winsome, happy disposition, her lofty ambition. Birdie Schneller will always remain in the memory of all who knew her, but with us she will always be our beloved classmate, our brilliant valedictorian."

William A. Shea was born in Seymour, Conn., in 1862, and came to Ansonia in 1879. He learned the roll business with the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, and has been with them since. He married Mary Stott, of Westerly, R. I., in 1887.

Frank E. Steele, born in Seymour in 1847, is a son of John B., grandson of Edmund, and great-grandson of Captain Bradford Steele. Edmund Steele married Annie Tucker, and had two sons, John B. and Albert. They were residents of Humphreysville. Albert represented the town in the legislature. John B. Steele married Emeline A. Stewart, and had two children, Frank E. and Celeste. Frank E. Steele was selectman in Seymour for three years. He married, in 1881, Miss Lillie J., daughter of Clark Chatfield, of Seymour. He is at present a resident of Ansonia.

Joseph H. Steinman was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1836, and learned the butcher's trade there. He then enlisted in the navy and went to China in the ship "Minnesota," with Minister Reede, of Philadelphia, and was abroad two years. He settled in Waterbury in 1858, and in Ansonia in 1859, and was employed by George Hotchkiss in the meat business. In 1862 he again enlisted in the navy and served until the close of the war. He then reëntered the employ of George Hotchkiss, and remained until 1870, when he began business for himself. He ranks as one of the oldest butchers in Ansonia, and does an annual business of \$40,000. He is a member of the K. of P., I. O. O. F., G. A. R., and the Naval Veteran Association. He was married, in 1867, to Martha J. Brown, of Ansonia, and has two children: Ida M. and Frank H.

Joseph A. Trempe, born in Canada in 1845, learned the machinist trade in Sorel, came to the states in 1870, worked five years in Boston, Mass., came to Ansonia in 1875, and engaged with the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company as superintendent. Since 1881 he has worked by contract. He has charge of the No. 7 mill, where standard screw wire for boots and shoes is made under the Mackie patent. He has the supervision of 50 hands. Mr. Trempe married Emma Gilles, of Canada. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

Albert N. Tryon was born in Middletown, Conn., in 1853. He was employed by the Stiles & Parker Press Company there about 12 years. In 1888 he came to Ansonia and engaged with the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, taking charge of the light machine department of the roll room. Mr. Tryon married Clara Chamberlain, of Middletown, in 1879, and has two children: Elmer E. and Edith.

Eli H. Wakelee, born in Ansonia in 1829, is a son of Watrous C. and Caroline Wakelee and grandson of Freegift, all born in Ansonia. Wakelee avenue received its name from the family. They are one of the oldest families of the town, and settled in West Ansonia, where they owned a large tract of land. Watrous C. had four sons; two settled in Iowa, and Eli and Albert in Ansonia. Eli first learned the mason trade, and built several houses in both Derby and Ansonia for himself and others. He engaged in the grocery trade in 1883 in West Ansonia. He married Eunice A. Chatfield, of Bethany, in 1852. They have one son, Frank W., born in 1854. Eli H. has held several town offices, including selectman, collector, assessor and member of the board of relief. Frank W. married Fannie Platt, of Milford, and has one daughter, Cora A.

WILLIAM WALLACE was born in Manchester, England, March 16th, 1825, and came to the United States in 1832 with his parents, Thomas and Agnes Wallace. Several years passed by before the family found a permanent location, but in 1841 came to Birmingham, Conn., where the father and his three sons entered the employ of the Howe Pin Company. A few years only went by before the father began the

manufacture of brass and brass wire on his own account, and in 1848 took his three sons, John, William and Thomas, into partnership with himself, forming the firm of Wallace & Sons.

In 1850 the company removed from Birmingham to Ansonia for the purpose of taking water for power from the new canal of Anson G. Phelps, which had recently been builded. It was thought at the time that a single foot of water according to engineering measurement, would furnish sufficient power, a fact not a little curious as looked back upon from the great plant now constructed beside the canal. At this date in all the works two giant steam engines, each of 1,000 horse power, aided by ten other engines only of lesser power, furnish none too much force for the great industry.

In 1853 the company was changed from a partnership to a corporation under the same name of Wallace & Sons, and has so remained until the present time. The corporation now embraces a very large plant of several acres, nor has it ceased to grow in size, for extensive additions are making at this date of writing, 1891.

The product of the factory embraces copper and brass goods in large variety. In the rolling mills brass and copper are wrought into the different forms required in commerce. The principal products are sheet brass and brass wire, sheet copper and copper wire, copper rivets and burs, metal chains, brass escutcheon pins, brass pins, kerosene burners, lamps and chandeliers.

The officers of the company are: President, William Wallace; treasurer and general manager, Thomas Wallace; secretary, John B. Wallace; superintendent, William O. Wallace.

The present sketch concerns the president of the company, the second son of Thomas Wallace, Sr., now deceased.

The habits of active industry formed in young manhood control the every day life of Mr. Wallace. He is not only president of the company, but chooses to keep under his personal supervision, as he has done from the beginning, the entire mechanical oversight and execution of the great plant. A genius for mechanics and mechanical industry was the gift of nature to him. The factory of Wallace & Sons has expanded according to his plans in orderly consecutive arrangement. He himself has located the new buildings, mapped out their construction, planned their peculiarities and conveniences for doing the work designed. He has invented much of the machinery in use, and determined the manifoldness of the industry on all the grounds.

A visit to the factory is an instructive object lesson upon the growing ideas and energy of a single manufacturing mind. From one room the visitor may be excluded, for it is thought to be more economical to work the machinery there, devised by Mr. Wallace, in obscurity than to defend patent rights. But in full sight, only illustrative of another feature of the one expansive, energetic mind, is the



Wm Wallace





great chimney for the brass foundry, the largest and tallest chimney in the state, 16 feet square at the base,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet square at the top, 202 feet 5 inches high from the surface of the ground, with a foundation of masonry 19 feet deep in the earth. On the the broad side of it, 60 feet high, is a massive clock of the most approved construction, keeping time for the establishment.

But a better illustration still of the type of industrial manhood Mr. Wallace is, may be had by a visit to his laboratory, a large room full of costly devices for the control and the practical and diversive uses of electricity. He was one of the pioneers in electrical science. First is noticed the art embellishments of this hall, engravings of industrial exhibitions and portraits of men eminent in science. Here came Thomas A. Edison and other investigators to see what might be seen, and there is shown the visitor an interesting memento of one of those visits of the electrician. He took a goblet and a diamond, lying near by, and engraved the following signature on it in letters so tiny they can be read only by keen sight: "Thomas A. Edison, Sept. 8th, 1878, under the electric light." And in striking contrast is the old trunk which Professor S. F. B. Morse, of telegraphic fame, carried over Europe with him. And not the least of these adornments is an autograph letter of Benjamin Franklin, dated "Philadelphia, July 5th, 1775," of striking composition, addressed by the noble philosopher and patriot to Mr. Strahan, member of the English parliament.

In this Laboratory Hall are microscopes, monocular and binocular, a fine telescope, an air pump, electrical generators, induction coils, dynamos, electric batteries, and among them one of those used in the first blast of rock from Hell Gate; electric lamps, electric stereoptican, experimental apparatus for illuminating water in motion, and a multitude of other appliances, curious, ingenious, costly, informing and useful to the informed mind.

Here was constructed the Wallace Farmer Dynamo, and the Wallace Plate Electric Lamp. Mr. Wallace was the first to construct dynamos in this country, and the "wizard of Menlo Park" did all of his first experimenting with a dynamo of Mr. Wallace's make. Mr. Wallace was the first to run the arc light in series, and his lamp was the first to cast an electric light over the Centennial Exhibition grounds at Philadelphia. His induction coil has produced the longest spark of any coil yet made in America, the spark leaping a distance of 27 inches. The plan of winding was that of Richie, of Boston. There are in the secondary coil 95 miles of No. 36 Birmingham wire-gauge pure copper wire, and the coil, with its condensers, weighs about 1,400 pounds.

Mr. Wallace was the first to burn more than one pair of carbons in a lamp, and has burned 24 pairs in one lamp. He now lights his laboratory with a multiple carbon lamp of six pairs. He also made the first round pencil carbon ever constructed for electric lamps. The

great electro-magnets, as that at the Stevens Institute, Hoboken, N. J., and that at West Point, N. Y., able to raise a weight of 5,000 pounds and more, are his devices and construction. Mr. Wallace was the first manufacturer in this country to apply the dynamo to the industrial uses of electro-plating. He used it extensively in coating steel wire with copper for telegraph circuits.

These items serve to indicate the scientific and mechanical tastes and culture of Mr. Wallace; nor is he lacking in taste and appreciation of fine arts. His home is adorned with the finest products of the pencil and the brush, while his ear is most sharply critical and appreciative of music, orchestral, instrumental and vocal. He is familiar with most of the great masterpieces of music, and takes pains to hear them rendered by the noted artists of his time, whether in America or in Europe.

Mr. Wallace's wealth is represented not alone in the great industry over which he presides, but in other corporations, as banks and mines. He has kept aloof from the political entanglements of his town, and steadily pursued his business occupations, yet he has distinct political opinions, is an ardent republican and friend of the veteran soldier. He has traveled extensively in this country and in Europe, and has known how to gather up from every quarter its contribution to the fund of general knowledge.

Mr. Wallace married Miss Sarah Mills, of Birmingham, daughter of Thomas Mills, September 15th, 1849. A son and a daughter have been born to them: Eloise E. and William O.

THOMAS WALLACE was born in Manchester, England, February 7th, 1827. The great corporation of Wallace & Sons originally included three sons in the second part of the corporation title—John, William and Thomas. The first named was the outside manager of the great interests involved, but he died at the age of 39 years, and a readjustment of management was now essential; Thomas Wallace taking the financial responsibility of the corporation, while William Wallace, the president, kept charge, as before, of the machinery and manufacture and product of the entire plant. The reader is here referred to the other sketches concerning the industry of Wallace & Sons for a complete picture of the corporation and the men who have made it what it is.

Both of the brothers, Thomas and William, are eminently mechanics by nature, but still of different turn of mind. If William Wallace was the practical manager and constructor for outside and factory work, Thomas Wallace was equally eminent for inside construction, having the financier's ability; hence, when at the death of his brother John, an officer of equal ability was needed for the position, Thomas Wallace was present to take up the work so imperatively laid down by his brother John. Thomas Wallace was made treasurer of Wallace & Sons, and has since held the position. Mr. Wallace is not only a



*Thos Wallace*



financier, but a man of wide knowledge of the affairs of the world. He is a persistent reader of the best literature and has a vigorous memory; his library is stocked with many of the best books, with the writings of eminent men in various departments of learning, and his tables are laden with the best magazine literature, appearing month by month. And now often the lights may be seen in his library, burning late; Mr. Wallace is there absorbing a magazine article, or deeply exploring the contents of some volume from his library.

The allurements of pleasure and the demands of business have also made him a traveler to a considerable extent. Associations and connections of men in industries similar to that of Wallace & Sons have called him here and there to different parts of the country, and in those gatherings his voice has carried the weight of both a great and thoroughly-informed manufacturer. Often the exigencies of trade have taken him far from home; several times he has gone to Russia, and while there interviewed the government authorities concerning contracts furnished them.

To a visitor the ease with which the great industry of Wallace & Sons runs is noticeable. There is no evidence of friction in any department. The large office runs as quietly as does one of the great engines in the factory, of 1,000 horse power; nor is the treasurer confined at all to his duties. So perfect is the system and control of the finances that leisure is at the treasurer's command, and nothing pleases him more than to mingle with his family, while all seek pleasure in recreation or short journeys here and there.

Mr. Wallace is not only treasurer of Wallace & Sons, but has been president of the National Bank of Ansonia. He has served three terms in the legislature, the years 1877-79. His investments are scattered here and there.

Mr. Wallace is a Congregationalist, and is one of the leading parishioners of the Congregational church of Ansonia. His family share with him his deep interest in the growth of the church, and in the devoted honor he pays to the truths and ordinances of religion.

He has been twice married—in 1853 to Miss Sarah Maria Slater, of Birmingham; but the union was broken by death when only two years had passed by. He was married again in December, 1856, to Miss Ellen Bryant, of Sheffield, Mass. Their children: are John B., Thomas H., Mrs. Elizabeth G. Waller, of Chicago, Frederick William, Elinor B., Ruth M., Lucy Bryant and Harold Sedgwick.

William R. Walton was born in London, England, in 1839. He resided in London until 13 years of age, then removed to Portsmouth and was apprenticed in the navy yard to the trade of coppersmith. He afterward went to Birmingham, England, and entered the employ of James Watt & Co., remaining in their employ seven years. He left them to take the management of the Birmingham Patent Tube

Company, was with that company until its dissolution, then came to this country in 1881, entered the employ of the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company, where he still remains. He holds the position of superintendent of their brass mills.

Joel M. Wheeler, born in Oxford, Conn., in 1836, is a son of Erastus and Lydia A. Wheeler, grandson of Joel, and great-grandson of Aden Wheeler. The Wheelers were among the earlier residents of Southbury, settling at a place called Dark Entry. The family came from England at an early date. On his grandmother's side, Mr. Wheeler is descended from the Candees. Both families produced many public men. One of them assisted in surveying and building the Erie canal, others the New York Central railroad. Several of them are now engaged in building railroads in different parts of the West. One of them obtained a grant from King George to build the first grist mill in Southbury. This grant is now in possession of the family. Joel M. Wheeler has been engaged the most of his life in civil and mechanical engineering. He was engaged in the war of the rebellion from 1862 until its close. He assisted in building the monitors which were engaged in the reduction of Forts Fisher and Sumter and at Mobile, New Orleans and Vicksburg. He assisted in the destroying of the "Albemarle" in 1864. After his return, he again engaged in civil and mechanical engineering. He came to Ansonia in 1877. He was burgess of Ansonia four years, and selectman and town agent two years. In 1888 he was elected warden of the borough, and has continued to hold that position to the present time. He was married, in 1868, to Mary A., daughter of John Smith, of Oxford. They have adopted Mr. Wheeler's brother's daughter, Grace A. Wheeler.

Joseph M. Whitlock was born in Ridgefield, Fairfield county, Conn., October 30th, 1832, and came to Ansonia in 1871. He has always been engaged in the railroad business; began with the New Haven & Derby railroad in 1871, and was connected with that road until it passed into the hands of the Housatonic Railroad Company in 1887. He established a coal business in Ansonia in 1876, and still continues it. He has been a member of the board of education of Derby 14 years, and was chief of the fire department of West Ansonia 13 years. He is a member of King Hiram Lodge, F. & A. M., Solomon Chapter and Union Council, of Birmingham, of the New Haven Commandery, K. T., and of the Eastern Star. He is also a member of the O. U. A. M., and senior ex-councilor of Ansonia Council.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE TOWN OF OXFORD.

Description.—Purchase of Lands from the Indians.—Early Settlers and Their Descendants.—Civil Organization.—Town Officers.—Business Interests.—Oxford Village and Its Various Interests.—Physicians.—Religious and Educational.—Sheldon Clark.—Burial Places.—Samuel Candee.—Militia.—Biographical Sketches.

THIS is one of the hill towns in the western part of the Naugatuck valley, and bordering on the Housatonic on the south. It is about fifteen miles northwest of New Haven. The area of the original town, formed out of Derby in 1798, has been greatly diminished by the formation of Seymour on the east, in 1850, and Beacon Falls on the northeast, in 1871. The surface is very uneven, being diversified by many hills and valleys, in some of which are strong and fertile lands. The prevailing soil is gravelly loam, and agriculture has ever been the chief occupation of the inhabitants. In some parts of the town were formerly fine timber lands, most of which have been cleared for lumber and farming purposes. The principal streams are the Eight Mile brook, flowing south into the Housatonic a little west of the center, and the Little river, having a general southeastern flow into the Naugatuck from its source northwest of Oxford village. Their water power has been improved, and several of the principal highways are along their courses. The Oxford turnpike, chartered in 1795, was the second in the state, and it was for many years one of the principal thoroughfares of the county. In 1852 the Woodbury & Seymour Plank Road Company was incorporated to build such a road through Oxford, Southbury, etc., and until recently that highway was used as a toll road.

The lands in the original Oxford were purchased of the Indians in a number of tracts, more than a dozen deeds being given therefor from 1678 until 1710.\* In the former year Major Ebenezer Johnson, Ensign Samuel Riggs, Jeremiah Johnson and a few others purchased small tracts at Rock Rimmon, or near what is now called Pine's bridge, and on these the first permanent settlements in Oxford were made. Lower down the Naugatuck, and south of Major Johnson's land, Thomas and David Wooster purchased lands in 1692, and not many years later they and their descendants settled on the same. Ebenezer Riggs, a son of Ensign Samuel Riggs, settled here some time after

\* Orcutt's History of Derby.

1708. In that year his father gave him 200 acres of land, with houses and other improvements thereon.

The Riggs family became very numerous in Oxford, and took a prominent part in its public affairs. A son of the above Ebenezer Riggs, John, reared a family of five sons and as many daughters, whom he settled on a road on which his own house stood, and from which circumstance Riggs street, in the northeastern part of the town, took its name.

A little later than the settlement on the Naugatuck, probably about 1700, settlements were made at what was then called and has since been known as Quaker's Farm,\* on the Eight Mile brook, in the western central part of the town. Just when and for what reason the name was applied to that locality is uncertain. It appears in some treaty documents as early as 1683, and is repeated in 1687, when Joseph Hawley purchased a tract of land of the Indians at that place. The following year (1688) a tract of 170 acres was laid to Ebenezer Johnson "at the place commonly called the Quaker's Farm," &c. In 1692 Johnson deeded this land to Doctor John Butler, of Stratford, who occupied it several years later, and was probably the first permanent white settler. It is said that his house stood about 40 rods south of the old Quaker's Farm burial ground, on the west side of the brook, and under the hill. He appears to have been a hermit and to have subsisted chiefly by hunting. His death occurred before 1707, for in that year his administrators sold his lands in Oxford to William Rawlinson. It has been supposed by some that Doctor Butler was himself the Quaker, but this does not appear to be sustained by the facts. He (the Quaker) was probably a person of that faith who had here temporarily lived among the Indians, and had gone long before the settlement by the whites. From the records of Derby it appears that some time about 1711 much attention was directed to this place, and the latter year a committee was appointed to lay out all the lots on the purchase, and the recorder was "to mark them at each man's charge."

In 1722 Abraham Wooster, father of General David Wooster, purchased lands at Quaker's Farm and came on to live and improve the same. He erected a mansion house and also had a saw mill. In 1733 he sold this property to Samuel Wooster, Jr. Soon after the settlement of Abraham Wooster, the Griffin, Perry, Hawkins, Hyde, Nichols and other families settled there. In the Griffin family was born the first English child at Quaker's Farm in 1725, which grew to manhood and became known as Lieutenant John Griffin, who served in the French war and was with Wolfe at Quebec. He died at the advanced age of 96 years. The third birth at Quaker's Farm was in the Perry family, and the child became the well known Doctor Joseph Perry, of Woodbury. For many years the Perry family was numerous in the town, as were also the Hawkins and Nichols. The Woosters also be-

\* Also called Quaker Farms.



came numerous, and although originally farmers, some of the younger members became noted in the professions. Joseph Wooster, who lived on Good hill, was the father of Russell Wooster and Reverend Henry Wooster, a Baptist minister of culture and influence. Russell Wooster was the father of the popular soldier and attorney, Colonel W. B. Wooster, of Birmingham. Among the older stock of Woosters was Jacob, a rich farmer, and who owned a deer park of several hundred acres, south of Quaker's Farm, which was protected by the laws of the state. This was the scene of many exciting hunts in early days. Another Wooster, Captain Nathaniel, was a blacksmith who attained an age but little short of 90 years.

About the close of the revolution David Tomlinson became a citizen of this part of the town. He was a son-in-law of Jabez Bacon, of Woodbury, and became an equally successful business man. At this place he began merchandising on a small scale, but extended his business until many lines of trade were embraced. He also became a large farmer, steadily increasing his estate until he owned 1,500 acres of land and was one of the most widely known men in the county. His farms were celebrated for their productiveness. He died in March, 1822, aged 60 years. His eldest son, Charles, lived more than 90 years. Samuel Meigs married into his family and merchandised at the Tomlinson stand, where his sons were afterward in trade. At one time Mr. Meigs was a county judge.

Another early business man of the town was Lieutenant Samuel Wheeler, and of his family Judge Abel Wheeler became as prominent as any citizen of the town. He died in 1830, aged 65 years. Caleb Candee\* was the first of that name in Oxford, and came from West Haven. He reared nine sons, and they and their descendants were all noted for their longevity, several of them still living in the town at advanced ages. Captain Samuel Candee and Captain Job Candee both served in the revolution. The Johnson family furnished Timothy and Phineas, who served the patriot cause, and both were with General Anthony Wayne in his assault on Ticonderoga. Other settlers in the town who served in the revolution were David Peck, Edward Bassett, Isaac Chatfield and Jeremiah M. Kelley.

Captain John Davis was, among the citizens of Oxford, a military man of distinction, who afterward became colonel of the 2d Connecticut Regiment of Militia. He died at the age of 95 years. A son, Burritt Davis, remains as one of Oxford's oldest citizens. Contemporary have been Thomas Clarke, Aurelius Buckingham, Josiah Nettleton and, later, Nathan J. Wilcoxson, Alfred Harger and Robert B. Limburner.

The third principal settlement in the town was made near the present Middlebury line, and from the number of families of that name living in that locality it was long known as Bristol town. But few of the Bristols remained.

\*Also spelled Cande.

The registered freemen in the town at the time of its incorporation in 1798 and the next ten years following were: Thomas Clarke, Esq., John Riggs, Esq., Samuel Wheeler, Captain Zachariah Hawkins, John Bassett, Nathan Buckingham, John Twitchell, Ebenezer Riggs, Eben Wooster, James Wheeler, Reverend David Bronson, John Wooster, Esq., Caleb Cande, James Perry, Zadock Sanford, Hosea Dutton, David Tomlinson, Gideon Perry, Joel Buckingham, Chester Smith, Ebenezer Twitchell, Roger Perkins, Joel Perry, Anson Smith, Jared Beardsley, John Bunnell, Caleb Tomlinson, John D. Wooster, Moses Sanford, Truman Bunnell, Cyrus Cande, John Fairchild, Elijah Trant, David Bunnell, Silas Hawkins, Peleg Griffin, Nathaniel Wooster, Levi Cande, David Wooden, Enoch Osborn, Isaiah Twitchell, Samuel Twitchell, Robert Twitchell, Josiah Washburn, Jr., James Wheeler, Jr., Daniel Finch, Simeon Gunn, Elias Clarke, Isaiah Riggs, David Beecher, John S. Hyde, Gideon Chatfield, Jonah Hine, Samuel Bartis, Jonathan Bellamy, Jared Munson, Truman Bassett, Abel Smith, Timothy Wheeler, John Smith, Jeremiah M. Kelley, James Perry, Jr., William Bunnell, Abel Waters, Joseph Clark, Andrew Wilton, James Wheeler, 3d, John Towner, Benjamin Loveland, Isaiah Nichols, Jr., Isaiah Smith, Elisha Oatman, Joseph Riggs, Andrew Smith, Lyman Nichols, Russell Nichols, John Hinman, David Mallory, Sylvester Higgins, Benajah Chatfield, Gilbert Twitchell, Cyrus Perry, David Dickerman, Miles Loveland, Samuel Mallory, John Twitchell, David Wheeler, Philo Sanford, Amos Clark, Ephraim Andrews, Samuel Heaton, Isaiah Cande, Ebenezer Bottsford, Lee Hawkins, David Perry, Levi Riggs, Moses Wheeler, Joel Finch, Timothy Cande, David Tucker, Reuben Tucker, Isaiah Cable, Ezra Hubbell, James Wooster, Jr., Clement English, Eleazer Lewis, John Beardsley, Salmon Griffin, Arnold Loveland, Bildad Smith, John Hull, James Wooster, 3d, David Smith, Jr., David Johnson, Ambrose Osborne, Elijah Johnson, Josiah Garrett, Sheldon Clark, Ebenezer Smith, Sherman Clark, Benjamin Cande, Amos Cande, Philander Sharp, George Bunnell, William Church, David Cande, Joseph Cone, Elijah Bennett, Truman Davis, Simeon Towner.

In that part of Oxford which formerly belonged to Southbury there lived, about 1800, taxables as follows: Isaac Burwell, Enos Benham, Philo R. Bristol, Justus Bristol, Enoch Bristol, Sheldon Bristol, Samuel Candee, Justus Candee, Gideon Camp, John Garrett, Jacob Hann, David Morris, Jehiel Peet, Daniel Perkins, Enoch Perkins, Moses Sperry, John Towner, David Towner, Rachael Towner, Mercy Towner, Walker Wilmot, Edward Riggs.

A petition for the setting apart of what is now Oxford as a separate parish was made to the general assembly in May, 1740, and the following year the prayer was granted..

It appears that the inhabitants were satisfied with parish privileges until the latter part of 1789, when a move was made to secure its in-

corporation as a town, and there was a committee appointed to consider the matter. No immediate action was taken, and other committees acted on the same subject. One of the most important reports was made to the Derby town meeting, February 4th, 1793, in which it appears that Derby's objection to a new town arose from the fear that the burden for keeping bridges in repair would be too heavy if she should be shorn of so much territory. The matter was finally arranged on the joint report, made in April, 1798, of John Riggs, Caleb Candee and Charles Bunnell, on the part of Oxford, and James Lewis, David Hitchcock and Canfield Gillett, on the part of Derby, which imposed as one of the conditions of separation that Oxford should pay the old town £170 in three annual installments. Hence, at the October, 1798, session of the general assembly the parish was duly incorporated as a town, and the first election was held at the Congregational meeting house the following November. John Riggs, Esq., moderated, and those elected were: Clerk, John Riggs; selectmen, Captain Ebenezer Riggs, John Riggs, David Tomlinson, Caleb Candee and Charles Bunnell; constables, Nathaniel Bangman, Nathan Buckingham, Charles Bunnell; grand jurors, Gideon Candee, Abijah Chatfield, Elihu Bates; surveyors of highways, Asahel Hyde, Benjamin Loveland, Elijah Harger, Moses Candee, Joel Buckingham, John Hawkins, Abel Waters, Josiah Washburn, Samuel Bates, Joseph Lines, Daniel Candee, David Smith, Jr., Nabeth Osborn, Job Candee, Hosea Dutton, William Church, John Fairchild, Philo Beecher, Isaac Riggs, Nathan Johnson.

Those who have served as town clerks of Oxford were elected to that office as follows: 1799, Ebenezer Wooster; 1800-2, Hosea Dutton; 1803, Captain Abel Wheeler; 1804, John Riggs; 1805-11, Captain Abel Wheeler; 1812-25, Hosea Dutton; 1826-8, Noah Stone; 1829, Thomas A. Dutton; 1830-1, Noah Stone; 1832-45, Nathan J. Wilcoxson; 1846-58, Nathan B. Fairchild; 1859, Lewis Barnes; 1860-5, Nathan J. Wilcoxson; 1866, Burr J. Beecher; 1867, Doctor John Lounsbury; 1868-90, Doctor Lewis Barnes.

Oxford became a separate probate district in 1842, and Nathan J. Wilcoxson was the first judge. Nathaniel Walker succeeded him, and since 1872 the judge has been Doctor Lewis Barnes.

Since the settlement of the town small saw and grist mills have been carried on, the streams usually supplying ample power. Many of these have passed away, but enough remain to do the required local work. In addition there were a number of small interests which were in their day quite important. On the Eight Mile brook, near its mouth, was a woolen mill where stockings were later woven. This was burned. Higher up the stream a man named Bidwell and others had a factory for making iron screws. At Quaker's Farm De Forest & Hine, among others, had a satinnet factory, which employed a dozen hands. It was discontinued some time about 1850.

Along Little river were formerly more than a dozen industries. At Red City (so called from the color of many of the buildings at that time) daguerreotype cases were made by David Scott, who employed many young people, and occupied several buildings. One was burned in 1855. William Tucker next here made wheels, horse rakes, etc.; and another building was destroyed by fire in September, 1865. A third building, used in manufacturing, was removed to Seymour. Near this place was a saw mill, and, later, Elon Beardsley had a tannery, which has long since been discontinued.

Lower down the stream, below the village of Oxford, Joel Perry has an extensive lumber mill. Below, the French family had a grist mill, which later belonged to Eli Carley, and which is now owned by S. P. Sanford. The power operates a corn mill, and in connection with it a fruit distillery. At the power next lower, Norman A. Bidwell had a clothing shop and carding mill. A tannery by Cyrus Fenn was next on the site. In 1856 this passed to A. B. Hinman, but it has long since been abandoned. At the next power Sheldon Church built a saw mill, after 1852, which, in 1890, was the property of S. P. Sanford. A turning shop was at the next power. The next lower power was older. Here Samuel Wire and others manufactured satinets 70 years ago. Ormsby and others more recently manufactured stocking yarns. The buildings are in ruins. The Wooster saw mill, lower down, was extensively operated later by William and Sheldon Church. The owner in 1890 was Mark Lounsbury, and the lessee Edward F. Hoadley. The grist mill at the same power has been discontinued.

On Moose hill, in this locality, the Douglass Manufacturing Company erected a large storage reservoir, whose banks gave way in June, 1867, and the flood caused much damage. The dam has been rebuilt, and in 1890 it was the property of James Swan, of Seymour, and was used supplementary to his water power on the Little river.

About 40 years ago the manufacture of kegs and casks for the West Indies trade was an important industry in the town, and among others who had cooperages were Willis Smith, William Morris, Harvey Smith and John Limburner. These employed many men. Shoe shops were also numerous, and the small trades gave pleasant occupation to many people.

Oxford Village is near the center of the town, and is the principal place of business. It has an attractive location in the valley of the Little river. Its nearest railway station is Towantic, on the New England railroad,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles distant. At that point the railway bends south into Oxford and for a few miles passes over its territory. The village of Oxford contains two stores, a hotel, shops and Congregational and Episcopal churches. These stand on the sides of the village green, consisting of several acres, around which are also clustered the principal residences of the village. The upper part of the green was long known as the "meeting house acre," and was set aside for

that purpose by John Chatfield; the lower end was added from the proprietors' land, and was secured by Charles Bunnell, a public spirited citizen, who lived on the hill south of the village. The honor of clearing the land and first improving it for public purpose is given by Judge Wilcoxson to Colonel John Davis, Lieutenant Samuel A. Buckingham and Ensign Ebenezer Fairchild. On the lower part military trainings were held, and it is said that these occasions attracted large crowds to Oxford.

In the first layout of the village the public road was east of the present school house, being what is now Back street, and on which was an old-time inn, kept by Gideon Tucker. When the turnpike was located, in 1795, these conditions were changed and the present street became the main highway. In that year part of the present Oxford House was built by Job and Daniel Candee, the latter becoming the innkeeper and also the postmaster of the Oxford office, established about that time. David Candee was the next landlord and postmaster, continuing in the former capacity about 40 years. As postmaster George N. Candee succeeded, keeping the office in his store. Nathan B. Fairchild was a later merchant. S. P. Sanford and C. H. Butler were in trade in 1890, the latter being the postmaster. A daily mail is supplied. Of the Zoar Bridge office Richard Herbert is the postmaster, and at that place is the mail supply for the southwestern part of the town.

As innkeepers the Lums followed the Candees, and remodelled the house. Another inn was kept by Daniel Tucker, who had a store and tavern in the upper part of the village. That building was destroyed by fire. He also had an inn at where is now Doctor Barnes' house.

The manufacture of hats was the main industry in the village for about 25 years, after 1828, giving occupation to more than 60 men. Seth Crosby had the principal shops and turned out large quantities of fur hats. His place was next occupied by the *four partners*: Garry Riggs, George Fuller, Charles Ransom and Agur Cable. They discontinued about 1851, some of the members of the firm going to California. Henry Durham was the last principal hatter, and the buildings have long since been converted to other uses. About the same time the hat trade flourished David M. Clark had a tailor shop, which made clothing for the southern trade. In this period of activity a flourishing Masonic Lodge, Morning Star, No. 47, built a hall in the village, where its meetings were held until 1844, when the removal of many members caused their suspension. In 1851 the Lodge was revived at Seymour, and has since been maintained at that place.

Doctor Hosea Dutton was probably the first located physician. He came from Southington about the time of the revolution, and remained here until his death in September, 1826. He was self-educated, but a man of ability and culture nevertheless, whose influence in the town secured him many positions of trust. He was withal eccentric

and bitterly opposed the settlement of another physician in the town, even when there was a demand for one by reason of the increased population. After his death his son, Doctor Thomas A.,\* born in 1802, succeeded him, and was in practice until 1845, when he moved to Newtown, and later to Birmingham.

The second resident physician of the town was Doctor Noah Stone, who came from Guilford the latter part of 1810, and was here until his death in March, 1851, aged 69 years. He was a fine practitioner and a most exemplary man, whose memory is still cherished. He was the father of Reverend A. L. Stone and of David M. Stone, the editor of the *New York Journal of Commerce*. His daughter, Martha, married Reverend Stephen Hubbell, a Congregational minister, in 1832, and while residing in Oxford wrote the popular book, "Shady Side," whose influence on clerical life in New England was far-reaching and beneficent.

Contemporary with Doctor Stone in the last years of his practice was Doctor John Lounsbury, who still resides at Oxford, at an extreme age, and is no longer in active practice. For 50 years he has occupied the same home. Doctor Roswell Bronson, a native of Middlebury, located here about 1850, and died in December, 1855, aged 31 years.

The practitioner at Oxford in 1890 was Doctor Lewis Barnes. He was born at Southington in 1825, and was a son of Doctor Julius S. Barnes, who located at that place in 1818. After graduating from Yale in 1847, Doctor Lewis Barnes studied medicine in New York city, and with his uncle, Doctor Josiah Barnes, at Buffalo. In 1851 he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of that city, and returning home, located at Meriden in 1854, and since 1856 has been in active practice in Oxford.

Stores were formerly kept at Quaker's Farm, but in more recent years that locality has been strictly a farming community.

Having been incorporated as a separate parish in May, 1741, the ecclesiastical society of Oxford held its first meeting at the house of Samuel Twitchell, June 30th, the same year. Isaac Knowles was chosen moderator and Isaac Trowbridge clerk of the society. Caleb Perry, John Lum, Ebenezer Riggs, John Towner and Samuel Wooster were appointed a prudential committee. The society and religious meetings were held at the house of Samuel Twitchell or at John Twitchell's, but, October 6th, 1741, it was voted to build a meeting house and to ask for a legislative committee to locate a site. Captain Isaac Dickerman, James Talmadge and John Hitchcock were appointed such a committee, and they selected a spot on the south slope of the so-called Jack's hill, near the highway that runs on the east side of the Little river. The land designated belonged to Ephraim Washburn. The assembly approved the choice.

It appears that the meeting house was several years in building,

\* Named by his father Thomas Albert Bonaparte Jefferson.

as the first record of its occupancy was June 21st, 1743. In the meantime the society's meetings had been held in private houses, the notices for which had been posted at the houses of John Lum, Jonathan Griffin, Joseph Lewis, Isaac Knowles, Joseph Davis and Joseph Wood, whose places may be regarded as having been centers in the parish. Before this meeting the May, 1743, general assembly had been petitioned by Clerk Isaac Trowbridge and others for permission to "embody into a church estate," "and to settle a minister according to the establishment of the churches in this government." The assembly granted the desired liberty, but the Congregational Church of Oxford was not formally organized by the parish until January 9th, 1746.

After the completion of the meeting house the society took steps to secure a regular minister, and in June, 1745, Mr. Jonathan Lyman was called on a four weeks' probation. He accepted and was regularly ordained October 4th, 1745, several months, it will be seen, before the church was organized. After a pastorate of 18 years, he was accidentally killed in 1763 by falling from his horse while riding on a mission to visit a sick person in the western part of the parish. Mr. Lyman had graduated from Yale in 1742 and was a capable minister, who had won the esteem of the community. As tokens of their esteem Samuel Wheeler and John Lum, active members of the church, donated him several tracts of land near the church, in 1746 and 1747.

The Reverend David Bronson, of Milford, was next ordained to the pastorate, April 25th, 1764, the details of his settlement having been arranged by Deacon Ebenezer Riggs, John Twitchell, Thomas Clark, Captain Russell, Lieutenant Wheeler, Captain Hawkins and Joseph Osborn. His pastorate extended through more than 40 years, until his death in 1806. In his ministry the second and present meeting house of the Congregational church was built.

The vote to erect a new house was taken January 3d, 1793, and it was decided to place it on the meeting house acre, near the old building, with dimensions 40 by 56 feet. December 23d, 1793, Timothy Candee entered into an agreement to build the meeting house for £675, and it was probably occupied in 1795. The records in regard to this house are vague, and it is said that Mr. Candee was not properly compensated for his work, which involved a greater outlay than he had anticipated. The house has several times been improved to give it modern appearances and more comfortable accommodations, the last being a work of renovation in the winter of 1888-9, when new furniture was also supplied.

Since the pastorate of Mr. Bronson there have been many changes in the ministerial service of the church, but few pastorates being long continued. From June, 1809, to September, 1814, the minister was Reverend Nathaniel Freeman, when for 16 years the pulpit was supplied. Among the ministers thus serving was Reverend Zephaniah Swift, who was highly respected.\* June 2d, 1830, Reverend Abraham

\* Judge N. J. Wilcoxson's account.

Brown began a pastorate which ended October 16th, 1838. The next regular minister was Reverend Stephen Topliff, who began April 21st, 1841, and remained until 1860. Since that time the ministers have been: Reverend Mr. Barton, one year; Strong (installed), two and one-half years; Chamberlain, two and one-half years; John Churchill, about eight years; who was followed by the Reverends Snow, Mohr and Cleveland. Since July, 1888, the acting pastor has been Reverend H. M. Hazeltine, who came to this place from the Monroe church.

In 1890 the parish was small, containing but 45 families and 50 communicant members. The deacons were: Ebenezer Buckingham, Robert B. Limburner and Amos Treat.

The Oxford church raised up the following Congregational ministers: Cyrus Beecher Bristol, Charles Fabrique, John Robinson Freeman, Thomas Riggs, Burritt Augustus Smith, Charles Leete Stone, D. D., and George Edward Stone.

St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church is also located in Oxford village. Among the early settlers of Oxford were some churchmen who, in 1764, were gathered together as the above church by Reverend Richard Mansfield, the rector of the Derby church, who also preached here until about 1803. He was a minister of great force of character and ability, and through his efforts the church was fully established. Abel Gunn and William Bunnell appear to have been first wardens, and to them was conveyed, in 1766, for the use of the church, a tract of five acres of land. The same year the first house of worship was built on the hill near the Episcopal cemetery, which was used until the present church, on the south side of the green, was occupied. This was built in 1834, and consecrated the following year by Bishop Brownell. It has since been placed in a good condition and well serves its purpose, being both attractive and comfortable. In the summer of 1888 a number of very fine memorial windows were placed in the church (each costing about \$130) by some of the leading families of the parish. The church has 200 sittings. In 1890 the parish had 35 families and 53 registered communicants. Its wardens were: Elijah B. Treat and Albert Smith. The vestry was composed of Henry Williams, R. B. Hinman, A. B. Hinman, George Hubbell and Franklin Davis. C. H. Butler was the treasurer.

After Rector Mansfield no longer served St. Peter's in connection with the Derby church, there was no regular minister until 1807, when the Reverend Chauncey Prindle, a native of Oxford, became the first resident rector, and served the church until 1812. He afterward lived upon a farm in the northern part of the town, until his death, at an advanced age, about 1832. After him the successive ministers were the following: Reverend Aaron Humphrey, 1814 to 1820; W. A. Curtis, 1829 to 1830; Ashbel Baldwin, 1831 to 1834; Charles Smith, 1834 to 1836; Daniel Burnham, 1836 to 1841; Abel Nichols, 1844 to 1845; Henry Olmstead, 1845; George B. Eastman, 1846; David P. Sanford, 1847 to



1849; Charles J. Todd, 1850 to 1854; D. W. C. Loop, 1854; Edward P. Gray, 3 months, 1855; John N. Marvin, 1855 to 1858; Sylvester Clarke, 1859 to 1861; A. R. Van Antwerp, 1861 to 1863; John T. Pearce, 1863 to 1865; John Anketell, 1872 to 1875; George Buck, 1875 to 1876; William Walker, 1876 to 1877; Sheldon Davis, 1877; Walter C. Roberts (lay reader), 1877; George P. Torrence, 1878 to 1879; Howard T. Widemer, 1879 to 1880; William E. Potwine, 1881; Samuel R. Bailey, 1882 to 1885; C. H. Proctor, 1885 to 1886; and since July 3d, 1887, the rector of St. Peter's, Christ Church at Quaker's Farm and the Southford Mission has been the Reverend Lewis F. Morris.

Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal) is at Quaker's Farm, and was first known as a chapel of St. Peter's parish. The movement to build this chapel was begun in the fall of 1811 by the people of this locality, who desired a place of worship in their own midst. To that end they freely contributed labor and material, Cyrus Perry drawing the first stick of timber, which was 64 feet long, on the 11th of October. In the fall of 1812 the chapel was raised, the building committee being David Tomlinson, Nathaniel Wooster and Wells Judson. These and Russell Nichols were most active in promoting the work, so that the house was ready for occupancy some time in 1814; but it was not consecrated until September 3d, 1817, Bishop Hobart officiating. A stove was first supplied in the ministry of the Reverend Ashbel Baldwin, 1828 to 1834, who presented it. A bell weighing 600 pounds was procured in 1836. In 1876 the repairing of the church was begun and carried through several years by the efforts of Reverend Sheldon Davis and generous friends. In 1878 a fine chancel window was put in as a memorial to David Tomlinson and his wife, Laura, who were so active in founding the church, and the building was made attractive throughout.

In 1826 Nathaniel Wooster and others succeeded in establishing the chapel as a separate parish, with the above name; and one-third of the St. Peter's church fund (at that time amounting to \$660) was set aside for the use of Christ's church. In 1846 this was augmented by a legacy of \$200 from the estate of Mrs. Ruth Tyrrell, and subsequently by a legacy of \$100 from the estate of Ira Hawkins. In August, 1879, a new permanent fund was begun for the support of the minister in charge, and Reverend Sheldon Davis and Stephen S. Mallett each gave \$1,000 to establish it. In 1880 the old fund above noted was raised to \$1,000 by Mrs. Benjamin Nichols, Mrs. S. S. Mallett and others; and later Mrs. Marietta Davis added \$500 to the fund, which now amounted to \$3,500, and by this the support of a minister was made more possible, especially since the parish is served in connection with St. Peter's.

The ministers of the church at Quaker's Farm have been as follows: 1814, Reverend Aaron Humphrey; 1826, William A. Curtiss; 1832, Ashbel Baldwin; 1837-42, James Sunderland, Charles Smith,

Daniel Burnham; 1843, Abel Nichols; 1845, George B. Eastman; 1847, David P. Sanford; 1850, Charles Jarvis Todd; 1854, D. W. C. Loop; 1855-6, I. N. Marvin, George S. Foote, C. T. Woodruff, George R. Davis; 1858, Sylvester Clark; 1863, A. R. Van Antwerp; 1866, John T. Pearce; 1867, H. C. Stowell; 1869, Clayton Eddy; 1871, H. Alanson Walton; 1876, George Buck.

Since the latter date the ministers have been mainly those of the St. Peter's church, the two parishes being served in common. In 1890 the parish of Christ church contained 26 families, furnishing 32 registered communicants. The wardens were C. C. Rider and George S. Skidman; and the vestrymen were S. S. Mallett, Charles Hawkins and Charles Davis. The present Sunday school was organized in 1876, and C. C. Rider has long been the superintendent.

At Quaker's Farm there was a Baptist meeting house as early as 1830, but the society using it did not keep up its organization more than a few years.

A more recent organization of a class of Methodists was effected at Zoar Bridge, and a meeting house was erected in that locality, which is still maintained. The membership is small, and the ministerial service is in connection with charges in Fairfield county.

The Oxford Circulating Library was projected December 5th, 1883, and established the following year by St. Peter's Guild. Not long after it passed under the management of W. W. Hughes, who voluntarily serves as the librarian, and who has succeeded in making the library an object of public support. One hundred and fifty persons have been interested as members. The library contains 700 volumes, and is kept at the residence of Mr. Hughes.

Soon after the organization of Oxford parish several schools were established, and the number increased with the expansion of the settlements. Select schools were taught for short periods in different parts of the town. Under the public school system 13 districts were organized, only 11 of which maintained schools in 1890. In proportion to the population the attendance is good, and the expense of maintenance approximates \$1,900 per year. A number of the natives of Oxford have been college graduates. Oscar and John Harger, of this town, became distinguished for their learning, the former becoming a professor at Yale.

In this connection a brief notice of Sheldon Clark appropriately follows. He was born in Oxford, January 31st, 1785, and died April 10th, 1840, from injuries received from falling from his hay mow. Being left an orphan in early life, his grandfather, Thomas Clark, adopted him, and with him he lived until his death, in 1811. Sheldon's earnest desire was to obtain a liberal education, but his grandfather looked upon that plan as a waste of money, and discouraged him. He, however, stored his mind as best he could by reading and studying at home, and in the fall and winter of 1811-12 attended the

lectures of Professor Silliman at Yale. He now became imbued with a purpose to advance the cause of liberal education, hoarding and most persistently striving to further that end. He never married, and in his life as a farmer he not only labored incessantly, but denied himself the common comforts in order to increase his means. In 1822 he set aside \$5,000 for a fund to create the Clark professorship in Yale College, and two years later gave \$1,000 for the purpose of establishing a scholarship. In 1829 he presented the college a fine telescope, costing over \$1,000, and by the terms of his will bequeathed that institution nearly all his property, amounting in all to many thousand dollars. He thus became one of the most generous patrons of the college in that period, and his example worthily stimulated others to acts of generosity. The farms in Oxford he willed to Yale are still the property of that corporation.

There are several places of burial at the center, one at Zoar Bridge, another at Quaker's Farm, a fifth at Southford, and many of the inhabitants in the northeastern part were interred in the Pines Bridge Cemetery. In consequence of this diffusion some of the burial places have not received the care which should be given them. In the Southford yard are the graves of William Burr, Jesse Smith and Captain Samuel Candee, all of them soldiers of the revolution. Respecting the latter the Department of the Interior at Washington furnished the following to John D. Candee, of Bridgeport, March 15th, 1882:

"Sir: In accordance with your request for information of the military services of your grandfather, Samuel Candee, in the Revolutionary war, the following statements are furnished from his declaration:

"He entered the service at Derby May 1st, 1775, in Lieut. Bradford Steel's company, in Colonel Wooster's Connecticut regiment; marched to Boston, and was immediately appointed sergeant, the warrant being signed by Col. Wooster, but is lost. He remained at the siege of that city during his 7 months term of enlistment, which ended January 1, 1776, but he was persuaded by his officers to remain 20 days longer. In July, 1776, he was a sergeant in a company of Woodbridge militia, then a part of New Haven, when the entire company was called out to go to New York city, and they left Woodbridge on the 23d of July. On their arrival they were ordered to Long Island, being attached to Col. Thompson's Connecticut regiment, where the company was engaged in several skirmishes with the enemy, followed by the retreat of the enemy to New York, and the evacuation of the city.

"While engaged in throwing up entrenchments, the British sailed up the East river, landed at Turtle Bay, and on Sunday, September 15, an engagement ensued, and the enemy retreated to New York. Col. Thompson's regiment was the last to retire from the occupation of the City, and he was killed in one of the battles that occurred soon after. Samuel Candee and his brother Job, who was in Capt. Beech-

er's Company, and Col. Thompson's Regiment, were both standing near him when he was killed, and but a minute previously had been conversing with him.

"He volunteered as sergeant under Capt. John Riggs, of Oxford, where he was at the time, for service, which continued 6 weeks, when the British invaded New Haven, July 5th, 1779, and burned Fairfield about the 9th of the same month, but before their arrival at the latter town, the place was destroyed, and the British were on their retreat to their vessels, but they were stationed as a guard at Fairfield, Stratford and New Haven during the remainder of the time they were held to service, on account of the apprehensive danger of another approach of the enemy.

"He was born in Derby, December 15th, 1753, and his decease is on the records of this office as January 3d, 1841. His residence is alleged by some of the witnesses as of Oxford, but when enlisting in 1775-6 he was living in Derby and Woodbridge, and in 1779 in Oxford, and was in the latter town in 1833, when the above statement was made. Since the war he has resided in Derby and Oxford. He was allowed a pension in 1833 of \$57.50 per annum, to commence, in accordance with the act, March 4th, 1831.

"Very respectfully,

"WM. W. DUDLEY, Commissioner."

Much interest was taken by the town in military matters, and the training days on the green were usually occasions for the general gathering of the people. The following were the captains of the 1st Company in Oxford: John Lum, Abel Gunn, Joseph Davis, 1754; Zachariah Hawkins, Joseph Osborn, John Wooster, Thomas Clark, Ebenezer Buckingham, 1775; Abijah Hyde, John Riggs, Ebenezer Riggs, David Pierson, Samuel Candee, Jehiel Hine, Job Candee, Asahel Hyde, Colonel John Davis, Andrew Buckingham, Lemuel Beardsley, Philo Beecher, Gideon Riggs, Hiram Candee, Letson Osborn, 1821; William Osborn, Sherman Buckingham, Lewis Davis, John Beecher, Ebenezer Riggs, William Hinman, Moody M. Brown, 1835.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

James H. Bartlett, born in Dutchess county, N. Y., October 7th, 1829, is a son of Joseph Bartlett. He came to Oxford in 1867. He has been three times married; first to Phebe C. Beach. They had three children. Two daughters are living, and one son, James, died in 1865. For his second wife Mr. Bartlett married a sister of the first, Kate C. Beach, who bore him two children, twins, and died in 1867. For his third wife he married Frances J. Flagg, of Oxford, in 1869. They have one daughter, Annie L., born in 1870. James H. Bartlett was educated in the common schools of New York, and engaged in farming. He afterward went to the city of New York as clerk in a wholesale grocery, remaining there eight years. He then went to

Illinois and was engaged in the same business six years. He was a commissary in the army during the war, and was engaged for a short time in business in Corinth, Miss., then went back to Illinois, and one year later removed to New York state. In 1867 he came to Oxford and engaged in manufacturing paper in Southbury about one year. He then bought the farm in Oxford near Quaker's Farm, where he now resides. He has been selectman of Oxford 15 or 16 years, and represented the town in the legislature in 1879 and 1882.

Glover W. Cable, born in Oxford in 1844, is a son of Rosewell and Hannah (Chatfield) Cable, and grandson of Abner Cable. Rosewell Cable was born in Monroe, Conn., and came to Oxford about 1818. He was a hatter by trade, and built a hat factory on the farm now owned by his son, Glover W. Rosewell married, in 1819, Hannah Chatfield, and had 11 children. Glover W. was the youngest. He is the only one of the name in Oxford. He was educated at the common schools and at the high school of Owego, N. Y. He learned the carpenter trade when young, and has followed it through life, though now engaged on his farm. He married Elizabeth Hatch, of Bridgeport, Conn., in 1873. She was the daughter of Chauncey M. and Minerva J. (Botsford) Hatch. They have eight children: Bessie M., born July 15th, 1875; Frederick A., April 3d, 1877; Henry R., January 17th, 1879; Julia G., September 17th, 1880; Nelson M., December 11th, 1882; Emma J., February 1st, 1885; Horace S., August 12th, 1886, and Lillian C., born September 17th, 1888. Mr. Cable was elected to the legislature in 1887 and 1888, and is a selectman and justice of the peace.

William H. Clark, born in New Hartford, Conn., in 1832, is a son of John Clark, a native of Oxford. William H. came to Oxford before the war of the rebellion. His grandfather was Abel Clark, also of Oxford. His mother was a Rogers, of New Hartford, Conn. William H. married Eliza Lum, of Oxford. They have an adopted daughter, Nellie Clark, who married Joseph Searles. Mr. Clark was elected to the legislature from Oxford in 1859.

Burritt Davis was born in 1806 in Oxford, on the farm where five generations of his family were born. His father, John (died aged 93) was a son of Joseph Davis. The family are of Welsh descent. Burritt's mother was a Thomas, of Bethany. Burritt is the only surviving member of a family of 14 children. He married Sarah E. Osborn in 1828. They have three children living: B. J., Sarah E. and B. H. B. H. Davis lives in Oxford. Burritt Davis has a great-grandchild in New York state. Mr. Davis was a selectman nine years, and assessor about the same length of time. He was a member of the legislature in 1858. His wife died January 4th, 1890. He has always been engaged in farming.

Samuel Hawkins, born in Oxford September 30th, 1840, is a son of Asa and Hannah Hawkins. They had six children that grew up, of whom Samuel is the youngest. John and Lewis are living in Oxford.

Samuel lives at Quaker's Farm, on Bowers Hill, on the old homestead. He was married in 1869 to Celestia W. Stoddard, of Oxford. They have two children: George A., born in 1875, and Clara J., born in 1882. Mr. Hawkins is a farmer. He has been school visitor of Oxford.

ROBERT BRUCE LIMBURNER, born in Oxford, March 20th, 1821, had a Scottish paternal ancestry. His father, John Limburner (originally Limeburner) was a son of James Limburner, of Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, the native place of the poet Burns,\* and was born in 1777. When he was 18 years old, in 1795, he came to America, living first in New York, but later settled at New Haven, where he followed his trade as a cooper, which occupation brought him to Oxford about 1797. He carried on that business in this town until 1829, when he removed to Derby, and from that place to Washington, Conn., in 1846, where he died in 1860. He was a very energetic mechanic and a man of many excellent parts. Some time about the beginning of the present century he married Fanny, a daughter of Henry Martin, of Woodbridge, who died in Oxford October 14th, 1830, aged 50 years. Their union was blessed with nine children, one dying in youth, the others attaining mature years, as follows: Janette, born July 5th, 1803, died July 18th, 1812; Mary, born May 8th, 1806, married John Wooster, of Oxford; Jane, born May 12th, 1808, living in this town; John, born March 20th, 1810, removed to Ohio, where he died; Lydia, born February 18th, 1812, married Miles Nichols, of Waterbury; James Wallace, born February 9th, 1814, living at South Norwalk, Conn.; Janette, born September 17th, 1816, married Henry Wooding, of Cheshire; Harriet, born October 29th, 1818, married Alonzo Rabe, of Waterbury, and Robert Bruce, born March 20th, 1821.

When the latter was nine years old his mother died, leaving him in the care of a married sister, Mrs. John Wooster, with whom he lived on the farm until he was 16 years of age, attending, meantime, the common schools of Oxford. He was next apprenticed to learn the trade of a blacksmith, at Washington, Litchfield county, and after serving four years followed that occupation three years as a journeyman. He now engaged as a machinist in the works of Herman Baldwin, of Washington, Conn., remaining seven years, and becoming very skillful in that avocation. The next four years he carried on a foundry and machine shop in his own name, but later, for a number of years, was the proprietor of a wood-turning establishment, which had a large output. In 1863 he removed from Washington to Southford, in this county, where he successfully engaged in a new line of manufacture, making straw paper boards of all kinds. In this venture he was very successful, but at the end of seven years sold his in-

\* Burns published his first collection of poems in 1786 to 1788. John Limburner was then a lad of 10 or 12 years. He became familiar with the scenes and circumstances described by the poet, and read his works with interest and pleasure. Burns was born January 25th, 1759.



*R B Lombard*





terests to White & Wells, of Waterbury, who built the new mill at that place. He now, in 1870, retired from mechanical pursuits, removing to his present home near Oxford Center, and since that year much of his time has been devoted to the public affairs of his native town.

Few citizens of Oxford have been called to serve in more capacities than R. B. Limburner, or have rendered more efficient service than he in the church, community or town, his principal purpose at all times being to promote the welfare of those who exalted him to these positions of honor and trust. He was elected first selectman of Oxford twelve times, between 1870 and 1891, and held many other town offices. In 1860 he was elected a representative from the town of Washington in the state legislature, and in 1872 represented Oxford in the same body, being the first republican thus elected for 21 years. He cast his first vote for president for Henry Clay, and has belonged to the republican party since its organization, but has never allowed himself to be swayed by motives of a partisan nature, since he has held the confidence of the public, regardless of party lines; and his official integrity has never been questioned. His public career, as well as his private life, has been free from taint of dishonor or questionable motives. He is one of the mainstays of the Oxford Congregational church, serving as a deacon since 1886, and has been the Sunday school superintendent.

Mr. Limburner was married in 1845 to Emeline Williams, of Washington, Conn., who died in 1852, leaving a daughter, Josephine E., born in 1846, and who died in 1876, as the wife of Samuel W. Buckingham, of Oxford. The only issue was a son, Robert L. For his second wife Mr. Limburner married, March 18th, 1874, Ellen M., daughter of Ebenezer and Betsy (Sperry) Buckingham, of Oxford. Her father was a lineal descendant of Thomas Buckingham, who was one of the New Haven planters in 1637, coming with the first colonists from England.

Charles H. Lum, born in Oxford in 1839, is a son of George Lum, who married Mary Sherman, of Newtown, Conn., and had three children: Charles H., Harpin A. and Albert J. George Lum was born in Derby in 1809, came to Oxford in 1825, and settled on Bowers hill. He was a member of the legislature from Oxford in 1865, and selectman two years. Charles was educated at the select school of Riverside and the New Britain High School. He married Jane L. Buckingham, of Oxford, in 1861, and they have three children: Mary E., William H. and Jennie J. Mr. Lum lived in New Britain two years, removed in 1866 to Middlebury, and remained there until 1884, when he came back to Oxford. He was selectman in Middlebury several years and assessor nine years. He has been engaged in teaching school a number of years, and now lives on the farm on Bowers hill. Harpin A. Lum married Mary Northrop. He left one daughter, Jessie M. He died in 1882.

Orlando C. Osborn, born in Oxford March 23d, 1847, is a son of Joel and grandson of Hiram Osborn. Joel was born February 1st, 1821, married Catharine S. Washband, of Oxford, and had one son and one daughter, Bessie, born April 4th, 1857, died October 21st, 1876. Joel died May 25th, 1871, and his widow died February 2d, 1876. The old Osborn homestead was built about 120 years ago by Samuel Wheeler, maternal great-grandfather of Orlando C. Orlando C. married Idella J., daughter of Nehemiah Andrew, of Oxford, March 24th, 1869. They have four children living: Katie M., Sadie E., Orlando N. and Arthur G. One son died in infancy, named Orlando J. Mr. Osborn graduated from the high school, and chose the occupation of farmer. He was elected justice of the peace in 1876, and represented the town in the legislature in 1883, 1889 and 1890. His father and grandfather were both members of the legislature from Oxford.

John B. Pope, born in Roxbury, Conn., in 1842, is a son of Nehemiah, born in Oxford, whose father, John, was a son of Thomas, who came from England and settled in Stratford. Nehemiah went to Michigan, remaining there four years, then returned to Roxbury; came to Oxford in 1843, and lived here the remainder of his life. He married Eliza A. Parker, of Washington, Conn. They had seven children. John B., the youngest son, married Jane M. Nichols, of Naugatuck, in 1865. They have five sons and six daughters. Mr. Pope has been first selectman of Oxford three years, second selectman one year, and was in the legislature in 1880 and 1881.

David C. Riggs, born in Waterbury, Conn., in 1832, is a son of Joel, who was a native of Oxford, and grandson of David, who came from Stratford and settled in Bethany, and afterward came to Oxford. David C. came to Oxford when 14 years old, and has remained here since, engaged in farming. He married Esther Twitchell, of Oxford, in 1855. They have no children. Mr. Riggs has one brother living in Oxford, Nathaniel H., born in 1852. David C. Riggs has been selectman and assessor several times, and a member of the board of relief of Oxford.

James Roberts, born in England in 1840, came to this country with his parents when four years old. They first settled in North Providence, R. I., and from there removed to Willimantic, Conn, where the father, William Roberts, died from a gun-shot wound received in the war of the rebellion. James was educated in North Providence and Willimantic, learned the machinist trade and worked at it three years, when he became an inventor. He has received several patents on his inventions in this country and Europe. He enlisted in the war of the rebellion in 1861, in the 5th Connecticut Volunteers, and served until he was disabled in 1863, resigning as first lieutenant. After leaving the army he engaged in the hotel business in Norwich, Conn., and Worcester, Mass. He married Ada F. Palmer, of New York, in January, 1878. They have four children, and one daughter by a former





S. V. Sanford

wife. Mr. Roberts came to Oxford in 1888, and is engaged in breeding and raising fine stock. He has an office at 146 Broadway, New York, with the Acme Liquid Fuel Company.

SAMUEL PIERPONT SANFORD, one of Oxford's most active and successful business men, was born in that town July 1st, 1827. He was a son of Marcus and Harriet (Perry) Sanford, being the oldest of their three children, there being a younger son, George P., also a citizen of Oxford, and a daughter, Augusta H., who married J. M. D. Hendrick, of New Haven. Both parents deceased many years ago, the father dying on his farm on Five Mile hill when he was about 48 years of age. He was a son of Doctor Samuel Sanford, a native of Bethany, who was the first physician at Humphreysville, where he died January 25th, 1803, aged 38 years. In December, 1797, he was given permission to build a smallpox hospital north of Castle Rock for the purpose of inoculating against that disease. Another son of Doctor Sanford, Marvin, was a cooper and joiner at Quakers' Farm, and a third son, Samuel P., after living in the South, died in New York.

Samuel Pierpont Sanford, the subject of this sketch, worked on his father's farm until he was 17 years of age, attending in that period for a short time the common schools of the town. He was now apprenticed to learn the carpenter and joiners' trade, which he followed five years after he had obtained his freedom. In the fall of 1852 he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, becoming a clerk in the store of Frederick A. Candee, of Oxford Center. After five years of diligent application and faithful service, he succeeded Mr. Candee in his business in December, 1857, and since that time has been almost continuously in trade for himself. During the rebellion the post office was kept at his store, which was burned down in 1870. The store building now occupied was erected in 1875. Here he has been engaged not only as a general merchant, but his transactions have extended to many other operations, including large contracts in railway lumber.

In all his affairs Mr. Sanford has been energetic and industrious, persevering when many other men would have been discouraged, and has been rewarded by a large measure of business success. Although so actively devoted to his own affairs, he has not lost his interest in the welfare of his native town. His influence in the furtherance of necessary public improvements is frequently felt, but he has always preferred the walks of private life, wherein he is known as one of the plainest, most unassuming citizens of the town, but one whose advice on business matters is often sought and safely followed. He is prudent in his own affairs, and his judgment is clear and positive.

Mr. Sanford was married April 10th, 1863, to Julia A., daughter of Beecher and Augusta (Sherman) Fairchild, of Oxford, and five children were born to them: Lewis B., born July 26th, 1864, died August 29th, 1865; Robert I., born September 18th, 1866; Sherman, born Sep-

tember 22d, 1868; Ruth, born August 31st, 1871; Edward F., born August 23d, 1876. All the members of the family remain in Oxford, the elder sons being engaged with their father in business, and are active, promising young men.

Elijah B. Treat, born in Oxford November 13th, 1850, is a son of Atwater and Elizabeth A. Treat, and grandson of Elijah, who was born in Milford, Conn., in 1774, married Esther Rhodes in 1794, and died in 1837. His wife died in 1850. They had seven children. Atwater was the fifth child, was born September 4th, 1810, married Elizabeth Terrell, of Bethany, in 1835, and died February 7th, 1888. He had eight children, three of whom are now living. Elijah B. is the only one living in Oxford. He married, April 23d, 1873, Sarah A., daughter of Charles L. and Delia Curtiss, of Monroe. They have four children: Jennie M., born April 20th, 1874; Florence L., November 6th, 1877; Mary H., October 1st, 1881, and Atwater C., February 15th, 1883. Mr. Treat is agent of town deposit fund, assessor, trial justice and member of the board of education. He is senior warden in St. Peter's church of Oxford.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE TOWN OF SEYMOUR.

Geographical and Descriptive.—The Indians.—The Settlers.—Civil Organization.—Public Thoroughfares.—Village of Seymour.—Hotels.—Merchants.—Post Office.—Banks.—Physicians and Attorneys.—The Press.—Libraries.—Lodges and Societies.—Manufacturing Interests. — Schools. — Churches. — Cemeteries. — Biographical Sketches.

THE town of Seymour lies south of Oxford and Beacon Falls, west of Bethany and Woodbridge, north of Ansonia and east of the Housatonic river and Oxford. The greater part of this area is in the valley of the Naugatuck, which extends through the center from north to south, and in the valleys along Bladen's brook, from the east, and the Little river from the northwest. In these localities are some level lands, but much of the remainder of the town is broken and hilly. The principal elevations are Rock Rimmon in the north, Indian hill and Castle Rock at the center, and Great hill in the southwest. The latter is a very extensive tract of elevated lands, whose beauty and utility, compared with the surrounding country, were early recognized, and soon after the settlement of the town some choice lots were cleared to form small but good farms. But agriculture has long since ceased to be a leading industry, the chief point of development being the water power of the Naugatuck, at Rimmon falls. At this point the hills bear close upon the river, and a ledge extends two-thirds across the stream in such a way as to form a perfect dam, nearly 20 feet in height. The remaining distance being covered with an artificial dam, this forms one of the best powers in the county. It was early known by the name of Naugatuck, or, in the original Indian, Amaug-suck,\* meaning the fishing place, where the waters pour down or suck up rapidly. It is believed that the latter is the original term applied by the Indians to this place, the English mistaking the word, as it was pronounced so rapidly in the Indian tongue.

When the second purchase of lands was made from this tribe, in April, 1678, "the fishing place at Naugatuck and the plains and the hill next the river at the fishing place" were reserved by the Indians, who held the title for that tract more than 100 years longer. The reservation embraced nearly all of what is now the village of Seymour lying east of the Naugatuck. The lands in the purchase ex-

\* Orcutt's History of Derby.

tended from the reservation as far east as into Woodbridge, and from Bladen's brook south several miles. The first purchase of Indian lands had been made two months earlier, in 1678, and comprised the tract lying between Bladen's and Lebanon brooks, and east and south-east of Rock Rimmon. The purchaser was Colonel Ebenezer Johnson, of Derby. The third sale of Indian lands in this locality was made in 1692, and David Wooster was the purchaser. The tract embraced lands on the west side of the river, opposite the foregoing, and may have extended from Rock Rimmon southward. North from this point lands were purchased, in 1700, by Ebenezer Johnson and Samuel Riggs, who made a division of their interests in 1708.

The Indian reservation was reduced by purchases at different times; by the town of Derby, in 1731, when all of the reservation was sold "except the plain that lieth near the Falls up to the foot of the hill." On the part of the Indians the deed was signed by John Cookson, John Howd and others. In the reduced reservation the falls and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land were sold, in 1763, to Ebenezer Keeney, John Wooster and Joseph Hull, Jr., Joseph Chuse and John Howd signing that deed. The children of the latter held some of the lands until 1812-13, when the town through a commission sold the remaining property to General David Humphreys.

Of the Indians who lived on the reservation the most authentic accounts pertain to Joe Mau-we-hu. He was a son of Gideon Mauwehu, a Pequot, who was a sachem of the Derby tribe of Indians, living on the state reservation, at Scatacook, in Kent. After he had taken his tribe or clan thither from the Naugatuck country, according to Barber, Gideon had a desire that his son, Joe, should be brought up among the whites, and accordingly placed him in the family of Agur Tomlinson, of Derby, where he remained during his minority. On attaining manhood he preferred to remain in Derby, and his father gave him a tract of land on the plain at the falls, which was called the Indian Field. Here he established himself as a sort of a sachem of the few Indians remaining in this locality, building his cabin on the south border of the flat, tilling a little ground, but subsisting mainly on hunting and fishing. He had the respect and confidence of the whites, and for a few years lived among them on Indian hill. He was known mostly by the name of *Chuse*, or *Chuce*, it is said from his manner of speaking the word choose. The locality now took the name of Chusetown, being so called until it took the name of Humphreysville, in 1803. Other Indians were also here for short periods, and on the hill, east of the plain, they had a burial ground, each grave being designated by a heap of stones.

It was customary for these Indians to go down to the coast, at Milford Beach, once a year, "to salt," as they termed it. They usually remained several weeks, gathering oysters and clams, often drying some of the latter, which they strung up like dried apples for use in the



winter. Clams so cured were among them an article of traffic, which they would barter with the Indians of the interior for venison, when they would make their annual visits to this locality.

Chuse was a large man, a good hunter, and appears to have been well liked. He had, however, too great a fondness for strong drink, and De Forest relates an anecdote which shows his disposition in that respect: "Gushing from the hillside, near the plain, at the Falls, was a spring of very superior water. To this he used to come when thirsty, and having drank of it, would sit on the bank near by and praise the water, and say that if there was another spring, just such a spring, of rum flowing by the side of it, he would ask for nothing more, but would be perfectly happy." After living in this locality more than 40 years, Chuse, or Joseph Mauwehu, and most of the others of his feeble clan removed to Scatacook some time about 1780. He died there, about 80 years of age. In his family of eight children two were sons and six daughters, one of whom lived until 1859, when she died, 104 years old. In her death passed away one of the last of the full-blooded Derby Indians, as well as one who by birth was an Indian princess. For many years this Eunice Mauwehu, more commonly called Old Eunice, was a familiar object at the falls, and her accounts of olden times were very interesting.

Usually the relations between the whites and the Indians were of the most friendly nature, nothing happening to disturb the serenity of their lives. There was one occasion, however, which might have been made a pretext for hostile attitude on the part of the Indians.\* Soon after the first settlement at the falls a white man by the name of Noah Durand killed an Indian named John Sunk by mistake. They were hunting deer, in the dusk of the evening, below the falls, Durand being on the west side and Sunk on the east side of the stream. Durand, seeing something moving among the bushes on the east side, and thinking it was a deer, fired, when the Indian, mortally wounded, cried out: "You have killed me." Durand waded through the river to the Indian's assistance, who begged for a drink of water. This Durand brought to him in a shoe, when Sunk, after drinking, immediately died. The whites and the Indians arbitrated the matter to the satisfaction of the latter, who were convinced that the killing was unintentional. But at the trial one of the Indians present remarked "that he never knew of deer wearing red stockings before," alluding to the common Indian dress. The Indians, however, remained friendly toward Mr. Durand, and made his house their stopping place as long as they came to this part of the country.

Besides the name of Naugatuck, other Indian names are perpetuated in the names of places or localities in the town. Squantuck is still frequently applied to the southwestern section, on the Housatonic; Hessekee to the meadow in the Great Hill section, and to the brook

\* See Barber's Historical Collections.

between Ansonia and Seymour; Skokorat to the ridge a mile east of the Naugatuck and north of Bladen's brook; and Nyumph to the region still further inward from the Naugatuck. Rimmon, as first applied to the hill or rock, and later to the falls, doubtless was derived from a Biblical source. Shrub Oak, the name long given to that part of the town now covered by the village of Seymour, on the west side of the Naugatuck, had its origin in the trees which grew in that locality; Castle Rock, south of the village, from a fancied resemblance to a castle, etc.

According to Sharpe, in his excellent account of Seymour, the Johnson brothers, Benajah and Timothy, were the first settlers in this locality. The latter located in what is now Beacon Falls, near the Pines Bridge. The former in 1728 married the widow of Joseph Hawkins, Jr., who lived at where is now Birmingham, and soon after settled northeast of the present village of Seymour. In 1750 they built a new house, which remained in that locality more than a hundred years. Benajah Johnson died April 13th, 1763, aged 59 years, and as there was not at that time a place of burial in this locality, his remains were carried to Derby on a horse litter for interment in the old cemetery at that place. His widow survived him about ten years, deing at the residence of her daughter, Zeviah, who was married to Abiel Fairchild, of Beacon Falls. On the opposite side of Rock Rimmon the Riggs and Woosters were early landowners. In 1779 the following appear to have resided on the west of the river, between Great hill and the upper part of the Rimmon region: Bradford Steele, John Bottsford, Ashbel Steele, Edward Harger, Hezekiah Woodin, Josiah Washburn, Reuben Perkins, Abraham Wooster, Ranford Whitney, Daniel Davis, Lewis Riggs, Benjamin Davis, John Wooster, Ebenezer Keeney, James Pritchard, Jr., William Keeney, Samuel Wooster, Theodore Miles, William Gordon, Jonathan Miles.

The exact residences of all of these cannot now be given, but a number were within the present bounds of Seymour, while others were in the southeastern part of Oxford. Among others who early lived on the Great hill were Jonas, David and Henry Tomlinson, Micah Poole, William Smith, Joseph Tomlinson, Isaac Bassett, Isaac Bottsford, Elliott Bassett and Bennett Lumm. The names of many other residents of this part of Old Derby appear in the accounts of the various church organizations, and will not be here repeated.

Seymour was incorporated as a town by the May, 1850, session of the general assembly, upon the petition of Lemam Chatfield and others, to embrace all that part of the town of Derby lying north of the following line: "Commencing at the Housatonic River, thence running easterly in a straight line, touching the most northerly point of Martin B. Bassett's stone building, on the east bank of the said river, thence running easterly in the same straight line to the north side of the dwelling house now occupied by said Martin B. Bassett, thence in a

straight line easterly to the stone bridge in the highway about twenty-five rods westerly of the house occupied by Pearl Carpenter, thence from said bridge following down the brook that runs under said bridge, till it empties into the Naugatuck River; thence from the mouth of said brook easterly, in a straight line to the intersection of the line dividing the town of Woodbridge from the town of Derby, with the center line of the Rimmon Falls Turnpike road; with all the inhabitants residing therein, be, and the same hereby are, incorporated into a distinct town by the name of Seymour."

The division of the town of Derby at this time was caused and made possible by local contention, in which the northern part, which was democratic, was sharply arrayed against the southern part, which was whig. The Reverend Sylvester Smith, a democrat, was in the assembly, having been elected from Humphreysville, and he had the active coöperation of Judge H. B. Munson of the same village, in urging the measure upon that body. So earnestly was it advocated, that, much to the surprise of those opposed, it was carried by a small majority. As originally introduced the bill provided the name of Richmond for the new town, but for diplomatic reasons that title was stricken out and Seymour inserted, in compliment to the Hon. Thomas H. Seymour, at that time the governor of the state. Judge Munson reasoned that if the bill would come to the executive with his name he would not veto it, no matter what pressure would be brought to bear on him to do so, and it was found that he was correct in his conclusions. Seymour it became and so remained, in spite of the effort, in 1856,\* to change the name to Humphreys, which would naturally occur as the most suggestive or historically appropriate title for a town in a section with which General Humphreys was so closely identified, as he was with what is now Seymour. In 1854 a small part of the town of Oxford was annexed to Seymour.

Under the act of 1850 the first town election was held, in the basement of the M. E. church, June 24th, 1850. Leman Chatfield moderated, and among the officers elected were: Selectmen, Leman Chatfield, Daniel L. Holbrook, Thomas Cochran; town clerk, Charles B. Wooster; town treasurer, Sylvester Smith; grand jurors, Burton W. Smith, Thomas Stoddard, George L. Hodge, Abel Holbrook, Charles L. Hyde, Walter B. Clark; tything men, Church society, Burton W. Smith, Sheldon Hurd, Isaac Lindley; Methodist society, John L. Hartson, Jarvis Polly; Congregational society, Meda K. Tucker, William H. Tuthill; Baptist society, Sharon Y. Beach, George L. Hodge; Great Hill Methodist society, William C. Smith, Roswell Humaston.

The last set of tything men for the Baptist society was elected in 1859. On the 31st of March, 1851, Bennett Wooster was elected the first representative of the town of Seymour to the general assembly.

\* The town voted 117 to 81 against change of name.

The town clerks of Seymour have been: 1850-62, Charles B. Wooster; 1863-5, Burton W. Smith; 1866, Edward F. Bassett; 1867, William F. Betts; 1868-89, Samuel H. Canfield. Town treasurers: 1850, Sylvester Smith; 1851-5, Burton W. Smith; 1856, Hiram W. Randall; 1857-8, Burton W. Smith; 1859-60, Henry S. Johnson; 1861-3, David Betts, Jr.; 1864-5, Cornelius W. James; 1866, Nathan R. Wooster; 1867-8, Henry Davis; 1869-89, Samuel H. Canfield.

The town has made generous appropriations for the maintenance of the various interests connected with its government, the entire amount in 1889 being about \$23,000. Of this sum a liberal proportion was for the location and betterment of the highways.

The first roads through what is now Seymour were from Derby northward to Waterbury, there being three principal ways: over the hills, on the east side of the Naugatuck; along the river, crossing it whenever the nature of the country demanded, and the third was over Great hill. The latter was laid out previous to 1745, but none of the roads were improved in the sense we now use that term. They were long used by people traveling on foot or horseback only. The road to Woodbury from Derby, along the Housatonic, was laid out soon after 1782, a lottery being authorized to aid in its improvement. In the year named Ashbel Loveland was appointed to build a bridge over the Naugatuck, below the falls, at Seymour. The turnpike crossed this bridge after 1798, and in 1802 the town of Derby and the turnpike company arranged to build a new bridge at this point. In the same year the committee for the "proprietors of the Turnpike Road from Thompson's Bridge, in New Haven, to the Falls Bridge, in Chustown," bought land of Lydia Keeney to extend the pike in a straight line from Edwin Page's blacksmith shop to the bridge. This road was also called the "Rimmon Falls Turnpike." It was a great convenience to the people of this section, but its construction was at first much opposed by the town of Derby. On the west side of the bridge the road made connection with the Oxford & Woodbury Turnpike. The road from Shrub Oak to Derby Narrows was laid out in 1805. The road from Blueville to Seymour, along Bladen's Brook, was cut through in 1844.

In January, 1852, a special town meeting was held to vote on building a new bridge over the Naugatuck at Moshier's tavern. Isaac B. Davis, Philo Holbrook and Raymond French were appointed a building committee. In 1883 an iron bridge, 124 feet long, with 16 feet approaches, was erected at a cost of about \$6,000. James Swan, Carlos French and Edwin Smith recommended that the contract be given to the Berlin Bridge Company. The bridge across the Naugatuck, above the falls and leading off from Bank street, is a long wooden structure.

The Humphreysville & Salem Turnpike Company was organized in 1825 to build a turnpike between those points on the east side of

the river. In 1856 the charter was annulled, and the road has since been a good public highway.

Plank roads took the place of the east and west turnpikes in 1852, in which year the New Haven & Seymour Plank Road Company and the Woodbury & Seymour Plank Road Company were incorporated. The former extended from Seymour, through Bethany and Woodbridge, to the Westville bridge. The latter was built through the towns of Oxford and Southbury, and was kept up with a charge for toll until about ten years ago.

In 1845 the Naugatuck Railroad Company was incorporated. The time for building it was extended in 1848, and the capital increased from \$600,000 ultimately to \$2,000,000. The first locomotive ran into Seymour May 10th, 1849, and passenger cars four days later. December 14th, 1849, a locomotive ran over William B. Watson's stage, breaking it up and killing his horse. The railroad gave a great impetus to all kinds of enterprises, and many business schemes were brought out from this time on, until the stringent period of 1857.

George W. Beach, the present superintendent of the road, and serving in that capacity since 1868, was the agent at Seymour from 1855 to 1857. Later agents were Philo B. Buckingham, A. Y. Beach, H. M. Rogers, Joseph Ineson and, since June, 1879, Theodore B. Beach. In that period the volume of business has increased 60 per cent. The original building at the depot has been improved, but new buildings will soon be erected for a station.

The town fire department was authorized by a vote of the town, passed December 23d, 1882, and rules for its government prepared by F. H. Beecher, H. B. Wooster and George A. James, were filed January 15th, 1883. Moneys were appropriated in 1884-5 to buy hose, build a reservoir and bell tower, and to procure hooks and ladders. Headquarters were established on Factory street, on which an engine house and bell tower were erected. In 1890 James Swan was the chief engineer and Cornelius James assistant. The Citizens' Engine & Hook & Ladder Company, No. 2, was organized in August, 1884, and incorporated in March, 1886. F. H. Beecher has been the foreman from the time of organization. The company embraces among its members most of the leading young men of the village. The department is maintained at a yearly outlay of about \$700.

The thriving village of Seymour is the business center of the town and contains by far the greater proportion of its population. It is very pleasantly located on the Naugatuck river at Rimmon falls, and extends on both sides of the stream along the vales of Bladen's brook and the Little river. The surrounding hills are attractive and the environments are among the most pleasing in the county. It is also an important station on the Naugatuck railroad. From the time this locality was known by the whites until 1804, it was variously designated as Rimmon Falls, Chusetown or Falls of Naugatuck; then it

bore the name of Humphreysville; but since 1850 the present title has been applied.

It is the seat of important manufacturing interests, has a magnificent Union school building, four church edifices, many fine business blocks, and a large proportion of substantial homes, giving evidence of the thrift and refinement of their occupants, the entire population being about 3,000. There are, also, an excellent local newspaper--the *Seymour Record*, published by W. C. Sharpe, whose writings on local history deserve a wide circulation; many well-stocked stores, Lodges of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and other reputable orders, and other interests briefly sketched in the following pages.

One of the first public houses in this locality was kept during the revolution by Turel Whittemore. It was on the bluff, east of the Naugatuck, about a quarter of a mile below the falls at Seymour. At that time Lemuel Wooding was his barkeeper. This place became widely known on account of its having been selected as the rendezvous where the tory band gathered on the way to rob the house of Captain Ebenezer Dayton, in Bethany, March 14th, 1780. The building was enlarged, and as a residence it has stood more than a hundred years. After the revolution Captain Dayton was himself an innkeeper at Chusetown, his house being below the falls. It was kept until after 1800, when Dayton, being of a restless disposition, moved to Louisiana. Ezekiel Gilbert had a small store near Squantuck before 1830, when he removed to Humphreysville and kept the tavern on Broad street, near the bridge, where John Moshier had previously been, and where, after two years, he again kept the inn, continuing until his death. In 1846 the innkeepers were David B. Clark and John S. Moshier. In 1849 the latter and John J. Rider were taverners. The Broad street place is still used as a hotel, and in other parts of the village public houses have been opened and kept in agreement with the growth of the town.

In the early history of Humphreysville, a store was kept in the valley and another on the hill, near the present Episcopal church. None of the early merchants remained very long in the trade. In 1835-40 a number of persons were in trade, among them being Ezekiel Gilbert, Uri Wakeman and Thomas Stoddard, Andrew De Forest, Harrison Tomlinson and Robert J. Abbott, the latter being a druggist. Albert J. Steele had a furniture business soon after, which in 1848 became the property of E. F. Bassett, who was, perhaps, longer in trade than any other citizen of the place. In 1852 a coöperative store was here established, with the name of the Union Mercantile Company. The capital was \$4,000, in shares of \$25, and the largest stockholder owned eight shares. In all there were 64 stockholders. B. W. Smith and John J. Rider were among the early presidents. The store was west of the falls bridge, on the north side of Broad street. Humphrey & Wooster, Tuttle & Bassett and Downs & Sanford were also mer-

chandising about the same time. James Davis was another druggist. David Betts was a later druggist, and was succeeded in 1867 by S. H. Canfield. A year later his store was moved to the James Block, opposite the railway station, and in 1887 to the new Canfield Block, close at hand, also on Main street. Other principal blocks and business buildings in 1890 were those bearing the names of Bassett and Beach, on Bank street; Buckingham, on Broad street; Davis, Dunham, French, Hyde and Market, on Main street. The Bassett Block was damaged and the old Beach Block destroyed by fire December 23d, 1889, involving a loss of \$20,000. Upon its site a splendid new block of brick, trimmed with stone, was erected by Sharon Y. Beach, which was in 1890 the finest business building in the town. It was fitted up for stores, offices and a large assembly room, known as Beach's Hall. Other public halls are the Concordia and Molan's, also on Bank street; Davis Hall, on Main; and the Tingue Opera House, in connection with the Windsor Hotel, on Second street.

Among the principal merchants of later periods have been Henry Bradley, S. W. Buckingham, V. Buckingham, Henry A. Dunham, George S. Edwards, S. R. Dean, C. W. Storrs, M. M. Randall, J. N. Popp, C. H. Lounsbury, O. D. Sykes, W. L. Ward and Henry M. Taylor. In other lines of business Sharon Y. and A. Y. Beach, Thomas Sharpe and Henry A. Rider have long been identified with the interests of Seymour, and have helped to develop it from a small village into a bustling manufacturing town.

Among the postmasters of the Humphreysville (Seymour after 1850) post office have been John C. Wheeler, John Smith, B. W. Smith, John W. Storrs and David Betts. The latter was succeeded in 1861 by Samuel H. Canfield, who was the postmaster for 25 years. Since April, 1887, David Tucker has been the postmaster. The Seymour office is in a spacious room, fitted up with modern furniture, containing 735 boxes. There are five mails per day, and since 1871 this has been a postal money order office.

The town had no bank in 1890. The first monetary institution was the Bank of North America, which was incorporated in 1851, with a capital of \$100,000. In 1854 double that amount of capital was authorized. George F. DeForest was one of the first presidents. The bank was first at the corner of Maple and Main streets, but a new banking house was especially erected for its use at the corner of Main and Bank streets. This later became the residence of Sharon Y. Beach. In June, 1859, an addition of \$100,000 to the capital stock was authorized. The following year the bank was moved to Ansonia, by permission of the general assembly, and in 1861 the name was changed to Ansonia Bank.

In 1852 the Young Men's Savings Bank and Building Association was incorporated, and business was done in connection with the above bank. Sylvester Smith was the president of the association, which

continued only a few years. The Seymour Savings Bank was authorized later, but never organized, and the charter was annulled in 1882.

Doctor Samuel Sanford, of Bethany, located in the town in 1793, as the first permanent physician. He lived at Chusetown, and in 1797 received liberty from the town of Derby to "inoculate at some suitable place." He established a small-pox hospital on the hill, a little north of Castle Rock, which place was convenient to his residence, at the corner of West and Church streets. He died January 25th, 1803, at the age of 38 years.

The next resident practitioner was Abiram Stoddard. He was born in Watertown, in 1777, graduated from Yale in 1800, and located at Humphreysville in 1804. He had a large and lucrative practice. His manner was somewhat rough, and he was essentially eccentric, but he was skillful and had the confidence of his patients. He died December 23d, 1855, aged 79 years. His son, Thomas, who was a graduate from the Yale Medical School, first began practice here in 1836, but was not active in the profession all the time he lived at Seymour.

In 1823 Doctor Titus C. Pratt located at Humphreysville, but after five years' practice he removed to the northern part of New York.

Doctor Sheldon C. Johnson settled at Humphreysville in 1825. He was a son-in-law of Doctor Abiram Stoddard, and also received his degree of M. D. from Yale. He practiced in Seymour the greater part of his life time, and died November 13th, 1887, nearly 90 years of age.

Doctor Joshua Kendall was his contemporary. He was born in Tioga county, Pa., in 1806, and was a son of Noadiah and Rhoda (Ballard) Kendall, and grandson of Noadiah. Doctor Kendall at an early age removed with his family to Granby, Conn. He was educated at Castleton, Vt., graduating in 1828 from the Castleton Medical College. In 1833 he settled in Seymour, and was engaged in the practice of his profession until his death, January 17th, 1891. He was a member of the Congregational church and Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M. He married, in 1836, Mrs. Thirza Humphrey. They had two children: Mary, deceased, and Rhoda, who married Allen Clark.

About 1849 J. D. A. Yale lived at Seymour as a botanic physician. Doctor Norman R. Bailey removed from Seymour prior to 1876, going to Ansonia, and thence later to New York.

His successor at Seymour was Raudall E. Warner, born in Thomaston, Conn., December 25th, 1855, a son of Randall A. and Elizabeth (Russell) Warner. His grandfather was also named Randall. Doctor Warner was educated at Thomaston Academy, and studied medicine with Doctor R. S. Goodwin, of Thomaston. He graduated from the Yale Medical School in 1876, and locating in Seymour the same year, began the practice of his profession. He married Delia C. Stout in 1883. They have one son, Charles R., and one daughter, Helen T.



Doctor Warner is a member of the Housatonic Medical Society, and a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., I. O. of Red Men and A. O. U. W.

After being in practice at Seymour a short time Doctor Robert Hungerford diéd September 22d, 1888, while on a visit to Canada. Doctor A. R. Vail, a homeopath, died here in 1872.

Doctor Frederick W. Pulford, born in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, August 21st, 1826, came to America in 1842, and settled in Ridgeville, Ohio. He was educated at the Hahnemann Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, receiving his diploma in 1862. He practiced for a short time in Ohio, then located in Massachusetts, where he practiced for several years, coming to Seymour in 1876. He has acquired an extensive practice. He was married in 1847 to Sarah Leonard. Their children are: Rufus A., born May 25th, 1852; Mary E., born September 29th, 1855, died in January, 1887; Frederick W., born 1857, died in 1867; Charles H., born December 18th, 1859; William E., born June 21st, 1862, and Arabella E., born May 13th, 1866. Rufus A. married Sarah J. Holmes; Mary E. married Frederick Pierson; Arabella married for her first husband Frank Leavenworth, and for her second, Andrew J. Miles; William E. married Harriet Beers. Charles H. Pulford was educated at the Hahnemann Colleges of New York and Chicago, graduating from the latter in 1888. He married Harriet E. Humphrey in 1890. He is associated in practice with his father, and is a member of the State Homeopathic Society.

Horace M. Shepard was one of the first attorneys at Humphreysville, living there from 1830 until 1832. In the spring of the latter year Alfred Blackman became a resident of the village, following his profession at this place ten years, when he removed to Waterbury, and later to New Haven, where he was a leader at the bar until his retirement in 1872.

Judge Harris B. Munson was for the longest time an attorney in Seymour. He was born in Middlebury in 1821, and in his early life was bound out to learn the carpenter's trade. Leaving that, he studied law, and was admitted to practice in 1846, and located at Seymour soon after. From 1852 to 1854 he was a judge of the county court, filling that position very creditably. He also held legislative offices. He died at Seymour February 2d, 1885.

Judge Luzon B. Morris was at Seymour before his removal to New Haven, many years ago, and Judge William H. Williams, prior to his settlement in Birmingham, in more recent years.

Clifford J. Atwater came to Seymour as an attorney in November, 1885, having just been admitted to the bar, and Carlos H. Storrs, who is a contemporary attorney, also has an office at Ansonia.

The first paper devoted to the interests of Seymour was an edition of the *Valley Messenger*, printed at Birmingham some time about 1855.

J. W. Storrs was the editor. The paper was not well sustained, and the publication was soon discontinued.

In 1869 a printing office was opened in the village by W. C. Sharpe, and two years later he commenced the publication of a small weekly paper, *The Seymour Record*, which he has since carried on as editor and proprietor. As the town grew the paper was enlarged, and has fully kept pace with its development. In 1890 it was an eight-page sheet, 31 by 44, and was wholly printed in the *Record* office. It is largely devoted to local matters and has frequently published illustrated sketches of the various improvements and enterprises of the village. From its well equipped office have also been issued a number of local historical publications, which were prepared by its editor, W. C. Sharpe. He was born in Southbury in 1839, and is a descendant of Thomas Sharpe, one of the 38 proprietors of Newtown in 1708, and is a grandson of Thomas Sharpe, 3d, a revolutionary soldier, who died in Oxford in 1805. Since 1842 he has resided at Seymour, except when at school or engaged as a teacher. His last experience in that profession was as the principal of the Derby graded school in 1868. He is very active in all matters of public well-being, and has made the *Record* a worthy exponent of the best interests of a great portion of the Naugatuck valley.

In 1885 the *Seymour Times*, another local weekly paper, was begun by J. H. Whiting, but failed to attain a sound financial basis or a patronage which would permit its continuance. It was suspended in 1888, and the material removed.

The culture of the mind was not neglected by the early settlers of this part of the county. Some of the church societies \* maintained libraries. After the mills of General Humphreys were established he gave much encouragement to social and literary culture, and the entertainments gotten up by his workmen on holiday occasions were always looked forward to with a keen interest. Later a lyceum was established, which had among its members the leading young men of those periods. In 1848 the name of the society was changed to the Humphreysville Literary Association, of which Luzon P. Morris was the president, and among the leading members were: Joshua Kendall, John W. Storrs, John L. Daniels, Clement A. Sargent, George W. Divine and Henry Russell. The meetings were usually held in the basement of the Congregational church.

The Humphreysville Library Company was incorporated in 1854, the incorporators being P. B. Buckingham, B. W. Smith, G. H. Merrick, Raymond French, Sylvester Smith, Samuel Bassett, Henry S. Mygatt, Ransom Tomlinson, Ashbel Storrs, L. B. Morris and Andrew Bassett. The company was authorized to hold real estate to the amount of \$1,000 and books to the value of \$5,000. Owing to the

\* May 9th, 1817, a librarian was appointed for the library of the "Village Church" of the Congregational Society.

many changes in the place in that period the company did not succeed in accomplishing its purpose.

The Seymour Public Library was founded in the summer of 1885. A library of 36 volumes was opened to the public under mild restrictions, and placed in the Grand Army Hall, in the care of the Good Templars of Seymour. Soon after 57 more volumes were donated by Senator O. H. Platt. In 1890 the library contained 300 volumes, which were in charge of W. C. Sharpe, as the librarian, and it was well patronized.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 47, F. & A. M., clearly antedates in point of time all other Lodges established at Seymour. It was instituted in the town of Oxford, under a charter bearing date October 18th, 1804. The petitioners were 20 in number, embracing leading citizens. Abel Wheeler was chosen the master; Levi Candee, the senior warden; and William Morris, the junior warden. The Lodge flourished, and a good hall for its use was built at Oxford Center. In this a Chapter of Masons also held its meetings until it was transferred to Waterbury. In the course of 30 years the Lodge had a large membership, but in the anti-Masonic times the principles of the order were here bitterly assailed, and misrepresented. Accordingly, in 1832 the Lodge published a very able declaration of principles of the order, which was circulated in this part of the county. It was signed by 66 persons, whose names alone should have been a guarantee that the order was not inimical to the well-being of the public, and that the rectitude of their intentions should not be questioned. After this the meetings were continued about a dozen years longer, when there was such a low period of interest produced by removal of some of the leading members, and other causes, so that in 1848 they were suspended at Oxford.

On the 14th of May, 1851, the Lodge was revived and the place of meeting fixed at Seymour, where it has since had a large degree of prosperity. From the time of its reinstatement, at Seymour, June 18th, 1851, until the fall of 1890, there were over 300 admissions. The present membership is large and active. The meetings at Seymour were held in the hall over the Union Store, but a later home was secured in the Davis Block. This has recently been refitted and made very comfortable. The trustees of the property in 1890 were: S. H. Canfield, Henry Bradley and John Davis.

In connection with the foregoing was established Olive Chapter, No. 26, Order of the Eastern Star, which is also in a prosperous condition.

Mechanics' Lodge, No. 73, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Seymour May 27th, 1851, with the following as the charter members: Horace A. Radford, H. B. Beecher, John Scott, Julius Bassett, W. W. White, Martin Kelley, John Hilton, Charles Newton, John Davis, David J. Putnam, H. P. Davis, John L. Hartson, J. A. Stevens and W. J. Mer-

rick. From the first the Lodge has prospered, and has had a large membership. In 1890 the number belonging was 174, and there was a fund amounting to \$5,900. The meetings are held in a fine hall.

Wildley Encampment, No. 73, I. O. O. F., was instituted November 16th, 1882, and its charter members were: F. G. Bassett, H. S. Halligan, F. H. Wyant, Charles Edwards, J. E. Buckley, H. A. Hurd, F. G. Fisher, C. H. Cooper, J. W. Smith, C. H. Guild, Peter Ward, F. H. Beecher, G. E. Lester, S. B. Gregory, Robert Healy, David Tucker. In June, 1890, there were 73 members, and the Encampment was in every way prosperous. F. G. Barrett and H. S. Halligan were the chief patriarchs the first year, and T. D. Adams presided in 1890.

Humphrey Lodge, No. 26, K. of P.,\* was instituted February 8th, 1871. It includes among its members some of the most respected citizens of the town. Of the charter members those still belonging are M. R. Castle, F. H. Beecher, V. H. McEwen, William H. Williams and W. C. Sharpe. The Lodge has a fund of about \$1,600, deposited in savings banks, which can be used for relieving members in case of sickness; but up to this time the receipts from regular dues have been ample to pay all expenses, and the fund has steadily increased. The past chancellors of the Lodge, all of whom are entitled to seats in the Grand Lodge of the state, are: F. H. Beecher, M. R. Castle, H. S. Chamberlain, J. H. Benham, T. W. Chadwick, W. S. Cooper, R. J. W. Emery, T. D. Griffith, D. J. Hill, V. H. McEwen, Fred. O'Meara, George E. O'Meara, Anthony Otto, F. C. Peck, W. C. Sharpe, William Smith, Thomas Thomas and William H. Williams. The last named has also been the grand chancellor of the State Lodge.

Upson Post, No. 40, G. A. R., was organized in 1873, with William S. Cooper as commander, and Joseph Ineson adjutant, but sharing the fate of many other Posts in this state soon suspended its meetings. A re-organization took place February 16th, 1876, and better fortune has since attended it. In 1890 34 members belonged. The later commanders have been: 1876, Horatio S. Chamberlain; 1877, James E. Buckley; 1878, Henry R. Chamberlain; 1879-81, Wilbur W. Smith; 1882-3, William S. Cooper; 1884-5, H. S. Chamberlain; 1886, Robert Hurley; 1887, J. W. De Forest; 1888, J. H. Riggs. In 1890 the adjutant was R. J. Spencer.

An organization of Sons of Veterans—G. L. Wyant Camp—has lately been formed, and has a growing membership.

A number of purely social or beneficial societies have been organized in the town. One of the oldest is the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, formed in 1872.

Castle Rock Lodge, No. 6, A. O. U. W., was instituted in August, 1881, with ten charter members. It has since that time prospered to a great degree, having in 1890 84 members. The Lodge has suffered the deaths of four members: W. A. Kane, E. J. Davis, Fred. Colvin

\* Data by W. C. Sharpe.

and W. H. Chamberlain. In each case the heirs of the deceased received \$2,000. In 1890 the trustees of the Lodge were: T. B. Beach, C. H. Lounsbury and M. B. Ferrell. A local auxiliary was organized in March, 1887, whose object it is to provide a fund for use where immediate relief is demanded.

Monawauk Tribe, No. 9, I. O. R. M., was instituted May 13th, 1887, and had 80 charter members. To this number a large addition has been made, and the Tribe prospers. The first sachem was T. S. Ladd. Others have been A. E. Clark, A. C. Peck, William R. Brixey and E. C. Brown. In 1890 the trustees were S. R. Dean, Charles Fairchild and A. E. Clark.

Valley Lodge, No. 100, N. E. O. P., was organized June 20th, 1889, with T. B. Beach, past warden; R. J. Spencer, warden; William E. Colt, recording secretary; W. C. Sharpe, financial secretary, and L. E. Cooper, treasurer. In June, 1890, there were 44 members, and the Lodge was reported prosperous. There has been one death, Henry Chamberlain, in the spring of 1890, and a benefit of \$3,000 followed.

The Provident Aid Society of Portland, Maine, established a branch at Seymour in 1888, with T. B. Beach as secretary, and S. D. Beach as treasurer. This also prospers. One member has died, Doctor Robert Hungerford, in the fall of 1888.

Lyman Grange, of Patrons of Husbandry, meets in the village of Seymour, and is a useful society in its appointed field.

In 1847 the subject of intemperance was very much agitated, and the Humphreysville Total Abstinence Society was formed. At this time Rock Spring Division, No. 12, Sons of Temperance, was in a prosperous condition. A hall for the use of the Division was built at the west end of the Falls bridge, which was dedicated October 16th, 1847. George W. Bungay was the principal speaker and a suitable poem was read by John W. Storrs. Both were ardent advocates of temperance, the one as an orator, the other as a writer of force and a composer of beautiful poetry. A later representative at Seymour in the latter line of thought and work is Sharon Y. Beach, whose fugitive poems on the drink habit have been widely read. In 1849 a society of Daughters of Temperance was instituted; and a number of temperance organizations since that time have aided in promoting the morals of this community.

Seymour owes its thrift and prosperity almost exclusively to its advantageous location as a manufacturing center. Its superior water power early attracted an active, intelligent class of people, who have wonderfully developed the natural facilities afforded by Bladen's brook, the Little river and the Naugatuck, until but few other towns of the same size in the state surpass it.

From contemporary accounts in the records of the old town of Derby, we learn that the power of Little river was first used to operate machinery, being employed for that purpose as early as 1747. In that

year "George Abbott, of Derby, sold to Stephen Perkins, of New Haven, a saw mill, grist mill and dwelling house, on Little river, above the Falls." Again, in 1760, the town granted liberty to James Pritchard to use that stream from its mouth up against the dwelling of Fairchild to erect and keep in repair thereon a corn mill. In 1791 the grist mill at the mouth of Little river was owned by Isaac Baldwin, who not long thereafter lost his life by the sudden starting of the mill wheel while he was below, trying to free it of ice which had gathered around it. A few years later Bradford Steele had clothing works at that place, his fulling mill being on the stream and his finishing shop higher up on the hill. Subsequently many other interests were there carried on, the site belonging in 1890 to James Swan. A hundred years ago fulling mills were very important adjuncts, as in nearly every farm house spinning and weaving were carried on. Hence, in 1799, another fulling mill was put up by Titus Beach on Bladen's brook, where are now the Beach paper mills.

Although the advantages of the falls of Naugatuck were early appreciated, no attempt was made to use the power until the country was more thickly settled. On the 4th of October, 1763, Ebenezer Keeney, John Wooster and Joseph Hull, Jr., of Derby, purchased of the Indians  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land, including the falls and sites for mills and roads on their reservation, and the work of improvement was begun. In behalf of the Indians, the deed was signed by John Howd and Joseph Chuse, the chief men of their clan, and from the latter the place took the name of Chusetown.

This company put up a saw mill and also had a fulling mill and carding machinery in operation before the beginning of the present century. In 1785 John Wooster and Bradford Steele leased a lot at that place, having a 30 foot front on the flume from the falls, on which to build a shop for blacksmithing, "to contain hammers to go by water for the purpose of scythe making, etc." Another early shop was built on the proprietors' land, at what is now the corner of Hill and Pearl streets, which stood there as early as 1798, when it was spoken of as Edmund Page's shop. It has since that time been continued as one of the oldest landmarks in the place.

Meantime the falls property had been undergoing changes both in ownership and in the extent of its industries. Nathan Stiles had come from Southbury, as a clothier, and secured an interest which later passed to the Steele family, after he had carried on his shops a number of years. The Wooster interest was also purchased by Bradford Steele, in October, 1803. In December, 1803, the Steeles sold out to General David Humphreys for \$2,647.92, the transfer including "all the privileges, together with the saw mill, two fulling mills, clothier's shop, etc., on said land, with all the buildings thereon and the mill dam across said Rimmon Falls."

This sale marked the beginning of a new era for the place, which

soon after took the name of Humphreysville, in compliment to the new proprietor, and from this time on greater activity prevailed. General Humphreys, on his visits to England and other European nations, had become deeply interested in manufacturing, and was especially anxious to introduce some of the better features of making woolen cloths in factories into this country. With this view and knowing the value of having finer grades of wool than that yielded by native sheep, he determined to import a number of select Merino sheep from Spain. He purchased 25 rams and 75 ewes, from one to two years of age, and had them shipped from Lisbon April 10th, 1802. After a voyage of some 50 days, part of which was so rough that the vessel rolled and nine of the sheep were killed, the remainder of the stock was safely landed at Derby. Here they were an object of much curiosity, many hundreds of people going to see them. By this act General Humphreys secured the honor of introducing Merino sheep into this part of the Union, and the attendant benefits which have resulted therefrom have been very great.

An incidental feature of this enterprise was the wild speculation which attended the distribution of the sheep after they had left the hands of General Humphreys. Aiming to benefit the community, he had sold many of his sheep to enterprising farmers at \$100 per head (less than the cost, it is said), in order that they might improve their flocks. But so great became the desire to own them that the price was advanced by some farmers, until as high as from \$1,500 to \$3,000 was paid for a single animal, some of which died, inflicting a total loss upon the purchasers. This rampant speculation extended through many parts of New England, and had the effect of inducing other importations, so that in the course of time the business assumed a normal condition.

In order that General Humphreys might better carry out his plans to establish an extensive manufacturing plant at Rimmon Falls, he purchased other lands in 1804, until he was the owner of nearly 200 acres at and near the falls. In the buildings he found there he began his operations, the weaving being done, as before, in families, and the cloth finished at the mills. In that way the first wool from his Merino sheep was made into cloth. Paper and grist mills were now gotten in operation and other buildings put up. On the 5th and 6th of June, 1806, the frame of his woolen factory was raised, which was the first built in the United States for the weaving of woolen cloth. In 1808 General Humphreys had the reputation of producing the best quality of that kind of goods in America, and Thomas Jefferson procured at these mills a sufficient quantity for a suit of clothes to wear on his inauguration as president of the United States.\*

While these improvements of General Humphreys were, in extent and enterprise, beyond the period in which he lived, they were largely

\* New Haven Hist. Soc. Papers, Vol. I., p. 143.

carried out by others, as he had no mechanical skill of his own and knew nothing of the practical work in a woolen factory. After an unsuccessful effort to manufacture broadcloth he went to England and secured the services of some expert woolen manufacturers, among them being Thomas Gilyard, as a workman, and John Winterbotham\* as a partner and manager. The latter took complete charge of the woolen factory and continued at its head until 1818, when owing to the death of General Humphreys, the firm of T. Vose & Co., under which name operations were carried on, ceased to exist. The business interests of General Humphreys at this place were in charge of his nephews, John and William Humphreys, and for a number of years great prosperity attended them. Some of his manufacturing enterprises were of the first of the kind in the Union in which the factory system was exemplified, and as much complaint had been made and great prejudice existed against this system, as found in other lands, on account of its degrading and demoralizing effects, naturally much attention was directed toward General Humphreys' efforts, and many distinguished people came to examine their operations. Concerning Humphreysville and its interests, as he found them after 1811, President Dwight, of Yale College, wrote as follows:

“Within the limits of Derby, four miles and a half from the mouth of the Naugatuc, is a settlement named by the legislature Humphreysville, from the Hon. David Humphreys, former Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Madrid. At this place a ridge of rocks, twenty feet in height, crosses the river and forms a perfect dam about two-thirds of the distance. The remaining third is closed by an artificial dam. The stream is so large as to furnish an abundance of water at all times for any works which will probably ever be erected on the spot. Those already existing are a grist mill, a saw mill, a paper mill, a woolen manufactory and a cotton manufactory, with all their proper appendages, and a considerable number of other buildings, destined to be the residence of the manufacturers and for various other purposes.

“A strong current of water in a channel cut through the rock on the eastern side, sets in motion all the machinery employed in these buildings. By this current are moved the grist mill, two newly invented shearing machines, a breaker and finisher for carding sheep's wool, a machine for making ravellings, two jennies for spinning sheep's wool, under the roof of the grist mill; the works in the paper mill, a picker, two more carding machines for sheep's wool, and a billy with forty spindles in a third building; a fulling mill; a saw mill, employed to cut the square timber, boards, laths, etc., for the different edifices, and to shape many of the wooden materials for the machinery; two more fulling mills on improved principles, immediately connected with the clothier's shop; and the various machinery in a cotton manu-

\* He was the father of Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, the authoress, whose girlhood was spent at this place.



factory, a building about one hundred feet long, thirty-six wide, and of four stories, capable of containing two thousand spindles with all their necessary apparatus.

“The houses can accommodate with comfortable residence about one hundred and fifty persons. Ten others in the neighborhood will furnish comfortable residences for upwards of one hundred and fifty more. Gardens on a beautiful plat in the rear of the manufactories furnish all the vegetables necessary for the establishment.

“The institution contains four broad and eight narrow looms and eighteen stocking frames.

“The principal part of the labour in attending the machinery in the cotton and woolen manufactories is done by women and children; the former hired at from fifty cents to one dollar per week; the latter, apprentices, who are regularly instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic.

“The wages of the men are from five to twenty-one dollars per month.

“In Europe great complaints have been made of manufacturing establishments, as having been very commonly seats of vice and disease. General Humphreys began this with a determination either to prevent these evils, or if this could not be done, to give up the design. With regard to the health of his people it is sufficient to observe that from the year 1804 to the year 1810 not one individual belonging to the institution died, and it is believed that among no other equal number of persons there has been less disease.

“With respect to vice it may be remarked that every person who is discovered to be openly immoral is discharged.

“At the commencement of the institution discreet parents were reluctant to place their children in it from unfavorable apprehensions concerning the tendency of such establishments. Since that time they have been offered in more than sufficient numbers.

“The manufactures at Humphreysville are esteemed excellent. The best broadcloth made here is considered as inferior to none which is imported.

“Americans make all the machinery, and have invented several kinds of machines, which are considered as superior to such as have been devised in Europe for the same purposes.

“Most of the weaving has been done in private families.

“The scenery of this spot is delightfully romantic. The Fall is a fine object. The river, the buildings belonging to the institution, the valley, the bordering hills, farms, and houses, groves and forests united form a landscape in a high degree interesting.

“In this manufactory General Humphreys has, I think, fairly established three points of great importance. One is, that these manufactures can be carried on with success; another, that the workmen can be preserved in good health as that enjoyed by any other class of

men in the country; and the third, that the deterioration of morals in such institutions, which is often complained of, is not necessary, but incidental, not inherent in the institution itself, but the fault of the proprietor."

It is said of General Humphreys that he was particularly philanthropic as to the education and moral training of the operatives in his factory. Many of them had been indentured to him by the public institutions of the land, and had been gotten in the neighboring villages. For these he established and maintained, at considerable expense, evening schools, and provided other means for their instruction and amusement. He organized the boys into a train band for military instruction, provided them with uniforms, and often drilled them himself. In 1810 Lady Humphreys presented this company with a fine silk flag, which was beautifully embroidered, and was appropriately inscribed; bearing also a number of attractive emblems. This interesting relic of that period is now the property of the Hon. Carlos French.

General Humphreys did not live permanently at Humphreysville, but maintained a suite of rooms in the boarding house of the company, which he occupied when visiting the place, and on those occasions there was always a lively interest in his presence. In all his intercourse with his employees he was kindly disposed, courteous and apparently interested in every one. This agreeable relation to the village and its industries was broken by his death, which took place at New Haven February 21st, 1818, when he was 65 years of age.\*

In May, 1822, the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company was organized with a capital of \$50,000, and elected as its first president John H. De Forest, and as its secretary, J. F. Leaming. This corpo-

\*General David Humphreys was born in Derby July 10th, 1752, and was a son of the Reverend Daniel Humphreys, the minister of the church of that town. When but 15 years old he entered Yale College, graduating in 1771, and while there gave evidence of so much poetic taste that he was styled the "young bard of Yale." Soon after the revolution broke out he entered the army, holding a captain's commission. In 1778 he was appointed an aid to General Putnam, with the rank of major. In 1780 he was appointed an aid to General Washington, where he ranked as a lieutenant colonel, and became a valuable member of the general's staff. At the surrender of Cornwallis, at Yorktown, in 1781, the British colors were delivered to him. For his service in the war Congress voted him an elegant sword, which was presented to him in 1786, after his return from France as secretary of the legation under Thomas Jefferson. From 1788 to 1790 he was an inmate of General Washington's family, at Mt. Vernon, when he was appointed minister to Portugal. In 1797 he was appointed minister to Spain, where he remained until 1802, when he returned to this country to begin the activities above noted. In the war of 1812 he was appointed commander of the Connecticut militia, and from that source his title of general was derived. He married a very wealthy English lady, living in Boston, and had a cottage at Westville. His death was very sudden. He is buried at New Haven, where his grave is marked by a monument inscribed to his rare worth and honor as a poet, patriot, statesman and true American citizen.

ration purchased the above plant, containing 16 acres of land, with all the buildings on it, and the water privileges on both sides of the river as far as affected by the falls, paying for the same \$10,000. The dam was soon after rebuilt and the race to the mills widened, so as to permit greater power. The factory was supplied with cotton machinery, and other improvements were made. Mr. De Forest was an active business man, and warmly entered upon the task of further developing the interests of the village. He built the large mansion at the corner of Main and Factory streets, living there until his death in 1839.

The Humphreysville Manufacturing Company manufactured very extensively a number of years, but was affected by the hard times of 1837, when operations were reduced to a very small scale. In 1845 it sold the cotton factory to William Buffum, and by his name it was known a number of years. In 1849 "he manufactured 500,000 yards of cotton shirtings, used 50 tons of raw cotton, and operated 54 looms. Forty-one persons were employed." Later the manufacture of cotton goods at this place declined, and other fabrics were produced.

In 1851 the capital stock of the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company was \$300,000, but in 1859 it was reduced to one-half that amount, by the distribution of property to the stockholders. Gradually the interest of the company passed into other hands, and its organization has only a nominal existence.

On the site of the company's grist and paper mills, which were taken down in 1850, was erected the Eagle Silk Mill the same year. The Eagle Manufacturing Company was organized June 27th, 1850, with a capital of \$50,000. In the fall of 1852 George F. De Forest was at the head of the corporation, whose capital had been doubled. The factory was built to operate on silk, wool and cotton, and appears to have prospered a short time, when heavy, unexpected losses caused its suspension. Later the mills were known by the name of "Kalmia," and were operated on worsted goods. Prior to 1869 operations were very brisk, many hands being employed. In the year named the business became so stagnant that but little was done, and thereafter, for ten years, the capacity was not fully employed.

In 1880 this site and other property was purchased by John H. Tingue, and the following year it passed to the Tingue Manufacturing Company, which was incorporated May 30th, 1881, and organized by electing John H. Tingue president and treasurer; and Charles Coupland as general manager. On the death of the former, W. J. Tingue succeeded to the presidency of the corporation, which is one of the most extensive in the town, having a capital of \$200,000, and is also one of the most enterprising and prosperous.

The company is engaged in the manufacture of mohair pile goods, being one of the first in the country to engage in that industry. The raw material used, with the exception of the warp, is the fleece of the Angora goat, and is imported mostly from Asia Minor. It is famed

for its fineness, and the products here made are of the most beautiful and varied nature, embracing plushes for dress goods and rich upholstering. The fine mill buildings are supplied with rare machinery, and many skilled laborers are employed. The plant also embraces many tenements and other property arranged for business purposes.

The manufacture of paper has been an established industry at Seymour more than 80 years. The first mill was built in 1805 by General Humphreys, and paper was there made by hand, after the manner of those times. He soon sold out to Worrull & Hudson, who disposed of the mill, in 1816, to Ebenezer Fisher and Henry Le Forge. The following year Samuel Roselle began working in the mill and later had an interest in it.

In 1825 the mill was enlarged, and paper was made by machinery. In 1831 it was sold to the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company, which commenced making paper in May, that year, with four hands, but soon increased to 18. Printing, tissue and colored papers were made. In 1843 the mill was taken by George L. Hodge, Samuel Roselle and Sharon Y. Beach, who continued as Hodge & Co. two years. In 1845 the mill and a five years' lease of the site was sold to Ezekiel Gilbert, Sharon Y. Beach and Samuel Roselle, who manufactured as Gilbert, Beach & Co., and produced fine printing paper. The water lease expiring in 1850, Sharon Y. Beach purchased the interests of his partners, and secured a new site for his mill, at Blueville, on Bladen's brook, a mile above its mouth. Paper making was discontinued June 15th, 1850, the mill torn down and rebuilt at the new site to permit work in it September 2d, 1850. Here the interest has since been carried on, and has become widely known as the Beach Paper Mill.

This site had been improved many years before by Titus Beach, to furnish power for a fulling mill. The water supply was increased by building larger reservoirs, and the mill was enlarged in 1859 and at later periods. In 1880 the interest passed to the S. Y. Beach Paper Company, composed of Mr. Beach and his four sons: George W., Andrew Y., Sharon D. and Theodore B., who have since successfully carried it on. In 1885 the old mill was burned, when a substantial brick building was at once erected on the site. The stream is given a 25 foot fall, and steam power is also used, giving the mill a large capacity, and many varieties of paper are produced.

The Smith Paper Mill, near the mouth of Bladen's brook, is more than half a century old. The privilege at that place, including the next power above, was purchased in 1831 by John S. Moshier and John C. Wheeler, who disposed of the latter to Newell Johnson. He put up a small machine shop, and later Raymond French and others used it for an auger factory. In October, 1845, they sold to George De Forest and George L. Hodge, who converted it into another paper mill. At the lower site Moshier got the paper mill in operation in 1832, but sold out to Wheeler the next year, who leased it to Daniel White. Sylves-

ter Smith and Samuel Bassett were among his employees. In 1837 they formed a partnership and leased the mill, which they bought in 1840. On taking charge they made wrapping paper out of straw, this being the first mill in the state where that kind of paper was made. The building was burned January 29th, 1847, but was soon rebuilt, and the business prospered. Some time in 1851 they also purchased the De Forest & Hodge paper mill (where large quantities of fine printing paper had been made), and operated both on paper and cleaning and grinding rubber, selling the latter property in 1854 to Austin G. Day.

Of the old mill Sylvester Smith became the sole owner in 1856, retiring at the end of ten years, since which time his son, W. W. Smith, has been at the head of the business, purchasing the property in 1870. The mill was burned March 13th, 1863, and the rebuilt mill was supplied with improved machinery. In 1867 it was enlarged and steam power added. For a third time the mill was burned, January 11th, 1869, the loss being \$30,000. On this occasion Amasa Trowbridge lost his life while attempting to save his neighbor's property. In 1871 water power from the Rimmon pond was supplied, and November 10th, that year, the mill was for the fourth time burned. The present mill, on the old site, is used in the production of the finer grades of manilla paper.

About the same time that De Forest & Hodge began paper making on Bladen's brook the Rimmon Paper Company was formed, September 9th, 1846, and the mill at the mouth of Little river placed in charge of Lewis Bunce. December 23d, 1848, this paper mill was burned, but was restored and continued under the management of Bunce. In 1849-50 he manufactured printing paper and clothiers' boards. A few years later the property passed to the Douglass Manufacturing Company, for use in producing boring tools.

In 1887 a part of the latter plant was used by the American Tin Zinc Company (Limited), of which W. J. Wilder was the superintendent. The venture did not succeed at this place, and after a few years was removed.

In the period when Smith & Bassett were most active in paper making they used a part of this power in grinding and cleaning rubber, but after 1855 the rubber business became a separate industry at Seymour, being fully established here that year by the Day brothers.

The A. G. Day Caoutchouc Company was incorporated April 24th, 1855, with a capital of \$75,000, to manufacture vulcanized hard rubber goods under the Nelson Goodyear patent of May 6th, 1851. Julius Day was the president of the company, and other members were Austin G. Day, Henry P. Day and Thomas Sault. The old De Forest & Hodge paper mill, on Bladen's brook, was fitted up for the new industry, and the site has since been occupied. March 18th, 1864, the rubber mill was burned, when a better, more commodious factory was erected in its place, which has been finely equipped. In 1890 the A.

G. Day Company was here engaged in the manufacture of Kerite insulated wire for electric uses, with W. R. Brixey as the superintendent. At the same place was also the firm of H. P. & E. Day, engaged in the manufacture of hard rubber stationery goods and surgical appliances. The combined interests give employment to many men, and the plant is one of the most attractive in the town.

The auger and edge tool interests have for scores of years been among the most important in this part of the valley. The pioneer tool manufacturer at this place was Walter French, who came to Seymour from Mansfield. He made augers in a shop at the corner of Hill and Pearl streets, having Colonel Ira Smith as an associate. He next had a shop on West street, near Swan's upper factory. He was afterward superintendent of Clark Wooster's shops, which stood on the river bank, opposite the Swan Works. In 1844 he removed to Westville, but his sons, Wales and Warren, continued here longer, identified with the tool business.

In 1837 the auger makers were Walter French, at his West street shop; Gilbert & Wooster, at the corner of Main and Hill streets, and Raymond French, where is now the Day factory, on Bladen's brook. The latter first occupied the shop put up by Newell Johnson, after 1832, and in 1839 and later had Hiram Upson as a partner, when they purchased the property. In 1841 the French auger shops were burned, but were immediately rebuilt. Soon after John Dwight and Timothy Dwight were associated with him, the firm being Raymond French & Co. They extensively manufactured augers, chisels and plane irons, and finding the works too small, sold them in 1845. In the meantime the firm had put some machinery in the building at the mouth of Little river, and with a view of securing more power, Raymond French had, in 1844, built a new dam on the Naugatuck at Kinneytown, between Seymour and Ansonia, but was persuaded to sell that property to Anson G. Phelps. In 1847 French & Dwight commenced the Rimmon pond, building the west wall and abutment. More work was done on it in 1849, when the project appears to have been abandoned. Later the dam was completed by the Rimmon Water Company, which was incorporated July 13th, 1866. The work was placed in charge of Raymond French, who so vigorously pushed it that the pond was completed and the gates closed October 27th, 1867. The dam has an overflow plate 300 feet long, and there is a fall of 19 feet. The entire cost was about \$65,000.

In this period of preparing new sites, the works of French & Dwight were located in a large frame building on the canal, from the falls dam, in which locality they remained as long as they manufactured these goods. On the 15th of March, 1849, their shop was destroyed by fire, when the brick shops in that locality were built and occupied by the firm. In this year (1849) there were in the village as tool manufacturers, besides the above firm, three establishments on Little river

—Hiram Upson, French, Swift & Co., and Clark Wooster, the latter having an ax factory near the site where is the upper James Swan factory.

At the lower site an auger shop was put up as early as 1837 by Timothy Dwight, and was occupied by various firms, besides Upson. In 1852 it was the property of H. A. Radford, who united with Hiram Upson and Lucius Tuttle in forming the Upson Manufacturing Company in the fall of that year. The company did not continue more than half a dozen years, and in 1859 Charles Douglass became the owner of the property. Since 1877 it has belonged to James Swan, the successor of the Douglass Manufacturing Company, which was established in 1856 for the manufacture of mechanics' tools. Two factories were used: the one at Seymour on boring tools, and another at Arlington, Vt., on edge tools. The latter was also transferred to Seymour in 1876. The works of the company were sold to F. L. Ames in 1860, who soon expanded the business. He had secured the exclusive right to manufacture Cook's patent boring implements and he found the lower factory too small for his needs. Accordingly he built the factory on Little river, next above, when his capacity was much increased. In 1873 James Swan's upper factory was consolidated with the lower two, and since that time the three factories have been operated under one system. Under the ownership of James Swan they have been much improved and equipped as completely as any other similar factories in the country. More than 100 skilled mechanics are employed, and the products embrace a large variety of goods, many of them being articles invented by Mr. Swan, who is a tool maker of many years' experience.

F. H. Beecher's auger works are between the upper and the lower Swan shops. They were established in 1847 by the firm of French, Swift & Co., which was composed of six practical mechanics, viz.: Charles Swift, Warren French, John F. Marshall, Lemuel Bliss, H. B. Beecher and H. A. Radford. These were usually called the "six partners," and all were skilled in their avocation. They began business with the determination to produce the best goods possible and to sell them as American products, fully stamped with the name of the firm. In a few years they had not only overcome the prejudice which led to a preference for foreign goods, but had established a standard of excellence for their wares which caused them to be greatly in demand. This enviable position has since been maintained, these works producing some of the finest goods in this country. In 1866 H. B. Beecher, as the only surviving "partner," became the sole proprietor of the works. In 1875 his son, F. H. Beecher, became the manager, and after his father's death in 1880, the owner of the establishment, which he has since successfully operated on the original line of goods.

In the buildings of the old Humphreysville Manufacturing Company, boring tools have been made since 1875 by a firm doing business

under the title of that company. Originally there were four members: George H. Robinson, David R. Cook, Norman Sperry and Marcus Sperry, the two last named alone continuing in 1890. Several large buildings are occupied, and there are three forging rooms. The best steel is used in the manufacture of quarter bits and quarter augers, several thousands being produced daily. Several score of men are employed.

At the same place are Louis E. Garrett and Samuel A. Beach, who formed a partnership in 1876 for the manufacture of German pattern bits, electricians' tools and goods of a kindred nature. A dozen men are employed.

From the river at this point is also afforded power for the Tool Department of the New Haven Copper Company. A building 60 by 125 feet is occupied, and the power is given by an immense breast wheel. Large quantities of augers are there made, many men being employed by the company on that line of work since 1883.

Several other corporations were for short periods engaged in producing augers, among them being the Seymour Manufacturing Company, incorporated October, 1852. Among the members were John L. Hartson, Charles Spencer and F. D. Burns. In a few years the company passed out of existence.

The New Haven Copper Company, as the successor of the Humphreysville Copper Company, dates its existence from 1849. In that year the latter corporation was formed by Raymond French, S. C. Johnson, J. W. Dwight, Harrison Tomlinson, George Rice, Sheldon Kinney and others, the nominal capital being \$40,000. In 1852 a reorganization took place, the capital, which had previously been increased to \$100,000, being fixed at \$200,000, and a large part of the stock was taken in Seymour. The works on the canal were much enlarged and the business, which had been very lucrative up to this time, was now considerably extended. A wharf and mill were built at East Haven, and in 1853 the company was authorized to build a breakwater at that point for the protection of its vessels when lying at the wharf. Soon after the profits of the company decreased, and it was found necessary to increase the capital stock to \$400,000. But even that amount was insufficient to tide the company over the difficulties which beset it, and a new Humphreysville Copper Company was incorporated in 1855, with an authorized capital of \$1,000,000. This was not fully organized, but instead the New Haven Copper Company was formed, November 21st, 1855, with a capital of \$400,000, and succeeded to the business. Among those interested in the latter corporation were John W. Dwight, George R. A. Ricketts, William Cornwall, George F. De Forest and William W. Goddard. In 1857 assets to the amount of \$615,000 were claimed, with less than one-half that amount of liabilities, but the stringent times affected the company, so that another reorganization was necessary. In 1874 the present company was incor-



porated, and under this management the corporation has prospered. Thomas James was elected president and Franklin Farrel secretary. In 1890 the company had a capital of \$200,000 and the following directors: Thomas L. James, president; C. W. James, secretary and treasurer; George A. James, Lewis A. Camp and Franklin Farrel.

The plant at Seymour covers about three acres of land, well covered with buildings, some being erected as early as 1849. Nearly all of them are of a very substantial nature, the walls being of granite or brick, and the roofs of metal. The main rolling mill is 100 by 200 feet, and has ten sets of rollers. There are also large stamping, forging and polishing shops, all of which are well equipped and having water and steam power—the entire establishment to the aggregate of nearly 600 horse power.

The company is engaged in the manufacture of braziers' and sheathing copper, finishing and polishing in a manner peculiar to this establishment, after a process invented by Thomas James and patented by him September 12th, 1876. This process secures a permanent polish, which has given the products of the company a wide reputation. From 125 to 150 hands are employed.

The Seymour Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1880. The business of this extensive corporation was established in 1878 by H. B. and W. H. H. Wooster. A small mill was put up below Rimon Dam, in which about half a ton of brass goods was manufactured daily. In May, 1880, this business passed into the hands of the above company, which organized with a capital of \$30,000, Nathan S. Johnson, president; W. H. H. Wooster, secretary and treasurer, and L. T. Wooster, superintendent. The latter two have since served as first elected, and under their management the company has greatly prospered. In 1882 the capital was increased to \$75,000, Carlos French and Edmund Day becoming interested. In 1886 a further increase was made to \$200,000; and in April, 1890, to \$250,000, Charles H. Pine being the president of the corporation.

Under the direction of L. T. Wooster, who is one of the pioneer metal workers in the Naugatuck valley, and who has devised many useful machines in this line of manufactures, the capacity of the works was increased to eight tons per day. January 2d, 1887, the main mill was burned, but was at once rebuilt. The new mill is a fine brick and iron structure, 160 by 190 feet, and is practically fire-proof. In 1885 the rolling of copper goods was added, and structures were put up for that industry, a building 30 by 150 feet being devoted to the manufacture of brazed tubing. The plant has 600 horse power from the river, and steam to the extent of 500 horse power.

The company makes a specialty of rolling brass, producing about 15,000 pounds per day, and the mills have a capacity for hot rolling 15 tons daily; but immense quantities of copper, nickel, silver and

other metals are also produced. Steady employment is given to about 200 hands.

The United States Pin Company is located at Seymour. The manufacture of pins, by machinery invented by William and Thaddeus Fowler, was begun about 1858, in the old mill of Samuel Maltby, at Northford. In 1860 the interest was transferred to Seymour, where a place was found for it in the old machine shop of the abandoned car works, where the manufacture was carried on by the above company. In 1861 its first report at Seymour indicated a capital of \$37,000, with H. Hotchkiss as president. In 1890 Henry L. Hotchkiss was the president, and L. H. Bristol the secretary. For a number of years John Smith and Mark Lounsbury manufactured pins on contract for the company, the latter alone operating the past five years. The factory is supplied with 47 machines, each capable of producing 125 adamantine pins per minute.

The Fowler Nail Company is an important interest. Thaddeus Fowler was a very ingenious man, inventing among other contrivances, a machine for making horseshoe nails. This became the property of a corporation, organized in 1866, with the above name, which had among its members, at Seymour, Fowler and Carlos French. The latter has retained an interest in the company, and for many years has been its president. Operations were first begun in the old cotton mill, but after half a dozen years, the present plant below Rimmon pond was occupied. This building had been erected for the manufacture of wire, but was not occupied for that purpose. The capacity of the works has been greatly increased, and the vulcanized nails manufactured have become a staple article. From 75 to 100 men are given employment.

The American Car Company was organized in May, 1852, and had J. H. Lyman as its president. Timothy Dwight, Raymond French and J. W. Dwight were the majority of the directors on the 14th of that month, when they certified that the capital stock was \$150,000. In September it was increased to \$200,000, the additional stock being taken mainly by the Dwights and Lyman, who were the chief promoters of the enterprise. Five large frame buildings were occupied, extending from the raceway near the old cotton factory on the flat to a point above the railway depot. The lower building, which was the machine shop, is still standing, being used as the pin factory. To most of the other buildings tracks extended, and the cars, which were being built were drawn from shop to shop by horses. After four or five years' successful operation, which gave employment to many men, the company transferred its interests to Illinois, and about 30 families removed from the village in consequence.

The French Railway Splice Company was organized January 20th, 1862, for the purpose of manufacturing railway splices and other devices pertaining to railroads. Among those interested were Raymond

and Carlos French and Franklin Farrel. The company was not long in business at this place, but for a number of years afterward Carlos French successfully manufactured car springs of his own invention, occupying the basement of the old cotton factory. That industry has also been discontinued.

Raymond French, the pioneer manufacturer, to whom Seymour owes much of its development and prosperity, in the later years of his life occupied a part of the stone shops erected by him in 1849, in the manufacture of steel plated ox shoes. He died February 19th, 1886.

The Seymour Electric Light Company was organized October 1st, 1889, with a capital of \$15,000 and the following directors: Edmund Day, president; F. H. Beecher, treasurer; Carlos French, A. B. Dunham, L. T. Wooster and S. R. Dean. O. L. Dibble was appointed secretary of the company. An electric plant for the Thomson-Houston system was located at the mouth of Bladen's brook, taking water power from the Rimmon dam to operate it. There is an arc light dynamo of thirty 1,200 candle-power lights and one for 650 incandescent lights, of 16 candle power each. A large circuit was established, and since March, 1890, the plant has been in successful operation. In October, 1889, the town of Seymour voted to contract with the company for 10 arc and 34 incandescent lights, to be illuminated from the first of April, 1890, 25 nights each month, for the space of three years. The village was well lighted in the summer of 1890.

The oldest school district in the town of Seymour was the one at Great hill, which was long known as the Eighth district in Derby, and after the organization of Seymour as the First district in that town. The earliest records bear date 1767, and pertain to the hiring of teachers for both summer and winter schools. Henry Tomlinson was the district committee man, and Samuel Bassett the collector of school rates. In 1770 Henry Wooster was the teacher. Among the patrons of the district were: Benjamin Tomlinson, Micah Poole, Jonathan Miles, Samuel Russell, Joseph Canfield, George Beard, Captain John Lum, James Manville, Zachariah Fairchild and John Hawley.

In 1780 the schoolmistress was paid six shillings per week, or a shilling per day. In 1784 it was voted to build a school house on the highway, near John Hawley's. The following year a tax was laid to finish the building. In 1801 the summer school was held in the Great hill meeting house, and the winter session in the school house. In 1810 Jared Mansfield and John Smith were the committee, and Captain J. Nettleton was the collector. "Voted that wood per load should be 84 cts., and boarding the teacher 7 cts. per meal, or 87½c. per week."

This district was not long after reduced in area, and since being a part of Seymour has been further subdivided. In the present district new school houses were built in 1832 and in 1877.

On the east side of the river and below Rock Rimmon a district was next established. A site for a house was deeded in 1769 by Joseph

Johnson, and the building put upon it was occupied many years. In 1799 this district was known by the name of Chusetown, and Calvin Lines was engaged to teach at \$11 per month. The school house was enlarged and repaired in 1804, the building being painted a Spanish brown. The district was already populous, notwithstanding it had, like the one on the west side, been diminished by division. In 1812 two schools were taught in the district, both male and female teachers being employed. Stiles Johnson was elected a committeeman "to employ a school Dame."

In 1814 the name of Humphreysville first appeared in the school records, and measures were taken about this time to build new houses. The one which became known as the Bell school house was erected by an association of neighbors, the property being divided into 100 shares of stock, which were held in 1816 by John Wheeler, Newell Johnson, Elias Gilbert, Bradford Steele, John Humphreys, Jr., General David Humphreys, Chester Jones, Seba Moulthrop, Stiles Johnson, Jesse Johnson, Edmund Steele, John Riggs, Silas Baldwin, Samuel B. Hine, Joseph Johnson, Josiah Swift and David Thompson. In 1830 the school society purchased the house.

The first demand for division of the foregoing districts, in old Derby, was made in 1779, when a district was formed in the extreme northwest part of the town, in what is now Beacon Falls, west of the Naugatuck river. An intermediate district was formed, as a sub-district of the latter, Great Hill and the Rimmon or East Side districts, on a petition granted in town meeting on December 27th, 1779. In all there were 21 petitioners, belonging to the Steele, Pritchard, Riggs, Wooster, Keeny, Miles, Washburn and other families. Later this territory was included in the Bungay and Shrub Oak districts. Other districts were created as the town was settled, and school societies were established. The districts on the east side of the Naugatuck were included in the First Society, and those on the west side in the Second Society. This arrangement continued until 1851, when all the districts were united into one society. In October, 1868, Seymour school district was established, all the schools of the town being included, and the following committee was elected: Eli Gillette, C. W. Storrs, J. W. Bassett, Joshua Kendall, C. W. James, Harpin Riggs, Joel R. Chatfield, Peter Worth and Henry Davis. The latter and Doctor Kendall were appointed school visitors. In February, 1869, the consolidated district bought the "Pines" lot for \$700, for the purpose of building a spacious school house thereon, but objection being raised to the site it was not done. In 1889 the town voted to convert the lot into a public park.

In this year (1889) the town had twelve schools, having a total enrollment of 643 pupils. Outside of the village the districts were: Cedar Ridge, Bell, Bungay and Great Hill, whose schools were maintained at a cost of \$1,348.43. The village schools cost \$5,052.77 to maintain.

The first opportunity to obtain a higher education at home was offered by the Humphreysville Academy. This was established in February, 1849, and the principals were George B. Glendining, A. M., and Mrs. Nancy H. Glendining. They were both able and popular teachers, and their efforts soon found favor. In May, that year, the attendance was already 47 pupils, and the school was highly commended. Its success, doubtless, inspired the organization of the Humphreysville High School Association, in 1851. The incorporators were leading citizens, and well calculated to carry on such a project, but it failed of its purpose. At the end of the school year, in 1853, Professor Glendining removed, and in August, that year, Professor Gay opened an academy in Glendining Hall, but remained only a few months. Frederick Durand next taught a select school for two years in Union Hall, and others were here for short periods.

The establishment of a Union High School was now agitated, but no decisive action was taken until October, 1864, when the town authorized such a school, to be independent of the school society. Burton W. Smith, Harvey Hotchkiss and G. W. Divine were appointed a committee to establish and superintend the school. Glendining Hall was leased as a school room, and a Miss Hermance was installed as the first teacher.

In 1869 the managers of the school established an intermediate department, and secured a room in another building. Still another department was established in 1878, and fourth one in 1880, each of which was in a separate building. The erection of a high school building was now strongly urged, and March 15th, 1879, it was voted, 104 ayes to 20 nays, to build such a house at a cost not to exceed \$8,000. Some objection being raised against this vote, another meeting was held, April 19th, 1879, when the former sense was confirmed by a vote of 122 against 38 nays. But no action was taken on account of disagreement in regard to the site. The help of the Derby school visitors was invoked, but even their designation of the "Pines" lot, made May 6th, 1879, was not satisfactory, the majority refusing to accept it. With some spasmodic agitation the matter rested until January 16th, 1884, when the town voted (149 to 44) to build a house on the Divine lot, on the west side of the Naugatuck, and north of Bank street. This contained about two acres, and was purchased for \$3,000. A month later, February 16th, 1884, the town voted to appropriate \$25,000 toward the erection of the building, which sum was afterward increased by other appropriations until the entire amount, on account of the buildings and grounds, was \$39,500.

Ground was broken in June, 1884, for a building, planned by Architect L. W. Robinson, of New Haven, and the work of construction was directed by a building committee composed of James Swan, Edmund Day, W. H. H. Wooster, Thomas James and F. H. Beecher. The latter was the secretary of the committee, and was very zealous in the

prosecution of the work. The building, standing on its spacious, well-graded lot, is one of the handsomest school edifices in the county. It embraces all the best features of modern architecture, and each floor is supplied with pure water by pipes from a spring on the hill, north, which was presented to the school by James Swan, who was one of the building committee. The edifice is 65 by 72 feet, of brick, trimmed with stone, resting on brown sandstone base walls. When occupied, in the fall of 1886, seven rooms, having a capacity for 380 pupils, were furnished, but the building will accommodate several hundred more pupils when filled to its capacity.

The first principal to occupy this building was W. H. Angleton, who was succeeded, in April, 1890, by E. G. Stiles.

The early settlers of this locality belonged to the parish of Derby, and were long taxed for the support of the established church at that place. But in the fall of 1789 steps were taken to form a provisionary society, which would afford them more convenient means of worship. This was accomplished, as the following record shows:

“Derby, November 3d, A. D. 1789.—This may certify all whom it may concern, that the subscribers have joined and paid towards the support of the Gospel at the Congregational Society, in Derby, near Bladen Brook, and mean for the future to support the Gospel there:

“Capt. Timothy Baldwin, Asahel Johnson, Gideon Johnson, Capt. Bradford Steel, Elisha Steel, Isaac Baldwin, Ebr. Turel Whitmore, Amos Hine, Bradford Steel, Jr., Medad Keney, Hezekiah Woodin, John Adze, Ashbel Loveland, Truman Loveland, Ebenezer Warner, Leverett Pritchard, Levi Tomlinson, John Coe, Ebenezer Beecher Johnson, Nathan Wheeler, Bezalel Peck, Francis Forque, Joseph Loines, Moses Clark, Philo Hinman, Thomas Hotchkiss.

“Sertified by me,

“LEVI TOMLINSON, Society Clerk.”\*

A meeting house was built on the hill, half a mile from the falls, on land belonging to Isaac Johnson. The interior was divided into rude box pews, but it was utterly devoid of comforts. Near by a dwelling house was built for the minister, which was occupied in March, 1790, by Reverend Benjamin Beach, who removed to this place from North Haven. After preaching to this people 15 years, he removed to Milton in 1805. It is known that Captain Timothy Baldwin and Levi Tomlinson were deacons, but there are no records to show what was accomplished by the society. For a time it appears to have been unsupplied with preaching, and became weak and distracted, many of the former members connecting themselves with the Methodist or Episcopal societies. Some time about 1812 Reverend Zephaniah Swift, who had become pastor of the Derby church, preached here occasionally, but no church organization was then attempted.

But the growth of the village of Humphreysville, whose diverse in-

\* In the foregoing list the original spelling is retained.

terests attracted many people, gave encouragement to the hope that the Congregational church would soon be organized in this community. Accordingly, a council was called for a meeting March 12th, 1817, to consider the advisability of acting on such a proposition. Having decided to organize, the following nine persons were associated into church fellowship: Joel Beebe and wife, Bradford Steele and wife, Ira Smith and wife, Louis Holbrook, Hannah P. Johnson and Sally Wheeler. Soon after, March 30th, 1817, Reverend Zephaniah Swift preached here, and admitted 18 more members; and later Reverend Bela Kellogg, also one of the organizing council, admitted others, until 34 persons belonged, who began actively to perpetuate the existence and welfare of the church. As an essential means to that end, it was determined to erect a new house of worship. The old meeting house was sold to the Methodists September 22d, 1818, and a new one at a more central location begun. A site on the bluff overlooking the river, where is now the Congregational cemetery, was selected, and the building was made ready for occupancy as soon as possible. Meantime the meetings were held in the Bell school house. The steeple to complete the new house was not built until 1829. After being used more than a score of years, it was found that the so-called "village church" was not located centrally enough to properly serve its purpose, and it was determined to build a new house. A site on the pine flats, below the falls, was chosen, upon which the present edifice was erected. It was dedicated April 20th, 1847, the pastor, Reverend William B. Curtiss, and others officiating. Since that time the building has been much improved. In 1890 it was thoroughly repaired at a cost of \$5,000, and a new organ costing \$2,500 was supplied. A parsonage on an adjoining lot affords a comfortable home for the pastor. This was the gift of Deacon William Kinney.

After the organization of the church, Reverends Zephaniah Swift, Bela Kellogg and other ministers from the neighboring churches preached occasionally, until a regular pastor could be secured, some time about 1825, when Reverend Ephraim G. Swift served in that relation several years. In 1828 Reverend Amos Pettengill and Reverend Charles Thompson preached, the latter being installed pastor of the church in April, 1830. He served about three years longer, and from 1833 to 1834 Reverends Rollin S. Stone and Zephaniah Swift were the ministers, each alternating between this church and the one at Derby.

The subsequent ministers were the following: Reverend John E. Bray from September, 1834, to April, 1842. Reverend William B. Curtiss from June, 1843, until October 15th, 1849. His successor was Reverend E. B. Chamberlain, a supply until April 29th, 1851, when he was installed, and was dismissed on account of ill health, May 20th, 1852. Reverend J. L. Willard, from September 1st, 1852, until May 1st, 1855, after which he was settled as pastor of the Westville church.

The pulpit being vacant some time and the interest low, on account of the removal of members, Reverend Henry D. Northrop came as a supply, and was here from August, 1857, nearly to the end of 1858. An unusual revival attended his labors. From May, 1859, to May, 1860, Reverend E. C. Baldwin was the pastor, and until 1861 Reverend Sylvester Hine. Next came Reverend J. L. Mills, two years; Reverend George A. Dickerman, one year; and A. J. Quick, nearly two years and a half. May 22d, 1868, Reverend Allen Clark was ordained in this church as an evangelist and labored here successfully one year. Another evangelist, H. P. Colin, also here ordained, followed him, when Reverend J. W. Fitch supplied the church about one year, closing in the spring of 1872. His successor was Reverend William J. Thompson, who, after being here about two years, closed his labors in October, 1874. The ministry of Reverend S. C. Leonard began November 15th, 1874, and continued until the summer of 1879, when he removed to supply the church at Naugatuck. From his historical account of the Seymour church this sketch is gleaned. His successor was Reverend F. S. Root, whose pastoral relations were dissolved November 18th, 1884. In February, 1885, Reverend F. J. Fairbanks was invited to become the acting pastor, and served until April, 1886. In October, 1886, Reverend Thomas E. Davis became the acting pastor, and has since so continued. In May, 1890, the church had 196 members, which included a net gain of 17 persons in the preceding year; and the church and society were harmonious and prosperous. The church has raised up as a minister Reverend Ira Smith and Reverend H. A. De Forest as a missionary to Syria. He graduated from Yale in 1832, and labored zealously until a fatal sickness compelled his return to this country.

Soon after the organization of the church, in 1817, Bradford Steele and Nehemiah Bottsford were appointed deacons, in which capacity they served many years. The subsequent deacons were, after 1840; Sheldon Kinney, Alfred Hull, Andrew W. De Forest, William Kinney, Miles Culver, J. L. Spencer, W. M. Tuttle, Charles Bradley, David Johnson, Levi Lounsbury, Joshua Kendall, W. I. Warren, Robert Hungerford, George C. O'Meara, Edward R. Davis, Henry M. Taylor, E. A. Lum and Thomas Williams.

The Sunday school can be traced back to 1828, and has been a valuable auxiliary of the church. In 1890 the superintendent was Clifford J. Atwater. Others who have served in that capacity have been James Swan, A. Y. Beach, Philo B. Buckingham, Sharon Y. Beach, Andrew De Forest, W. M. Tuttle, George E. Lester and George F. De Forest. Robert C. Bell, a former superintendent, afterward entered the ministry.

An Episcopal Ecclesiastical Society was formed in the present town of Seymour, February 20th, 1797, in accordance with a proper warrant, which had been served upon the following persons, profess-



ing to be churchmen, who were to assemble at the house of Doctor Samuel Sanford, viz.: Reuben Lum, Nathan Mansfield, Benjamin Hawley, Martin Beebe, Ephraim Wooster, Jeremiah Gillette, Philo Holbrook, Nathan Stiles, William Church, John Griffin, Bowers Washband, Timothy Johnson, Charles French, Moses Riggs, James Manville, William Tucker, Russell Tomlinson, Enos G. Nettleton, Nathaniel Holbrook, Josiah Nettleton, Edward Hayes, Wilson Hurd, Abel Church, Daniel Davis, Alexander Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Israel Bostwick, John White. At this meeting Benjamin Davis moderated, Samuel Sanford served as clerk, and Joel Chatfield, Israel French and Jonathan Miles were appointed the society's committee. A union with the parish of Great Hill being effected, it was decided to call the new organization Union church.

A week later, February 27th, 1797, another meeting was held, when it was determined to erect a house of worship at Chusetown. Benjamin Davis, Edward Hayes, Nathaniel Johnson and John White were appointed to furnish material for the building of the house. A lot was purchased of Leverett Pritchard, at a cost of \$60, March 23d, 1797, and the corner stone was laid, early in the spring, by Reverend Edward Blakeslee, assistant rector of the Derby church. By winter the building was entirely enclosed, but the funds being exhausted, and the parish poor and not exempt from the payment of rates for the established or Congregational church, the house was not finished for consecration until September 2d, 1817. To attain this end \$1,250 had been subscribed by 65 members of the parish. The ceremony was performed by Bishop John Henry Hobart of the diocese of New York.

On the 1st of June, 1822, the steeple of the church was damaged by lightning, to the extent of \$182.88. In 1828 it was first supplied with a bell. The following year the house was painted and a stove, presented by Isaac Kinney, placed in the audience room. Up to this time the church had not been warmed. In 1831 an organ was supplied, which was enlarged and improved in 1850, at an expense of \$505. In 1841 the high pulpit in the church was lowered three feet, and, in 1845-6, other repairs were made.

On Easter day, 1856, the name of the parish and the church was changed from Union to Trinity. A year later, on Easter, 1857, it was decided to thoroughly repair or remodel the church. The last service in the old church was held July 5th, 1857, and the work of reconstruction was then commenced. But little more than the old frame was used in the rebuilt edifice, which was much finer and more capacious than the old one. The number of slips was increased from 42 to 70. In the prosecution of this work, an outlay of \$6,000 was necessary. The ladies of the parish raised \$800 to furnish the building. The new church was consecrated May 11th, 1858, by Bishop Williams.

In 1866 a rectory was purchased, but which was sold in 1873, and a

fine new rectory has since been provided. In the fall of 1867 the interior of the church was embellished. It was, in 1890, in every way comfortable and attractive, and the entire property, including the well-ordered cemetery, was a credit to the parish.

In 1890 there were in the parish 177 families, in which were 285 communicant members. Smith Terrell was the senior warden; George Edwards, junior warden; Noah Sperry, parish clerk, a position long filled by Burton W. Smith, from whose *data* this account is gleaned. The Sunday school, which was established in 1827, had a membership of 150, and L. A. Camp as its superintendent.

The church has had many officiating ministers, some of whom served as rectors of this parish exclusively, while others were here on part time only, on account of the inability to maintain a minister. In 1802 a ministerial fund, or as it was denominated, the Union Bank, was established, with a view of raising permanent support for the ministry. Fifty-seven persons subscribed about \$2,000, but the plan was not without its objections, and becoming a matter of contention, the fund was dissolved in 1811. Doctor Richard Mansfield, of the Derby church, was the first minister here, and preached until 1802, but drew support from the parish until the time of his death, in 1820. The next ministers, for a few months each, were Reverends Solomon Blakeslee and Calvin White. Other ministers were the following: 1805, Ammi Rodgers; 1807, Ambrose Todd; 1810-13, Solomon Blakeslee; 1813, James Thompson; 1814, Calvin White; 1815, Chauncey Prindle; 1817, James Thompson; 1819, Aaron Humphrey; 1822-32, Stephen Jewett; 1833, Charles W. Bradlew; 1834-45, John D. Smith; 1845-6, John Purvis; 1847, Abel Nichols; 1848-50, William F. Walker; 1851-2, Charles G. Ackly; 1853-66, O. Evans Shannon; 1867-75, George Seabury; 1875-7, J. K. Lessell; 1878-81, James H. Van Buren; 1881-8, James D. S. Pardee; 1889, E. H. Cleveland; 1890, Joseph B. Shepherd.

The Great Hill Ecclesiastical Society, within the limits of the First Society of Derby, was authorized by the general assembly in October, 1775, in order that the inhabitants in the specified territory might make provisions for four month's winter preaching. The petitioners were Timothy Russell and others. The first officers of the society were: Joseph Canfield, Joseph Tomlinson and Noah Tomlinson, committee; John Bassett, collector, and Samuel Russell, clerk. A rate of 1½ pence on the pound was laid, and for four years winter meetings were held in the Great Hill school house. In May, 1779, Captain John Holbrook and others of the locality prayed that the Great Hill society might be made a distinct body with all the privileges of other ecclesiastical societies. This being granted, the society was organized September 20th, 1779, and was the third one in Derby. Captain John Holbrook, the prime mover for this society, was a man of great wealth, and having a large tract of land with saw mills on it, practically built the meeting house with his own means. It was probably put up in

the fall of 1781, as there is a record showing its occupancy in March, 1782. He was elected the first deacon of the Great Hill Congregational church, and was in all matters pertaining to its welfare most active. In 1783 the society established the grave yard on Great hill, and John Holbrook, Jr., Enoch Smith and Benjamin English were appointed to dig the graves. Choristers were appointed, and a systematic course of instruction in music was begun, which resulted in greatly edifying the congregation.

In January, 1787, Abner Smith began to preach, holding services at long intervals, but later was settled on a regular call, and served the church many years. The society purchased a tract of land for him on Great hill, on which he built a large gambrel-roofed house, in which he lived until his removal to the West, in 1829. Congregational services now became more and more infrequent, until they were almost wholly suspended. The meeting house was used for school purposes and as a place of worship by the Methodists until their own church, on Great hill, was dedicated, October 25th, 1854. In this building, in more recent times, Congregational preaching has sometimes been held, but the members living in this locality have never been very numerous. The old meeting house was taken down many years ago.

The Great Hill M. E. Church ranks as one of the oldest in the county. It was for many years one of the chief appointments on the old Derby circuit, and in more recent times has sustained an equally important relation to the Seymour church, with which it has long since been served, and with which its history is closely interwoven. In 1820 Presiding Elder Heman Bangs said his main support was from the Great Hill church. Nevertheless, the membership was never very large, but was rather characterized by the zeal which inspired it to embrace this cause.

Among the early members were Captain Isaac Bassett, his wife, one son and six daughters; Mrs. David Tomlinson, one son and three daughters; James Tomlinson and wife; Anson Gillette and wife, five sons and two daughters. Gillette was one of the pioneer class leaders. Later pioneer members were Samuel and David Durand, Cyrus Bottsford and Judson English, all useful and devoted to the cause. The first meetings were held in the school house some time after 1791; later ones in the meeting house of the Great Hill society, and since the fall of 1854 in a building put up and controlled by the Methodists.

The Seymour Methodist Episcopal Church is a prosperous organization. The Reverend Jesse Lee first proclaimed Methodism in this locality. In the summer of 1791 he preached in a grove in Derby, "Uptown," and found willing hearers in John and Ruth Coe and the family of a Mr. Hinman. The following year Middletown circuit was established, embracing as part of its territory all of New Haven county, and since that time there has been a regular service of the

Methodist ministry in the Naugatuck valley. In 1793 a regular society was formed in Derby, and as a result of the preaching there a class was organized at Chusetown in 1797. The members were Jesse Johnson, Isaac Baldwin, Esther Baldwin, Sarah Baldwin and Eunice Baldwin. Soon there were added George Clark, Lucy Hitchcock, Silas Johnson and Olive Johnson. Daniel Rowe, of Derby, was the leader. Preaching services were now established in this place in private houses, and some meetings, after the custom of those times, were held in the public rooms of the taverns. In thus going from place to place they aroused some prejudice, which resulted in petty persecution. Once when a meeting was held at Isaac Baldwin's, the top of the chimney was so much stopped up that the smoke drove the worshippers out of the house. In 1803 the presiding elder, Freeborn Garrettsen, visited Chusetown and held the first quarterly meeting in the old Congregational meeting house. This latter became the first Methodist church building.

In 1809, as the fruits of a revival, when 70 persons were converted, in the Derby Neck school house, there were some additions to the membership, which increased from this time on. In this great revival Moses Osborn, a local preacher from Southbury, was a helpful agent. In 1815 Walter French, of Humphreysville, was licensed to exhort and later to preach, and being endowed with a good memory and a ready utterance, he often here spoke with power and success. He lived to be more than 80 years of age, dying in 1865. Jesse Johnson became a local preacher later than Walter French. In 1828 Samuel R. Hicox, a local preacher from Southbury, became a resident of Humphreysville, having charge of the grist mill at the falls. In 1832 Sylvester Smith, a local preacher from Westville, moved into the village, and from that time for many years was one of the main supports of the church, often assisting the itinerant preachers here and frequently preaching in the adjoining towns. In 1829 Thomas Ellis, a Welsh spinner in the cotton mill, was converted and joined the church. He was a great singer and proved a valuable addition. In 1833 he received license to preach, and in 1838 he joined the conference as an itinerant. He died in 1873, aged 68 years. These local brethren in the ministry, and some zealous lay members, among them being Stiles Johnson and Thomas Gilyard, both of whom endowed the church with worldly goods, greatly aided in giving it a permanent place among the religious bodies of the town. In 1817 the society numbered 56 members. In 1819 there were three classes connected with the church, led by Robert Lees, Timothy Hitchcock and Orrin Peck, the latter being in the town of Woodbridge, but came to this point as their preaching place. After this the church had varying fortunes, some years having as many as 50 accessions to the membership, and at other times suffering a diminished membership on account of removals. In 1890 the joint charges of Great Hill and Seymour had about 250 members, constituting six classes.

October 31st, 1817, Stiles Johnson, Bezaleel Peck, Robert Lees, Thomas Gilyard and Timothy Hitchcock were elected trustees of the Methodist society, and to them, on the 22d of September, 1818, was conveyed the old Congregational meeting house for a consideration of \$40. The same year Stiles Johnson bequeathed to the society the ground on which the building stood and the green in front of it, with \$134 to repair the house and \$200 as a fund whose income was to be applied to maintain "regular Sabbath preaching." The old house was soon after converted into a two-story building, but was wholly barren of paint. In 1831 land was purchased for a parsonage at the corner of Pearl and Grand streets, and the following year the house was completed. In the spring of 1847 the old meeting house was sold for \$100, with a view of building a new one on its site. The corner stone for this was laid June 19th, 1847, Sylvester Smith depositing the case under the stone. The building was in the Gothic style, 40 by 60 feet, with a basement fitted up for services. It was handsomely finished, and in the tower was placed a good bell, weighing 1,150 pounds. The entire cost was \$5,800. The church was dedicated January 18th, 1848, by Bishop Janes. The following season the elm trees in front of the church were planted by Sylvester Smith and his son, William E., who was killed in the civil war September 1st, 1864. In 1875 the old parsonage was sold and a fine new one erected near the church, by a building committee composed of Lugrand Sharpe, Warren French and W. C. Sharpe. It cost \$2,630, and was reputed one of the most pleasant parsonages in the Naugatuck valley. In defraying its cost a legacy of Mrs. Kirtland found useful application. The church building was renovated in 1868 and in 1877. In October, 1891, was begun the erection of a new church edifice, which will cost about \$12,000.

The church has had numerous conference relations. In 1813 the Middletown circuit, to which it first belonged, was divided, and this charge assigned to the Stratford circuit. The formation of the Derby circuit took place next, from which Birmingham and Waterbury were set off as separate stations in 1839, leaving only Humphreysville, Great Hill, Pleasant Vale and Pinesbridge in the circuit. Since 1847 the former two appointments have mainly constituted the charge. The appointees by the several conferences for Seymour and vicinity were the following: 1792, Reverends Richard Swain, Aaron Hunt; 1793, Joshua Taylor, Benjamin Fidler; 1794, Menzies Raynor, Daniel Ostrander; 1795, Evan Rogers, Joel Ketchum; 1796, Joshua Taylor, Lawrence McCombs; 1797, Michael Coate, Peter Jayne; 1798, Augustus Jocelyn; 1799, Ebenezer Stevens; 1800, James Coleman, Roger Searle; 1801, Abijah Bachelor, Luman Andrus; 1802, Abner Wood, James Annis; 1803, Abner Wood, Nathan Emory; 1804, Ebenezer Washburn, Nathan Emory; 1805, Ebenezer Washburn, Luman Andrus; 1806, Luman Andrus, Zalmon Lyon; 1807, William Thatcher, R. Harris, O. Sykes; 1808, James M. Smith, Phineas Rice; 1809, Noble W. Thomas, Coles Car-

penter; 1810, Oliver Sykes, Jonathan Lyon; 1811, Zalmon Lyon, Jesse Hunt; 1812, Aaron Hunt, Arnold Scholefield; 1813, Ebenezer Washburn, James Coleman; 1814, Elijah Woolsey, Henry Ames; 1815, Elijah Hebard, Benoni English.

From 1816 to 1830 the ministers were the following: Reverends Nathan Emory, Arnold Scholefield, Reuben Harris, Ezekiel Canfield, Samuel Bushnell, Aaron Pierce, Beardsley Northrop, David Miller, Bela Smith, James Coleman, Laban Clark, E. Barnett, John Nixon, Eli Denniston, William F. Pease, Julius Field, Samuel D. Ferguson, Valentine Buck, John Luckey, Nathaniel Kellogg, Reuben Harris, John Lovejoy, Laban C. Cheney.

Since 1830 the following have served: 1831, Reverends Daniel Smith, William Bates; 1832, Daniel Smith, Robert Travis; 1833, Thomas Bainbridge, Chester W. Turner; 1834, Humphrey Humphries, John Crawford; 1835-6, Josiah Bowen; 1837-8, David Miller; 1839-40, Thomas Sparks; 1842-3, Ezra Jagger; 1844, Moses Blydenburgh; 1845-6, George L. Fuller; 1847-8, Charles Stearns; 1849-50, Seneca Howland; 1851-2, David Osborn; 1853-4, Rufus K. Reynolds; 1855-6, William T. Hill; 1857-8, Thomas Stevenson; 1859-60, L. P. Perry; 1861, Albert Booth; 1862-3, George Lansing Taylor; 1864-5, A. B. Pulling; 1866, Sylvester Smith; 1867-8, Joseph Pullman; 1869-70, Bennett T. Abbott; 1871-3, Joseph Smith; 1874, William R. Webster; 1875, E. H. Dutcher; 1876, Charles A. Tibbals; \* 1877-9, Joseph Vinton; 1880-2, C. W. Lyon; 1883-4, H. Q. Judd; 1885-7, A. McNicholl; 1888, C. S. Williams; 1889-90, George B. Dusinberre.

The first Methodist Sunday school was begun about 1827 by George Kirtland, having at first his own five children as members. At the end of the year 27 children belonged. After half a dozen years the school was discontinued. In 1841 Samuel R. Hicox became the superintendent, and was followed in 1843 by Lugrand Sharpe. In 1890 the superintendent was A. C. Butler and the number of members approximated 200.

The Church of St. Augustine (Roman Catholic) was erected in 1855-6. When the services of the Roman Catholic church were established in the town in 1844, but six men in Humphreysville professed that faith. They were Nicholas and David Brockway, Nicholas Cass, Patrick and Thomas Gaffney and James Quinlan. The first three are to-day members of the church. Mass was first celebrated in the "old Long House," which stood on the site of the fire engine house, by Father Smith, who came from New Haven. The building of the railroad increased the Catholic population of this locality, and the village was made a mission station of the Waterbury parish. Later the same relation was sustained to Naugatuck and Birmingham, Reverend James Lynch being the priest in charge. To him was deeded, in 1851, by Alfred Blackman, a lot for a Catholic church in Seymour. In 1855 the

\* Resigned in November, 1876, and Reverend A. B. Pulling filled the vacancy.

building was begun, and in the fall of 1856 the church was completed and dedicated with the above name. This building is still standing near the new edifice. A mission relation to neighboring churches was sustained until October, 1885, when Reverend John McMahan became the first resident pastor. He continued in that capacity until May 1st, 1886, when Reverend Father R. C. Gragan was appointed to the pastorate of St. Augustine parish, and here he has since remained as the resident priest. He was born in Ireland in 1846, but at the age of three years came to America. After serving as a mechanic, he was thoroughly educated for the priesthood, to which he was ordained in 1880. In the ministry he was at New Haven and New Britain as assistant pastor, this being the first parish placed fully in his charge. On coming to Seymour he found a floating debt of \$1,000 and the old church too small to properly accommodate the parishioners, which numbered 700 in 1890.

In January, 1887, Father Gragan began his efforts to build a new church, in which he was much encouraged by his parishioners and the community at large. Ground was broken for the present church May 4th, 1888. The corner stone was laid by Bishop L. S. McMahan July 15th, 1888, and December 25th, 1889, the church was for the first time occupied for worship. An impressive and largely attended dedication by the bishop took place May 18th, 1890.

The edifice is of wood, 53 by 101 feet, and there is a spire 118 feet high, which has been fitted to receive a clock and bell. The church has handsome, large stained glass windows, elegant furniture, and is in every respect an ornament to the town. It has 600 sittings and cost \$13,000.

The Humphreysville Baptist Church was the outgrowth of a movement to organize a society of this faith begun in the latter part of 1847, and perfected in the following January. The church, with the above name, was formally recognized by a convention called for that purpose, March 15th, 1848. Reverend William Denison was the first pastor, commencing his ministry April 1st, 1848. George L. Hodge was chosen the first deacon, and S. Y. Beach the clerk and treasurer, filling those offices while the church existed. The last society meeting was held September 29th, 1869. In 1851 the church and society erected a meeting house on a lot donated by S. Y. Beach, on Bank street west of the railroad depot, which cost about \$3,300. After the meetings were discontinued on account of the removal of the members who composed the organization, the building was converted into a business house, known as the Bassett Block, and was burglarized and burned down April 18th, 1882.

In 1890 a German Baptist congregation, but recently organized, held its meetings in Beach Hall. The membership was small, but gave promise of increase.

The cemeteries of the town are half a dozen in number, most of

them being controlled by the several church organizations. One of the most important, the Union Cemetery, is under the care of the Humphreysville Grave Yard Association, organized in 1842 under the general act of that year. Ninety-five persons associated themselves to establish a "village grave yard," on the west side of the river. Originally there were two and a half acres, which were purchased for the association by Clark Wooster, Joshua Kendall and Wales French, as a committee in trust. Curtis Randall, who died October 2d, 1842, was the first person there interred. Since that time many interments have taken place, and the cemetery has been properly improved. In 1889 the directors were John W. Bassett, Martin R. Castle, Andrew Y. Beach, W. C. Sharpe, DeWitt C. Castle, Benjamin B. Thayer and James Swan. Some of the first interments in this locality were made in the Rimmon burying ground, on a bluff on the west side of the river. The interments date from 1768. Earlier burials were made in Derby.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Emery E. Adams, born in Croton Falls, Westchester county, N. Y., in 1850, is a son of Edward and Sarah J. (Meade) Adams, and grandson of David Adams. Mr. Adams settled in Seymour in 1871, and until 1875 was in the employ of H. B. Beecher, auger manufacturer. Since 1875 he has been a contractor with the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company. He was married in 1875 to Ella J., daughter of Frederick Emery. They have two daughters, Luella E. and Beulah A.

Wilford A. Baldwin, born in Birmingham, Conn., in 1847, is a son of George, grandson of Anson, and great-grandson of James Baldwin, a resident of Oxford, Conn., and a revolutionary soldier. George Baldwin married Cynthia, daughter of Hiram Johnson, and their children were: Ida, Hiram and Wilford A. Ida married John Ashton. Wilford A. settled in Seymour in 1885, and engaged in the meat and market business. He married, in 1872, Ida E. Lewis. They have one daughter, Edith. Mr. Baldwin is a member of Shepherds' Lodge, No. 78, F. & A. M., and of Alton Chapter, No. 39, R. A. M., of Naugatuck.

Edward F. Bassett, born in Woodbury, Conn., in 1823, is a son of Zerah, a native of North Haven, born October 11th, 1795. His grandfather was Isaac Bassett, a soldier in the revolutionary war. His great-grandfather was Abram Bassett. Zerah was a carriage maker, and carried on business in Woodbury for upward of 25 years. He settled in Seymour about 1836. He married Miranda Doolittle, of Wallingford, Conn., born August 1st, 1795. They had two children, Edward F. and Maria L. Zerah Bassett died October 23d, 1839, and Miranda, his wife, died January 21st, 1867. Maria L. Bassett married Isaac H. Davis. Edward F. married, in 1849, Laura Linsley, of Woodbury, Conn. They have one daughter, Jennie L. Mr. Bassett engaged in the furniture, undertaking and house furnishing business in Seymour



in 1847, which he conducted until 1889, when he retired. He was town clerk for one year. His store was burned with all its contents in 1882, but he rebuilt and continued the business.

Sharon Y. Beach, born in North Haven May 21st, 1809, is a son of Giles, grandson of Benjamin, and great-grandson of Benjamin. Giles Beach married Mary, daughter of Captain Jonathan and Mary Dayton. Captain Dayton commanded a company in the revolutionary war, and had four sons in the same company. He was also a justice of the peace. Benjamin Beach, father of Giles, was the first settled minister in Seymour, then called Chusetown. Sharon Y. Beach came from North Haven in 1830, and settled in Humphreysville, and for several years was employed in a cotton mill there. In 1843 he engaged in paper manufacturing, which has since been his business. He has been selectman several terms, and has held other town offices. He has been a member of the Baptist church for 60 years, and a member and deacon of the Ansonia Baptist church since its organization. He was married in 1832 to Adaline, daughter of Asa Sperry. Their children were: George W., Andrew Y., Emeline E., Sharon D. and Theodore B. Mr. Beach married for his second wife, in 1872, Julia D., daughter of Andrew P. Hine.

Sharon D. Beach, born in Seymour November 23d, 1849, is a son of Sharon Y. Beach. He was married in 1870 to Mary E., daughter of Stephen Rider, of Seymour. Their children are: Sharon M., Ralph S. and J. Mabel. Mr. Beach is treasurer and manager of the S. Y. Beach Paper Company.

Theodore B. Beach, born in Seymour in 1855, is a son of Sharon Y. Beach. He has been agent at Seymour for the Naugatuck Railroad Company since 1879. For five years prior to that he was ticket agent of the New York & New England and Naugatuck railroads at Waterbury. He has been secretary of the board of education for eight years, and is secretary of the S. Y. Beach Paper Company. He is a member of the Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., the A. O. U. W. and the Nonnawauk Tribe of Red Men. Mr. Beach was married in 1879, to Elizabeth Lockwood. They have two children: Harold and Olive.

Hiram Chatfield, born in Seymour in 1844, is a son of Joel R., he a son of Joel, he a son of Elnathan, and he a son of Edwin Chatfield. Joel Chatfield married Ruth Stoddard, and their children were: Isaac, Leman, Almira, Stoddard, Thirza, Joel R. and Charlotte. Joel R. Chatfield was born in 1804, and is still living. He has been twice married: first to Lucinda Hitchcock, and their children were Clark and Lucinda. For his second wife he married Mary, daughter of Truman Tomlinson, and their children were: John, Edwin, Ransom, Hiram, Mary T., Charlotte F. and Hattie M.

CHARLES COUPLAND, the enterprising and successful superintendent of the Tingle Manufacturing Company, at Seymour, was born at Huddersfield, in Yorkshire, England, April 11th, 1840. His parents

were Robert and Mary Coupland, and he was the second of a family of nine children. His father was a small woolen manufacturer, but thoroughly skilled in his occupation, and was considered an ingenious man. He soon needed the services of his son, and when Charles Coupland was but seven years of age he was placed at work in the factory, where he labored in the daytime, and what little education he received was obtained from attendance of night schools.

But he learned, in the twelve years that included his apprenticeship in his father's factory, what has proved of immense practical benefit to him, every detail and all the intricacies and fine points pertaining to the manufacture of woolen goods. Having obtained this mechanical knowledge he became, at the age of 19 years, dissatisfied with his prospects in life, and resolved, in 1860, to cast his lot in America. With others he emigrated to this country, and soon found work in the Windmere mills, at Rockville, Conn. After working a short time as a second man in the carding room, he was given charge of the department, and since that time all his service has been in supervisory positions. In 1865 he went to Philadelphia, Pa., where he was given charge of the carding and spinning of the Baltic Mills. He thence went to Union Village, Conn., where he owned and operated a custom woolen mill several years. A year later he removed to Burrville, Conn., where he was also engaged in business on his own account in the manufacture of woolen flocks, using a machine invented by himself, which very successfully performed that operation, doing as much work as five other machines previously used. In 1869 he sold out and went to Templeton, Mass., to take charge of the well known Otter River blanket mills, going from there to the woolen mills of Berry & Stanton, at Woodville, R. I., each move bringing an advance in position and salary, and increasing his knowledge of manufacturing.

In 1871 he became the manager and part owner of the mill at Thomaston, Conn., operated by the Plymouth Woolen Company, where he remained until the mill burned down in the fall of 1873. The corporation now determined to build up a worsted mill, and Mr. Coupland was urged to prepare himself to take charge of it. His experience had been confined to woolen goods, whose manufacture differed from worsted goods, which necessitated new instruction, but which was difficult to obtain, as every mill kept a close guard of its secret processes. Determined to find an entrance into some mill, even if he would have to do ordinary labor, Mr. Coupland came to Seymour, where he applied for a place in the Kalmia Mills, at that time run on worsted yarns by Schepper Brothers, of Philadelphia, with Emil Martines as superintendent. He was told the only place vacant was that of engineer, and if he was competent he could take that. He knew but little of the work of an engineer, but accepted the place at \$3 per day, and by diligent attention to his work soon succeeded in running it very satisfactorily. He remained nine months, and in that period



Charles Coryland



learned to know about worsteds all he wanted. In the meantime the death of Lucius P. Porter, of the Plymouth Company, had disarranged the plans of the corporation, which decided not to rebuild. Mr. Coupland now sought a new field of labor, and applied to A. T. Stewart for the position of general superintendent of his numerous woolen mills, receiving the appointment, at a very large salary, in the fall of 1874. He entered upon his new duties to the great surprise of his acquaintances at Seymour, who could not imagine how a man who had been so recently a workman in an engine room in their midst could possibly fill that place. When Mr. Coupland took charge of the Stewart interests but four of the thirteen woolen mills in four different states were running, but soon every mill was profitably operated, giving employment to over 10,000 people. In this service he remained six years.

In 1880, while still in the employ of A. T. Stewart, Mr. Coupland discovered a new and exceedingly speedy way to weave mohair pile goods, which he determined to utilize in a factory of his own, with the aid of interested capital. At this time he was introduced to John H. Tingue, a wealthy dry goods merchant, of New York, who consented to embark with him in this new enterprise, Mr. Coupland agreeing to devise, construct and place in operation all the necessary machinery, Mr. Tingue to see that there was no lack of capital. Looking about for a suitable site for the factory they came to Seymour and bought the Kalmia or old Eagle silk mill, in 1880, and the work of building the machinery was begun by Mr. Coupland, and since that time he has been the genius which inspired and has successfully directed the Tingue Manufacturing Company at Seymour. The corporation was formed in 1881, and the same year the work of manufacturing plush goods was begun.\* The process was a radical departure from all former methods, and not only was this the pioneer mill in America in this line of industry, but for five years was the sole occupant of this especial field.

Of this mill and its operations the *American Machinist* said in 1884:

"I had the pleasure, a few weeks ago, of looking through the plush manufactory at Seymour, Conn., through the courtesy of the president of the company, Mr. J. H. Tingue, and under the guidance of Mr. Coupland, the superintendent, whose inventive turn of mind, backed up by his indomitable perseverance and exceptional executive ability, have accomplished wonders in the last four year. Indeed, to pass through the different departments, as I did, and listen to the explanation of differences between the methods and machinery employed by the Tingue Company, and those employed by manufacturers of similar goods both here and in foreign countries, with the advantages claimed both in quantity and quality of production, and be told that the machinery had been invented, designed and built by themselves. while to the question, 'How long has it taken?' came the answer, 'Four years,'

\* See account of manufactures in foregoing pages.

was to me a genuine surprise. To the enterprise, perseverance, inventive and mechanical ability which have left their imprint all through this truly model establishment, I feel that I have no words in which to pay a fitting tribute. Through the successful establishment of this industry—the manufacture of mohair plush—is opened up a new and profitable industry in the raising of the Angora goat, which has already been found to be a sure source of profit in some parts of the Southern States, where sheep-raising has proved a failure.

“The beautiful silky fleeces of these animals, with a fiber of six or seven to nine or ten inches long, and in extreme cases, I am told, it is found eighteen inches in length, are, by the ingenious machinery of the Tingle Company, carried from one stage of manufacture to another till two sheets of plush in one, joined by the pile of each, await the services of the ingenious splitting machine of Mr. Coupland, who, with the inspiration of American air, for the past score of years could not be satisfied with the old way in use abroad of weaving over wires, which, by withdrawing, cut the pile and separated the two sheets, but has invented a machine the office of which is to split in the most accurate manner, and in an entirely automatic way, any width or length of plush goods.

“Not only is the operation of splitting performed automatically, but the knives which do the work are automatically ground while working, and so kept constantly sharp. Enough might be said of this place to fill a volume, but, wishing to be careful not to violate any confidence, I have simply to say I am truly grateful, while I feel—and I think that every American citizen should—that many thanks are due to these pioneers in an industry which promises to become one of great importance, not simply in a manufacturing sense, but to the land-owner in a large section of the country.”

Since that time much other labor-saving machinery has been added by Mr. Coupland, much of which he invented, and he has had 30 patents awarded him for machinery to be used in the manufacture of plush goods. The mill and the entire plant superintended by him is a model of neatness, order, and the adaptation of the best means to obtain the best results, showing that Mr. Coupland also has fine administrative ability as well as inventive talent, which have given him a place among the foremost mill men of the country.

Mr. Coupland has not neglected his duties as a citizen, being progressive and public-spirited in his relations to the community, hence he yielded his consent to serve in several offices to which he was elected by his townsmen. He is a prominent Free Mason, and belongs to the Order of Elks. Politically he has given his adherence to the democratic party, but is in no sense a partisan in his opinions or actions.

ALVA GOODRICH DE WOLFE was born in the town of Morris, in Litchfield county, August 25th, 1810. He was the youngest of the five

children of Levi and Hulda (Stanley) De Wolfe, and is the only survivor of their family. The father of Hulda Stanley served in the revolution, and being taken a prisoner, died while confined in one of the New York prison ships. The boyhood of Levi De Wolfe was full of romance and stirring incidents, also including a service in the revolution. He was born May 9th, 1764, on the then frontier of Connecticut. When four years old he was carried away in an Indian raid and was held by the savages several years. Upon being released he found a home in the family of Abiel Booth, of Newtown, a farmer and blacksmith. When Levi was 15 years of age he joined the patriot forces in their struggle for independence, and served until the end of the war. The last two years he was a sergeant in the body-guard of General La Fayette, whom he held in the greatest esteem; and when that distinguished officer visited New Haven, in 1825, he was one of the party to extend him a royal welcome. At the battle of Yorktown Sergeant De Wolfe was wounded, and was discharged from the hospital after the army had left that place. Returning home, he became a blacksmith of skill in Litchfield county, where he died January 15th, 1857, more than 90 years of age.

The boyhood of A. G. De Wolfe was spent in Morris, where he received a very limited common school education, as he was early put to work in his father's shop. Here he gave the first evidence of his strong perceptive faculties and great mechanical skill. When but 14 years of age he built a lathe without having one to pattern after, and had become very skillful in mending guns, watches and other machinery. In May, 1826, when he was not yet 16 years old, he went to Goshen, where he engaged to build a set of clock making machinery, and by the following October had performed that work, so that his employer, A. Hart, was enabled to turn out 5,000 clocks per year. He next went to Plymouth Hollow, the same fall, where he was engaged by Eli and Henry Terry, at that time making wooden clocks, and for five years was their tool maker and general machinist, often working 15 hours per day. In this period the making of wooden clocks was at its height and the business was very active.

Having attained his majority, he associated himself, in the fall of 1831, with a man by the name of Dennison, to go to Havana, Cuba, to build and set up Jennings' camphene street lamps. They sailed on a brig from New York, which experienced heavy seas off Cape Hatteras, which damaged the vessel, but it finally reached Charleston harbor in safety. Here their plans were changed, and the two young adventurers went to Georgetown, S. C., where De Wolfe worked in a gun shop. In the summer of 1832 he went to New York, where he was employed in the shops of Pike, the philosophical instrument maker. The following year he worked for E. & G. W. Bunt, makers of mathematical and nautical instruments, of the same city. In the meantime a second sojourn in the South, the previous winter, had impaired his health to

such an extent that he was advised to take an extended sea voyage to improve it. Accordingly, he and a companion determined to join a whaling expedition. In the fall of 1834 they shipped from New Bedford, Mass., and after three years, three months and twenty days returned home in rugged health. Much of this time De Wolfe served as the blacksmith of the vessel, without having any previous experience in that work.

In 1837 he was again at Thomaston, where he arranged the machinery in the Terry shops for the manufacture of woolen goods. He next built machinery for Seth Thomas, of the same place, for making brass clocks, and remained several years at that village. In 1846 he moved to Springfield, Mass., where he was associated with others as the Wasson Car Works, which enterprise was for a time very successful. He next removed to Harlem, in 1850, where he carried on a machine shop, and there began his work as a builder of rubber making machinery, which led him into his later avocation, in which he attained distinguished success, and wherein he holds a place as a mechanical genius of more than ordinary ability. About this time he entered into the service of the New York Toy Company, of Staten Island, and in 1853 devised a method of pressing into shape hard rubber goods out of rubber dust, scraps or plates, which was successfully applied by the Novelty Rubber Company to the manufacture of rubber buttons, etc. That industry was established at Beacon Falls in 1855, with machinery arranged by A. G. De Wolfe. This company soon removed to New Brunswick, N. J., where he also went for a short time.

In these years Mr. De Wolfe had associated with Henry B. Goodyear and other inventors and experimenters of rubber goods, and had himself become an expert in the new art. As such he went to Beacon Falls, in 1856, but was soon after engaged by Mr. A. G. Day to come to Seymour in the same capacity. His labors as a rubber expert, and his success in properly cleaning East India gum, as well as having greatly improved all the machinery in use, soon justified the wisdom of Mr. Day in selecting him for that position, and he directed those affairs many years, to the manifest advantage of the works at Seymour.

About 1860 Mr. De Wolfe began experimenting upon the proper insulation of wire, endeavoring to cover the same with machinery. These processes were well under way when the Day factories were burned in 1864. They were soon rebuilt and supplied with better machinery, much of it constructed by Mr. De Wolfe, including machinery to properly cover wire so as to secure perfect insulation, with Kerite, a compound here exclusively used since 1866, under his superintendence. Mr. De Wolfe has been an incessant worker, applying all his mental and physical energies to the successful solution of the various problems which have presented themselves in his sphere of action, and as a consequent result has devised or perfected more than 60 different articles. Several patents have been awarded him, but like most in-





*A. G. DeWolfe*



ventive geniuses he has failed of receiving proper reward from them. He has, however, through his skill benefitted mankind, and in this way has been a most useful citizen, not only of Seymour, but of the world at large.

Mr. De Wolfe was married, in 1839, to Lucy Ann Hotchkiss, of Watertown, Conn., who died September 4th, 1857. His family consists of five daughters, all living, viz.: Hulda, single; Elizabeth, married Charles Sears, of New York; Maria, married James Barber, deceased; Helen, married Joseph Ineson, deceased, and for her second husband, John Jackson; Frances, married W. R. Brixey, of England, but now of Seymour.

William W. Dibble, born in Brookfield, Conn., November 1st, 1828, is a son of Amon, born January 14th, 1796, and grandson of Levi, born July 6th, 1770. Levi married Charity Wheeler, in 1789, and their children were: Isaac W., Amon, Eliza L., Ezra W., Horace B. and Leah A. Amon Dibble was married, November 17th, 1818, to Sarah, daughter of William Silleck. Their children (living) are: William W. and Phebe. William W. Dibble was married, December 24th, 1848, to Sarah G. Hawkins, of Derby. Their children are: Charles E., Lillian I., William A., Elizabeth, Mary F., Olin L., Cora, Clara, Frederick W. and Florence. Charles died in 1870. William W. Dibble came to Seymour about 1865, and since that time has been in the employ of A. G. Day, rubber manufacturer. Olin L. Dibble was born September 22d, 1863. He has been in the employ of the Fowler Nail Company since 1878, as shipping clerk, and later as bookkeeper.

Charles E. Fairchild, born in Oxford in 1831, is a son of Ebenezer, born July 30th, 1803, and grandson of Nathan Fairchild. The children of Nathan Fairchild were: Nathan, Ebenezer and Hanford. Ebenezer Fairchild was a carriage maker. He came to Seymour about 1851, and carried on business there many years. He was married, in 1827, to Sarah, daughter of Captain Job Candee, who was in the revolutionary war, and a descendant of Zacheus Candee, born in New Haven in 1640. The family were French Huguenots, and fled from France early in the sixteenth century to Scotland. One of the family afterward emigrated to America and settled in Connecticut. The children of Ebenezer and Sarah Fairchild were: Charles E., Mary J. and Henry L. (deceased). Mary J. married Henry Beecher. Charles E. Fairchild has been twice married: to Martha Davidson in 1861, and to Mrs. Ida Coffin in 1887. Ebenezer Fairchild died February 20th, 1880.

RAYMOND FRENCH was born January 7th, 1805, and died at his native place, Seymour, February 19th, 1886. He was a pioneer manufacturer at Humphreysville, and in his day one of the most active and energetic men in the lower part of the Naugatuck valley. His ancestors descended from William French, of Essex, England, who, with his wife, Elizabeth, came to America in the ship "Defense" in 1635, and

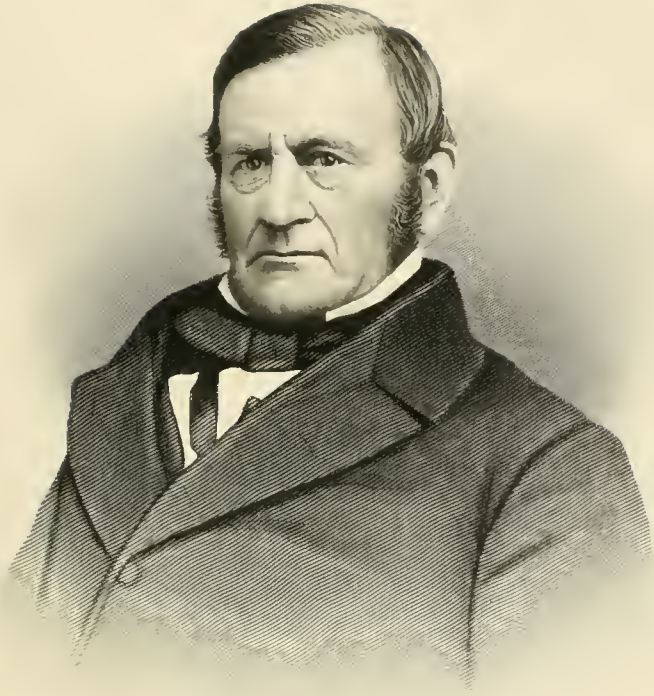
settled at Billerica, Mass., 18 miles from Boston. One of his sons, Francis, in 1650 moved to Milford, in this county, where he permanently located, and from this branch of the family came Raymond French. His great-grandfather, Francis, junior, was a son of this Francis, and father of Israel French, one of the first settlers of the Humphreysville section. The latter was married to Sarah Loveland, and one of their children was a son, Charles, the father of Raymond. Charles French was married to Anna Woodcock, of Milford, February 25th, 1784, and died in 1859. She also became very aged, deceasing when 87 years old. They had a large family, Raymond being the eleventh child.

December 11th, 1833, Raymond French, at that time in the Isle of Trinidad, married Olive Curtiss, of Middlebury, Conn., who died in 1855, aged 49 years. Their family consisted of four children: Carlos, the only son; Harriet, married Samuel H. Canfield, of Seymour; Sarah, married Judge W. B. Stoddard, of New Haven; Ann, married Cornelius W. James, of Seymour.

Carlos French was born August 6th, 1835. He was educated at Seymour, and for four years was a member of General Russell's military school, at New Haven. He then assisted in his father's business until 1859, and has since been a manufacturer on his own account at Seymour, being engaged, first, in the manufacture of a car spring invented by himself. He has helped materially to build up the town erecting in 1891 the handsome Humphreys Block. His career in public life embraced elections to the state legislature in 1860 and in 1868, and to the Fiftieth congress of the United States. He served with credit in those bodies, and is now a member from Connecticut of the democratic national committee.

Carlos French was married, April 30th, 1863, to Julia H. Thompson, of New Milford, and the children by this union were: Carlotta, died July 16th, 1890, aged 22 years; and Raymond T., born February 23d, 1864. The latter is a graduate of the Yale Scientific School, and was married October 1st, 1891, to Alice R. Hayden, of Columbus, Ohio.

Raymond French shared the lot of most farmers' sons of that time, being soon put to work, to the disadvantage of his school opportunities when a boy. He was early apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade with Isaac Kinney, whose shop was near where is the Methodist church at Seymour. There he made himself thoroughly proficient in a trade which in those days embraced almost everything manufactured in iron, and the mastery of that art greatly contributed to his future success. After he had completed his apprenticeship he began working in an auger shop in his native village, and became skillful as a tool maker. In 1828 he was induced to go to the Isle of Trinidad, West Indies, where for six years he was engaged in fitting up sugar mills with machinery, and also worked in the shops of the British



*Raymond French.*



government. In 1834 he returned to America and permanently located at Seymour. Soon after he formed a copartnership with John C. Wheeler for the manufacture of augers, but in 1837 became the sole proprietor of the shops, having, after a year or so, Hiram Upson as a partner, but also bought out his interests after several years.

About 1843 he joined John and Timothy Dwight to form the firm of Dwights & French, who became extensive manufacturers of augers, bits, plane irons and other tools. A larger plant was soon needed, and with a view of providing a site and power for it, Mr. French bought the Kinneytown property, below Seymour. In 1844 he built the fine dam at that place, selling the property to Anson G. Phelps in 1845. The same year he bought the property of the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company, and prepared it for his new works. His already large business was much increased in 1849, when two more members were added to the firm, which now became Dwights, French & Co., and the manufacture of railway cars was also begun. Soon after new buildings were added to the already large plant, and their industry became the most important in the place. In 1852 the interests of the firm were divided, the car work being done by the newly formed American Car Company, and the making of tools being continued by the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company, Raymond French being a controlling spirit in both corporations. In 1853 the American Car Company also built large works in Chicago, but in 1855 sold them, and they eventually became the property of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. The same year the company disposed of its interests at Seymour to the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company, of which Raymond French was now the president, and served until the dissolution of the company in 1870. He then secured a third interest in the factories and power of the old Humphreysville company, and engaged in the manufacture of ox shoes, which industry he carried on until failing health compelled him to retire from active life. In this period he had also been identified with many other interests of Seymour, such as the Eagle silk mills, the Humphreysville Copper Company, the Bank of North America, etc. He built the present dam at the lower falls, and had the contract for constructing the Rimmon dam, in 1866. Few public enterprises were begun without receiving his encouragement or support, and whatever he undertook to do he endeavored to push to a successful result.

Mr. French was a man of strong physique, and great powers of endurance. He was energetic and industrious, had a large fund of good sense, and for his privileges was intelligent to a marked degree. His mechanical skill was great, and he possessed inventive talents of a superior order, which he successfully utilized. Added to these qualities were his plain habits of life and speech, his integrity and interest in those associated with him and the community at large, which made him not only a successful man, but also one of the most honored in his time of life.

Thomas F. Gilyard, born in Seymour in 1844, is a son of William F., born 1816, and grandson of Thomas Gilyard, who was born in Leeds, England, March 20th, 1786, and came from England in 1807. He settled in Humphreysville, and for many years was employed in General Humphreys' woolen factory as a cloth finisher. He married Lois French, of Bethany. He died in 1853. William F. Gilyard married Wealthy A. Hotchkiss, and their children were: Mary A., Thomas F. and Sarah L., who married Ransom Chatfield. Mary A. (deceased) married Henry Buckingham. Wealthy A. Gilyard died May 9th, 1891. Thomas F. Gilyard has been twice married; first in 1870, to Antoinette Bryant, and in 1880 to Hattie French. They have two sons: Arthur T. and Raymond E. William F. Gilyard died in 1884.

Robert Healey, born in London, England, in 1842, is a son of Robert, who came to this country in 1846, and to Seymour four years later. Robert Healey, Sr., was in the United States navy several years before the war. When the war broke out he enlisted in the 1st Kentucky Regiment, was soon after taken prisoner, and for 14 months was confined in Salisbury prison. Upon his release he enlisted in the navy. He died at Norfolk, Va., in 1867. Robert Healey, Jr., enlisted in the 22d Indiana Regiment in 1861. He was color bearer and served until the close of the war. He was severely wounded at Perryville, Ky. At the close of the war he returned to Seymour, and for 12 years was in the employ of the Douglass Manufacturing Company, since which time he has been engaged in farming. He has served the town as selectman for seven years, has also been assessor and member of the board of education. He was elected representative in 1889. He is a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., and of the Independent Order of Red Men. He is past commander of Upson Post, No. 40, G. A. R. He married, in 1866, Alice J., daughter of Amos Bassett, of Seymour.

Edward L. Hoadley, born in Naugatuck, Conn., in 1836, is a son of Lewis Hoadley. He married Mrs. Sarah Randall, daughter of Leverett Pritchard, of Seymour. Lewis Hoadley settled in Seymour in 1842, and was engaged in farming and dealing in lumber. He died in 1866. Edward L. continues the business, running several saw mills, and gets out from 300,000 to 400,000 feet of lumber annually. He has been selectman several times. He was married in 1857, to Martha J. Wheeler, of Oxford.

Charles Hull, born in Seymour in 1835, is a son of John C. and grandson of Alfred Hull, a tanner and shoemaker in Humphreysville. His mother was a sister of Doctor David Hull, of Fairfield, and General William Hull, of revolutionary fame. John C. Hull was a shoemaker by trade. He married Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah Tomlinson. Their children were: Charles, De Witt C., Mary and Isaac, who died in infancy. Mary Hull married Egbert Cogswell, of New Preston, Conn. De Witt C. Hull was born in Seymour in 1844,



and is a carpenter by trade. He married, in 1865, Juliet Brown, of Harwinton, Conn., and they have one son, Ernest D. Charles Hull is also a carpenter. He was married in 1873, to Lillie I. Davis. They have three children: Afred, Mary and John.

THOMAS JAMES, who was for several scores of years the leading spirit of the New Haven Copper Company, of Seymour, was born at Swansea, Wales, August 3d, 1817, and died at his adopted home July 4th, 1887. He was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth James, and one of a family of ten children. His parents were poor, and nearly all the education he obtained in the early years of his life was from attendance of night schools, after working in the mills all day. But he had an inquiring mind, which prompted him to be a student through the greater part of his life, thus enabling him to become not only sagacious in his business affairs, but he also acquired a large fund of information on many other topics.

When a mere lad Thomas James began his life work as an artificer in copper, and by unremitted toil and intelligent application became one of the masters of his art in this country, none exceeding him in the extent of his practical knowledge. He thoroughly understood the refining of metals and the subsequent processes, and instructed his sons in every detail of the business. His own experience began when, as a young boy, he entered one of the mills of his native town in Wales, where he was instructed in all the branches of copper smelting, his father and his grandfather before him being adepts in the same business, the last named being one of the first smelters at the "White Rock" smelting works in Swansea, which works were completed in the year 1744. So we see here, in a direct line, four successive generations following the same occupation. At their establishment in Seymour the men in charge of the rolling and refining processes are also Welshmen. They are acknowledged to-day, as they have been in the past, to stand at the head of their industry, and the Welsh methods are adopted by the principal smelters all the world over.

Like many other ambitious young men of the old world, Thomas James early determined to cast his lot in this country, purposing when he was 21 years of age to join an uncle, who had preceded him to America. With that view a correspondence was kept up, and he left his home April 25th, 1838. He sailed from Liverpool May 3d, and after a very tedious voyage he landed in New York June 23d, 1838. He there learned to his great disappointment that the relative whom he expected to meet, thinking that he would not come, had sailed for Chili the preceding day. His sorrows were further increased by the knowledge that his limited means were about exhausted, his total funds being only about one shilling. Fortunately in this strait he found a Welsh family from Swansea, which offered him a temporary home, and directed him to a source of employment which led to his

becoming a citizen of Connecticut instead of Pennsylvania, as had been the original purpose. Thus often do adverse circumstances tend to our future destiny and welfare. The Jones family, knowing that he had been trained as a copper worker, referred him to Anson G. Phelps, who had but recently established his mill at Birmingham. He was promptly engaged, and was soon at work as a roller in that new mill. When the works were transferred to Ansonia, he went with the working force and remained in that village about three years. In this period it became known that he was more than an ordinary workman. His training gave him a knowledge of every department of the works, and he brought to the attention of his employers several new compounds, which he thought might be advantageously manufactured, among them being yellow metal, which was first made by him in this country.

After the Humphreysville Copper Company was organized, Raymond French persuaded Mr. James to come to Seymour in 1848 and take charge of the rolling mill, which he did, performing in addition the work of the refiner, until he had some one properly trained for that position. Through all the changes which attended the venture at Humphreysville he remained at the works, doing his best to make a success of the enterprise. His energy and practical knowledge made him a valuable man, and as he was frugal his earnings enabled him to purchase an interest in the company, whose stock, in the course of years, he fully controlled, and under his management the industry was firmly established.

When the New Haven Copper Company was organized, in 1874, Thomas James became its president, and served five years, when his son, Thomas L., was elected to that office and has since filled it. The elder James was next the treasurer of the company until his death, when his son, Conelius W., was called to that place.

Thomas James was a very methodical man, and exacted from all those associated with him an observance of system and order. He had, moreover, great executive ability as well as a genius for invention and a knowledge of mechanism, and possessed a remarkably well-balanced mind. These traits aided him materially in obtaining great business success. In his nature he was genial, public-spirited and especially benevolent toward his old and faithful employees. None, even after they had become incapacitated by age, were permitted to leave his service; and it is a pleasure to here record the fact that his sons have honorably preserved that custom. Always interested in the public welfare, and encouraging every public improvement, he confided the trusts and honors of offices to others, but supported the principles of the republican party. In his religious belief he was an Episcopalian, and was one of the most liberal supporters of the interests of Trinity parish, of Seymour.

Mr. James was twice married; first, November 17th, 1839, to Emily



*Thos. James*



H. Abbott, of Danbury, who died June 7th, 1841. Her only child was a son, Cornelius W., born April 14th, 1841, who married Ann B. French in November, 1864. For his second wife Thomas James married Minerva H. Rowe, of Oxford, June 19th, 1843, and she still survives. This union was blessed with seven children, three dying in infancy, and four growing to mature years, namely: Thomas L., born May 7th, 1846, married July 21st, 1870, to Julia Du Bois, of Fishkill, New York; Elizabeth Emily, born March 16th, 1848, married October 2d, 1877, to L. A. Camp; George A., born August 25th, 1850, married May 25th, 1875, to Sarah M. Riggs; Louisa Ellen, born December 18th, 1854, married to F. A. Rugg, October 25th, 1876. All the family reside at Seymour, being among the leading citizens of the town.

John King, born in Manchester, England, in 1840, came to America in 1863, and settled in Ansonia, where he resided until 1870, then settled in the town of Seymour. From 1863 to 1880 he was in the mechanical and electrical department of Wallace & Sons' factory at Ansonia; from 1880 to the present time in the ice business in Ansonia and Seymour. He also carries on a saw mill, cider mill and distillery, and is a maker of cider machinery. He married, in 1862, Annie Potts. They have two children living: Mary A. and Alfred H.

CHARLES HENRY LOUNSBURY, one of the leading merchants and business men of Seymour, was born in the western part of Bethany, September 18th, 1848, and is the only son of Ransom and Mary (Joyce) Lounsbury, now residing in the town of Beacon Falls. The other members of their family were two sisters: Eliza Jane, married Herbert Beers, of New Haven, deceased in the spring of 1890; and Ella B., married to Fred Colvin, who was drowned at Milford Beach. The father is a son of Josiah Lounsbury, a man of excellent parts, and much respected by all who knew him. The latter was married to Sally Lines, whose father held a commission from Governor Jonathan Trumbull in the revolutionary service. The father of Josiah Lounsbury and great-grandfather of Charles H., Linus Lounsbury, one of the first settlers in the western part of Bethany, was also a soldier in the revolution. The Lounsbury paternal home is still owned by the family, being one of the oldest improved places in the eastern section of the town of Beacon Falls.

On the 25th of December, 1877, when he was about 29 years of age, Charles H. Lounsbury married Jennie, daughter of John and Margaret (Alderson) Titley, at that time residing in Beacon Falls, but who was born in North Wales. She came with her parents to America, in 1854, when she was but two years of age, and the voyage made in a sailing vessel consumed six weeks. The children by this marriage have been: Jessie May, born June, 1879, died August 15th, 1881; Mary E., born September 12th, 1881; Charles H., born November 1st, 1883, and John Titley, born November 13th, 1890.

All the ancestors of Charles H. Lounsbury were farmers, and to

that occupation he was also reared, having privilege in these years to attend the district school of his locality and a few sessions of a select school taught at Beacon Falls. But all his schooling was limited to a few years' attendance. He had, however, a studious disposition which prompted him to round out his education by self-study and intelligent observation, garnering from every source until he became a well-informed man.

In July, 1878, Mr. Lounsbury relinquished his farm work and removed to Seymour, where he has since resided. Here he engaged as a clerk in the general store of M. M. Randall, and learned the art of merchandising. Having thoroughly mastered that pursuit he ventured in trade for himself in March, 1881, establishing a business which under his prudent management has grown to fine proportions. His integrity, industry and perseverance in this avocation have been properly rewarded, and he has become one of the foremost tradesmen of this part of the Naugatuck valley. To the cares of his private business Mr. Lounsbury has added, at different periods, the responsibility of public trusts, all of which have been faithfully and efficiently discharged, and as a public official he has made an honorable record. When the town of Beacon Falls was organized, in 1871, he was one of the officers first chosen, and in 1877 was elected as its representative in the state legislature. In Seymour he served as the first selectman and town agent from October, 1885, until October, 1890, declining a sixth election to that office. In this period some of the most important public improvements in the town were made under his direction, and have reflected credit upon his judgment and executive ability.

Mr. Lounsbury has been a member of the order of Odd Fellows the past twenty years, belongs to Morning Star Lodge, No. 47, F. & A. M., to Castle Rock Lodge, A. O. of U. W., and the order of the Eastern Star. He is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Seymour, and has served it in official capacities.

Michael McNerney, born in Orange, Conn., April 15th, 1851, is a son of Michael and Mary McNerney, and grandson of James McNerney. The children of Michael, Sr., are: James, Margaret (deceased), Katie, Michael, Stephen, Andrew, Mary, Anne, Peter and John. Michael McNerney, Jr., settled in Seymour in 1877, and engaged in blacksmithing. He is a trustee and member of St. Augustine's R. C. church, a member and president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Knights of Columbus, and A. O. H. of Ansonia. He was married in 1881, to Mary Callahan. Their children are: Michael, Dennis, John, Edward (deceased) and William. Mr. McNerney has been constable for upward of 12 years.

Harris B. Munson, born in Middlebury, Conn., in 1821, was a son of Joseph and Lucinda (Wooster) Munson. He learned the joiner's trade, but becoming dissatisfied with that, he took up the study of law



*C. H. Lousbury*





with Judge Charles B. Phelps, of Woodbury. He was admitted to the bar in 1845. He was elected county judge of New Haven county about 1850. He settled in Seymour about 1846, was elected to the legislature in 1853 and 1854, and again in 1863, and thereafter for four consecutive years. He was elected justice of the peace in 1852, which office he held for 18 years. He was a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., of Seymour, and the Mt. Vernon Chapter, R. A. M., of Ansonia. He married for his first wife Maria Leavenworth. Their children were: Ella, Byron, Sophia, Iris, Harris and Mary. He was married the second time, in 1878, to Mrs. Harriet Sperry, widow of Mark Sperry. Her maiden name was Elder. Their children were: Iris E. and Marion H. Judge Munson died February 2d, 1885.

Edward Pritchard, born in Humphreysville (now Seymour) in 1830, is a son of Jabez E., he a son of Leverett, and he a son of James, a lieutenant in the revolutionary war. Leverett Pritchard married Charlotte Harger. Jabez E., son of Leverett, married Lucretia, daughter of Theophilus Miles. Edward Pritchard resides on the old Miles homestead, which was settled by one of that family more than 150 years ago. He is a member of the Episcopal church, of Seymour, the Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., and has been master of the Seymour Grange. He has been twice married; first in 1852, to Martha M. Daniels. They had one daughter, Lizzie M., who married Albert U. Smith, of Seymour. Mr. Pritchard was married the second time in 1884, to Mrs. Martha M. Smith. Her father, Hiram Upson, was a son of Obed, and he a son of Samuel Upson. Samuel married Ruth Coles. Obed married Sybil Howe. Hiram Upson was an auger manufacturer, beginning the business about 1830 and continuing it until about 1865. He married Sarah Harrison. They had ten children: Harriet, Charles N., William A., Martha M., Hiram, George F., Sarah, Edwin, Henry and Esther.

Horace A. Radford, born in Middlebury, Conn., in 1811, is a son of Beers Radford, who married Harriet, daughter of Timothy Higgins, who was a major in the revolutionary war. They had four children: Lucius, Horace A., Augusta and Lizzie. Lizzie married Charles Evans; Augusta married Julius Bronson; Horace A. was married in 1834 to Eliza Boughton, who died the same year. He married for his second wife Mrs. Marcus Lego, and in 1876 he was married for the third time to Kate C. Burwell. Mr. Radford came to Humphreysville in 1832. He was assistant auger maker. In 1847 he became a member of the firm of French, Swift & Co., auger manufacturers, and was a member of the firm for several years, also their traveling salesman during that time. He is one of the charter members of the Mechanics' Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Seymour.

Henry A. Rider, born in Danbury, Conn., in 1832, is a son of Ralph and Harriet (Chapman) Rider. He came to Seymour in 1853, and in 1855 engaged in the livery business, which he still carries on. He is

also extensively engaged in farming and deals in real estate. He is a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., of Seymour. In 1855 he married Sophia J. Carter. They have three children: Ada, George A. and Nettie S.

Harpin Riggs, born in what is now the town of Seymour, December 9th, 1813, is a son of John and grandson of Captain John Riggs, who was a resident of Oxford, and captain in the revolutionary war. Captain Riggs was a farmer and one of the prominent men of Oxford. John Riggs, his son, was one of ten children, five sons and five daughters. He settled near Humphreysville and engaged in farming. He married Mary Beecher. Harpin Riggs is also a farmer and owns and occupies the old homestead. He has been selectman for several years and has held other minor offices. He is a member of the Episcopal church. In 1840 he was married to Harriet, daughter of Hiram Upson. They had seven children: John, Royal and Hiram; Louise B., Sarah M., Hattie I. and Mary. All are living, except Hiram. John married Adella Kennedy; Royal married Mary Reynolds; Louise B. married Norman Sperry; Sarah married George James; Hattie I. married Joseph G. Redshaw, and Mary married Gilbert E. Osborne.

Thomas Sharpe was born in Southford, Conn., October 28th, 1834. His father, Lu Grand Sharpe, was born in Ridgefield, Conn., June 1st, 1797, and was a son of Thomas Sharpe, Sr. They are of English descent. Lu Grand Sharpe married Olive M. Boothe in 1823. Thomas Sharpe came to Seymour in 1841, and with the exception of six years (1854 to 1860) spent in Georgia, has resided there since. He is a lumber dealer and contractor and builder. He was justice of the peace four years and has held various other offices in the town, as assessor, etc. He is a member of the M. E. church, of Seymour, and president of its board of trustees, and was superintendent of its Sunday school for several years, and superintendent of Woodbridge Mission Sunday school.

Edwin Smith, born in Oxford, Conn., in 1817, is a son of John and grandson of John Smith. John Smith, father of Edwin, was a soldier in the war of 1812, holding the rank of corporal. He married Grace Wooster and their children were: Edwin, Lucy, Bennett, Laura, George and Mary. Edwin, George and Mary are living. Mary married Joel M. Wheeler. George married Esther Moulthrop, and Edwin married for his first wife Betsey A. Johnson, of Oxford, in 1839, and they had one daughter, Frances A., who married Robert N. Smith. For his second wife Edwin Smith married Sally A. Millard in 1880. Mr. Smith settled in Seymour in 1849. He is a mason and builder. He has held the office of selectman several terms, is a member of the Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., of Seymour, and of the Chapter at Ansonia.

James M. Smith, born in Scotland in 1838, came to America in 1848, and after a residence of several years in Syracuse and Utica, N. Y., settled in Seymour in 1862, and for several years had charge of the

bayonet department of the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company. In 1873 he engaged in the machine jobbing business, which he has conducted to the present time. He was married in 1864, to Martha Skeels. Their children are: Frank, Augustus, Agnes and Mabel.

Norman Sperry was born in Cheshire, Conn., February 12th, 1842. His father, Albert, was born in Cheshire, and his grandfather, Job Sperry, was born in Bethany, Conn. His mother, Phebe A. Tuttle, was born in New York state, but afterward lived in Southington, Conn. Norman lived at home on the farm, attended the common schools, the Episcopal Academy at Cheshire, and a short time at Lewis Academy, Southington, Conn. In 1873 he commenced manufacturing boring implements, and continues the same, as a member of the Humphreysville Manufacturing Company. From 1862 to 1875 he worked at the same business for H. B. Beecher, Douglass Manufacturing Company and Humphreysville Manufacturing Company. He has been representative and selectman, and clerk and vestryman of the Episcopal church. He married Louise B. Riggs in November, 1869.

Ashbel Storrs, born in Humphreysville, Conn., in 1822, is a son of Edmund and Eunice (Loveland) Storrs. He is a carpenter by trade, and for many years has carried on an extensive business as a contractor and builder. He has been assessor for several years, also justice of the peace and president of the board of health. He is a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. & A. M., and has been master of the same. He married, in 1844, Harriet Terrell, of Naugatuck. Their children were: Alice, Marian, Arthur and Ada. Mr. Storrs married for his second wife, Elizabeth Edwards, in 1875.

CARLOS HOTCHKISS STORRS was born at Seymour July 4th, 1864. He is a son of Charles W. and Mary L. (Davis) Storrs, and grandson of John Roger Storrs, a shoe manufacturer at Humphreysville, where he died in 1844. The latter was also the father of another son, John Whiting Storrs, the gifted and respected poet-editor, who died at Birmingham. John Roger Storrs was himself "of more than ordinary intelligence; a great reader of history and fond of poetry." His wife, Sarah G. Clark, was a granddaughter of Reverend Mr. Woodbridge, the first pastor of the church in the town named for him, and who was in his day one of the leading men of the county. Their son, Charles W. Storrs, was born March 5th, 1828, and died at Seymour January 26th, 1889. For more than 50 years he was one of the principal business men of the town and was esteemed for his many good qualities as a citizen. He had a strong, vigorous mind, and was very independent in his opinions and actions, but ever kept in view the public welfare, warmly supporting such measures as advanced it. In 1863 he was married, his wife, who survives him, being a daughter of Lewis Davis, of Oxford, who was a son of the well-known Colonel John Davis of that town. Two children were born to them, the subject of this sketch and another son, Louis, who died when four years of age.

The Storrs ancestry in England has been clearly traced from the sixteenth century to the present time, and for more than two centuries the family has been established upon American soil. Nearly all of the name of Storrs in the United States have descended from Samuel Storrs, fourth child of Thomas Storrs, who came from the paternal home in Sutton Cum Lound, in Nottinghamshire, England, to Barnstable, Mass., about 1663. In about 1698 he removed to Mansfield, Conn., where he died April 30th, 1719. The family in this county descended from Lemuel Storrs, the sixth son of Thomas Storrs, who was the second son of the above Samuel. Members of this branch of the family in various parts of the country became quite eminent.

The boyhood of Carlos H. Storrs was spent at Seymour, where he attended the common schools. But his parents having determined to give him a liberal education, he was sent to the high school at Birmingham when he was sixteen years of age, and three years later he graduated from that school. He now entered the Wesleyan University at Middletown, where he completed the classical course in 1887 and graduated with the degree of B. A. In 1890 that institution conferred upon him the degree of M. A. In the meantime he had entered the Yale Law School, in 1887, graduating two years later. A practical training for a few months, the same year, in the law offices of the well-known jurists, Wooster, Williams & Gager, of Birmingham, still better prepared him for his professional life, which was begun at Ansonia in October, 1889, and which has been successfully continued at that place. In addition, he also maintains an office at his home in Seymour. Mr. Storrs has made a specialty of probate business, practicing in the probate courts of Derby and New Haven, and has satisfactorily settled a number of important estates. He is intelligent, energetic, of temperate habits and of good principles, and will no doubt attain distinction in his chosen profession. He is, moreover, progressive and public-spirited and has aided the material development of his town by erecting a number of buildings and encouraging public improvements. Following the example of his parents, Mr. Storrs has become a member of Trinity Episcopal church, of Seymour, whose welfare he keeps warmly at heart.

Politically, Mr. Storrs is a democrat, and enthusiastically advocates the principles of that party. He is an eloquent speaker, and in the campaign of 1888 made a number of public addresses, which were favorably received. In 1890 he was elected one of the selectmen of the town, which he has also served in other capacities, creditably discharging every trust conferred upon him, and winning the esteem of his fellow-townsmen.

JAMES SWAN, the widely-known tool manufacturer, of Seymour, was born December 18th, 1833, in Dumfries, Scotland, and is a son of William and Mary (Beck) Swan. The mother was a sister of the father of the late Senator James B. Beck, of Kentucky, and in both



*Carlos H. Ferris*



parents were embodied the many excellent traits of the sturdy Scotch race. The son was given a good common school education, but was early apprenticed to learn the trade of millwrighting, his master being one of the most skillful workmen in that craft, and his trade embraced work in both wood and iron. When James was 20 years old he completed his apprenticeship, having obtained a thorough knowledge of an art which contributed materially toward his future success. He now determined to leave the paternal home and seek his fortune in America. Accordingly, we find him, in the latter part of 1853, at the home of his uncle, Ebenezer Beck, at Wyoming, N. Y., a youth of 20 years, eager to begin life's battle. Not liking that part of the country, he came to Birmingham, Conn., where he secured employment in the Bassett iron works, but after a time he engaged with the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, at Ansonia. At the latter works he was soon placed in charge of a shop, which he superintended about eight years. In this period his practical knowledge was largely increased, and he became still better fitted for independent action. Meantime his skill as a workman had become known, and in 1865 he was engaged to come to Seymour to superintend the tool manufacturing interests of Oliver Ames & Son, located in shops which later became a part of his own extensive plant.\*

Since the latter date James Swan has been a resident of Seymour, and has thoroughly identified himself with its best interests. Few citizens of the town have been more progressive than he, or have given greater material aid in the development of the affairs of the village, which has become his adopted home. For numerous public objects he freely contributed time and means, taking an especial interest in those two important factors of a community, the schools and churches. Although a very busy man with his own affairs, he has felt much concern in the welfare of the schools, serving on the board of education, and was chairman of the committee which erected the handsome high school edifice. He is also an active member of the Congregational church, warmly supporting its several interests, and for a number of years was the superintendent of its Sunday school. In the organization of the town fire department he was most active, and has shown his interest in that body by since serving as the chief engineer. In the improvement of his own large property he has set a commendable example, and has aided in securing some of the most desirable public improvements which have made Seymour attractive as a place of residence. This manifestation of public spirit has caused his townsmen to proffer him places of honor and trust, most of which his business compelled him to decline. But in 1872 he had the honor of being elected the first republican representative from Seymour, his personal qualities helping to overcome a naturally large democratic majority.

In 1857 Mr. Swan was married to Agnes, a daughter of William

\*See account of manufactures.

Bell, also from Dumfries, Scotland. Of seven children born to them, three sons and one daughter survive, viz.: William Beck, a valuable assistant in his father's business, a skillful mechanic, and also possessed of superior ability as an intelligent manufacturer; John, educated at Cheshire Academy, where he graduated with the honors of his class, and also now engaged in manufacturing; Albert, a student in the high school at Seymour; and Mary Jessie, educated at Andover and in European countries, and now a resident of Seymour.

Mr. Swan remained with Oliver Ames & Son until 1873, when their interest was sold to the Douglas Manufacturing Company, of which he was a director, and he continued to superintend the business. A number of changes took place in the next four years, but, in 1877, through the financial aid tendered by the well-known tool house of Russell & Erwin, who have since acted as his sales agents in New York and Philadelphia, James Swan became the successor of the business of the Douglas Manufacturing Company at Seymour, and has since been the sole owner. The plant has been enlarged to embrace three distinct factories, and has become one of the largest concerns of the kind in this country. More than a hundred kinds of boring and edge tools are made, and the products find ready sale in most of the civilized countries of the world. Many of the tools were invented by Mr. Swan, who has a most fertile mechanical brain, and it is within the bounds of truth to say that he has designed and perfected as many labor-saving devices in the manufacturing arts as any other man in this country. He has an honorable career as a manufacturer, and by unflagging industry and persistent application has attained great success. His business has thus not only become very extensive, but the goods produced by him have a conceded superiority, which has been publicly acknowledged by the award of first prizes at all the principal expositions in the world, and which promise to secure for his works a permanent place among the industries of Seymour.

Owen D. Sykes, born in Woodstock, Conn., in 1846, is a son of Joseph and Phillis (Kenyon) Sykes. Joseph came from Yorkshire, England, about 1844, and settled in Woodstock, Conn. He had two children: Ruth, who died in 1848, and Owen D. Joseph Sykes was a son of Joseph. Owen D. settled in Seymour in 1882, and engaged in the hardware and house furnishing business. He is a member of the following societies of Seymour: F. & A. M., I. O. O. F., and I. O. R. M. He was married in 1867, to Nellie E. Moore.

James Willard Tomlinson, born in that part of Derby now Seymour, January 11th, 1835, is a son of James C., he a son of Russell, and he a son of Isaac. Russell Tomlinson's children were: Sarah, Isaac, Peter, Simon and James C. James C. Tomlinson married Laura, daughter of John Tomlinson. Their children were: John R., Elizabeth, Mary A., Agnes C. (deceased), James W., Edward D., Isaac C., and Laura C. (deceased). James C. was in the mill and lumber business for many





*James Swan*



years. James W. is engaged in the same business. He was married in 1863, to Frances Wooster, of Oxford, and they have two children: Arthur R. and Laura R.

William L. Ward, born in Naugatuck, October 31st, 1858, is a son of James B. and Jane E. (Hotchkiss) Ward, grandson of Lewis and great-grandson of Richard Ward. The children of James and Jane E. Ward, were: William L. and Elmer J. William L. resided in Naugatuck until 1889, when he removed to Seymour and engaged in business as a dealer in furniture, carpets, crockery and undertaking. He was married, in 1889, to Lulu J., daughter of Isaac Tolles, of Naugatuck.

John Weaver, born in Overton, North Wales, in 1809, came to America in 1851, and settled in Rome, N. Y., where he engaged in farming. He married Frances Rogers, and their children were: Lloyd, Elizabeth, John (deceased), Fannie, Hardman, Lazarus G. and Charles. Lloyd Weaver came to Seymour in 1866, and Lazarus G. and Charles came a few years later. Lloyd Weaver has been connected with the Fowler Nail Company since its organization, and since 1870 has been superintendent. He was born in 1840, in Overton, North Wales. He was married in 1874 to Jemima Webster. They have one daughter, Lizzie. Charles Weaver married, in 1880, Fannie Beers. He is overseer in the Fowler Nail Company. Lazarus G. was born in North Wales, March 19th, 1849. He is a contractor with the Fowler Nail Company. He was married in 1875 to Mary A., daughter of Harvey Hotchkiss. Their children are: George H., Harold L., Augusta S. and Clifford H.

Captain Henry Wooster was born in Derby (now Seymour) in 1802. He was a son of Henry, he a son of Henry and he a son of Henry, residents of Derby. Captain Wooster followed the sea, sailing between New Haven and the West Indies. He married Harriet, daughter of Joseph Riggs, of Oxford. Their children were: Harriet, Henry, Olive, Cecilia and Leslie B. Henry was lost at sea, and Leslie B. met his death at the hands of the Indians in Arizona. Olive married Rodney Clark. Cecilia married Morris Tuttle. Harriet is unmarried and resides on the old homestead, which was settled by the Woosters more than 200 years ago. The residence is supposed to have been built as early as 1700. Captain Wooster died in 1842. His wife afterward married Captain Daniel Moss. She died in 1878.

Nathan R. Wooster, born in Oxford, Conn., in 1809, is a son of Nathaniel and Charity (Plumb) Wooster, and grandson of Samuel Wooster. Mr. Wooster is a mason by trade. He came to Seymour in 1848, where he has since resided. He has held the office of selectman and was town treasurer in 1866. He was married in 1839, to Antoinette Bassett.

Leonard Wyant, born in Bavaria in 1827, came to America in 1849, and settled in Seymour, and was employed in the auger works of Ray-

mond French for 20 years. From 1869 to 1886 he was in the milk business. He is now engaged in farming. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Seymour. He was married in 1851, to Elizabeth Graff. Their children are: Katie, deceased; Libbie, born 1854; Henry, born 1856; and Fannie, born 1869.

Harvey Hotchkiss, born in Derby in 1822, is a son of Elipha, he a son of Levi, he a son of Eliphalet. Elipha, Levi and Eliphalet were joiners, and all residents of Derby. Elipha married Nancy Fulsom, of Stratford, Conn. Their children were: William, Albert, Mary A., Burr, Harriet, Eli, John, Phebe, Samuel, Jane, Amelia and Harvey. Harriet and Harvey are living. Harvey was in the butcher business in Ansonia for several years. For nearly 20 years he resided in the town of Seymour, and was engaged in farming. He held the office of selectman in that town one term during the war. Since 1880 he has resided in Ansonia. He married Augusta Kimberly, in 1849, and they had one daughter, Mary A., who married Lazarus G. Weaver.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### THE TOWN OF BEACON FALLS.

Location and Description.—Land Purchases.—Settlement and Settlers.—Civil Organization.—Town Officers.—Pines Bridge.—Cemetery.—Industrial Interests.—Societies.—Methodist Episcopal Church.—High Rock Grove.—Biographical Sketches.

BEACON FALLS is one of the smallest towns in the county, and next to Ansonia the youngest. It lies on both sides of the Naugatuck river, south of Beacon Hill brook, and from that locality the name was derived. Bounding it are the towns from which it was formed, in 1871, namely: Naugatuck on the north, Bethany on the east and southeast, Seymour on the south, and Oxford on the west. The greater part of the surface is mountainous, but along the brooks are some pleasantly located and fertile lands. On the east side is Hockanum brook, flowing south into Lebanon brook, a mile east of the point where the latter empties into the Naugatuck, in the southeastern part of the town. On the opposite side of the river are Sherman's brook, in the northwest, and Hemp Swamp brook in the southwestern part of the town. These streams are small, but in a few localities afford limited water power.

The principal elevations on the west side are Rimmon hill, in the southwest, and Toby's mountain in the northwest, one of whose spurs is High Rock. This approximates 500 feet in height. Opposite Rimmon hill and separated from it by the river is a bold, craggy and almost cone-shaped mound, more than 400 feet high, called Rimmon Rock. The name of the hill and the rock may have been derived from the fact that these bore, in olden times, relative to the country beyond, a resemblance to the scriptural Rimmon.\* The plain beyond their northern bases was early called Lopus or Loper's, but for what reason has not been clearly determined. The western and northern bounds of this plain are the rocks of Toby's mountain, so called from once having been the property of an Indian named Toby or Tobie, who for twelve years was a slave in the family of Captain Ebenezer Johnson,† one of Derby's prominent men and the principal landholder in this town. He secured him in New London in 1676, when the Indian was but a boy, and freed him in 1688. In 1693, through the influence of Major Johnson and for a consideration of £10 and a barrel of cider, the Paugasuck Indians, who were the owners of this region, sold to

\* See Judges, xx:45. †Afterward major, and still later colonel.

Toby a large tract of land, mostly mountainous, lying in the northwestern part of the town. This was legally confirmed to him in 1713. Here he lived until his death in 1734, when, by the terms of his will, the land became the property of white men: Timothy Wooster, Peter Johnson, Ebenezer Johnson and Timothy Johnson, all but the first being sons of Colonel Johnson, his former master.

It appears singular that another Indian slave of Colonel Johnson should be connected with a land purchase in Beacon Falls, but such is the fact. One of his maid-servants was a young squaw, Sarah, who was desired by an Indian for his wife, and she was sold to him in 1709. This dusky lover was named Chetrenasut, and he secured his bride for a consideration of £3, 10s. of money and all that tract of land "lying in a place called 'Nayumps,' bounded northerly with Beacon Hill river, easterly with Milford, westerly with the Naugatuck river, and south with Lebanon river." This region was afterward called "Nyumps," and was the northwestern part of Bethany, set off to Beacon Falls when the town was formed. It includes the main part of the town, and on which are now its most costly improvements.

South of Toby's land and the Nyumph purchase, earlier purchases had been made by Captain Ebenezer Johnson, in 1678, the same being in three small parcels, at or near Rock Rimmon, running up to Lebanon brook. On the west side of the river, south of Toby's land and running down to lands in the present town of Seymour, purchased by David Wooster, in 1692, Major Ebenezer Johnson and Ensign Samuel Riggs purchased Indian lands in 1700; and eight years later they divided their interests. Ensign Riggs took the land on the west side of the Naugatuck, lying south of the brook at Pines Bridge, and Major Johnson took the lands north of the brook and those on the east side of the river. These lands at Pines Bridge Colonel Johnson divided between his sons, Charles and Timothy, in 1721, speaking of the same as "my farm at Rimmon." Before this time, in December, 1708, Ensign Samuel Riggs, of Derby, had given to his son, Ebenezer Riggs, 200 acres of the choicest lands "with houses and all appurtenances thereunto pertaining." On these lands Ebenezer Riggs settled soon after, but died in 1712, when but little more than 30 years of age.

It is supposed that some of the children of Colonel Ebenezer Johnson settled on their father's land soon after the settlement of Ebenezer Riggs, and that they lived west and southeast of Rock Rimmon. At a later day Timothy Johnson, who was married to Abigail Brewster, in 1725, settled on the Naugatuck a short distance below Pines Bridge. In the same locality lived their son, Alexander, who was born in 1730 and died in 1817, aged 87 years. This Captain Alexander Johnson had a son, Elijah, who occupied the homestead until his death, in 1847, at the age of 75 years. Sharpe, in his "History of Seymour," states that Timothy Johnson was at first much annoyed "by wild animals, especially bears, which came from Rock Rimmon and

destroyed his crops." This locality, and in fact other parts of the town, particularly Nyumph, were also much troubled by snakes, which came out from the crevices of the rocks and often crawled into the houses of the early settlers. The Johnsons were for many years numerous at Pines Bridge and around Rock Rimmon, in what is now Beacon Falls and Seymour. In the latter town Benajah Johnson last lived, until 1763, in the locality called Skokorat. A daughter, Zeviah, born in 1739, married Abiel Fairchild, who settled not quite a mile northwest from Pines Bridge. Fairchild was reputed a most excellent man, and was greatly esteemed by his neighbors.

Nearer Pines Bridge, on the Lopus Plains, the first settlers were Zadoc Sanford and Hezekiah Clark. The latter was the ancestor of Sheldon Clark, the benefactor of Yale College, and who left also a bequest for the maintenance of Pines Bridge.

In the Nyumph section Samuel Wheeler probably put up the first house. His brothers, Moses, David and James, settled in the same locality, but Simeon lived nearer Rimmon. They were the sons of Captain James Wheeler, who lived on Turkey hill, in Derby. Their descendants became numerous and prominent in Bethany and Oxford. In Nyumph also lived, as a pioneer, David French and other members of that family, Moses Clark settling there later. In the course of years the population decreased, and in 1880 all the inhabitants numbered only 379.

The name of Beacon Falls first appeared in the acts of the assembly in 1864, when a joint school district with that title was formed out of Bethany and Oxford. Not long thereafter Beacon Falls was incorporated by the May, 1871, assembly out of portions of the towns of Bethany, Naugatuck, Seymour and Oxford, with the following bounds:

"Beginning at a point on the old highway known as Blackberry hill road, in the town of Bethany, which is intersected by a straight line, extending and running on and in the northern boundary line of the homestead farm of Norman Peck, in Seymour, and thence running northerly on said old highway to a point about 40 rods east of the dwelling house known as the Edward Buckingham house, then north  $14^{\circ}$  east  $181\frac{1}{2}$  rods to a heap of stones, on Perkins' land (so-called), thence north  $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  east 422 rods, thence north  $29^{\circ}$  west to a point on Beacon hill brook, opposite the saw mill of Amos Hotchkiss, to a heap of stones, thence following said brook westerly to the Naugatuck river, thence following said river southerly to the mouth of Spruce brook, on the west bank of the same, thence following the town line northerly to a heap of stones which marks the boundary line between Oxford and Naugatuck, thence running southerly to a large oak stump known as Oak Tree Corner, about 80 rods north of the dwelling house of Stiles Fairchild, thence in a straight line southwest to Hemp Swamp bridge, so called, thence in a straight line to a heap of stones

on the east of Diamond rock, so called, which marks the boundary between Seymour and Oxford, said last line being in the district line of the Rimmon district, thence easterly and northerly, following the Seymour and Oxford town line to a point on Rock Rimmon, in a line with the said northerly boundary line of the home farm of the said Norman Peck, thence following in said line, which runs a little south of east, in a straight line to the point of beginning."

The first town meeting was to be warned by Buel Buckingham, June 28th, 1871, and on the first Monday in July following the first town officers were elected, 86 votes being polled.

The following were chosen the first officers: Town clerk, Julius C. Coe; selectmen, Stiles Clark, James L. Wheeler, Noyes Wheeler; registrars, H. B. Perry, Patrick Eagan; treasurer, J. C. Coe; assessors, Herbert C. Baldwin, Lucius S. Osborne; board of relief, George A. Twitchell, Eben F. Libby, Anson B. Bice; registrar of births, etc., Charles H. Lounsbury; auditors, John A. Coe, Buel Buckingham; grand jurors, John C. French, John Wolfe, Albert D. Carrington, Buel Buckingham; constables, H. B. Perry, R. H. Griffing, Harris F. Osborne, Andrew W. Culver, Almon L. Switzer; sealer of weights, J. E. Johnson; pound keepers, Noyes Wheeler, Stiles Clark, James L. Wheeler, Andrew W. Culver, Sidney Baldwin; fence viewers, George A. Twitchell, H. C. Baldwin, Stiles Clark, Ransom Lounsbury.

On the 7th of August, 1871, the town voted to levy a two mill tax for county purposes; to borrow money to pay current expenses; to insure the bridge at the railway depot, and to paint the same.

In October, 1871, settlement was made with the mother towns, and from the grand list of Naugatuck there was set to Beacon Falls \$11,073; from the list of Seymour, \$6,000; and from the list of Oxford, \$53,319, making the taxable list of the new town \$70,392.

Since the organization of Beacon Falls the town clerks have been: 1871-8, Julius C. Coe; 1879, John A. Coe; 1880-5, Julius A. Hart; 1886, Charles C. Tiff; 1887, Emerson J. Terrell; 1888, Julius A. Hart; 1889, Emery L. Terrell.

In the same period the selectmen have been: 1871-2, Stiles Clark, James L. Wheeler and Noyes Wheeler; 1873, Buel Buckingham, Wheeler and Herbert C. Baldwin; 1874-6, Buckingham, Baldwin and Ransom Lounsbury; 1877, Baldwin, Charles B. Clark and Andrew W. Culver; 1878, Baldwin, Ransom Lounsbury and Noyes Wheeler; 1879-80, Baldwin, Lounsbury and David M. French; 1881, Baldwin, French and Noyes Wheeler; 1882-3, Baldwin, Wheeler and Andrew W. Culver; 1884-5, Baldwin, Cornelius W. Munson and Ransom Lounsbury; 1886, Baldwin, Munson and Daniel J. Carrington; 1887, Baldwin, Carrington and Homer D. Bronson; 1888, Baldwin, Ransom Lounsbury and Jerome Andrews; 1889, Baldwin, Emerson J. Terrell, and George T. Clark.

By the terms of the act of incorporation the Clark Pines Bridge



Fund was placed under the control of Beacon Falls. This fund was bequeathed to the town of Oxford in 1827, by Sheldon Clark, for the purpose of building and maintaining a bridge at the locality on the Naugatuck called Pines Bridge. The amount of the bequest was £100. The principal is to be intact, and the interest could be used for the designated purpose after 12 years. From the avails of the fund an iron bridge was built at that place in 1888. At the village a fine covered wooden bridge spans the Naugatuck.

The town cemetery is near Pines Bridge, and in 1883 it was voted to enlarge it. This was done under the direction of John W. Rogers, David T. Sanford and Clarence J. Bodfish. In the old part are the graves of many of the early settlers of this section. The new part has been platted into blocks, and many lots have been sold. Herbert C. Baldwin has for many years had the care of the cemetery. The site for this cemetery was chosen and given by Alexander Johnson, in 1800, and was the second burial place in that locality. The first was on the hill southwest and nearer Seymour. It was first used in 1768, and was abandoned when the Pines Bridge place was opened. It has long since been neglected, and is overgrown with bushes. Here were buried Benajah and Sarah Johnson, the earliest settlers in the Rock Rimmon locality.

The development of the town was slow and the industries were for many years limited. Farms were opened and several saw mills and tanneries were carried on. But about 1836 the possibility of improving the water power of the Naugatuck was considered, and with that purpose in view William De Forest secured the privilege at the natural falls, below Beacon hill. He soon after became financially embarrassed, and nothing more was done for a dozen years. In 1850 the privilege passed to the American Hard Rubber Company, of which D. N. Ropes was the secretary. De Forest was also interested with, among others, G. D. and John S. C. Abbott. A good dam was built on the Naugatuck, below High Rock, and a raceway three-quarters of a mile long dug to a site for the works. In 1853 the buildings of the company were completed for occupancy and operations began. Vulcanized rubber goods were manufactured, after the process of Henry B. Goodyear, and many experiments were made. Beacon Falls village was thus fairly begun when, in 1860, the rubber company removed to College Point, Long Island. For three years the place was nearly deserted, only the Coe tannery being carried on at this point.

In September, 1863, the Home Woolen Company purchased the plant, consisting of water power privileges, a factory three stories high and 160 feet long, about 30 houses and considerable land. The buildings were repaired under the direction of John Wolfe, and in the winter of 1863 gas works were erected. Eight sets of machinery were put in, and 40,000 yards of cloth were turned out per month. In 1864 the company increased its capacity and commenced the manufacture

of woolen shawls, of which large numbers were made. In 1867 the mills of the company were enlarged to double the former size and new machinery was supplied. In 1870 the main mill was 330 feet long, 60 and 64 feet wide,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  stories high, and substantially built of brick. There were 5,640 spindles and 70 looms. Nearly 13,000 shawls per month were manufactured by skilled workmen, John Wolfe being the Beacon Falls agent of the Home Woolen Company, which was mainly a Hartford corporation. This prosperity continued until December, 1876, when work was suspended.

In 1879 John Wolfe became the owner of some of the machinery, 30 tenements and 200 acres of the land formerly owned by the corporation. The following year the Home Woolen Company was reorganized and again started the mills upon which, in all, nearly half a million dollars had been expended. Eighteen sets of machinery were set in motion and 300 hands were employed on woolen goods. In 1884 John Wolfe retired as agent, and was succeeded by Clarence J. Bodfish. The Home Company operated until July, 1887, when, for nearly two years, the mills were practically idle.

In July, 1889, the Beacon Falls Power & Mill Company, of Hartford, became the owner of this plant, which is reputed one of the finest and best appointed in the state, having an aggregate water power of about 300 horse. There is also good steam power. Many buildings are connected with the plant. About the same time the mills were leased to the Standard Woolen Company, composed of Henry I. Buttry, Fred. Kitchen and Clarence J. Bodfish, who have since been operating it. Woolens are manufactured, and from 50 to 80 men are employed.

The first industry on the site of the woolen mills, at Beacon Falls village, was the tannery of John V. Coe, which was on the little brook in the rear of the large building. He also manufactured shoes. Selling out to the rubber company, he moved to a new site on Lebanon brook, about half a mile below the old one. Here he began operations about 1856, and was succeeded by his sons, John A. and Julius C. These carried on rather extensively as tanners and manufacturers of leather belting and laces until some time about 1876, when they removed. In 1882 this plant, consisting of twelve acres of land and a number of buildings, became the property of John F. Bronson, who transferred to this place his brass novelty business, which had been established at Waterbury in 1839. In this business he was succeeded, in February, 1884, by the Homer D. Bronson Company, consisting of John F. Bronson and his three sons, all skillful workmen.

Since 1886 the company has been largely engaged in the manufacture of bronze piano panels and art goods in brass and other metals, producing many choice and artistic designs, which have given its work a fine reputation. The motor is water and steam, and about 15 men are employed.

The village of Beacon Falls owes its existence to the above interests, and was mainly built after 1853. The beginning was on the east side of the river, along the Seymour turnpike, and about four miles north of that village. In 1867 the Home Woolen Company, through its agent, John Wolfe, laid out 90 lots on the west side of the river, but a small part only of these have been improved. The following year the Naugatuck Railroad Company opened a regular station, and since December 21st, 1868, Julius A. Hart has been the agent. In the village are also several small shops, stores and the Beacon Falls post office, of which John Wolfe is the postmaster. Stores have been kept by V. Buckingham, C. W. Elkins & Co., Beecher & Percy, May & Isbell and E. J. Terrell & Co. At the latter's stand is kept the post office, which has several mails per day. Small stores were formerly kept at Pines Bridge. In 1872 Patrick Eagan was appointed a "taverner." Small public houses have since been kept.

In 1874 Good Will Lodge of Good Templars had a flourishing existence at this place; and from 1869 to 1880 the meetings of Rock Rimmon Lodge, No. 84, I. O. O. F., were successfully maintained. At one time there were 60 members, and in 1874 a hall was formally dedicated. The suspension of work at the woolen mills caused the removal of many members, and those remaining connected themselves with other Lodges in neighboring towns.

In addition to the 60 or more residences and the school house in the village, there is also a neat frame Methodist Episcopal church, which is the only house of worship in the town. It was erected in 1871 and dedicated January 11th, 1872. The size is 35 by 60 feet, and the cost was about \$8,000. There are 350 sittings. In 1890 the trustees in charge of the building were John Wolfe, George A. Twitchell, Julius A. Hart, David T. Sanford, Jerome Hubbell and John W. Rogers. The Home Woolen Company donated the lot on which the house stands, and also aided liberally in its erection.

The first Methodist church in the town was at Pines Bridge, and was built through the efforts of John Coe and others. It was small and plain, but was used until after 1850. The meetings were then transferred to another small house near Lebanon brook, built mainly by the Coe family. This was used until the present house was occupied, in 1872.

In what is now the town of Beacon Falls lived some of the first Methodists in the Naugatuck valley. Some of these were in the Nymph section and others were at the Pines Bridge. Among those remembered in that connection were Philo Sanford, Moses, David, Adonijah and Miles French, Timothy Johnson and several other members of that family. Later the Coe family was active in supporting the cause of Methodism. The first meetings were held in private houses, and the ministers were the same as those at Seymour and Great Hill.

Since being a separate charge the ministers at Beacon Falls have been the following: 1870-1. Reverend A. V. R. Abbott; 1872, D. L. Lounsbury; 1873, W. S. Morrison; 1881-2, W. R. Rogers; 1883, J. J. Moffitt; 1884-5, A. S. Hagarty; 1886, J. L. Valle; 1887, E. R. Foley; 1888-9, T. J. Chadeayne.

In connection with the church is a flourishing Sunday school of 85 members, which has David T. Sanford as its superintendent.

The rugged Naugatuck valley is nowhere more picturesque and attractive than in the town of Beacon Falls. Entering it from the south one is charmed by the impressive beauty of Rock Rimmon, whose height of 400 feet, jutting out into the valley, appears to bar further progress. On passing this hill there is a pleasant interval, several miles in extent, when the valley is again narrowed into a defile wide enough only for the passage of the river and the roadways along its banks. About a mile above Beacon Falls station the hills on the west side of the river rise to the height of more than 400 feet, forming a promontory at that point and terminating in a well-defined elevation, which appropriately bears the name of High Rock. At its foot and on the bend of the river is a small tract of fine level woodland, which has been further beautified as High Rock Grove. The improvement of this place for a pleasure resort was begun in 1876 by George W. Beach, superintendent of the Naugatuck Railroad Company, and under his direction it has been carried on, until the place possesses nearly every requisite of a complete day resort. Among the attractions are the opportunities for boating on the river, the dam of the Beacon Falls Company here affording a fine expanse of water. In High Rock Glen, formerly called Sherman's Gorge, are cool, secluded walks, cosy nooks and many turns, abounding with picturesque effects, which may be enjoyed to the music of gurgling waters, leaping over moss-covered rocks, which vainly strive to confine them in their precipitous course. On High Rock is Lookout Point, where is disclosed a view of sublime beauty. Deep forests, stern, rock-covered hillsides and tilled fields, with every shape and form of verdure, may there be seen.

The railway has provided a station at High Rock Grove, and the place is much patronized by those seeking rest and enjoyment of sylvan retreats. It is also a favorite resort of picnic parties from all points in the valley.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Herbert C. Baldwin, born in that part of Oxford now Beacon Falls, in 1840, is a son of Lucian, and he a son of Matthew Baldwin, who was a resident of Naugatuck. Lucian married Aurelia Tolles, settled in Oxford and engaged in farming, and for many years taught school winters. Herbert C. Baldwin enlisted in September, 1861, in Company K, 13th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in November 7th of the same year. He was in the battles of Georgia

Landing, Irish Bend, Cane River, Mansuary Plains and the seige of Port Hudson. He was also through the Red River campaign. He was transferred to Virginia in 1864, and under Sheridan was in the battles of Berryville, Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, where he was wounded. He was commissioned corporal December 12th, 1862; sergeant, August 27th, 1863; first sergeant, November 1st, 1864; second lieutenant, January 11th, 1865, and brevetted first lieutenant to date from March 13th, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services at Port Hudson. He is a member of Upson Post, G. A. R., No. 40, of Seymour. He was assessor for the first two years after Beacon Falls was formed; was elected selectman in 1873, and continually up to 1890 inclusive, and chairman of the board with the exception of two years; represented the town in 1876, 1880, 1883 and 1891, as a republican. He was married in 1866, to Josephine H. Jones. Their children are: Lucian E., Alfred C., Hattie M., Herbert C., Jr., Harold T., Edward D. and William A. The last two named are deceased.

Clarence J. Bodfish, born in Chicopee, Mass., in 1854, is a son of Julius F. and Henrietta (Allen) Bodfish, and grandson of Simeon Bodfish. His parents removed to Ellington, Conn., when he was three years old, and to Rockville, Conn., when he was 15. He was bookkeeper for the Florence Mills Company of that place for nine years. In 1880 he came to Beacon Falls, and for five years was bookkeeper for the Home Woolen Mills Company, and was then made agent and manager of the company, which position he held until 1887, going then to Lawrence, Mass., as assistant superintendent of the Washington Mills Company of that place. Returning to Beacon Falls, in company with H. I. Buttry and Frederick Kitchen, he organized, in July, 1889, the Standard Woolen Company, with a capital of \$18,000, with H. I. Buttry, president; Frederick Kitchen, vice-president, and C. J. Bodfish, secretary and treasurer. Leasing the mills of the Beacon Falls Manufacturing Company, they engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods (kerseys, cheviots and worsteds), employing from 80 to 125 hands. Mr. Bodfish was married in 1881, to Minnie S., daughter of Eli I. and Harriet M. Smith, of Rockville, Conn. They have two children: Clarence S. and Hattie G.

Albert D. Carrington, born in Bethany in 1826, is a son of Daniel and Rachael (Dorman) Carrington. The latter's father was Edmund Dorman, of Hamden. Albert D. Carrington's grandparents were David Carrington and Thankful Tolles. Daniel Carrington's children were; David, Eliza, Albert D., Abram E., Sarah and Emily. David married Elizabeth C. Robinson; Eliza married Smith Terrell; Emily married Howard Chatfield; Abram E. married for his first wife, Sara Pritchard, and the second Mary J. Patterson. Albert D. Carrington was married, in 1851, to Lucretia M. Wheeler. Their children were: Daniel J., married Nellie Hubbell, of Naugatuck; and Lyman W., married Flora Curtis, of Woodbury. Albert D. married for his sec-

ond wife, Sarah F. Buckingham, in 1872. They have three children: Lula, Jessie and Milton. Mr. Carrington settled in Oxford in 1852, in that portion set off to Bethany, and afterward to Beacon Falls. He held the office of selectman while a resident of Oxford.

George T. Clark, born in Bethany, is a son of Charles F. and Anna (Perkins) Clark. Sheldon Clark, his grandfather, was a farmer. George T. has been registrar of voters, assessor and school visitor, and was elected selectman in 1889. In 1886 he married Mary Reffelt. They have one son, Frank T.

Julius A. Hart, born in Hubbardton, Vt., April 4th, 1846, is a son of Luther Hart, who married Martha, daughter of Jesse Howard. Julius A. Hart came to Beacon Falls in 1867, and since 1868 has been station agent here. He was town clerk for the years 1880 to 1886, and again in 1889; treasurer in 1880, '81, '88 and '89; tax collector in 1882, '84, '86, '87 and '89; and register of vital statistics several years. He is a member of Centennial Lodge, No. 100, I. O. O. F., of Naugatuck, and the Odd Fellows' Mutual Aid Association. He was formerly a member of Rock Rimmon Lodge, No. 84, I. O. O. F., of Beacon Falls. This Lodge was organized in 1869, and the charter was surrendered in 1880. He married, in 1869, Lucy I. Benham, and for his second wife, Sarah A. Mitchell, in 1876. Their children are: Sadie M., Fred L. and Clarence J.

Wales F. Sackett, born in that part of Oxford now included in Beacon Falls, in 1843, is a son of Lucius, grandson of Lewis, and great-grandson of John Sackett. Lucius Sackett was born February 15th, 1821, married Emily C., daughter of James Sherman. She was born May 3d, 1821. James Sherman was a lumber dealer. He married Elizabeth Johnson, and had ten children: James J., Nancy E., Elizabeth, Owen, Flora, Eliza, Harriet, Emily C., Charles and Delia. The children of Lucius and Emily C. Sackett were: Wales F., born 1843, and Charles S., born 1856, a brass moulder living in Waterbury. He married for his first wife, Sarah Northrop, of Woodbridge, and his second wife was Ida Tomlinson, of Waterbury. They have two children: Edna and Inez. Wales F. married Sarah J. Burnham, of Bethany, November 14th, 1869. They have one son, Sherman B. Sackett. Previous to 1875 Wales F. was in the wood business, but since that date has been engaged in the florist business and market gardening. Lucius Sackett enlisted in Company H, 20th Regiment, in August, 1861, and was discharged 14 months later on account of general disability. He died in 1884.

David T. Sanford, born in Bethany in 1844, is a son of John, and grandson of John, who married Anna French. Her paternal grandmother was the granddaughter of Reverend Nathaniel Brewster, the grandson of Elder William Brewster, who came from England in the "Mayflower" in 1620. John Sanford, the second, was married to Eliza French in 1824. They had two sons: David T. and George. George

married Anna Johnson in 1852. David T. was married, in 1870, to Mrs. Sophia Vickery. Her maiden name was Wood. Their children are: Anna E., born 1873; Grace E., born 1877, died June 4th, 1879; and Carleton R., born 1878. Mr. Sanford is a member of Beacon Falls M. E. church, and superintendent of the Sabbath school. He has held the offices of assessor, grand juror and member of board of education. He represented the town of Beacon Falls in the legislature in 1881.

Emery L. Terrell, born in Colebrook, Conn., in 1866, is a son of Henry, and grandson of Josiah Terrell. In 1887 he engaged in the mercantile trade at Beacon Falls in partnership with Emmerson J. Terrell, who established the business in 1880. Emery L. Terrell was elected town clerk and treasurer in 1889. Emmerson J. Terrell is a son of Lewis, and grandson of Josiah Terrell. He represented the town in the state legislature in 1888, and in 1889 was elected first selectman. In 1887 he was appointed town clerk to fill a vacancy, and elected to the same office the ensuing year.

## CHAPTER XV.

### TOWN AND CITY OF WATERBURY.

Location and Description.—Settlement and Early Events.—Waterbury City.—Other Business Centers.—Civil Organization of the Town.—Probate District.—Courts.—Waterbury Borough.—First City Charter.—Charter of 1867.—Mayors and Clerks.—City Hall.—Police Department.—Street Improvement.—Fire Department.—Water Works.—Gas and Electric Lighting.—Parks.—Statistics.—Manufacturing Enterprises.—Banks.—Insurance Company.—Horse Railway Company.—The Periodical Press.—Post Office.—Public Houses.—Prominent Merchants.—Physicians and Lawyers.—Lodges and Societies.—Educational Matters.—Churches.—Hospital.—Cemeteries.—Military Matters —Biographical Sketches.

**W**ATERBURY is New Haven's most northerly town in the Naugatuck valley, and borders on Litchfield county, touching the towns of Plymouth and Watertown. On the east are Wolcott and Cheshire; on the south Prospect and Naugatuck; and on the west Middlebury. All these towns were wholly or in part included in the *Mattatuck* purchase of Indian lands made by the Connecticut colony committee in 1674 to 1684, and which was in extent seventeen miles from north to south and about nine miles from east to west, having an area of 85,000 acres. The name of *Mattatuck*, as applied to this extensive tract, was retained until May 13th, 1686, when it was incorporated as a town, with the name of Waterbury. Most of the present territory consists of hilly country, there being only small tracts of alluvial and sandy lands along the two principal streams, the Naugatuck and Mad rivers. The former flows through the town, from the north, west of the territorial center; the latter flows from Wolcott, on the east, and drops its waters into the Naugatuck at the city of Waterbury. Neither stream is large, but being fed by numerous springs the flow is quite constant; and as they drain large areas of hilly and mountainous lands they are subject to sudden and often to destructive freshets. Nevertheless, these streams have been most important factors in the affairs of the town, their water powers having contributed a large proportion of the present wealth, and having made profitable residence here possible by giving opportunities for manufacturing when the cultivation of these elevated lands was no longer remunerative.

Waterbury was settled under the direction of the town of Farmington. As early as 1657 some of its inhabitants obtained an Indian deed for lands extending south of the settled parts of Farmington, and which embraced a range of hills in which it was thought was a deposit



of black lead, and which caused the desire for possession. Although they were disappointed in finding that mineral in paying quantities, it is possible that the search for it led ultimately to the occupation of this land. In the course of time some of these hunters or explorers from Farmington passed down the Naugatuck and discovered the flats or meadows at and below where is now the city of Waterbury. The situation pleased them, and they reported so favorably upon these lands that Farmington petitioned the general court, in 1673, for permission to plant a settlement in that locality. This privilege was promised them, provided the committee appointed by the court should, after investigation, recommend such a step. In due season the following report was made:

“ April 6, 7, 8, 9, 1674.

“ We whose names are underwritten (according to the desire and appointment of ye honoured court) have veiewed ye lands upon Mattatuck river in order to a plantation, we do apprehend that there is about six hundred acres of meadow and plowing land lying on both sides of ye river besides upland convenient for a towne plot, with a suitable out let into ye woods on ye west of ye river, and good feeding lands for cattell. The meadow and plowing land above written a considerable part of it lyeth in two peices near ye towne plot, ye rest in smaller parcels, ye farthest of which we judge not above four miles from ye towne plot: and our apprehensions are that it may accommodate thirty families.

THOMAS BULL,

NICHOLAS OLMSTEAD,

ROBERT WEBSTER.”

“ ‘The two peices near ye town plot,’ alluded to in the above report, are probably the level river lands on the east side of the river, afterwards called Manhan, or Mohan, Meadow, near which a final settlement was afterwards made, and the tract of meadow on the west side of the river near Steele’s brook. The most distant piece ‘not above four miles’ was most likely the tract which at a later period was called Judd’s meadow, now a part of Naugatuck. These natural meadows were looked upon with much favor by the early settlers, and were regarded not only as convenient but necessary to the existence of a new plantation. On them they depended for fodder for their ‘cattell’ during the long and severe winters.”\*

The committee having reported favorably upon the feasibility of settling Mattatuck, the general court, in May, 1674, appointed the following committee to order the settlement and manage its affairs: John Talcot, Robert Webster, Nicholas Olmstead, Samuel Steele and John Wadsworth. This colony committee thereupon immediately formulated a code of eight articles, which were required to be signed by all intending settlers, and which also provided, among other things, that every accepted inhabitant should have eight acres for a home lot;

\* Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin.

that meadow lands should be distributed on a basis of £100 allotment, which was the maximum; that houses of specified size should be built on the home lots, within a certain time, and be occupied for a certain period in order to properly qualify them as inhabitants of *Mattatuck*. The following 30 persons then signed the agreement to form the settlement: Thomas Judd, Edmund Scott, John Welton, Abraham Andruss, Isaac Bronson, John Stanley, Samuel Hickox, Thomas Handcox, John Warner, Thomas Richardson, Joseph Hickox, John Bronson, Sr., Daniel Porter, John Carrington, Obadiah Richards, Thomas Newell, John Stanley, Sr., Daniel Warner, John Warner, Jr., John Judd, John Laughton, John Andrews, Richard Seymour, Abraham Bronson, John Porter, William Higason, Samuel Gridley, Thomas Gridley, Samuel Judd, William Judd.

The ten named last afterward declined to join the settlement, when the following were taken in their stead: John Scovill, Joseph Gaylord, Benjamin Barnes, John Hopkins, John Stanley, Jr., Timothy Stanley, Edmund Scott, Jr., Thomas Warner.

In the summer of 1674 the colony committee purchased of the native Indians some of the lands needed, which they held in trust for the settlement. This land bordered on both sides of the Naugatuck, about ten miles, and was about six miles wide. It included all of the present town.

“A site was secured for a village on elevated ground on the west side of the river. This has ever since been known as Old Town Plat, or Town Plot. Here, three quarters of a mile west of the present city, the roads were laid out; the one running north and south, sixteen rods wide. This was cut in the middle, by an east and west road, running down towards the river, south of Sled Hill brook, eight rods wide. The home lots, eight acres in each, according to the articles of settlement, were ranged along the north and south street, thirty-two in number, sixteen on each side, the east and west road, already referred to, dividing each ‘teer’ in the middle, leaving eight lots on either hand. So much was done in the summer and fall of 1674 towards the settlement of Mattatuck, when work for that year was suspended.”\*

The breaking out of King Philip's war, in 1675, and the uncertainty and distress connected with it not only prevented the settlers from going on to their lands that year, but also caused them to modify and change their plans for a “Town Plot.” It was desirable that they should be in easy communication with Farmington, and also live as near their meadow lands as possible. Between them and the old town plot the Naugatuck intervened, and that stream was often difficult to ford and costly to bridge on account of its swollen waters.† Hence, in the spring of 1677, when the matter of settlement was again taken up, a new

\* Reverend E. C. Baldwin.

† The first bridge across the Naugatuck, on the road to Woodbury, was not built until 1736.

movement was made. The committee then changed the town center to the present location. It was low and swampy, but they seemed anxious to settle as near as possible to the lands from which they expected to draw their chief sustenance.

They would also be put in better relation to Farmington, in case the settlers should be disturbed by the Indians. "A few temporary huts were therefore erected for the season, on the east bank of the Naugatuck, near 'Sled Hill,' and the following year (1678) streets were laid out and dwellings erected upon the present site, with a view to a permanent settlement. House lots of from one and a half to four acres were set off to each individual, according to eligibility of situation and the extent of the proprietor's rights. In the latter part of the year some of the settlers moved their wives and families into their new habitations. In one of these humble homes, which stood on the site of the old Judd tavern, was born the first English child, April 27th, 1679, which received the name of Rebecca Richardson. The first male English child was Richard, son of John and Mary Welton, born September 27th, 1679, in a house nearly opposite the above."\*

The streets of the new town plat were laid out around Center square, or the green, very much as they are now, and on these, for the purpose of mutual defense, the first houses were built. The material was logs for the walls and split logs for the roofs and the floors. The need of saw and grist mills was much felt by the early settlers, and their only resource was to carry their corn to be ground to Farmington, twenty miles through a wilderness. What lumber they used was brought from the same place. The colony committee early sought to relieve them in this matter by recommending, in November, 1679, that a mill be built, and offered a grant of 30 acres of land to whoever would build it and keep it up. This offer was accepted in 1680 by Stephen Hopkins, of Hartford, who built a mill on Mad river "for grinding corn." It stood on the site used since that time, and which is now occupied by the rolling mill of the Scovill Manufacturing Company.

The population increased slowly, and prior to 1688 there were 34 proprietors, who had become settlers. With the exception of four, all were from Farmington. Abraham Andruss, Sr., was from Fairfield, Joseph Gaylord from Windsor, John Hopkins from Hartford, and Benjamin Jones was from some other town whose name was not recorded. They were all farmers, but in addition some had trades, and there were no wealthy people among them. Stephen Upson, Joseph Lewis, Jonathan Scott and Richard Porter were among the later settlers. Until after 1713, when there was peace with the French and Indians, the dwellings of all the inhabitants were restricted to the town center, from which the men went into the meadows and places near by, in day time, to labor, returning to the town at night to seek the

\* From Barber's Historical Collections.

shelter of fortified buildings in case of alarm. Hence much of the cultivated lands were in the immediate vicinity of the present city.

In February, 1691, the small band of settlers were visited by a dire calamity in the shape of a severe flood,\* which nearly ruined the alluvial lands of the Naugatuck. The river, swollen by rains and melted snows, rose to a prodigious height, and washed away the soil or covered it so completely with gravel from the neighboring hills that it was unfitted for future tillage. "Many were so much discouraged that they abandoned their possessions forever." In 1709 there were scarcely as many inhabitants as there were before the great floods. The condition of Waterbury in 1694, as described by Wadsworth, was "a small town, though very compact. It contained twenty-five families."

The enfeebled settlement next suffered from the menacing attitude of the Indians, which kept it in an almost perpetual state of alarm from 1702 until after the peace of Utrecht, in 1713. In this entire period Waterbury, as a frontier town, with its large, exposed territory, was in constant danger. It was required to keep two men employed as scouts "to discover the designs of the enemy and to give intelligence should they make their appearance." This duty was performed in rotation. The sentinels, which the town also provided, were placed upon high points of land overlooking the village, where they might watch for the safety of the inhabitants. The town also, as early as April, 1700, voted to fortify several houses, and required the aid of all the men and boys in this work. In spite of these precautions, the Indians made a descent upon the settlement in 1707, and captured Jonathan Scott and his two sons, who were at work in Hancock's meadow. All three were taken to Canada, and to prevent Mr. Scott from offering resistance, they took off his right thumb. He and one of the sons were afterward ransomed and returned home, but the youngest son adopted the life of the savages and remained with them. The town now made greater preparations for defense than before, and was aided in 1708 by the colony of Connecticut, which gave Waterbury £15 toward the construction of three forts, one of which was built at the expense of the town. Accordingly, stockade forts were built around the houses of Lieutenant Timothy Stanley, John Hopkins and Reverend Southmayd. These defenses were, as we now look at such things, frail, but they gave a sense of security the settlement had not before felt. Another Indian incursion was made in 1710, when a man was killed in the southern part of the town.

Scarcely had the hope that the troubles with the Indians would soon be at an end cheered the hearts of the settlers, when another sore affliction fell upon Waterbury.

\*Another severe flood occurred in 1709, which greatly discouraged the inhabitants. Since that time the town has suffered great loss from that cause. Of more recent freshets, those of November 13th, 1853, and April 13th, 1854, were especially destructive.

"In October, 1712, the town was visited by a great and mortal sickness which raged without abatement until September, 1713. During its prevalence the number of well persons was insufficient to provide for and attend the sick and bury the dead. About thirty individuals died of the fever, and this out of a population of about two hundred." \*

Through all these difficulties and adverse circumstances, dangers and misfortunes, most of the settlers persevered. But for many years there was a low condition in the affairs of the town. The value of property did not increase, and more people moved away than came in. Fearing too great a depopulation, the town took prompt measure to encourage the young men to remain by giving them farms. Up to that time, lands had been given only to accepted heads of families. This action and the allotment of fertile and choice lands in other parts of the town had the effect of stimulating the growth of the several settlements in the various parts of old Waterbury, which now again began to people.

The progress of the town can be seen from the following table of population: In 1688 there were about 180 inhabitants; in 1694, 165; in 1713, 180; in 1737, 900; in 1774, 3,536; in 1790†, 2,937; in 1800, 3,256; in 1820, 2,822‡; in 1830, 3,070; in 1840, 3,668; in 1850, 5,137; in 1860, 10,004; in 1880, 20,269; in 1890, 33,202. In the city there were, in 1890, 28,646 inhabitants.

Nearly four-fifths of the wealth and population are now centered in the city of Waterbury, where was founded the first settlement. It is located in a valley a little more than a mile wide, the Naugatuck river washing it on the west, and the Mad river on the east. Beyond these streams and north of the main part of the city hills rise to considerable elevation, upon some of which the city has encroached. The general appearance of the landscape is much like an amphitheater, the center of the city forming the arena, to which several of the hills gradually descend. In the center of the old part of the town is a large green, which has been finely improved for a public park. Wide streets run around this, and others radiate from it, as a central point, to the principal parts of the city. Some of these streets are finely shaded, and on them are found many handsome and costly residences. In other parts are less pretentious but exceedingly neat houses of hundreds of skilled artisans, whose labors have conduced to the prosperity of the several score of manufacturing establishments, located in the lower parts of the valley. These industries, in extent of buildings and variety of operations, rank among the foremost in the state. Their vast volume of business has practically been the means of building up the city to its present wide and attractive proportions. Al-

\* J. W. Barber.

† Decreased by the formation of new towns.

‡ Decreased by immigration to the West.

though the main business of the city is manufacturing, its trade is not as fluctuating as that of other centers. Most of its interests are based upon copper products, and that metal itself ranks as money, in intrinsic value.

For a number of years Waterbury has been the greatest brass goods manufacturing center, not only of the East, but of the entire United States, furnishing seven-tenths of the brass produced in this country. Nearly all the general business houses and public buildings, which are numerous and costly, are located on the Center Square, or within a short distance of it. It is the most important station on the Naugatuck Valley railroad (completed to this place in 1849), 32 miles from Bridgeport, and about the same distance from Hartford, by the New York & New England railroad, built within the next ten years. The recently completed railway to Cromwell, on the Connecticut, *via* Meriden, also gives the city the benefit of communication by water.

The business prosperity of the city is very much promoted by the Waterbury Board of Trade, organized January 16th, 1889, and which has several hundred members, embracing the leading business and professional men, and manufacturers. In 1891 C. M. Upson was the president; N. R. Bronson the secretary, and G. S. Parsons the treasurer of the board. Commodious rooms over the Manufacturers' National Bank are occupied.

At present a limited portion only of the town's area is under tillage, but there are fine and productive lands in the eastern or Mill Plain section. Here in late years an attractive suburb of the city has been built up, there being many fine cottages, a large school house, a Union chapel, and a spacious Grange Hall. In other parts of the town, as at Plattsville, Simonsville and Waterville, small manufacturing centers have been created.

After the determination to settle in Mattatuck, in 1677, the colony committee assigned the deeds for the lands they had purchased of the Indians to some of those who actually became inhabitants, Thomas Judd, John Stanley, and others, who held them in trust. The committee continued to keep a general oversight of affairs and transacted the chief public business of Mattatuck until February, 1681. In that month it ordered that the inhabitants might elect whom they chose of their fellow-settlers for constables, haywards, surveyors, etc. In 1682 the inhabitants were further empowered to regulate their own affairs, giving them the right to impound cattle, etc. From this time the colony committee had but little to do with the affairs of the inhabitants of Mattatuck, which was incorporated as a town, with the name of Waterbury, in 1686.

Much of the legislation of the new town at the close of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries pertained to securing protection against the Indians, and kindred matters. To that end the colony of Connecticut actively coöperated. The town also

early provided the means for schools, voting in 1698 "to set up a school four months or more, and to get a schoolmaster to teach writing as well as reading." Church matters were wholly controlled by the town until 1738, when ecclesiastical societies were organized to take charge of those affairs.

The formation of new towns out of the original territory had the effect of greatly diminishing the business of the dismembered town, whose affairs were in consequence comparatively unimportant until about fifty years ago. Of the towns wholly formed out of Waterbury, Watertown was set off in 1780, and Plymouth in 1795; and the towns formerly belonging to Waterbury, in part, were: Middlebury, formed in 1807; Prospect, in 1827; and Naugatuck, in 1844. To these and other near-by towns Waterbury has always been a natural center, and in 1871 an effort was made to form a closer bond of union by attempting to create a new county, with Waterbury as the shire town. On the 15th of April, that year, a special town meeting was held in the furtherance of that purpose, and a large committee was appointed to properly advocate the project. It was proposed to embrace in the new county the towns of Waterbury, Middlebury, Southbury, Oxford, Naugatuck, Prospect and Wolcott, in New Haven county, and Plymouth, Watertown, Woodbury and Bethlehem, in Litchfield county. Waterbury tendered the use of the new city hall for a term of 25 years, at a nominal rent of one dollar per year, and also offered to build a jail. Before these plans could be carried out New Haven provided new county buildings, and the project subsequently found so little favor that the proposition was not renewed.

For many years the town meetings were held in Gothic Hall. In 1859 the basement of the Methodist church was used, and since 1869 the City Hall, in which the town owns a half interest, has been occupied. Among other public property of the town is the almshouse, which, however, is inadequate for the wants of those making demands upon it. Many of the buildings are old and dilapidated. The total town expenditures are from \$80,000 to \$90,000 per year. The entire town debt is less than \$50,000.

The selectmen in 1892 were E. W. Pinney, George A. Boughton and M. F. Carmody. For a score of years, from 1850, Willard Spencer was the first selectman and town agent, disbursing all the funds of the town in the civil war, to the great satisfaction of his townsmen.

The following were elected to the office of town clerk of Waterbury: 1696, Thomas Judd, Jr.; 1709, Deacon Thomas Judd; 1712, John Hopkins; 1713, John Judd; 1717, William Judd; 1721, John Southmayd; 1755, Thomas Clark; 1764, Ezra Bronson; 1782, Michael Bronson; 1784, Asahel Clark; 1787, William Leavenworth; 1793, John Kingsbury; 1804, Abner Johnson; 1806, Ashley Scott; 1812, John Kingsbury; 1817, Ashley Scott; 1831, Elisha S. Abernathy; 1837, Willard Spencer; 1839, Charles Scott; 1840, Norton J. Buel; 1841, Solomon B. Miner;

1847, John Kendrick; 1848, Lucius A. Thompson; 1849, Theodore S. Buel; 1851, W. B. Lounsbury; 1852, Samuel C. Woodward; 1855, Israel Holmes; 1856, Nelson J. Welton; 1858, Charles W. Gillette; 1859, Nelson J. Welton; 1861, Charles W. Gillette; 1863, Franklin L. Welton; 1869, George L. Fields; 1871, Charles B. Merrill; 1877, Thomas Donahue, 2d; 1878, James C. White; 1887, James J. Madden.

Waterbury was a part of Hartford county until 1728. Most of its probate business was done by the county court of Hartford until October, 1719, when the Woodbury district was formed to embrace Waterbury. Waterbury district was formed in 1779, and was made to embrace the old town of Waterbury, and consequently the towns formed out of it—Middlebury, Wolcott and Naugatuck, until the latter became a separate district in recent years. The judges of the Waterbury district were appointed or elected as follows: 1779, Joseph Hopkins; 1801, John Kingsbury; 1830, Joel Hinman; 1840, Norton J. Buel; 1842, John Peck; 1843, Alfred Blackman; 1844, Norton J. Buel; 1846, Willard Spencer; 1847, Norton J. Buel; 1849, Elisha Johnson; 1852, John W. Webster; 1854, Stephen W. Kellogg; 1857, Robert W. Wright; 1858, Stephen W. Kellogg; 1859, Nelson J. Welton; 1860, John W. Webster; 1862, Stephen W. Kellogg; 1863, John W. Webster; 1865, Stephen W. Kellogg; 1866, L. Sanford Davis; 1868, Henry I. Boughton; 1871, Charles W. Gillette; 1874, Guernsey S. Parsons; 1875, Elisha Leavenworth; 1876, Charles W. Gillette; 1877, Elisha Leavenworth; 1879, Charles W. Gillette; 1889, Ellis Phelan.

Under the city charter, a recorder's court was organized in 1853, and for a number of years Henry I. Boughton was the recorder. He served in that capacity until June 29th, 1866, when the city and police courts were established, their jurisdiction being confined to the city limits. In 1872 the power of the court was enlarged and the jurisdiction was extended over the town of Waterbury and some of the surrounding towns in cases of civil action. The Waterbury town and city court was continued until 1881, when the district court of Waterbury was established, with jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases, in the territory embraced in the nine towns contiguous to Waterbury, in the counties of New Haven and Litchfield. The judges of the district court also preside over the police courts of Waterbury. The judges of the foregoing courts have been the following: 1866-7, Henry I. Boughton; 1868-70, C. W. Gillette; 1871-4, George L. Fields; 1875-6, Henry I. Boughton; 1877, Henry R. Merrill; 1878-83, George H. Cowell; 1884-91, Albert P. Bradstreet.

The deputy judges have been: 1876, Calvin H. Carter; 1877-80, George L. Fields; 1881-3, Albert P. Bradstreet; 1884-6, Edward F. Cole; 1887-91, George H. Cowell.

Among the clerks of the courts have been Benjamin R. Hallas, George E. Terry, Thomas Donahue, 2d, Daniel F. Webster.

Waterbury was incorporated as a borough in May, 1825, and its first



principal officers were: Warden, John Kingsbury; burgesses, Joseph Puton, Austin Steele, James M. L. Scovill, Joseph Porter, Mark Leavenworth, Bennett Bronson; clerk, Joel Hinman. Borough privileges were enjoyed 27 years, the last board of officers in 1853 being: Warden, Edward B. Cooke; burgesses, Edward S. Clarke, Martin S. Isbell, David B. Hurd, John C. Booth, Julius Hotchkiss, Joseph Hurlburt; clerk, David T. Bishop.

In May, 1853, a city charter was granted, the corporation becoming known as the "Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council and Freemen of the City of Waterbury." Under the provisions of this charter the following were first elected: Mayor, Julius Hotchkiss; aldermen, D. B. Hurd, John Kendrick, Willard Spencer, J. M. L. Scovill; common council, William Brown, Richard Welton, T. B. Eldridge, E. B. Cooke, C. B. Merriman, J. S. Mitchell, William Lamb, E. L. Frisbie, Abraham Ives, Elisha Leavenworth, Sherman Hickox, G. H. Welton, S. M. Buckingham, Nelson Hall, C. S. Sperry, Charles Benedict, J. W. Webster, M. S. Isbell, James Scarritt, A. E. Rice.

The city charter was amended in 1867, to permit the organization of the "Board of Water Commissioners," which has since managed the water department of the city; in 1868, to permit the city to take charge of the Silas Bronson Fund for a free library, and in 1871 to increase the corporate powers in many ways, under the new title of the "City of Waterbury." The city is divided into four wards, each having one alderman and five councilmen. These 24 officials, with the mayor as president, constitute the city's "Court of Common Council."

The following have served the city as mayors: Julius Hotchkiss, 1853 to 1854; David T. Bishop, 1854 to 1855; George W. Benedict, 1855 to 1856; John W. Webster, 1856 to 1857; Henry F. Fish, 1857 to 1859; Charles Benedict, 1859 to 1860; Aner Bradley, Jr., 1860 to 1863; L. Sanford Davies, 1863 to 1864; John Kendrick, 1864 to 1866; Philo G. Rockwell, 1866 to 1867; Joseph B. Spencer, 1867 to 1868; John Kendrick, 1868 to 1869; Charles B. Merriman, 1869 to 1870; Isaac E. Newton, 1870 to 1871; George B. Thomas, 1871 to 1876; Archibald E. Rice, 1876 to 1878; Henry I. Boughton, 1878 to 1880; Guernsey S. Parsons, 1880 to 1882; Greene Kendrick, 1882 to 1884; Henry A. Matthews, 1884 to 1886; Henry I. Boughton, 1886 to 1890; Charles R. Baldwin, 1890 to 1892; Daniel F. Webster, 1892.

Since 1871 the city clerks have been Thomas Donahue, 2d, Greene Kendrick and, for the past twelve years, Edward G. Kilduff.

Waterbury's City Hall was begun in 1868, and completed the following year. It is a tall, two-story edifice, substantially constructed of brick, with a front of Portland red sandstone. The lower story is devoted to offices for the use of the city and the town and chambers for the several courts. The upper story forms a spacious auditorium, having sittings for 1,300 people. It was first publicly used October 28th, 1869, by the Theodore Thomas Orchestra Company, which gave

an entertainment for the benefit of Riverside Cemetery. In 1889 a large and well arranged police station was built on the rear end of the hall. The entire cost of this property has been about \$160,000, most of which was defrayed by the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized in 1867 and 1868.

The police department consisted, in 1890, of Chief George M. Egan, a lieutenant, a sergeant, 18 patrolmen and 16 supernumeraries; and the force was claimed to be one of the most efficient in the state. It was maintained at an outlay of \$21,268.97.

In the past ten years much attention has been paid to the improvement of the streets, and about \$60,000 are yearly expended upon that object. Since 1888 Exchange place, a part of East Main street, and Bank street have been paved with granite dimension blocks, 1 1-10 miles being covered with that article, at an expense of nearly \$40,000. Other streets were similarly improved in 1891 and 1892. Some of the other principal streets have been macadamized.

In 1881 the city was empowered to issue bonds to the amount of \$85,000 for the construction of sewers. This work was systematically begun in 1883 under the direction of City Engineer F. Floyd Weld, who was at the head of this department until his death, June 28th, 1890. He made Waterbury famous for its improved sanitary condition, and many engineers from other cities came here to profit by his methods. These are seen not only in the city's excellent sewerage system, but also in other public improvements, especially in the streets, whose betterment first became noteworthy in the period named. When he took hold of this work, in June, 1883, the city had but a little more than a quarter of a mile of sewers; now it has more than 21 miles, and about \$20,000 are yearly paid out in extending the system.

The city has a well organized volunteer fire department, which is managed by a board of fire commissioners. The force in 1891 was composed of the chief engineer and fire marshal, three assistant engineers and 278 officers and men, belonging to seven companies.

In recent years horses have been purchased for the use of Engine Companies No. 1 and 2 and the hook and ladder company, with an additional horse for the chief, nine animals being thus used. There are nearly 10,000 feet of hose used by the different companies.

The Gamewell system of fire alarm telegraph, introduced at an expense of \$7,500, was accepted by the city February 22d, 1883, and has since been satisfactorily used. The entire value of the department property is more than \$96,000, and much of it was acquired during the administration of the present chief engineer, Samuel C. Snagg. He is a native of Westport, Conn., but since 1856 has lived in Waterbury. After being connected with the fire companies of the city 14 years, he was, in February, 1882, elected to the position which he has since held, and has developed the department to its fine and effective condition.

With but a few exceptions the city has in this period been exempt from disastrous fires.

The most costly fire in the history of Waterbury occurred about 1 o'clock of the morning of January 13th, 1892, when the main mill of the Waterbury Brass Company, with all its valuable contents, was totally destroyed. The entire department responded, and was in service four and a half hours, confining the flames to the one building, set on fire by the explosion of gas. The loss was about \$250,000.

For many years the town was dependent upon very crude apparatus for protection against fire, there being, at first, nothing but a few troughs and buckets, which proved of little service when most needed. The first company was organized in March, 1828, soon after the Scovill Button Factory was burned. It had 21 members, some being prominent young business men. The machine used was of the churn pattern, and had but little power, but the company was an improvement on the "bucket brigade." It was in service when the old Judd Tavern was burned, February 25th, 1833, when three lives were lost, and that was the most important fire in its existence. In 1839 there was an increased interest in these matters, and with the aid of Edward S. Clark, a practical fireman from New York, who had come to Waterbury to live, a new company was formed and placed on a better basis than the old one. It embraced many of the old firemen, and for many years Stephen Harrison was the secretary of the company. Ex-Mayor A. Bradley was also an active member. A second-hand Smith machine, of the "goose neck" pattern, was purchased in New York, which was painted up gaudily and a figure of a Mattatuck Indian placed on it. The organization was appropriately called the Mattatuck Engine Company, and for a dozen years cut an important figure in the affairs of the village. Its place was taken by Phoenix Fire Company No. 1, which was first organized May 5th, 1849. The borough procured new engines the following year, which were in service about ten years. In May, 1859, a new Button & Blake engine was purchased at a cost of more than \$1,175, and the following October a new hose carriage was supplied. In December, 1869, the company disbanded, but after two weeks it was reorganized, with William Laird as foreman, and since that time its career has been uninterrupted, making this the oldest fire company in the city. The other companies were organized at different periods, as the growth of the city demanded them, and all have been useful protective agents.

The first action which led toward securing a supply of city water from outside sources, was taken in 1856, when Doctor P. G. Rockwell, B. P. Chatfield and Lyman W. Coe were appointed a committee to report upon the feasibility of a system which would relieve the needs of the city. But it appears that no fruitful action was taken until 1866, when Doctor P. G. Rockwell, at that time serving as mayor, so forcibly urged the matter that definite results were reached January 20th, 1867,

when the committee, appointed for that purpose, submitted a detailed report, advising the construction of water works. A meeting was held May 27th, 1867, when, on the question of bonding the city for the sum of \$150,000 to build water works, 879 freemen voted aye and 256 voted nay. Bonds for that amount were issued in 1867, and two years later an issue of \$40,000 more was authorized. In the former year was organized the first board of water commissioners, composed of N. J. Welton, president; F. J. Kingsbury, J. W. Webster and A. S. Chase. The president of this board was also the engineer in charge, and drew up plans for the system on East Mountain brook. Here a reservoir with a capacity for 8,000,000 gallons of water was begun in 1868, and was first used in the fall of the same year. It is located  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast from Center square, in the town of Prospect, and has an elevation of 225 feet above the city. At first ten miles of pipes were laid and 96 hydrants erected. Since the general use of this water, in 1869, the supply has been increased by building additional reservoirs on East Mountain, in 1880, and another on Cook street, soon after. Still later a pumping station, having a capacity to pump 1,500,000 gallons per day, was erected at a favorable point on Mad river. The combined capacity of the system is 200,000,000 gallons. In 1890 the daily consumption was about 2,000,000 gallons, one-fifth of which was used for manufacturing purposes. Its use for domestic purposes has been doubled about every eight years. There were in 1890 3,339 services, of which 7 were for watering tanks and drinking fountains in various parts of the city, 212 public and 36 private fire hydrants. In all there are about 38 miles of pipes and mains. The cost of the department up to December 30th, 1890, was \$520,011.04; the total receipts for water rents to same time, \$553,698.35. The increase of rents is about \$6,000 per year. Nelson J. Welton is still at the head of the department, and F. B. Merriman is the secretary of the board of commissioners.

New surveys for the extension of the system were made in the fall of 1891 by Rudolph Hering, a competent civil engineer from abroad, and the improvements, when completed, will greatly increase the water supply of the city.

In May, 1854, the Waterbury Gas Company was chartered, and was soon after organized for business. Streets were lighted by this company many years, but since 1884 the method of lighting has been by electricity, only eight street lamps using gas being in service in 1890. The electric light is furnished by the Connecticut Electric Light Company, which was incorporated November 24th, 1883, with a capital of \$15,000. This has since been increased to \$150,000. A. O. Shepardson has been the manager from the beginning. The first public use of this light was in the spring of 1884. In 1890 there were 152 public arc lamps, and the city expended nearly \$20,000 for the illumination of its streets. The electric light company also furnishes light for 50

arc lamps in commercial use. Its plant has a capacity for 300 Thomson-Houston arc lamps, and 4,000 Edison incandescent lights. There is also one 180 horse power generator to furnish electrical power, whose use began in the summer of 1891.

The park system of Waterbury is limited, but an extension at an early day is contemplated. The chief public ground is Center Square, or the old town green. Originally it was a marshy piece of ground; and for many years it remained in that condition. In recent years fine asphalt walks have been made in the green, and it now bears the appearance of a fine lawn, making it the most attractive spot in the city. Its natural beauty has been enhanced by the soldiers' monument, near the west end, and the elegant public drinking fountain, at the eastern end. The latter was erected in 1888, with money bequeathed for that purpose by the late Miss Caroline Josephine Welton, a native of Waterbury. This unfortunate lady lost her life on September 23d, 1884, while attempting to scale Long's Peak, Colorado. Being overtaken by a snow storm, she lost her way and perished before she could be rescued. Her remains lie interred in Riverside cemetery. The cost of the fountain was about \$7,000. It is composed of granite base and bowls, and is surmounted by a life size bronze figure of a horse. The model was after a favorite animal once owned by Miss Welton, and the artist was Karl Gerhart, of Hartford. The fountain, with its varied uses, is an object of much admiration.

The entire city property is worth (including school property) about a million and a half of dollars. The city's debt is \$520,495.36. The annual appropriation for all objects of municipal care are about \$250,000, and the rate of taxation about 15 mills, on a low basis of valuation. The assessed value of the real estate in the entire town was, in 1890, \$6,699,323; the personal estate was rated at \$4,052,047. It was estimated that a fair valuation would be at least \$43,000,000. The increase of the grand list is about a quarter million dollars yearly. The increase of population has been proportionate with the increase of wealth. The inhabitants of the entire town numbered, in 1890, 33,202.

This rapid increase in wealth and population is due almost wholly to the manufacturing enterprises of the town. Through their influence the waste places have been made to rejoice in a prosperity which even the most sanguine pioneer manufacturers could not anticipate. The beginning of manufacturing in Waterbury was in a very humble way.

"Lieut. Ard Welton is said to have made guns by hand-power on Buck's hill,\* during the revolutionary war, and furnished some to the government. He made a few brass muskets also. At length he removed his works to a place on Mad river. About 1790 Jarvis Harrison began to make wooden clocks by hand. A little after 1800 Harrison had a shop on the south side of North Main street. In 1810 Mark

\*Buck's Hill, later called Westbury, now Watertown.

Leavenworth, William H. Lawson and Anson Sperry began making wooden clocks near the beginning of the Buck's Hill road. In 1754 Joseph Hopkins made plated knee buckles and shoe buckles, silver sleeve buttons, vest buttons, and other silver plated ware. Except this, the first metal buttons made there were by Henry, Samuel and Silas Grilley, of block tin or pewter. The buttons were cast in moulds, the eyes being at first of the same material. Soon wire eyes were introduced. The making of gilt buttons, which laid the foundation of the brass and copper business, was begun in 1802, by Abel Porter, Daniel Clark, Silas Grilley and Levi Porter, under the name of Abel Porter & Co. It took 18 months to get started in the business. They employed eight or nine men, and made buttons of various forms, the face only being gilded. Gold was used, and the buttons sold for ten or twelve dollars a gross. They were much in demand for military clothing. The brass ingots were taken to Bradlyville, rolled in an iron mill, and the metal brought back in strips that were very rough. It was then passed between steel rollers, two inches in diameter, moved by horse power, and thus smoothed and finished by hand.

"In September, 1808, David Hayden became a partner, and the company bought the old mill place and began to use water power. In August, 1809, Mr. Grilley sold out. Two years later the firm sold out to Leavenworth, Hayden & Scovill. The brass business dates from 1811. The Benedicts and Scovill were then in business. They greatly lacked skilled labor. A Mr. James Croft, from Philadelphia, was sent to England by Deacon Benedict, to procure labor and machinery. He returned with Mr. Sam Forrest. Mr. Scovill sent Israel Holmes to England for the same purpose. From this time the business grew rapidly, and has assumed astonishing proportions."\*

In 1836, according to J. W. Barber, the condition of these interests was as follows: "The manufacture of gilt buttons and the rolling of brass and copper metals for a great variety of uses constitute the greatest business. There are three factories of this kind upon an extensive scale, two in the village and one about two miles north, connected with which is a gold refinery. There are likewise two factories of gilt buttons upon a considerable scale, unconnected with rolling mills; one extensive rolling mill, connected with brass wire and tubing manufacture; two satinets factories and one woolen factory, besides a great number of minor establishments in which buttons of various kinds and other articles are manufactured to a considerable extent. The number of persons in the village, of both sexes, who are employed in the manufacturing establishments is between six and seven hundred. It is not known precisely what amount is manufactured yearly, but it has been estimated by good judges to exceed a million of dollars and is upon the increase. The route has been surveyed by a practical engineer for constructing a canal to bring the Naugatuck

\*Reverend Elijah C. Baldwin.

on to the bank at the west end of the town, which will, when completed, afford a supply of water power capable of employing as much or more capital than has already been invested."

The expectations of benefits from these water powers were not realized, and steam power is now almost wholly used. In 1860 there was about \$750,000 invested in manufacturing; the amount in 1891 was nearly \$9,000,000. About 6,000 hands were employed, who received in wages nearly \$3,000,000 per year. The principal manufactures were brass goods, and from that fact Waterbury is often called the "Brass City."

In 1891 the following concerns were here located, and their products were:

Brass goods: American Pin Company, American Ring Company, Benedict & Burnham Manufacturing Company, Blake, Lamb & Co., Chapman & Armstrong Manufacturing Company, Electrical Appliance Manufacturing Company, Globe Curtain Pole Company, Harris, F. R.; Hartley, George; Holmes, Booth & Haydens, Lane Manufacturing Company, Matthews & Willard Manufacturing Company, Novelty Manufacturing Company, Plume & Atwood Manufacturing Company, Randolph & Clowes, Scovill Manufacturing Company, Smith & Griggs Manufacturing Company, Specialty Manufacturing Company, Steele & Johnson Manufacturing Company, Tucker Manufacturing Company, Waterbury Brass Company, Waterbury Buckle Company, Waterbury Button Company, Waterbury Manufacturing Company, Wells, A. H. & Co.

Sheet brass manufacturers: Benedict & Burnham Manufacturing Company, Holmes, Booth & Haydens, Plume & Atwood Manufacturing Company, Randolph & Clowes, Scovill Manufacturing Company, Waterbury Brass Company.

Copper manufacturers: Benedict & Burnham Manufacturing Company, Holmes, Booth & Haydens, Plume & Atwood Manufacturing Company, Randolph & Clowes, Scovill Manufacturing Company. The three first named are also manufacturers of electrical wire.

Pin manufacturers: American Pin Company, Benedict & Burnham Manufacturing Company, Blake & Johnson, Oakville Company, Plume & Atwood Manufacturing Company, Warner, L. E. (Oakville).

Silver plated ware manufacturers: Holmes, Booth & Haydens, Rogers & Hamilton, Rogers & Brother.

Box manufacturers: American Pin Company, R. E. Hitchcock & Co., White & Wells.

Besides the above there were: Trott, Lawton & Co., crackers; H. L. Wells Hosiery Company (Waterville), Platt Milling Company (Platts-ville), Waterbury Watch Company, Waterbury Clock Company, Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, chilled rolls and heavy machinery. Six establishments manufactured buckles; nine, buttons; one, bronze

ornaments; five, German silver and gilding metal; twelve, hardware; and nearly the same number, cutlery; four, lamps, and one lanterns.

There are about 60 incorporated manufacturing companies, and their products are sent to all parts of the globe. Some of the works here located have a world-wide reputation.

The Benedict & Burnham Manufacturing Company is one of the oldest corporations, and was the successor of those who here commenced to make brass and brass goods. It has been said that the prosperity of the town began with the operations of this firm and later company. The present corporation was formed in 1843, with a capital of \$100,000. In 1856 it was increased to \$400,000. But, properly, the business was established in 1812, by Deacon Aaron Benedict, who was born in Middlebury in 1795, and who was connected with the interests of the city until his death, in 1873. Gordon W. Burnham died in 1885, aged 82 years. He was a man of great business ability. Under their management the works assumed large proportions. Twelve acres are covered with buildings and 800 hands are employed. The products of this establishment are not only extensive and varied, but several other corporations have sprung from it, viz.: The American Pin Company, in 1846, which is one of the largest companies of the kind in the country; the Waterbury Button Company, organized in 1849; and the Waterbury Clock Company, organized in 1857, with a capital of \$60,000. Arad Welton was the president of the last corporation until 1863, when Charles Benedict so served until his death in 1881. The establishment is large and vast quantities of time pieces are made.

Of the same nature, but a separate corporation, is the Waterbury Watch Company, incorporated March 3d, 1880, with a capital of \$400,000. This company claims to manufacture the best low-priced watch in the world, and occupies an immense plant.

Silver plating was begun in 1858, when two of the celebrated Rogers Brothers—Asa H., the plater, and Simon S., the metal worker—came to Waterbury, where they adopted their trade mark, "Rogers & Bro. A 1," and were incorporated as Rogers & Brother. The factory is on Mad river,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Center square. The highest grades of flat and hollow ware are made. The Rogers & Hamilton Company are silver platers in the Brooklyn or west of the Naugatuck part of the city. The company was incorporated in 1886.

The Scovill Manufacturing Company, another of the giant corporations of the city, although not incorporated with the present name until 1850, is in the line of succession of the business established in 1811 by James M. L. Scovill, Frederick Leavenworth and David Hayden, who first made gilt and brass buttons. The latter two retired in 1837, selling to William H. Scovill, and the corporation succeeded to the business of the Scovills in the year named. Lampson Scovill was a pioneer manufacturer. He was born in 1789, and died May 16th,



1857. The oldest water power in the town is used by this company, whose brass goods are widely used.

The third brass rolling mill in Waterbury was built in 1830 by Brown & Elton, and that firm made the first hooks and eyes in the town, in April, 1836. Deacon James Brown, a pioneer manufacturer, died in 1848, but his sons, Philo, James, William and Augustus, continued, and became the controlling owners of Brown & Brothers' extensive brass goods manufactory. A specialty is made of brass tubing, and seamless tubes of brass of 40 feet have here been drawn out. Their tube drawing machine weighs 200,000 pounds, and is the largest in this county. It is worked by hydraulic pressure.

Israel Holmes was another pioneer manufacturer. He was born in Waterbury December 19th, 1800, and was for some time in the employ of the Scovills. In 1831 he built a brass mill, and in 1845 became the president of the Waterbury Brass Company, which was organized that year and has become one of the largest brass producing establishments in the city. In 1880 the company was incorporated with a capital of \$400,000. The plant covers about 20 acres and water is the main motive power. The corporation is also the owner of the interests of the American Flask & Cap Company, organized in 1857 with a capital of \$125,000. Hundreds of men are employed. John P. Elton, who was connected with this company, died in 1864.

In February, 1853, Israel Holmes, John C. Booth, Henry H. Hayden and Hiram W. Hayden organized the well known corporation of Holmes, Booth & Haydens, which has a very extensive and well ordered plant, and produces a great variety of goods in brass and copper, as well as plated wares. The goods produced have a splendid reputation.

The Waterbury Manufacturing Company, incorporated in 1876, is also extensively engaged in the production of brass goods, etc., about 600 hands being employed. A. S. Chase is the president and Henry S. Chase the treasurer of the company, which is a close corporation.

The Farrel Foundry & Machine Company was organized in 1857, but in 1880 was reorganized with the name of the Waterbury Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, to more fully distinguish it from the Ansonia industries of the same name, also established by Almon Farrel. Since the last date E. C. Lewis has been the principal owner and president of the company, whose already extensive works were much enlarged in 1891. Chilled rolls and heavy milling machinery are manufactured and are very favorably known.

Heavy and special machinery is made by Blake & Johnson, organized in 1852. Small hardware is also made, and a heavy business is transacted.

The manufacturing business of the Smith & Griggs Company was started in 1866. Sheet metal is made and 200 hands are employed at the works at Hopeville.

The Plume & Atwood Manufacturing Company was organized in 1869, and now has a capital of \$400,000, making it one of the largest corporations in the city. Its plant is also one of the finest. David S. Plume is the treasurer, and L. J. Atwood the president of the corporation.

The Matthews & Willard Company was organized in 1870, but in 1870 was incorporated with a capital of \$250,000. It is a large and flourishing corporation. Metal and bronze trimmings of all kinds are made. The principal officers are: F. L. Curtiss, C. P. Goss and George G. Blakeslee.

Another old and successful corporation is the Waterbury Buckle Company, which was organized in 1853, and whose capital was, in 1872, placed at \$100,000. Buckles, belts and steel ornaments are made, and 250 hands are employed.

The American Mills Company, incorporated in 1881, is the successor of the American Suspender Company, incorporated in 1857, to take up the business of Hotchkiss & Merriam, established in 1843. Elastic goods are woven. A number of textile manufacturing establishments were at one time maintained in the town, but that industry has been largely diverted to other localities. A few years ago the H. L. Welch Hosiery Company was incorporated with a capital of \$80,000, with Welch as the president, and Lewis Gates as the manager. The company occupies the plant formerly used by the Waterville Knitting Works. At the same place are the shops of the Waterville Cutlery Company, incorporated in 1890, with a capital of \$25,000. George L. Jenks is the secretary and treasurer of the company.

The Oakville Company, with a capital of \$75,000, was organized in 1852, to manufacture solid headed pins. An extensive business is now carried on.

In addition to those named in the foregoing pages, as having been identified with the manufacturing interests of Waterbury and aiding in their development, creditable mention may be made of Doctor A. Ives, from 1837 until his death in 1852; Greene Kendrick, C. S. Sperry and B. F. Leavenworth, of earlier periods; W. R. Hitchcock, D. B. Hurd, E. Robinson, F. M. Perkins, H. A. Matthews, Henry L. Wade, George B. Scovill, S. B. Lane, H. B. Lane, G. W. Tucker and C. B. Woodruff, of more recent periods.

The Waterbury Bank, chartered in 1848, was the first organized in the town. It began business in 1849 with the foregoing name, but at the time of its reorganization, under the United States laws, in 1864, it became the Waterbury National Bank. The authorized capital of \$200,000 has been increased to \$500,000. The original officers of the bank were: Bennett Bronson, president; Dyer Ames, cashier; Aaron Benedict, Philo Brown, Scovill M. Buckingham, N. J. Buel, John P. Elton, L. W. Coe and N. B. Smith, directors. Judge Bronson died December 11th, 1850, when John P. Elton became the president. On

the death of the latter, A. S. Chase was elected president, and A. M. Blakesley cashier. The additional directors are Homer Hemingway, Nelson J. Welton, Leman W. Cutler, J. M. Burrall, James S. Elton, Henry L. Wade and S. T. Dayton. The bank has a surplus fund of \$250,000, and has declared large dividends. Soon after business was begun a plain but very substantial building was erected for the use of the bank, on the corner of Grand and Bank streets, which, in a modernized condition, is still occupied.

In 1853 the Citizens' Bank was established, and was the second in the city. Business was begun in the building ever since used, opposite the northeast corner of Center Square. In January, 1865, the bank was nationalized, becoming the Citizens' National Bank. The capital was also increased from \$100,000 to \$300,000. Of the old bank Abram Ives was the first president, and Frederick J. Kingsbury the cashier. Later Samuel W. Hall became the president, and served until 1868, when Mr. Kingsbury succeeded him, and has since been at the head of the bank, F. L. Curtiss being the cashier. Other directors are Edward Cowles, David E. Sprague and Henry H. Peck. In 1890 a surplus fund of \$95,000 was reported, and the bank was very highly rated in commercial circles.

The Manufacturers' National Bank was organized under the United States banking laws, in 1880, with a capital of \$100,000. To this has been added a surplus fund of \$20,000, besides paying a yearly 8 per cent. dividend to its stockholders, making this one of the most prosperous institutions of the kind in the town. Very fine banking offices, in a handsome block recently erected, on Bank street, are occupied. The original president, David B. Hamilton, and cashier, Charles R. Baldwin, have been retained, and the other directors are Edward C. Lewis, C. M. Platt, George W. Beach, Edward L. Frisbie and Henry S. Chase.

The Fourth National Bank was organized in 1887, with a capital of \$100,000, and its business was soon very prosperous. Large and handsome offices, in the newly erected Masonic Building, are occupied. The officers are Edward T. Turner, president; Burton G. Bryan, cashier. The former and the following are the directors: D. S. Plume, Edmund Day, L. A. Platt, George E. Terry, N. D. Granniss, J. R. Smith.

Several private banks have had a successful existence in the city. One of the first was established by the Elton Banking Company, in 1865, which was discontinued after the death of some of its principals. Brown & Parsons were private bankers a number of years, and that firm was succeeded by Israel Holmes and G. S. Parsons, as Holmes & Parsons, who are now in business on North Main street.

The oldest savings institution, the Waterbury Savings Bank, was chartered in 1850, and began business the same year. From the beginning F. J. Kingsbury has been the treasurer, and his conservative

management has placed the bank upon an excellent basis. In 1891 its deposits were more than \$3,000,000, and there were undivided profits to the amount of nearly \$100,000. The bank has had as presidents: John P. Elton, Nelson Hall, Samuel W. Hall, Willard Spencer, C. B. Merriman, Nathan Dikeman and E. L. Frisbie, all of them leading business men of this part of the county. The latter now serves, and his associate directors are: John W. Smith, A. S. Chase, F. L. Curtiss, John M. Burrall, George E. Terry, F. J. Kingsbury and James S. Elton. The place of business is in the building of the Citizens' Bank.

The Dime Savings Bank was incorporated in 1870, and began business September 1st that year. Elisha Leavenworth was the first president, and was succeeded by H. C. Griggs, who gave place to the present incumbent, Henry H. Peck. The only treasurer has been Guernsey S. Parsons. Others interested in directing its affairs are: Theodore I. Driggs, Edward L. Frisbie, Sr., Charles W. Gillette, E. C. Lewis, Norman D. Grannis and E. M. Burrall. In April, 1875, the deposits were \$412,705.99; March 1st, 1885, \$1,130,736.86; and April 1st, 1890, \$1,927,887.73. The surplus fund amounts to more than \$75,000. A banking office on North Main street is occupied.

The West Side Savings Bank is located in the Brooklyn part of the city. It was incorporated in January, 1889, and began business the same year. George H. Cowell was elected president; Michael Guilfoile, secretary, and Gordon B. Lawrence the treasurer, and these officers still serve. The bank has been well patronized, the deposits the first year being about \$40,000.

The Connecticut Indemnity Association was organized in 1883, as a natural premium life insurance company. In 1887 it was duly chartered by the state, with an authorized capital of \$250,000, which has been fully subscribed. The association has its home office in the fine new Platt Building, and has prospered beyond the usual run of new companies of that nature. It furnishes accident, life and endowment insurance, and has written more than 8,000 policies, representing over \$5,000,000 of insurance in 22 different states. V. L. Sawyer is the president of the association; E. A. Wright, secretary; A. M. Blakesley, treasurer of the reserve fund, and H. W. Lake, general treasurer.

The Waterbury Horse Railway Company was organized in the spring of 1886. In July, the same year, the work of construction was begun, and on the 3d of November following cars first commenced to run. The system embraces three lines, each two miles in length. All the lines, namely, North Main and Bank streets, South Main street, and East and West Main streets, center at Exchange place. The company has 15 closed and 13 open cars and uses 115 horses in their operation. E. A. Bradley is the superintendent. Electric railways to some of the suburban towns are also projected.

Waterbury has an able and well sustained periodical press. The oldest and properly the pioneer paper is the *Waterbury American*, which

was established as a weekly in November, 1844, by Joseph Giles. After seven issues the paper was bought by E. B. Clark & Co., who were the publishers for 23 years. In 1868 the American Printing Company was formed, with E. B. Cooke as the president. He was also the editor of the paper, and so served until his death, January 17th, 1875. At that time he was one of the oldest successful newspaper men in the state, and was very widely known and familiarly called "Father Cooke." No other editor in the state wielded a greater influence, nor was there another, in his day, whose writings commanded more attention. Since May, 1878, Charles F. Chapin has been the editor, worthily filling the place so long occupied by Mr. Cooke. In the same period A. S. Chase has been the president of the American Company. For a number of years Charles R. Baldwin was the business manager. In 1878 the company occupied its fine printing house, on Bank street, in which may be found all the appliances of the well directed modern newspaper. The issues of the *Weekly American* have been uninterruptedly continued, and since Tuesday, May 2d, 1866, the *Daily American* has been issued on every week day, both editions being noteworthy exponents of progressive thought and liberal views, favoring independent action on both local and national issues.

The *Waterbury Republican* was established in October, 1881, by J. Henry Morrow, who had previously been connected with the *Brooklyn Union*. As a weekly paper the *Republican* was so successful that a daily issue was begun January 2d, 1884, and in both these forms it has since appeared. It is the recognized organ of the republican party. In the fall of 1883 a fine publishing office was prepared for the paper on Bank street, which has since been its home. Mr. Morrow's connection with the *Republican* ceased March 1st, 1890, when H. S. Chase became the proprietor, with P. H. Hampson as the manager. Since July, 1890, the printing establishment has been devoted wholly to newspaper work.

On the 1st of August, 1880, the publication of the *Valley Democrat* was begun by Messrs. Maloney & Loughery, and it was published by them several years. In the spring of 1883 the ownership passed to Cornelius and Michael T. Maloney, by whom it is still published as a daily, the *Waterbury Evening Democrat*. This change was made December 5th, 1887, after the paper had been published, since January 3d, 1886, as the *Sunday Democrat*, which was then discontinued. The paper supplies a popular want, and is devoted to the interests of the democratic party.

The *Waterbury Sunday Herald* was begun in the spring of 1888. In the summer of 1891 its printing house was removed to Bridgeport, an editorial office alone being maintained in Waterbury, with Fred. R. Swift in charge.

A number of other papers were begun in the city, but had only a short existence, the *Valley Index* being one of the longest continued.

Several papers published elsewhere have Waterbury editions, as the *Weekly Examiner*, a labor organ; the *Neue Zeitung*, a German publication; and the *Connecticut Guardsman*, a semi-monthly, established in May, 1890, and devoted to the interests of the National Guard of this and adjoining states.

The Waterbury post office, now so important, was long rated as a small affair, and in the early part of this century was surpassed by the offices in some of the neighboring hill towns. In 1815 William K. Lampson was the postmaster, and was succeeded by Doctor Frederick Leavenworth, who was postmaster in 1829. Elisha Leavenworth came next, and gave place to David S. Law in 1849. At that time a daily mail had been provided and the salary of the office was \$854. Elisha Leavenworth was again appointed in 1853, and the office was kept in the Leavenworth building, near Exchange place. In the first term of Lincoln, Calvin H. Carter was appointed postmaster, and was followed by Charles W. Gillette and George W. Beach. For several months, in 1869, John J. Jaques was the postmaster, giving place, July 12th, 1869, to his successor, John W. Hill, who served until March 16th, 1886. Charles C. Commerford was the Cleveland appointee, and at the end of his term, in 1890, was succeeded by the present incumbent, Captain John B. Doherty. He was born in Nova Scotia, September 10th, 1853, and came to Waterbury in 1865. On the 1st of July, 1889, he was elected colonel of the 2d Regiment, Connecticut National Guards. For a number of years Daniel E. Fitzpatrick has been the deputy postmaster.

In recent years the business of the office has become very extensive and steadily increases, at the rate of about \$5,000 per year. It amounted to \$46,500 for the year ending March 31st, 1891, being \$25,000 more than the expenses of the office. October 1st, 1884, the carrier system of mail delivery here went into operation, five carriers being employed. That number has since been increased to twelve, and in addition nine clerks are employed. In 1872 the office was located in the building since occupied, which has become too small, and a new public edifice is urgently needed for its accommodation.

Concerning the public houses of the city, a writer in a recent paper\* said: "On West Main, where the Barlow Brothers now live, stood the Judd tavern, and where Turner's store now stands was another tavern, kept by one Burton. The stables of the latter stood where Miller & Peck's store is now, and Little brook babbled out and uninterrupted alongside the stables. Here the cattle of travelers were watered and fed. But the old Judd tavern was the most popular. There the wits of the town used to congregate nightly; there soldiers and volunteers on their way to take part in the 'so-called patriot war' in Canada used to stay over night, and song and jest and flowing bowls helped to pass the time until morning. Mr. Judd died on September 12th, 1825, aged 91 years.

\* Waterbury *Sunday Herald*.

"A public well was dug on the northwest corner of West Main street, with a trough to hold water, to be used for fire purposes underneath.

"In those days when a drunken man was seen on the streets he was seized by the people and dropped into this trough until he was completely saturated, and this method of punishment had as much effect as \$5 and costs has nowadays."

In more recent times the tavern on the site of Turner's store bore the name of the Mansion House, and having long piazzas, it presented a somewhat stately appearance when compared with the surrounding buildings, so that the name was not wholly inappropriate. On the 4th of July, 1849, the original part of the Scovill House was opened to the public, and it soon became, and has remained to the present time, the most popular hostelry. Subsequent additions have very much increased its capacity, and half a dozen newer hotel buildings help to accommodate the traveling public of the city.

The firm of Miller & Peck is the oldest in the dry goods trade, its existence dating from 1860. A few years ago Henry H. Peck retired from the firm, and since that time the extensive business has been carried on by Charles Miller, the senior member. E. T. Turner became a merchant in Waterbury in 1864, and occupied the above place of business in 1875, after having adapted it to his uses. More recent changes have made it a fine dry goods emporium, conforming to the demands of modern times. Mr. Turner manifested much enterprise in carrying on his business, and was the first in the city to introduce new trade features, such as employing female help, a regular cashier and cash boys. He was a man of great decision of character, and was much respected by all classes of citizens. He died in December, 1891, aged about 56 years, and the business is now carried on by his son Charles, and his associates.

The extensive dry goods firm of Hughes & Reid was established in 1889 by George F. Hughes and Adam Reid, proprietors of a similar place in Norwich, from which city they came. The oldest merchant tailor and clothier was John Mullings, who began in 1840, and his business is now carried on by his son, John B. Mullings.

The accounts of the early physicians in Waterbury are vague and conflicting. Those first in practice appear not to have been bred in the profession, and were engaged in it not as a regular avocation, but as one incidental to other employment. One of the first of this kind was Daniel Porter, who came from Farmington some time about 1690, and here exercised his skill as a "bone setter" half a dozen or more years. Then Daniel Porter, 2d, appears to have taken up this art, which he followed until his death, in 1726. His home was on the site now occupied by the Scovill House, and when his library was appraised it was found to consist of several small volumes on bone setting, valued at two shillings. His son, Daniel Porter, Jr., succeeded to his practice,

and was a doctor in the town until his death, in 1772. In the meantime, about 1704, Ephraim Warner was here as a physician, and was followed a dozen years later by Doctor Benjamin Warner, whose death also occurred in 1772.

After that year, for some time to come, Doctors Preserved Porter and Timothy Porter appear to have been the principal physicians. During the revolution Doctor Isaac Baldwin, who had been a surgeon in the American army, came to Waterbury, where, in 1782, he married Sarah, daughter of Reverend Mark Leavenworth. He removed from town in 1797. While residing here members of the Leavenworth family were his medical students, and Doctor Edward Field, who died in Waterbury about 1842, was his son-in-law. The latter's son, Doctor Edward Field, became a physician in New York. Doctor Nathan Leavenworth, son of Reverend Mark, was born December 11th, 1761. He graduated from Yale in 1778. In 1780 he entered the army as a surgeon's mate, and served until the end of the war. He then removed to South Carolina, where he lived until 1793, when ill health compelled his return to his native town, where he died January 9th, 1799. Doctor Frederick Leavenworth, born September 4th, 1766, became a practitioner in the town, and was a contemporary of Doctors Field and Joseph Porter. A part of this time Doctor M. Conkling Leavenworth was also a practitioner. He was a man of great ability not only in his profession, but was one of the most eminent botanists in this country. As a surgeon in the regular army he had active service, and when the civil war broke out he again tendered his aid. He became an assistant surgeon of the 12th Regiment, and died November 16th, 1862. In this period other physicians were: Doctors Daniel Porter, David Pritchard, John Deacon, William Porter, Sturges Buckley, G. E. Perkins, M. H. Perkins, Henry Bronson, Gideon L. Platt, Philo G. Rockwell, of the allopathic school of practice; W. W. Rodman, of the homeopathic; E. G. Snow and John J. Jaques, of other systems of practice. E. C. Knight, another homeopathist, came soon after 1855.

Of the above, Philo G. Rockwell was a physician of ability, but his health failed him and he removed to Aiken, S. C., where he established a sanitarium. He died at that place, but is interred in Riverside cemetery. Doctor Henry Bronson, after practicing a number of years in Waterbury, nearly half a century ago, removed to New Haven, where he was still living in 1892, at a very advanced age. He wrote an excellent history of his native town, and became known as an antiquarian. Doctor Gideon L. Platt was a student of Doctor Bronson and practically succeeded to his practice after his removal. He was a man of excellent judgment, skillful and successful in his profession, which he followed in this town more than two scores of years.

In 1861 Doctor Alfred North graduated from the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons, and several years later located at Waterbury, where he has since been one of the leading physicians. In more



recent years Doctor Thomas L. Axtelle has been associated with him, the firm being Axtelle & North.

In 1875 the physicians of the town were: Allopaths, Doctors S. C. Bartlett, John Deacon, Thomas D. Dougherty, E. L. Griggs, Alfred North, George E. Perkins, Gideon L. Platt, E. W. McDonald, J. R. Roberts, F. E. Castle (and soon after came J. J. M. Neville and W. L. Barber); homeopaths, E. C. Knight, C. S. Rodman, E. A. Towne and H. Wolcott; eclectic, John J. Jaques and Stephen B. Munn. The latter was born at Southington, Conn., September 8th, 1827. His early education was limited, as he was obliged to leave his home when 11 years old to earn his own livelihood. When 15 years old he commenced to learn the blacksmith's trade, borrowing at the same time books to read to fit himself for the medical profession. In 1857 he removed to Pawling, N. Y., where, in 1858, he was licensed to practice as an eclectic. In 1864 he removed to Waterbury, which has since been his home, and he is now one of the oldest physicians in the town. Since being located here he has received degrees from three eclectic colleges as an honorary graduate: From the Georgia Eclectic Medical College, in 1877; the United States Medical College, of New York, in 1880; and the Bennett College of Eclectic Medicine and Surgery, Chicago, in 1888. He is a member of the National Eclectic Society, and presided over the meeting held at Pittsburg in 1878. The same year he was one of the curators of the United States Medical College, of New York.

Doctor Thomas D. Dougherty came as an Irish boy to Waterbury, where later he lived as one of the foremost physicians, and died in this city. He was educated at St. Mary's, studied medicine at New York Medical College, then located at New Haven, but finally settled here. He was a very able and scholarly man. Doctor Edward L. Griggs was born at Windsor, Conn., July 18th, 1838, but came to Waterbury when he was six years old. He was educated in the old academy, then pursued his medical studies at the Long Island College Hospital, at Brooklyn, graduating in 1864. Most of the time since then he has been a practitioner at Waterbury. Doctor E. W. McDonald was born in Limerick, Ireland, in March, 1845. In May, 1868, he came to America, settling in New York city. There he studied medicine in the medical department of the University of New York, graduating in 1871. He now spent another year at St. Vincent's Hospital, when he located permanently in Waterbury. He has become warmly interested in the affairs of the town, being a leading citizen as well as a successful physician. In 1891 he was chairman of the board of education.

Doctor Walter Lewis Barber was born in Litchfield in June, 1851, and was educated at the Torrington Academy. In 1873 he graduated from the New York Bellevue Medical Hospital, when he became the surgeon of the 99th Street Emergency Hospital, in that city, serving

one year. In October, 1876, he removed to Norfolk, where he was with his former preceptor, Doctor William W. Welch, but since June, 1877, he has been an active and successful practitioner at Waterbury.

Doctor Frank E. Castle was born in Woodbridge February 25th, 1845, and was a son of Doctor Andrew Castle, of that town, and grandson of Doctor Jehiel Castle, of Bethany. He read medicine with T. B. Townsend, of New Haven, and graduated from the medical school of Yale College in 1870, when he located at Waterbury, where he has successfully continued.

In 1885 there were in practice, in addition to the foregoing and not included in the list below as being at Waterbury in 1891, the following: Doctors E. P. Esterly, J. J. M. Neville, Charles H. French, James Ramsey, O. R. Kelsey, F. M. Court. The physicians in 1891 were: Thomas L. Axtelle,\* Walter L. Barber,\* J. M. Benedict,\* Frank E. Castle,\* Frederick M. Cannon,\* Caroline R. Conkey,\* Joseph S. Chagnon,\* M. J. Donahue,\* G. Dubuc, George A. Faber, C. W. S. Frost,\* Henry F. Gill, E. P. Gregory, hom.; Edward L. Griggs,\* Charles A. Hamilton,\* Nicholas Hanlon, Jr., J. F. Hayes,\* Walter H. Holmes,\* William Coe Holmes,† L. Kimball, C. H. Lafontaine, Robert J. La Fonzo, Ralph Lopez, Arthur Lascomb, hom.; Edward W. McDonald,\* David W. McFarland, Carl E. Munger,\* Stephen B. Munn, Alfred North,\* Bernard A. O'Hara,\* Smith H. Platt, George O. Robbins,‡ C. S. Rodman,\* M. Florence Taft, E. A. Towne, George A. Taber, Charles R. Upson, C. Art. Ward, Joseph Werner, Henry S. Wildman.\*

Doctor J. M. Benedict was born at Bethel, Conn., in 1852. He graduated from the University of the City of New York in 1882, and the following year settled in Waterbury. Since July, 1889, he has been the surgeon of the 2d Regiment, C. N. G.

Caroline R. Conkey, M. D., graduated from the Woman's Medical College, of the New York Infirmary, in 1881. She then practiced her profession at Watertown, New York, until 1887, when she came to Waterbury. She is a member of the County Medical Society, and serves on the staff of Waterbury Hospital.

Doctor M. Florence Taft graduated from the Boston University, School of Medicine, in 1886. After serving some time in the Massachusetts Homeopathic Hospital, she located at Middletown, Conn., where she remained as a practitioner until May, 1891, since when she has been at Waterbury. She is an active member of the Connecticut Homeopathic Medical Society.

Doctor C. W. S. Frost was born in Waterbury December 22d, 1857, and was educated in the high school of this city. After studying medicine at Yale and in the New York Medical College, he graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of New York, in 1880, when

\* Members of the Connecticut Medical Society.

† Pennsylvania Medical Society.

‡ New Hampshire State Medical Society.

he located at Waterbury. Since 1887 he has been a health officer of the town.

Doctor E. P. Gregory, a homeopathist, was born in Fairfield, Conn., and was educated in the common schools of this state. In his medical studies he graduated from the University of New York in 1873, and later of the Hahnemann Medical College of Philadelphia. He practiced in Milford six years, and since 1879 has been located at Waterbury.

Doctor John F. Hayes, a native of this town, was born in 1858. He received a high school and classical education, when he entered the University of the City of New York, from which he graduated in 1879. He soon after went abroad and studied at the Rotunda Hospital, at Dublin, eight months, receiving the degree of L. M.; was three months at the Royal Infirmary at Edinburgh, and the same length of time at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. In 1881 he returned to Waterbury, and has been a practitioner here ever since.

Doctor C. A. Hamilton, born December 29th, 1848, at East Windsor, Conn., took a course of study at Dartmouth College, when he entered the University of Vermont, from which he graduated in 1886. In July, the same year, he located in Waterbury.

Doctor C. R. Upson is a native of Oxford, where he was born in 1847. He graduated from the Long Island College Hospital in 1870, after which he located in Wallingford, where he was in practice two years. He was next at New Haven four years, when he took another special course at Long Island Hospital, after which he became one of the professors at St. Joseph's Hospital, Atlanta, Ga. Since 1883 he has been a specialist at Waterbury in the treatment of nasal, throat and lung diseases.

Doctor N. J. Hanlon was born in Waterbury in 1862. He graduated from the Toronto University in 1885 and the Bellevue Hospital. Since January, 1891, he has been a practitioner at Waterbury, and was appointed a town health officer in October, 1891.

Doctor George O. Robbins, a native of Lee, Mass., where he was born in 1854, came to Waterbury in his youth. He was educated at Yale, graduating in 1879, and began his professional career at Salmon Falls, N. H. In 1883 he removed to Waterbury, where he has since been a practitioner.

D. W. McFarland, M. D., was born May 13th, 1858, at Portland, Conn., where he was educated in the common schools and by a private tutor. After taking one medical course at Burlington, Vt., he entered the medical department of the University of New York City, graduating from that institution in March, 1885. He then had hospital practice in that city and the Insane Asylum at Morris Plains, N. J. Then he was professionally located one year at Paterson, N. J., and since May, 1890, has been a practitioner at Waterbury.

Doctor Bernard A. O'Harra is a native of Ireland, and was born in

1859. He came to America in 1877, and received his education at the Bellevue Medical Hospital, from which he graduated in March, 1882. After being an assistant to Doctor Jarvis, in the dispensary of the New York University Medical College, he was appointed a surgeon. Since 1884 he has been a practitioner in this city, and was appointed one of the town's health officers October, 1891.

Doctor M. J. Donahue, a native of Ireland, was born March 20th, 1860, and three years later came to America. In June, 1877, he graduated from the College of the Holy Cross, at Worcester, Mass., with the degree A. B., and later was awarded the degree A. M. by the same institution. He now studied for the priest's office at St. Mary's Seminary, in Baltimore, but after a time changed to medicine, studying three years in the University of Pennsylvania, and graduating with the degree of M. D. in 1886. The following year he located at Waterbury, and has since been an active practitioner in this city.

Doctor Joseph Werner was born at Griek, Prussia, in 1856. After attending the common schools, he studied at Strassburg, Freiburg and Marburg, passing his first professional examination at the latter place. He graduated from the Wuerzburg University of Medicine in 1881. He was next an assistant to Professors Gerhart and Scanzoni, but came to America in 1884 and located at Waterbury.

Doctor J. S. Chagnon is a native of Montreal, Canada, where he was born in 1858. He was educated in that city, and graduated from Victoria College in 1883. He practiced medicine at Fall River, Mass., Willimantic, Conn., and since October, 1885, has been at Waterbury.

G. Dubuc, M. D., was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, in 1841. He was a student in the schools of Quebec and Montreal, graduating from Bishop's College in March, 1873. After practicing medicine two years in Montreal city he came to the states, being at Bedford two years, Sutton 11 years, and at Waterbury since 1888.

Doctor C. H. Lafontaine was born in 1860, at Chambly, Canada. After studying at Saint Therese College, he entered Bishop's College, Montreal, graduating in 1884. He began the practice of medicine at Chambly, where his father has been a practitioner for 50 years, but since April, 1887, has been located at Waterbury.

Doctor Ralph Lopez was born April 6th, 1850, at Barcelona, Spain. He came to America when 18 years old, locating in Lancaster, Mass., where he attended school. He graduated at Harvard in 1876, then went to England for one year, and since his return in 1878 has practiced medicine in Waterbury.

Doctor George A. Faber, eclectic, was born in Waterbury in 1866, and received his preliminary education at English and classical schools. He studied with Doctor Munn, attended lectures at Atlanta, Ga., in 1885-6, and at Chicago in 1886-8. After his return he remained with Doctor Munn until June, 1890, and since then has practiced alone. He graduated from Bennett Medical Eclectic College, Chicago. He

is a member of the State Medical Society and National Eclectic Medical Association.

A number of promising young physicians were in Waterbury for short periods, when they removed to other localities, where they attained distinction. Several natives of the town became eminent physicians in New York.

Doctor Lemuel Hopkins, a physician of great skill and reputation in his day, and a poet of more than local fame, was also a native of Waterbury. He was born in this place June 19th, 1750, and died in Hartford in 1801. He was one of the founders of the Medical Society of Connecticut, and he was eminent for his literary ability, and his labors and time were divided among such writers as Humphreys, Dwight, Barlow, Trumbull and others.

The city has a local medical society, and here is also located the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association, inaugurated February 13th, 1884, and incorporated in January, 1887. The original charter members were Thomas Bland, William J. Sullivan, Edward C. Ross, Julian E. Gardner and L. G. Knox. Both societies are fairly prosperous.

In the last century there was but little legal business in Waterbury, and there were but few resident attorneys. John Kingsbury was one of the few to maintain an office any period of time. He was a lawyer here soon after 1790, and was elected one of the county judges. He died in 1844. Bennett Bronson was a contemporary, being here as a lawyer and business man from 1803 until his death in 1850. Cyrus Clark and Lauren Barnes were also lawyers in this town in the beginning of the present century, some time before 1810. Half a dozen years later came Samuel Frisbie and Le Grand Bancroft. Not long after Joel Hinman located here and was also called to serve in a judicial capacity, when he removed to New Haven, and later lived in Cheshire. Alfred Blackman, after being here some time, also removed to New Haven, following the example of Robinson S. Hinman, who had lived in Salem parish of Waterbury. Elisha S. Abernathy was in the town as a lawyer before 1835 and preceded Norton J. Buel. The latter was born at Salisbury September 6th, 1813, and located at Naugatuck in 1835. Five years later he removed to Waterbury, where he was an attorney until the fall of 1863, when he removed to New Haven, where he died March 6th, 1864. Theodore S. Buel was not here as early, and about the close of the war he left the practice of law to engage in manufacturing.

John W. Webster was born at West Hartford, Conn., January 19th, 1817, and was a son of Charles Webster, who was a brother of Noah Webster, the lexicographer. He was educated at Westfield and Wilbraham Academy, leaving the latter school in 1842. He now entered the Yale Law School, from which he graduated in 1844. In October of that year he located at Waterbury as an attorney, and has been con-

nected with the bar of this city ever since, being now its oldest member. A few years after the location of Mr. Webster, Frederick J. Kingsbury opened an office in his native town, but was in active practice a few years only, devoting thenceforth his energies to other lines of business. Also, about 1850, Charles E. Moss and John Kendrick were attorneys. Within the next five years there was an accession to the number of lawyers in the town, Stephen W. Kellogg coming from Naugatuck and here beginning a practice, which has placed him in the foremost ranks of the lawyers of the state. For a time Calvin H. Carter was associated with him, but later was appointed postmaster of the city and afterward was active in other business. He was a man of great worth, liberal and public spirited. His death occurred September 18th, 1887. Contemporary with the two foregoing was George L. Fields, a man of very excellent judgment, who after many years removed to the West, but returned to Waterbury, where he died about a dozen years ago. Near the same time L. Sanford Davis became an attorney of Waterbury, and was here a number of years. S. A. Keeney remained a shorter period of time. In 1856 Charles W. Gillette here began a professional career, which he still continues. He was born in what is now the town of Beacon Falls in 1831, and after having studied law with J. W. Webster, was admitted to practice. Within the next ten years two other lawyers came, and the first has also remained: Henry I. Boughton and Thomas Donahue.

The rapid growth of the city and increase of corporation business induced many others to locate in the past 15 years, but a number did not remain. Of this class may be named Greene Kendrick, Henry R. Merrill, Martin Myers, A. W. Thomas, William R. Mattison, Edward P. Nobbs and Augustus H. Fenn.

In 1891 the attorneys of Waterbury were: Henry I. Boughton, Lucien F. Burpee, Nathaniel R. Bronson, Florence Clohessy, Edward F. Cole, Charles A. Colley, George H. Cowell, Thomas Donahue, Charles W. Gillette, Charles J. Griggs, Robert E. Hall, S. W. Kellogg, J. P. Kellogg, Robert A. Lowe, Ellis Phelan, Wilson H. Pierce, Charles G. Root, James E. Russell, B. J. Smith, George E. Terry, J. W. Webster, D. F. Webster, Porter L. Wood and John O'Neil.

John O'Neil was born November 5th, 1841, in Goshen, Conn., and in 1848 came to Waterbury, and was educated in the common schools of the town. He enlisted as a private in Company D., 1st Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, April 1st, 1861, and was engaged at the battle of Bull Run. Returning home, he read law in the office of J. W. Webster, and was admitted to practice in the New Haven county bar March 10th, 1866, and has since here been a practitioner. In 1889-90 he served in the legislature of the state, where he introduced several useful measures. He prepared and secured the passage of the laws imposing taxes on collateral inheritances, on investments and on the mileage of telegraph and express companies, which rank among

the most important legislation of that kind in the state in this century. For a number of years Mr. O'Neil has been the president of the Bronson Library Fund.

George E. Terry, a son of Edward Terry, was born in Bristol, September 15th, 1836. He read law with John Hooker and others of Hartford county, and was admitted to practice in the courts of that county in March, 1858. From 1859 to 1862 he was at Plainville, when he went to the army, serving as a private in the 25th Regiment. In September, 1863, he located at Waterbury, and was associated with S. W. Kellogg until 1881, as Kellogg & Terry. Since January, 1885, he has been the senior member of the law firm of Terry & Bronson, his associate being Nathaniel R. Bronson. The latter is a native of Waterbury, and is a son of Lucien S. Bronson. He was born July 3d, 1860, and pursued classical studies at Yale, graduating in 1882. Two years later he graduated from the Law School of the same university. In January, 1885, he became associated with Charles G. Root, one of the leading attorneys of the city, and so continued until the present firm was formed. It is one of the most prosperous in the town. Mr. Root is also a native of Waterbury, where he has practiced law since graduating from Yale Law School.

George H. Cowell was born in Waterbury, March 25th, 1840. He was fitted for college at Wilbraham academy, and entering Yale he took the full course, graduating in 1868. He now became a student of the Columbia Law School of the city of New York, from which he graduated in 1869, and the following year opened a law office in this city. In 1875-6 he was the chief clerk of the United States post office department at Washington. In 1877 he was elected judge of the city court and served six years. He has since been a practitioner in his native town, being also very active in other business matters. Edward F. Cole has also been identified with the bar of the city more than a dozen years, and has taken a leading part in its affairs. He was a deputy judge from 1884 to 1886.

Daniel F. Webster was born in Litchfield, March 14th, 1853. He prepared for college at Thomaston Academy, and graduated from Dartmouth in 1874. He now taught the Thomaston High School three years, at the same time being a law student of Judge A. P. Bradstreet. In October, 1876, he was admitted to the Litchfield county bar, and in 1877 came to Waterbury. He has held various public trusts, and since January, 1892, has been the mayor of the city.

Robert A. Lowe born in Ireland in 1847, emigrated to America in 1864, becoming a resident of Waterbury. In 1880 he graduated from the Yale Law School, and has here since been professionally located.

Lucien F. Burpee was born at Rockville, Conn., October 12th, 1855, and is a son of Colonel Thomas F. Burpee. He graduated from Yale in 1879, and from the law department of Hamilton College in 1880. In September of that year he came to this city, entering the law offices of

Judge S. W. Kellogg, and was associated with him and his son, John P., from 1883 until 1889. He has been prosecuting attorney of the town, and is now the city attorney.

C. J. Griggs was born in Waterbury, November 28th, 1864, and is a son of Henry C. Griggs. He graduated from Yale Academic in 1886, and from the Law School of the university in 1888, and was admitted to the New Haven bar the same year. After being in the law office of Gillette & Webster a year, he became an independent practitioner, and has since so continued.

Wilson H. Pierce, a son of Reverend Asa C. and Mary (Wilson) Pierce, was born at Northford in 1857. He received his education at the Connecticut State Normal School, at the old Newtown Academy, and at Yale, from which he graduated in 1881. After serving as the principal of the New Milford high school, he entered Yale Law School, from which he graduated in 1885. He now entered the law offices of Brewster, Tweedy & Scott, of Danbury, remained one year, and after being in New York some time, came to Waterbury in the spring of 1888, where he has since been an active practitioner.

Within the past ten years Ellis Phelan has become an attorney in the city, and since 1889 has served as judge of the probate court of the Waterbury district.

Few, if any, cities of its size surpass Waterbury in the number of its societies of secret, social or beneficial nature. Nearly every order of good repute has a representation here, and many societies are noted for their wealth and excellence, their character being known abroad as well as at home. The Masons, as the oldest order, have a Council, Commandery, a Chapter, three Blue Lodges, and a Chapter of the Eastern Star. The new Masonic Temple is one of the handsomest in the state. The Odd Fellows are also a powerful body in the city, having an Encampment, a Canton, three subordinate Lodges and an aid association. The Knights of Pythias have three Lodges, an Endowment Rank and a Uniformed Rank. Other minor orders are numerously represented, and in all there are 75 societies in the town, exclusive of those of a religious nature. Most of them meet in finely furnished halls, and many are important factors in the social life of the city.

Masonry has had a substantial foothold in the town ever since before the revolution. Under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the first Lodge in "old Waterbury" was chartered July 17th, 1765, and it was duly organized on Christmas, the same year, with the following members: John Hotchkiss, James Reynolds, Isaac Jones, Eldred Lewis, Amos Bull, John Lathrop, Joseph Perry, John Webster, Amos Hitchcock, Jesse Leavenworth, Robert Kinkhead, Allen Sage, Hezekiah Thompson, Joel Clark.

The place of meeting where the Lodge was formed was at the house of Captain George Nichols, which stood on East Main street.



But little more is known of this Lodge than that it is believed, from the fragmentary records which have come to hand, that John Hotchkiss was installed as the first master. About 1775 it was removed to Woodbury, where some of the members resided, and it was made the basis of King Solomon Lodge, No. 7, of that place.

In 1788 the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut was established, and under the authority granted by that body Harmony Lodge, No. 42, was instituted November 7th, 1797, at the public house of Daniel Beecher, in the parish of Salem (now Naugatuck), where the first meetings were held. Most of the subsequent meetings were alternately held at Salem and Waterbury, until 1841, after which they were held at the latter place only. Many of the principal citizens of the northwestern part of the county have been members of this old Lodge, which has been very prosperous, and whose detailed history would fill a small volume.

Out of Harmony Lodge have been formed a number of other thriving subordinate Lodges, chief among which is Continental Lodge, No. 76, organized in 1869. It, also, has become a prosperous body, and embraces among its membership many of the leading citizens of the town.

Eureka Chapter, R. A. M., No. 22, was instituted at the village of Oxford, October 12th, 1826. The shifting of business interests from the hill towns to the villages in the Naugatuck valley caused the decline of Oxford so that few Masons remained. Hence the meetings of the Chapter at that place were discontinued in 1844, and for several years they remained suspended. In 1847 the Chapter was revived at Waterbury, where it has since been creditably maintained.

Waterbury Council, No. 21, was instituted March 21st, 1853, with 13 members. About 250 companions have since been added. Jonathan M. Andrews was the first grand master.

Clark Commandery, No. 7, was organized, under a dispensation granted early in 1865, with 26 Sir Knights, and Nathan Dikeman as the first commander. Most of the members had previously belonged to the New Haven Commandery. This has become a strong and vigorous organization, having many earnest and devoted members. In the foregoing Masonic bodies the membership approximates 800. For the benefit of unfortunate ones a board of relief is maintained, and deceased homeless brethren are tenderly laid to rest in the Masonic plot in Riverside Cemetery, upon which the order has erected a fine monument.

After meeting in various public places, usually in the halls of inns, a distinctive Masonic hall was provided, which was dedicated December 27th, 1853. This was used by the Masons of Waterbury until November 16th, 1888, when the fine Masonic Temple was occupied, and has since been the home of all the Masonic bodies, except of a Lodge of colored Masons, lately organized, which meets in Grand

Army Hall. Masonic Temple was erected by an association formed for that purpose, and cost to complete about \$60,000. Ground for the building was broken June 27th, 1887; the corner stone was laid October 6th, the same year, and about twelve months later the edifice was ready for use.

Vying closely with the Masons, both in numbers and the wealth of good works, are the Odd Fellows of Waterbury. Their oldest Lodge—Nosahogan, No. 21—is the strongest in the state, having 550 members. It was instituted July 1st, 1845, and its meetings have since been regularly held. For many years the Lodge home was in the hall over the Waterbury Bank, but since 1885 the present fine quarters in the Hotchkiss Building have been occupied. Besides the Lodge property there is a fund of more than \$16,000. An aid association was formed in Nosahogan Lodge, May 2d, 1884, which has proven to be one of the most useful features of the order. Several thousand dollars have been expended in relief and benefits.

Townsend Lodge, No. 89, was organized January 1st, 1872. It now has 290 members and funds to the amount of \$7,000.

Ansantawae Encampment, No. 20, was instituted August 20th, 1853, with the following charter members: G. H. Waters, Jonathan M. Andrews, G. W. Benedict, D. S. Law, Charles W. Johnson, D. M. Wardwell, C. L. Savage, Charles W. Upton and W. H. Warner. The first named was the only survivor in 1891. The Encampment has furnished the following grand patriarchs: J. W. Smith, L. I. Munson, T. I. Driggs and T. R. Taylor. It has prospered, and in August, 1891, reported 280 members.

Canton Waterbury, No. 14, Patriarchs Militant, was organized June 30th, 1863, as Ives Uniformed Division, Camp No. 9. It is also flourishing, having 80 members. All these bodies meet in Odd Fellows Hall.

Speedwell Lodge, No. 10, Knights of Pythias, was organized in October, 1869, with 35 members. In the course of the next seven years more than 300 members were enrolled, when the interest declined so much that a few only remained. Since 1886 the organization has again increased and there are now more than 200 members. Comstock Lodge, No. 13, of the same order, was organized in 1887, and has also about 200 members. Freiderick Wilhelm Lodge, No. 47, composed of German Knights, was organized in 1888. It now numbers about fifty members. These Lodges have handsomely furnished rooms.

E. F. Durand Division, No. 11, U. R. K. of P., was organized in 1890 by the brother whose name the Division bears. More than a hundred persons now belong, and the Division has become one of the most proficient in the state.

Section 248, Endowment Rank, K. of P., numbered in 1891 about thirty members.

Some of the beneficiary orders are very strong in the city, and the

Ancient Order of Foresters have eight societies in the town. The Workmen also have a good representation, and the Royal Arcanum is in high esteem.

Wadhams Post, No. 49, G. A. R.,\* was instituted August 14th, 1879, with 34 charter members. About half of those first mustered still belong to the Post, which had, April 1st, 1891, 236 members in good standing. In all 25 members have died since the organization of the Post. The name of the Post was selected in honor of the three Wadhams brothers, Edward, Lieutenant Henry W. and Captain Luman W., all killed in battles in the spring of 1864. The Post had its first public installation January 2d, 1880, in its new quarters, in Johnson's Hall. In May, the same year, Memorial day was here first observed in a public manner by the survivors of the late war, under the direction of the Post, and the custom has since been yearly maintained, the community having become much interested in this exercise, and warmly coöperates.

In 1880 Post Commander George Robbins appointed a committee, composed of George W. Tucker, Fred. A. Spencer and D. B. Hamilton, to solicit funds for a soldiers' monument and to attend to the erection of the same. All of these comrades had been officers in the war, and energetically applied themselves to the work assigned them. They completed their labors in 1884. The Post as an organized body contributed \$2,637, and individual members gave \$1,983 more, making a total of \$4,620 for that object. When the monument was dedicated, October 23d, 1884, the Post took a most prominent part in the ceremonies. The post has also expended about \$2,500 for the relief of suffering or needy comrades. The present fine and spacious hall was formally dedicated January 1st, 1884. The fair held the latter part of the month netted \$2,500 for the Soldiers' Monument.

The Post commanders have been in the order named: Harrison Whitney, George Robbins (2 years), Fred. A. Spencer, Daniel Kiefer (2 years), Oscar W. Cornish, John M. Gallagher, George L. Platt, James F. Gaunt, John S. Hayes and L. W. Holmes.

Woman's Relief Corps, No. 1, auxiliary to this Post, was organized November 16th, 1882. It has ever been a valuable adjunct.

Chatfield Camp, Sons of Veterans, was organized September 23d, 1884, and also held its meetings in Grand Army Hall, but disbanded February 15th, 1890.

The Waterbury Soldiers' Monument is one of the handsomest in the state. The design, which is instructive as well as artistic and pleasing, was prepared by George Edwin Bissell, who had been a member of the 23d C. V. Regiment. At the age of 14 years he came to Waterbury, where he remained until his enlistment, August 20th, 1862. After the war he turned his attention to art and sculpture, with eminent success. The bronze figures on the monument were made under his direction in France.

\* From *data* by Comrade George Robbins.

The monument stands off the west end of the green, on a circular mound, 40 feet in diameter, which is held in place by a granite wall, two feet high. At the corners are projecting pedestals, on which stand gas lamps, held in place by posts made of bronzed cannon and muskets. The main dies are composed of Quincy granite, and are surmounted by a bronze figure of "Victory," ten feet high. This heroic statue faces west. In her right hand she bears a wreath for the victors; in her left a bunch of olive branches for the defeated. On the west side of the main die is a figure, showing a land engagement, and on the east side one showing a naval engagement. The north and the south sides bear appropriate inscriptions from the ready pen of Doctor Joseph Anderson.

The pedestal or upper die is relieved by four fine and expressive bronze figures of the "Farmer" and the "Mechanic," responding to the call of their country; the "Veteran," returned from the war and meditating on the change from soldiery to a citizen's life; and an incident illustrating one of the phases of "Emancipation." Each one affords a rich study.

It will be seen that the monument was erected to the dead and living alike—their patriotism being equally brought to mind by this fine memorial, which is the only one in all New England erected solely by the means secured from subscriptions by the people direct. No town or municipal aid whatever was given. The entire cost was \$30,623.46.

The colony committee and the proprietors of the town made liberal grants of land for the establishment and maintenance of schools. But, unfortunately, these allotments of land were not judiciously handled, so that much less was realized from them than was expected.

In 1698 the colony passed an act that "Each town having a less number of householders than seventy shall from year to year be provided of a sufficient school master, to teach children and youth to read and write for one half of the year, and that each town shall pay forty shillings for every thousand pounds in their respective country lists towards the maintenance of the school master in the town."

Under this rule of the court the town attempted to establish a school, in December, 1698, the record favoring such action being: "Ye town granted thirty shillings with ye last year's rent of ye school land for ye incurragment of a scool for four months or longer, if it can be obtained."

The first school was established at the Center, but for 40 years there was only a small house, about 14 by 16 feet. If possible, the services of a schoolmaster were had four months per year, in the winter, and a "school dame" often taught a few months in summer. In 1709 Thomas Judd, Jr., was the teacher. New schools were established at Judd's Meadow (Naugatuck) in 1730, and near the same time one was opened at Wooster's Swamp. In 1743 a new school house was built at the Center.

About 1785 an academy building, standing on the south margin of the green, was occupied by Joseph Badger for a select school, and not long after there were two schools kept in the building, one for each sex, which together had 150 pupils. The house was two stories high and had a gambrel roof. In course of time it was cut down to one story and used for a public school. Later it was removed and converted into a residence about 1835. A new stone academy was erected on the site of the city hall in 1836, which was used more than a score of years.

The principal interests of the public schools of the town are in Center district, which now includes all the city of Waterbury, and also a large portion of the town outside of the city limits. As at present constituted, it was organized under a special charter granted by the legislature in 1880. But the original Center district was organized in the summer of 1849, and after that year school houses were built in the several sub-districts, as the wants of the district demanded. In 1853 all the schools of the Center district were made free to the inhabitants residing in the district.

The first high school building was ready for use in February, 1868. It accommodated 300 pupils. All the other school buildings in the district at that time seated 1,425 pupils. On the night of December 15th, 1870, the high school building was burned, and the hard times then prevailing prevented its being rebuilt until 1873-4. It is an imposing building with 10 rooms, and cost nearly \$60,000. In other parts of the district fine houses have been erected in late years, the one on West Bank street being completed in 1891. It is one of the most handsome in the city. The foundation is of granite and the superstructure is composed of pressed brick, with white and red sandstone trimmings. In the tower a public clock has been placed for the accommodation of that part of the city. It is also the largest school edifice in the district, containing 12 rooms. The Clay street building, but recently completed, is also very fine and costly. It contains eight rooms. In all there are 14 buildings and 84 rooms. The value of the public school property is more than half a million of dollars, and since the organization of the district about one and a half million dollars have been expended for all school purposes. The yearly expenditure is now more than \$150,000. The total enumeration of children of school age for 1891 was 7,545, a gain of more than 500 over the preceding year. There are six evening schools.

For a score of years M. S. Crosby has been the principal of the high school, and also serves as superintendent of public schools. There are, besides, employed in the district three male and 74 female teachers.

In the town, outside of Center district, there are schools at Hopeville, East Mountain, Saw Mill Plains, Buck's Hill, Oronoke, East Farms, Bunker Hill, Waterville and Town Plot. In several of these

districts there are fine modern buildings. The one at Saw Mill Plains, erected in 1884, has a beautiful location. Between \$4,000 and \$5,000 is annually expended on the schools outside of Center district.

In addition to the foregoing there are in the city two splendid schools, maintained by the Roman Catholics--the Convent of Notre Dame, a branch of Ville Maria Convent of Montreal, Canada, and St. Mary's Parochial school;\* the Home School, the Hillside Avenue School, the Waterbury Industrial School for Girls, and St. Margaret's Diocesan School of Connecticut. The value of the private school property approximates \$200,000.

St. Margaret's School for girls stands on a spacious and elevated lot in the northern part of the city. The edifice, which is a large frame, was erected a quarter of a century ago for school purposes by a joint stock company. After some changes the Episcopalians of Waterbury purchased and presented it free of all incumbrance to the Diocese of Connecticut, in 1875, and since that time it has been successfully conducted with the above name. As many as 150 students have been in attendance at one time. For a number of years Reverend Francis T. Russell has been the rector and Miss Mary R. Hillard the lady principal, assisted by a large corps of teachers.

Hillside Avenue School was opened in 1885 by Miss Mary Abbott, a graduate of Vassar, as principal. She still stands in that relation, having the services of half a dozen teachers. A legal corporation was formed in 1888 to manage the affairs of the school.

The Waterbury Industrial School for Girls is a worthy and meritorious enterprise which, with the occupancy in 1891 of its fine new edifice, on Central avenue, has become fully established. The school is in session from the first Saturday of October to the last Saturday of April, and is designed to teach young girls the useful arts of domestic economy and household life. In 1891 the principal officers were: President, Mrs. S. E. Harrison; vice-president, Mrs. A. S. Chase; secretary, Mrs. Gilman C. Hill; treasurer, Mrs. H. L. Peck; superintendent, Mrs. P. B. Norton; assistant superintendent, Mrs. Charles Stocking; first directress, Mrs. E. H. Shannon; second directress, Mrs. R. A. Lowe.

The public library has for many years sustained an important relation to the educational life of Waterbury. Near the beginning of the present century Union Library was formed and after a period of usefulness gave place to others--to the Waterbury Library, some time about 1820 and at a later period to the Young Men's Institute Library. The latter body was organized November 19th, 1852, and in three years had accumulated a library of 1,500 volumes. Twelve years later the books numbered 3,000, and about that time they were placed at the disposition of the trustees of the Bronson Free Library. This library is one of the noblest objects in the city and ranks as one of the largest

\*See account of Catholic churches.

and wealthiest free libraries in the state of Connecticut. It was named for its founder, Silas Bronson, a native of Middlebury, but who was at the time of his death a citizen of New York. In his will he made a bequest of \$200,000 to the city of Waterbury to be employed and expended in the establishment and support of a free library for all the inhabitants of the town. In 1868 the charter of the city was amended to take charge of the "Silas Bronson Free Library Fund," which was placed in the care of twelve agents, viz.: Greene Hendrick, Willard Spencer, T. J. Dougherty, J. W. Webster, N. J. Welton, F. J. Kingsbury, S. W. Kellogg, Theodore I. Driggs, Nathan Dikeman, D. F. Maltby, William Brown and Lucien S. Bronson. This board provided a building for the library, which was opened to the public in April, 1870, and has since been largely patronized. The library has attained vast proportions and has outgrown its present quarters. A commodious new library building for its use will, in the near future, be erected in the new city park, formerly the old town burial ground on Grand street, which will afford room for years to come. The affairs of the library have been prudently managed and the fund has been increased to more than a quarter of a million of dollars. Some of the foregoing agents have served on the board continuously, since their first appointment, F. J. Kingsbury being treasurer of the fund in all that period. About \$12,000 is expended yearly in maintaining the library, which now has more than 45,000 volumes, covering almost every subject of thought. All the most valuable books are purchased as they appear, and the collection of reference books is especially large and valuable. The reading room contains most of the current standard periodicals and is visited by hundreds of persons daily. For many years Homer F. Bassett has been the efficient librarian, and his services have made this one of the best regulated libraries in the country. Miss Helen Sperry and Miss Cora F. Laird are among the principal assistants. The president of the library is John O'Neil, the secretary T. I. Driggs; the treasurer, F. J. Kingsbury—all of them being on the board of agents. The other members of the board are: E. W. Donald, D. F. Maltby, S. W. Kellogg, Charles R. Baldwin, Lewis A. Platt, Thomas Donahue, A. S. Chase, James Horigan and Emanuel Reardon. This board very properly represents many shades of opinions and beliefs, but coöperating for a common purpose, they have made the library an object of common interest. Its influence upon the community has thus been very marked and highly beneficial in promoting the culture of many citizens.

Another educational and also semi-religious body is the Young Men's Christian Association, of Waterbury, which was organized in October, 1883. This is the second body of that nature, the first one having passed out of existence after keeping up its organization about ten years. The present association continues prosperous, having in 1891 about 400 members. Its first president was F. J. Kingsbury, but

since 1889 that position has been filled by L. J. Atwood. The general secretary since December 1st, 1886, has been F. L. Willis. A board of fifteen directors, composed of members from the Protestant churches of the city, manages the affairs of the organization and expends about \$2,700 yearly in carrying on its work, which embraces several departments of charitable and Christian effort. The home of the association is in the Lampson Block, on Bank street, which has become too small to accommodate the membership. Funds are being raised to erect a building especially for the use of the association, north of the public green, which will not only be capacious, but attractive in its appearance. It is estimated to cost \$50,000, and \$10,000 of that sum has been donated by Henry W. Scovill. The association has a well stocked reading room, and imparts a regular course of study in its class rooms. Since the fall of 1888 a gymnasium has also been maintained for the benefit of its members.

Although most of the first settlers of Waterbury had been trained in the religious beliefs of those days and were members of the church in Farmington, a number of circumstances prevented them from being from the beginning a religious community in the same sense as the other towns of the county. The plantation of Mattatuck was "remote in one corner of the wilderness," which made the task of building homes and protecting them against savage inroads so burdensome that they had "much charge, pains and hardships," which prevented them from having the full enjoyment of privileges which were so dear to other colonists. Nearly a dozen years elapsed before they had a minister settled among them. And yet the planters of Mattatuck had early made provision for the religious wants of their community. By one of the requirements of their original articles three "proprieties," valued at £150 each, were set aside for "public and pious uses." One was reserved for the minister. As a further encouragement they added, in 1679, a home lot of two acres and other lands, until the aggregate was 20 acres to "be and remain for the occupation of the minister of said town forever." Still the settlement of a minister was delayed, and save occasional preaching the settlers had to journey to Farmington to attend religious meetings for about ten years. Then their greater numbers and prosperity encouraged them to petition for a minister of their own, which favor was in due time granted them. Since that time religious development has kept pace with the growth of the town. In 1891 there were in the town the following churches, nearly all of them being in the city of Waterbury: 2 Congregational, 2 Episcopal, 2 Baptist, 5 Methodist, 4 Roman Catholic, 1 Advent, 1 German Lutheran, 1 Swedish, and 1 African, in addition to several places where union services are held.

In 1689 the planters of Mattatuck extended a call to Reverend Jeremiah Peck, at that time settled over the Greenwich church. He was a man of learning and experience, which would make him a de-



sirable member of their community, and they not only offered him the generous allotments provided, but also held out inducements to members of his family, giving them lands and other privileges. Aside from this his salary was to be £60 per year, £50 to be paid in provisions and the balance, £10, in wood. He accepted the call, and the same year or early the next became the first settled minister in Waterbury. He continued his official duties until disabled by apoplexy, from the effects of which he died not long after, June 7th, 1699, aged 77 years. According to Cotton Mather, Jeremiah Peck had graduated from Harvard some time about 1653. After this he was the master of the colony school at New Haven, later was the pastor of the church at Saybrook, removed thence to New Jersey, and from that state to Greenwich. His son, Jeremiah, who came with him to Waterbury, was one of the pioneer schoolmasters of this town.

About a year after the settlement of Mr. Peck, a movement was made to organize the inhabitants of the town who were religiously inclined, into a church. Accordingly in May, 1691, the general court was petitioned for the desired liberty, which was granted, and on the 26th of August, 1691, the present First Congregational Church was duly formed. At the same time Mr. Peck was installed as the pastor.

At this time the members were few and poor, so that it required much self-denial to carry on the work they had assumed. In all the town there were but 30 families, and all the male members of the church were embraced in the seven required, after the manner of those times, to act as "pillars." Even as late as 1705 there were only twelve male members. Among them, undoubtedly, were: Thomas Judd, Sr., Isaac Bronson, John Stanley, Obadiah Richards, Abraham Andruss, Joseph Gaylord, Thomas Judd, Jr., Benjamin Barnes and probably John Hopkins and Thomas Judd, son of William, who had, with a few exceptions, belonged to the church at Farmington.

The first place of worship was probably the house of Mr. Peck, which had been built for him before he came to Waterbury. A small meeting house was begun in 1694, which was occupied before it was completed. There were no glazed windows until 1716, when the town voted £15 to complete the house, and in the condition it was then placed it was used until 1729. It stood on the east side of the green, near where is now the public fountain.

In the latter part of 1699 Mr. John Southmayd, of Middletown, was called as the successor of Mr. Peck. Owing to the financial straits of the settlers from their losses by floods and the expense to which they had been put to protect themselves against Indian attack, he was not installed until June 20th, 1705. Mr. Southmayd had graduated from Harvard in 1697. After serving here 40 years he was dismissed at his own request, in 1739, but remained a resident of

the town until his death, November 14th, 1755, in the 80th year of his age. At this time he was reputed to be the wealthiest man in the town. His son, Daniel, who died in 1754, was one of the most brilliant young men the town ever produced. After graduating from Yale College he became a business man at Waterbury, where he was so universally beloved that his death cast a gloom over the entire community. Mr. Leavenworth preached an eloquent funeral sermon, in which he spoke of him as "the pride of Waterbury." In the pastorate of Mr. Southmayd the second meeting house was built, from 1727 to 1729. This house was 50 by 40 feet, and as the entire population of the town was only 300 souls, much effort was required to complete it. In 1730 a gallery was added. This house was used about 65 years,

Until the latter part of 1738 the town managed the temporalities of the church, which, having the support of all the inhabitants, was now quite prosperous. The division of the broad area of the town's territory into other parishes soon after began, and as the First church from time to time furnished most of the members for the organization of these new churches, it naturally remained weak many years. The ecclesiastical society of the First church held its first meeting November 16th, 1738. The other churches formed within the limits of the ancient parish, and with material or membership contributed by it were as follows: Westbury (Watertown), 1739; Northbury (Plymouth), 1740; Oxford (in part), 1745; Wolcott (in part), 1773; Salem (Naugatuck), 1781; Middlebury (in part), 1796; Prospect (in part), 1798; Terryville (in part), 1838; Waterbury, Second, 1852.

In addition, there were formed within the parish limits in the city, besides the above Congregational bodies in the old town, the Episcopal church, in 1742; the Baptist church, in 1803; and the Methodist church soon after. Since its last generous offering to the Second Waterbury church the growth of the First society has been remarkably steadfast. It now has about 400 members.

The third minister was the Reverend Mark Leavenworth. He was the sixth child of Deacon Thomas Leavenworth, of Stratford, and was born on the Housatonic, about two miles north of the village of Shelton. He graduated from Yale in 1737, and was ordained at Waterbury in 1740. He died as the pastor of the church, August 20th, 1797, aged 86 years, but his last public official act was in his 84th year, when, in 1795, he laid the corner stone for the third meeting house. In the same year Reverend Edward Porter was installed as a colleague pastor, and was dismissed by the church January 10th, 1798. At the time Mr. Leavenworth began his pastorate this parish shared with other localities a fear that the Church of England would absorb its minister. Hence, he was required to give bonds to the amount of £500, forfeitable "if he should within 20 years become a Churchman, or by immorality or heresy render himself unfit for a Gospel minister, to be decided by a

Council." He remained faithful to his church, but attached himself to the progressive elements of it, thus making himself subject to ecclesiastical censure as a "new light."

Near the close of Mr. Leavenworth's pastorate the third meeting house was built on the east side of the green, a little north of the old one. It was occupied in 1796, and was erected for the society by William Leavenworth, for the sum of £850. It was 42 by 60 feet, and had a steeple in which was placed the first church bell in the town. A new steeple was built in 1811, and a new bell was placed in it in 1813. In 1825 J. M. L. Scovill removed the house to the site now occupied by the Second Congregational church. After being used about 15 more years it was sold and removed to a lot in the rear of the old one, where some time after 1840 it was fitted up as Gothic Hall—a place for general meetings and public gatherings. It is still (1892) standing, and is now one of the oldest buildings in the city.

A fourth church edifice was erected in 1840 on a beautiful site, north of the center of the green, where now stands the fifth house—a very handsome and commodious structure, whose corner stone was laid in 1873. The auditorium of this building was dedicated March 25th, 1875. It has 1,000 sittings, and its appointments are elegant and comfortable. In the rear of the main edifice are a spacious chapel and other rooms for the use of the parish. All the buildings are of brick, trimmed with sandstone, in the Gothic style of architecture.

Since the death of Mr. Leavenworth the ministers of the First Church have been the following:

Reverend Holland Weeks, ordained November 20th, 1799, dismissed December 10th, 1806, for want of support. He was an able man, but there was a low ebb in the affairs of the church, which prevented the proper support of a pastor. There was no settled minister for two years, when Luke Wood was ordained November 30th, 1808, and assumed the pastorate, which relation was sustained until November 19th, 1817. Most of the time he was in poor health and, in 1816, his place was filled by Reverend Nettleton, an evangelist of unusual power. A great revival attended his labors and up to June, 1817, more than 100 persons were added to the church. The pulpit was now supplied several years, after which the successive pastors were: Reverend Daniel Crane, installed July 3d, 1821, dismissed April 25th, 1825; Joel R. Arnold, installed January 26th, 1831, dismissed June 7th, 1836; Henry N. Day, ordained November 8th, 1836, dismissed October 13th, 1840; David Root, installed July 7th, 1841, dismissed in 1844; Henry B. Elliott, installed December 10th, 1845, dismissed April, 1851; W. W. Woodworth, installed September 29th, 1852, served until 1858; George Bushnell, from 1859 until 1864.

The ministry of the present efficient pastor, Reverend Joseph Anderson, D. D., began here February 12th, 1865, and has been among the longest, as well as one of the most successful, in the history of the

church. He was born in the Highlands of Scotland December 16th, 1836, and was the only child in his father's family. When six years old he came with his parents to America, living with them in various parts of the state of New York. At the opening of the College of the City of New York he entered that institution, from which he graduated as the valedictorian in 1856. He at once entered the Union Theological Seminary, in the same city. He was ordained in 1858 by the Third Presbytery of New York, after having been elected pastor of First Congregational church of Stamford. In April, 1861, he was called to the pastorate of the First Congregational church in Norwalk, and during his ministry there he visited his native land and spent several months in England.

In 1878 Doctor Anderson received the degree of S. T. D. from Yale College and in 1884 was elected a member of the corporation of the university, being the only graduate of another college than Yale who is now a "fellow" of that institution. He has a ripe scholarship and is a member of many learned societies, and has contributed valuable papers upon various subjects. His contributions to the newspaper press have also been numerous. A large number of his books and pamphlets have been published, a list of titles alone filling three pages of the catalogue of the American Historical Association.

Doctor Anderson has become recognized as one of the leading champions of broad culture in the Congregational ministry and has been much honored in various ecclesiastical bodies of which he was a member. He was twice the moderator of the General Association of Connecticut and once moderator of the General Conference. In August, 1891, he was one of the American delegates to the international council of Congregational churches, held in London. In the summer of this year he also made a European continental tour.

Thomas Judd was chosen a deacon when the church was organized and was the only one in that office more than 30 years. He died January 4th, 1747, at the age of 79 years, after having served the town in many civil capacities and also as the captain of its militia. Thirty-seven more deacons were ordained and served as follows:

Thomas Hickox, 1726-8; Thomas Clark, 1728-65; Joseph Lewis, 1738-49; Thomas Bronson, 1750-77; Thomas Bronson, Jr., 1756-9; Andrew Bronson, 1795—; Joseph Hopkins, 1795—; Stephen Bronson, 1797-1809; Daniel Bronson, 1801-24; Joseph Bartholomew, 1801-4; Gideon Platt, 1809-18; Stephen Hotchkiss, 1809—; Lemuel Porter, 1811-18; Elijah Hotchkiss, 1818-33; James Brown, 1818-48; Daniel Upson, 1818-32; Aaron Benedict, 1832-73; Horace Hotchkiss, 1832-8; Bennett Bronson, 1838-43; Nelson Hall, 1846-52; Preserve W. Carter, 1849-60; Josiah A. Blake, 1852-7; Edward L. Bronson, 1857-90; Robert Crane, M. D., 1859-61; John M. Stocking, 1859-73; Jonathan R. Crampton, 1867-74; Gershom C. H. Gilbert, M. D., 1867-71; Anson G. Stocking, 1873-80; Eben Hoadley, 1873-92; George W. Beach, 1873-92; William

H. Bush, 1883-92; Silas B. Terry, 1883-9; Edward O. Hovey, Ph. D., 1889-92; Alexander C. Mintie, 1890-2.

The First church has produced many ministers, some of whom attained eminent places in their profession, and one, Samuel Hopkins, D. D., became one of the most celebrated divines in his time of life. He was a son of Timothy Hopkins, Esq., who lived where is now the southeast corner of Main and Brooks streets, and was born September 17th, 1721. Twenty years later he graduated from Yale, and soon after commenced to study theology under Jonathan Edwards. In May, 1742, he was licensed to preach, and was ordained as pastor of the Great Barrington, Mass., church December 28th, 1743. He became not only a forcible preacher and expounder of the Gospel, but also attained distinction as an author. He lived last at Newport, R. I., where he died December 20th, 1803.

The bi-centennial of the First church was appropriately celebrated at Waterbury November 4th and 5th, 1891. Interesting exercises and attendance of delegates from the churches formed out of the First parish, who also participated, made the occasion memorable. At this time a memorial hymn, composed by Reverend Joseph Anderson, D. D., was sung.

The Sunday school of the church has long been noted for its usefulness, and the many other auxiliaries of the parish are not only prosperous in their own spheres, but exert a beneficial influence upon this community.

The Second Congregational Church of Waterbury was organized April 4th, 1852, with 50 members, who had been dismissed from the First church to form this society, there being a feeling that two churches were needed to accommodate the increasing population of the town. This opinion was well sustained by the success which attended the new church, without apparently crippling the usefulness of the old one. In 1857 the church had 170 members. In 1891 there were 825 members.

On the 19th of May, 1852, Reverend S. W. Magill, D. D., was installed as the first pastor, and remained until November 29th, 1864, when Reverend Elisha Whittlesey became his successor. The latter's pastorate was terminated July 7th, 1870, when he was dismissed. Reverend E. G. Beckwith, D. D., was installed as the third pastor July 12th, 1871, and was dismissed May 23d, 1881. The present pastor, Reverend John G. Davenport, was installed November 9th, 1881, and since May, 1890, he has been assisted by Reverend A. C. Baker.

The first deacons of the church, Nelson Hall and Charles Benedict, were ordained April 9th, 1852. Subsequently deacons were ordained: E. W. Keeler and George W. Cooke, in 1855; D. H. Maltby\* and E. A. Lum, in 1869; Homer W. Keeler,\* John Woodward, Jonathan Highmore and Augustus M. Blakesley,\* in 1878; L. S. Davis\*

\* Serving as deacons in 1891.

and W. P. Abernethy, in 1882; Franklin Warren and Stephen W. Kellogg,\* in 1887.

The first church edifice was completed in April, 1855, and afforded accommodations for 1,000 people. Originally its steeple was the tallest in the state, but in February, 1857, a severe storm blew it down and damaged the church walls. The house was properly repaired, but the steeple was not rebuilt, and the edifice has, in consequence, ever since had an unfinished appearance. A chapel was afterward built in the rear of this house. Although so spacious, larger accommodations are required, and a new church edifice will soon be built on the southwest corner of West Main and Holmes street, for which \$12,000 has been paid. All the church auxiliaries are prosperous, and large Sunday schools are maintained in the church and at Oakdale.

Among the early settlers were several Churchmen, but for many years they were content to pay the rates imposed for the support of the established church and to worship in the meeting house provided for that body. It was not until 1737 that the half dozen families inclined to Episcopacy had services in accordance with the usages of the Church of England. In that year they were visited by Jonathan Arnold, a missionary of the London Society, who preached in Waterbury and baptized two infants. Other missionaries from the same society followed, and the Churchmen increased in numbers. In 1742 they applied to the town for permission to build their own church, and asked for a share of the public funds. They received a grant of £12, and were given the desired liberty, provided they would set their house on lands purchased from one of the settlers, and not place it on public grounds. The town was less generous in 1744, when it refused to grant them parish privileges, as it was opposed to the division into different societies.

Many of the adherents of the Church of England, at that time in Waterbury, were such as had left the Congregational church on account of the agitation consequent upon the discussion of the doctrines of the "old lights" and the "new lights." There was a heated controversy, and but little charity was exercised toward those who dissented from old usages. Even the minister, Reverend Mark Leavenworth, was not exempt from unjust aspersions. He was a man of liberal views, and his ideas of justice were clearly defined. They would not permit him to use the rates levied upon the Churchmen for his support, and his convictions also led him to become a "new light." In consequence of this profession he was censured and suspended from the "Consociated Communion." Thus strengthened by these local circumstances, the Episcopalians commenced the work of building their church. The house was set on the corner of West Main and North Willow streets, but it was not completed until 1747. It had galleries above and pews below, and was used until 1795, as St. James' church.

\* Serving as deacon in 1891.

Soon after it was occupied a regular minister was secured. In 1749 Reverend Richard Mansfield, who had just returned from England, where he had gone to take holy orders, was, as missionary of the London Society, placed over the churches at West Haven, Derby and Waterbury, to each of which he ministered one-third of the time. He was an active and faithful servant, and the church was fully established and flourished under his ministry. In 1758 Waterbury was reported as a separate mission, and the minister was the Reverend James Scovill.

The troublous times of the revolution soon after came on and alienated the fraternal feelings which had existed between the two societies at Waterbury and interrupted the prosperity of St. James' church. Many Churchmen were patriots, but others, mainly on account of their loyalty to the London Society, which provided them spiritual comforts, adhered to the British crown. The numerical strength of the two societies was about the same, and in order to prevent a clashing of interests the town voted, in 1775, to establish two school districts, one for the Presbyterians and the other for the Church of England. This preserved for a time the amicable relations, but later occurred acts of violence in which the property of the Churchmen was made to suffer. Interest in church work was now abated, but was revived after the war. In October, 1786, the Episcopal bishop visited Waterbury and confirmed a large number of persons.

A new church edifice was begun in 1795, and was consecrated November 1st, 1797, by Bishop Jarvis, as St. John's church. This house was used until 1847, when it was sold to the Catholics, who moved it to East Main street, where, on the site of St. Patrick's Hall, it served as their first church and stood many years. Meantime the Episcopalians had increased in numbers and wealth, and a fine new church edifice was built in 1846-7 on a more central site west of the green. It was of stone, and at that time ranked as one of the finest churches in the state. On the 12th of January, 1848, this second St. John's church was properly dedicated. It was, however, doomed to misfortune. A storm in February, 1857, blew down the steeple, and on the 24th of December, 1868, it was destroyed by fire. The loss was heavy, but the parish was not discouraged. A temporary chapel was provided on State and West Main streets, and the work of rebuilding St. John's church on the same foundations was begun in 1870. This edifice was consecrated June 24th, 1873. It is a handsome building, in the English Gothic style, of Quincy and Westerly granite, trimmed with Ohio free-stone. A fine stone tower relieves the building and contains a chime of bells. The interior of the church is very commodious and handsomely finished. A fine chapel was added to the rear of the main edifice. In 1890 a two-story parish house was built on the same lot. It is of brick, trimmed with sandstone. Another chapel in the parish

has been built at Waterville. On a lot southeast of St. John's a roomy and attractive new rectory was built in 1885.

The parish when created had very generous bounds. These have been curtailed by the formation of new parishes in the adjoining towns, and by the creation of Trinity parish in Waterbury. The entire beginning of the latter was within this church. Nevertheless, St. John's still has in its own parish more than 400 families and nearly 700 registered communicants. It yearly raises nearly \$10,000 for all purposes of church work, and maintains an excellent Sunday school, which has 450 members.

From 1805 to 1814 Reverend Virgil H. Barber was the rector of St. John's. Later Reverend Allen C. Morgan filled that position, resigning in 1836 to become the principal of the Episcopal Academy of Connecticut. Then came as the rector the beloved Reverend Jacob L. Clark, whose service of more than 40 years developed the present fine condition of the parish. In the latter years of his service he was assisted by other ministers, among them being Reverends Francis T. Russell, M. K. Bailey and Joel F. Bingham. The latter succeeded Doctor Clark as rector, and served the parish until 1880. From 1881 to 1883 Reverend R. R. Converse was the rector, and since 1884 Reverend Edmund Rowland, D. D., has ably presided over the affairs of the parish.

Scovill M. Buckingham was senior warden of the church many years until his death in April, 1889, when Nelson J. Welton, who had long been junior warden, was advanced to that office, the latter's place being filled by E. R. Lampson. The parish has had a number of liberal patrons: Oliver Welton, Samuel W. Hall and others being gratefully remembered in that connection.

Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church is a young but very prosperous body. The meeting to form a new parish was held April 4th, 1877, and on May 22d following the organization was legally effected by electing Edward T. Root, clerk; R. E. Hitchcock, senior warden; and John W. Smith, junior warden. At this meeting it was also voted that the sittings in the church should be free to all. A house of worship on Grand street, which had formerly been used by a society of Universalists, was leased for five years and refitted at an outlay of \$3,000, and in it the first services were held, May 27th, 1877. Until a regular minister could be secured, Reverend Francis T. Russell was requested to take charge of the parish. On the 15th of July, 1877, Reverend Richard W. Micou, of Kitanning, Pa., was called to the rectorship, and accepted. His devoted service since that time has greatly built up the parish. In 1890 it contained 440 families and about 1,700 individual members. There were 465 registered communicants.

On the 27th of December, 1881, the parish voted to build a church on a lot bought on Prospect street, near the north side of the green. A week later a building committee, composed of R. E. Hitchcock, E. D.



Steele, E. C. Lewis, E. L. Frisbie and the rector, was appointed, and under their direction the handsome edifice now occupied was erected. The foundation was laid in the fall of 1882 and the corner stone was placed in position May 21st, 1883. The following year the church was completed, and the first service in it was held May 18th, 1884. The entire cost of the property—site, building and furniture—was \$71,829. Generous amounts were contributed by many friends, and several memorial funds were also available to defray this cost. On the death of Samuel W. Hall, March 5th, 1877, he left a fund of \$15,000, to be used in a memorial to his wife, Nancy M. Hall, which was thus applied, as was also the gift of \$10,000 by Gordon W. Burnham, in memory of Mrs. Burnham. In 1886 the parish was freed from all debt, and May 27th, 1887, the church was formally consecrated. It has 600 sittings, and few churches in the county surpass it in beauty and comfort.

The Waterbury Baptist Church was organized November 10th, 1803, and was composed first of 29 members, who had been dismissed from the Wallingford church. Among them were Zenas Brockett, David Frost and Isaac Terrell. Elders Samuel Miller and Daniel Wildman first preached, and for several years the members walked to Wallingford to attend communion services. In 1815 Samuel Potter and Jesse Frost were ordained as co-pastors of the church, and meetings were more frequently held at the houses of Enoch Frost, at Sawmill Plain; Nathan Platt, at Plattsville; Samuel Potter, at Hopeville; and John Russell, at Prospect.

In 1817 60 persons were dismissed from the Waterbury church to form the churches in Salem and Bethany, whose organization was kept up until about 1840. After these members had left, in 1817, the first church building was put up at Sawmill Plain, beyond where is now the chapel in the cemetery in that locality. It was a simple and even rude structure, but was used 17 years, and in it the first Sunday school was organized in 1825. The same year Elder Jesse Frost died. The following year Deacon Timothy Porter was licensed to preach, exercising his gift until 1835.

In the latter year the brick church edifice on South Main street was built at a cost of \$6,500. In 1859 it was reconstructed, the main entrance being placed on Bank street. The building was now 40 by 95 feet, and had a spire 125 feet high. In the fall of 1876 the house was thoroughly remodelled. In 1882 this building was sold for business purposes, the last service being held there August 22d, 1882. Turner's Hall was now occupied while the new edifice was building.

Work on the Grand street church was begun in the spring of 1882, and on the 2d of August, that year, the corner stone was laid. The chapel was occupied December 15th, 1882, and the new church was dedicated May 31st, 1883. It is a fine and commodious edifice, and the entire cost of that property was \$58,175.52.

After the church began worshipping in the South Main street

building, in 1835, Elders W. Russell and E. Savage supplied the pulpit until 1838, since which year a regular ministry has usually been maintained. The pastors were as follows: 1839, Reverend A. D. Watrous, who baptized 81 persons; 1840, Reverend William S. Smith; 1841-3, no pastor, and hard times in consequence of the panic and the unsettled church debt; 1844, Reverend Allen Darron; 1848, Reverend Nehemiah Perkins; 1855-72, Reverend Joseph A. Bailey, died May 11th, 1873, aged 50 years; 1874-7, Reverend George A. Starkweather, who established the mission at Simonsville, which has partaken of the general prosperity of the church. The chapel at that place was dedicated May 10th, 1876. August 3d, 1877, Reverend G. W. Folwell became the pastor and served until August 15th, 1884; February 27th, 1885, Reverend John W. Richardson assumed the pastorate and continued until December 9th, 1887. His ministry greatly increased the power and usefulness of the church. He was succeeded by the present pastor, Reverend William P. Elsdon, May 4th, 1888.

In 1890 the church reported 565 members. John T. Trott is the treasurer of the church, and Henry F. Sanford the clerk. The Sunday school has 461 members, and the one at Simonsville has 138. Of the latter R. G. Snagg is the superintendent.

The Waterbury Methodist Episcopal Church dates its existence from the closing years of the last century. In the latter part of September, 1796, Bishop Asbury preached in the Separate meeting house, in the Columbia district, and a small society of Methodists was formed there soon after. Later, this faith also found lodgment at East Farms, where a class was formed about 1800, which embraced among its members some who had previously been connected with the Congregational church. The class never became strong in numbers, but the Methodists have remained the principal religious body in that part of the town and maintain worship to this day.

Another Methodist class was organized at Pine Hole (near Waterville) in 1815, and from these sources has originated the present prosperous Methodist church in the city. The Waterville class had at first but five members, and never became strong numerically, but those belonging were zealous and full of good works. Many changes in its affairs have taken place, but worship is now stately held in a building worth \$2,500. Samuel R. Hickox was the first class leader and afterward became a local preacher.

The main place of these Methodist meetings was at Waterville, but prayer meetings were often held at the house of one of the members, Mother Mary Peck, who lived in a small red house in the village of Waterbury. Here, later, preaching was held in the school houses and other public places. Samuel R. Hickox was one of the first preachers to regularly proclaim the Gospel.

In 1829 the Methodists of Waterbury received a valuable accession in the family of William Eaves, who were ardent Wesleyans, and who

that year removed to Waterbury from England. In 1831 a revival, mainly the result of the preaching of Heman Bangs, increased the number from 25 to about 100, and private houses no longer accommodated the worshippers. It was now resolved to build a church in the borough of Waterbury. For this purpose a site on Union square was deeded, May 26th, 1832, to trustees William Eaves, Rufus Patchen, Edward Perkins, Jr., and Ebenezer Welton. On this a plain frame meeting house was built, which was dedicated April 27th, 1833. This house was used for 21 years, much of the time with a debt resting on it. The members of the Waterbury church were poor in worldly goods, but they increased in numbers and influence. In 1850 there were belonging 245 persons, and the church debt had been fully paid.

The building of a new church more centrally located was begun in 1852, and March 1st, 1854, it was dedicated. This was a plain, commodious brick building, and stood on the site of the Platt Block, on East Main street, until 1887, when it was demolished. Having become too small, it was sold to the Catholics in 1876, for the sum of \$25,000, but was used under a lease until the present church could be occupied.

This handsome, roomy and well arranged church edifice is on North Main street and Abbott avenue. The lot was donated by Anson F. Abbott, in September, 1876, and soon thereafter the building was begun. The corner stone was laid July 19th, 1877. The chapel was occupied in January, 1878, and the main room was dedicated May 22d, 1878. The church is at present valued at \$70,000. A fine brick parsonage, adjoining on Abbott avenue, is valued at \$7,500.

A number of successful missions have been established by this church. The one begun on Long Hill in 1886 has become St. Paul's church, and is now prosperous as an independent organization. At Simonsville a church was built in 1889, at a cost of \$2,000, and it has also become a separate appointment. The aggregate membership of the foregoing churches is about 1,000, and the yearly expense of carrying on their work is more than \$6,000.

In 1833 the first Sunday school was organized by the Methodists, who now have half a dozen schools in the town. The one connected with the First church has more than 600 members. Anson F. Abbott was the superintendent 23 years, ending in 1883.

The colored people of the city have in recent years organized a church of the Methodistic belief, which is also prosperous and promotive of much good among that class of citizens.

Also, in recent years, there has been established a Second Adventist church, and one of the German Baptist persuasion.

On Bunker Hill a Union chapel has been erected, in which services are held by various ministers of the foregoing churches.

In 1886 the First Congregational church organized a branch society among its German members. In 1890 this branch voted to be-

come a German Lutheran church, and as such it was fully organized in February, 1891. A chapel on Leavenworth street is occupied, and there is a growing membership, with Reverend E. G. Julius Richter as the pastor.

The Catholics of Waterbury are numerous, progressive and influential. They constitute about one-third of the population and their church property nearly equals in value that of all the other churches combined. This vast estate has been accumulated in several score of years. Scarcely half a century has elapsed since Catholicism has had an established place in the town. Its doctrines were here first preached by the Reverend James Fitton, a missionary priest coming from Boston. In his visit to this place he found a few Catholics, but probably did not celebrate mass. That form of worship was first observed in the town by the priest who followed him, Reverend James T. McDermott, who came from New Haven, occasionally until 1837, when he was transferred to Lowell, Mass. He held his meetings at the house of a man named Donnelly, at the West End, and Michael Neville was one of those who was regarded as a leading Catholic.

The next priest to attend Waterbury was Reverend James Smyth, of St. Mary's parish, New Haven. He and Father John Brady were at that time the only resident priests in the state. His services here extended from 1837 until the fall of 1848. His efforts to found a Catholic church in Waterbury were bitterly opposed and in 1839 a plan was laid to drive the Irish Catholics out of town by the use of violent means. But fortunately these base designs were frustrated through the friendly aid of John P. Elton, a Protestant employer of many of the Catholic workmen, who was a just and fair minded man, and the rapid increase of the Catholics soon after, prevented a similar attempt. Father Smyth continued saying mass until 1845, the house of Michael Neville being used as the place of meeting, until the latter year, when Doctor Jesse Porter's Washington Hall was secured and was used until the Catholics had their own church.

In 1847 a church lot was secured on the corner of East Main and Dublin streets, where it was proposed to place the old Episcopal church which had been purchased by the Catholics. Its removal from West Main street was begun, but when the building reached the foot of the hill on East Main street, the contractor became satisfied that he must abandon the undertaking on account of the high rising ground. The original plan was now abandoned and another church lot, opposite where the building rested in the street, where is now St. Patrick's Hall, was bought, and there the doors of the first Catholic church were opened as St. Peter's.

In October, 1847, the Reverend Michael O'Neile became the first resident priest. Up to that time many of the church rites were celebrated in New Haven, and often the entire Catholic community, about 100 persons, traveled thither, a distance of 22 miles. Father O'Neile

first offered the holy sacrifice of the mass in St. Peter's church, on Christmas day, 1847. He was young, full of life, and being zealous to an unusual degree, imparted to his parishioners much of the same spirit. Some time after 1850 he purchased the property on which is now the Church of the Immaculate Conception, and in one of the houses on that lot he lived until July, 1855, when he was transferred to East Bridgeport. He later lived at New Haven, where he died February 25th, 1868, aged 49 years. A monument to his memory has been erected in St. Joseph's cemetery, where he was interred.

Father Thomas F. Hendricken, the second resident priest, began his labors in July, 1855, and his ministry was remarkably successful. The fruits of his good works are still manifest on every hand. Said a later worker in this parish:\*

"The seed sown by Father Hendricken is now bearing rich fruit. It is true that some feared he was in advance of his time, and that a few of his undertakings were more or less hazardous . . . But he saw into the future and acted according to the light vouchsafed him. And the future justified his actions. The name of Father Hendricken and the parish of the Immaculate Conception are inseparable.

"He built the present church and parochial residence, established a parochial school in the old church, purchased the property of the convent De Notre Dame, erected the Convent hall, and bought the magnificent property on which St. Mary's school now stands. Though a great deal of that property has been sold from time to time, it is at present, unquestionably, the finest school lot in Connecticut."

Soon after his residence here, Father Hendricken devoted his energies to the building of the new church. The corner stone was laid July 5th, 1857, and on the 19th day of December the church was dedicated. The architecture is purely gothic. It presents the following dimensions: extreme length 162 feet, extreme breadth 65 feet, interior height 60 feet, height of spire 200 feet.

After 17 years of incessant labor in this parish, Doctor Hendricken was elevated to the bishopric of Providence, his consecration taking place at Providence April 28th, 1872. He discharged the duties of that office until his death June 11th, 1886.

Father James Lynch began his labors here in April, 1872, and remained until his elevation to the vicar-generalship of St. Patrick's parish, New Haven, in August, 1876. He died in that city in December, the same year. In a short space of time he cleared the Waterbury parish of a debt of \$38,000 and left it upon a sound financial basis.

In August, 1876, Reverend Lawrence Walsh was called to the charge of the Immaculate Conception, remaining until July 29th, 1883, when he was transferred to Westerly, R. I. He died in Boston, January 3d, 1884.

Father William A. Harty began his ministry in Waterbury August

\*Reverend James H. O'Donnell.

4th, 1883, and continued it until January 1st, 1886. In this brief pastorate he thoroughly renovated the church edifice at a cost of \$15,000, without leaving a debt. It was reopened September 28th, 1884. He left the parish to become the rector of the Cathedral at Hartford. During his pastorate he greatly advanced the interests of the parish, whose work has been successfully continued by the present efficient priest, Reverend John A. Mulcahy, the pastor since January 1st, 1886. He is assisted by Reverends J. Flemming and J. H. O'Donnell. In all about 50 assistant priests have aided the foregoing rectors in carrying on the work of the parish. The value of the parish property is \$150,000, and the population embraces about 6,000 souls.

Out of the original St. Peter's Church at Waterbury, and later the parish of the Immaculate Conception, have been formed three other parishes, viz.: St. Patrick's, St. Anne's and the Church of the Sacred Heart. In 1876 the Methodists sold their church building on East Main street to the Catholics, who in 1878 converted it into St. Patrick's chapel. As such it was used until April, 1887, when it was sold to I. G. Platt, who removed it to make place for his fine block, now occupying that site. In this chapel most of the foregoing churches were organized.

St. Patrick's, under the pastoral care of Reverend J. H. Duggan, sought its field of labor on the west or Brooklyn side of the city. A fine church lot, extending from Bank to Charles street, was purchased, upon which ground was broken in 1880. The corner stone of the edifice was laid in 1881, and since that time the work of building has been carried on. The church when completed will cost \$200,000, and will be one of the finest and most commodious in the county. The lower walls of the building are massive granite; the upper part is composed of hammered copper with a stone finish. In 1891 the building was under roof, and the basement part had for several years been occupied. Father Duggan has continued as the resident priest, and his ceaseless labors have augmented the natural growth of the parish, which already has a large membership.

In February, 1885, the parish of the Immaculate Conception was divided, that portion lying east of Welton and Dublin streets, having been erected into a new parish under the patronage of the Sacred Heart, with Reverend Hugh Treanor as its first pastor. He still serves in that connection. In the summer of 1885 the corner stone of the Church of the Sacred Heart was laid, and after several years the fine and substantial edifice was completed at a cost of \$80,000. The church is located on East Main street in a growing section of the city, and the outlook for the parish is very promising.

St. Anne's Church, for the use of the French Catholics, is a frame edifice, which was put up in 1888. It is in the southern part of the city on South Main street. The first pastor was Reverend Joseph W. Fones, appointed April 15th, 1886. The first service was May 2d, 1886, in the

old Universalist society's building. The new church was occupied January 6th, 1889. The present pastor, Reverend J. E. Bourret, came April 15th, 1890. The assistant pastor is Reverend J. E. Senesac.

The entire membership of all these Catholic churches is more than 10,000 souls.

For more than a dozen years the Catholics of Waterbury held their funerals in New Haven. In 1847 a burial lot on Grand street, adjoining the city cemetery, was purchased, and there many Catholics were interred in the next ten years. In 1890 the city condemned these cemeteries for public purposes, and the following year they were fully vacated. On December 1st, 1857, Father Hendricken bought St. Joseph's cemetery, paying for the same \$2,000. Still greater cemetery privileges were obtained when, in 1884, Father Harty purchased "East Farms" for that purpose. Very proper care for the memory of the dead has been maintained, and many fine monuments may be seen in St. Joseph's cemetery.

Of the parish institutions the Convent de Notre Dame is the oldest. It was established September 8th, 1869, by Father Hendricken. A week later the school was opened by four sisters from Notre Dame, Montreal, with Mother St. Cecilia as the superior. In 1882 Mother St. Gabriel succeeded her, and was at the head of the school until her death, in May, 1887. Since that time Mother St. Mary has been the superior. In the main the school has prospered from the beginning, and an elegant new convent for its use has lately been built. Its dimensions are 80 by 106 feet and it is four stories high. In the fall of 1889 the convent was leased by the original owners to the sisters of the Congregation de Notre Dame, of Montreal, for a term of 999 years, and that body now has sole control.

St. Mary's school was one of the first great works inaugurated by the present priest of the parish of the Immaculate Conception. The corner stone of the building was laid August 29th, 1886, and September 3d, 1888, the school was solemnly blessed by Bishop Lawrence McMahon, of Hartford. It is an imposing edifice, containing twelve rooms, each 25 by 29 feet in size. More than 800 pupils are in attendance.

The first parochial school was kept in the old St. Peter's church, which was demolished in May, 1888. Upon its site the erection of St. Patrick's Hall was begun, the design being to make this building supplementary to the church and school edifices. The building is very ornate, and one of the handsomest in the city. It contains several fine business rooms, a Sunday school assembly room, library and reading rooms, a gymnasium and a large hall, seating 900 persons, for society meetings and parish entertainments.

About the same time St. Mary's convent was erected on a lot adjoining St. Mary's school. It was ready for occupancy November

27th, 1889, and like all the other parish buildings has a chaste and pleasing appearance. Its entire cost was about \$20,000.

The city has a handsomely located and well endowed hospital, which has been in use since January 28th, 1890. But the need for such an institution was felt years before this noble charity was opened. The editor of the *Republican*, J. Henry Morrow, began urging the building of a hospital as early as September 1st, 1882, and subsequently emphasizing his faith in the success of the project by raising, through his paper, a large popular subscription. The people having become interested in this matter, Mr. C. H. Carter, at that time in the legislature, was instructed to procure a charter for the Waterbury Hospital, which was approved in March, 1883. The hospital corporation was organized December 15th, 1884, when the following directors were chosen: F. J. Kingsbury, president; A. S. Chase, vice-president; E. L. Frisbie, G. W. Beach, H. C. Griggs, executive committee; J. S. Elton, E. C. Lewis, D. S. Plume and R. E. Hitchcock. A decided effort was next made to collect funds to purchase the Wilson property, on the west side, as a site for a hospital, and after two years that object was accomplished. The property was bought in December, 1886, for \$25,000, and the work of improving it for the present purpose was soon after begun. Few institutions of a similar nature are situated more favorably or hold a more popular place in the esteem of the community where they are located. Interest in its support continues unabated. All classes of citizens and every religious denomination bear it in remembrance. Since the movement to have a hospital began the popular contributions have been about \$28,000, and systematic collections are now carried on by the Waterbury Hospital Aid Society, which was organized September 13th, 1890.

In the early period of the collections an unexpected and most generous gift of \$25,000 was received from Erastus L. De Forest, of Watertown. It was accepted November 22d, 1886. Thus far the name of Mr. De Forest stands as the largest individual benefactor. On the 25th of April, 1887, the general assembly passed an act directing that \$25,000 be paid to the hospital from the state treasury as soon as a fund of \$50,000 had been received from other sources. This appropriation became available in the spring of 1889. On the 19th of March that year the hospital also received a gift of \$10,000 from a former townsman, Doctor Henry Bronson, of New Haven, for a "perpetual fund for the support of free beds." The value of the hospital property is now about \$100,000.

The hospital was opened with Carrie E. Lewis as matron, and the admissions from January 28th to December 10th, 1890, were 44 males and 41 females. In that period 17 of the patients died.

For many years the old burial ground on Grand street was the principal one in the town. But long ago it became evident that with the growth of the city would come a demand to have it vacated. This



was fully done in the spring of 1891, when the grounds were graded for a public park. At Sawmill Plain a fine cemetery is maintained, and for the accommodation of those using it an attractive Union chapel has been erected near the main entrance. The Catholics have a fine cemetery in the southeastern part of the city, on Dublin street.

The most prominent place of burial is the lovely Riverside Cemetery. This is located on the right hand bank of the Naugatuck river, one-half mile south of Center square. It embraces nearly 40 acres, lying on the second and third benches of that section, the lowest point being 84 feet above the river. A number of wooded hills and knolls in the cemetery produce a pleasant landscape, whose natural beauty has been increased by the skill of man.

To Doctor Amos Blake is given the credit of suggesting the opening of a new cemetery. In 1849 he urged the matter so strongly that an association was organized the following year, and a part of the present grounds purchased. Forty-six persons were united in this purpose, May 4th, 1850, when the first board of officers was chosen. The grounds were laid out in 1852, and in July, 1853, the choice of lots was sold. The first interment was made July 14th, 1853, when Harriet Upson was here laid to rest. The following year the ground was enclosed with a wooden fence, but in 1887-8 the fine iron fence on the front side was erected. In 1884-5 the Hall Memorial chapel was erected near the main gateway, and is one of the most marked objects on the grounds. Samuel W. Hall was born July 5th, 1814, and died March 5th, 1877. Among his other bequests was one of \$20,000 to build this chapel, which was dedicated to its present use June 11th, 1885. It is in the modern style of Gothic architecture, the walls being of Ashlar stone work. A granite tower, 67 feet high, adds to the appearance of the building.

Near by is a stone indicating that the cemetery was dedicated September 24th, 1853.

Fine and costly monuments have been erected in many parts of the cemetery, some of them being of very attractive designs. Thus are marked the graves of some of the men who aided in making the Waterbury of to-day.

The monument of Israel Holmes shows that he was born December 19th, 1800, and died July 15th, 1874, and bears this tribute to his worth:

" BECAUSE HE WAS  
OUR CITY IS."

The shaft which marks the grave of Aaron Benedict, another of the founders of the city, tells the visitor that this public-spirited man died February 9th, 1873, and that he was born August 9th, 1785.

On a high point of land is the Masonic Block, whose bounds are neatly marked, and in the center of which is a granite and bronze me-

morial. On this lot are interred more than 20 members of the fraternity, each grave having a humble marker.

In the entire cemetery 3,201 persons were interred from the time it was opened until April 1st, 1889. M. Begnal has been the custodian of the cemetery since 1853.

A brief account only of the military affairs of Waterbury can here find place. In the French and Indian wars five persons from the town served as officers, Samuel Hickox being a captain in 1745, and Eldad Lewis in 1762.\*

"A large majority of the people living in Waterbury at the breaking out of the revolutionary war were firm champions of colonial rights. After the meeting of Congress in 1774 a resolution was adopted unanimously at a town meeting called for the purpose, to adhere to the association entered into by Congress.

"During the war Waterbury furnished more men for the continental army than many other towns in the state.† The eighth company of the first regiment of Connecticut troops was raised in Watertown. Phineas Porter was captain of this company, Stephen Matthews, first lieutenant; Isaac Bronson, second lieutenant; and David Smith, ensign. These troops were enlisted for seven months, and most of them reënlisted. In 1776 Congress made a requisition on Connecticut for troops, and the state legislature passed an act to raise seven regiments. Phineas Porter was major of the 5th Regiment, and the sixth company was from Waterbury. The officers were: John Lewis, Jr., captain; Jas. Warner, first lieutenant; M. Bronson, second lieutenant; Jas. Beach, Jr., ensign.

"In November of 1776 the legislature ordered that four battalions should be raised. The officers of one company in the second battalion, which was recruited in Waterbury, were: Benj. Richards, captain; J. Bronson, Jr., first lieutenant; Mr. Law, second lieutenant; Benj. Fenn, Jr., ensign."

"The main east and west road was the highway between Hartford and Fishkill, and was much used during the war for passage of troops and supplies. In the fall of 1777, after the capture of Burgoyne, a detachment of the American army, with the enemy's splendid train of artillery, passed over the road to the eastward. They pitched their tents and encamped for a night in Manhan Meadow, just over the bridge.

"General Lafayette, once during the war, passed through Waterbury. He lodged at the house of Captain Isaac Bronson, at Breakneck. The host introduced him to his best chamber, in which was his best bed. But Lafayette caused the feather bed to be removed, saying: 'Straw for the soldier,' and made the straw underbed his couch for the night. General Washington passed through also. He dined with

\* From Accounts by Bronson, Baldwin and Burpee.

† It is claimed 250 in all capacities.

Esq. Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins made many inquiries, and at last became decidedly inquisitive. After reflecting a little on his last question, Washington said: 'Mr. Hopkins, can you keep a secret?' 'I can.' 'So can I,' the general instantly replied.

"In the latter part of June, 1781, the French army, under Count Rochambeau, in their march from Newport westward and south to join Washington in Virginia, passed through Waterbury. They are said to have marched in four divisions, and to have encamped for a night just over the mountain in Southington, at a place since called French Hill. After the surrender of Cornwallis, or in October, 1782, they returned by the same route. They are said to have marched two and two, and at both times to have encamped at Breakneck hill, making Isaac Bronson's house headquarters."

The town was not especially active in the war of 1812 or the Mexican war, but did not lack in patriotism in its devotion to and defense of the Union cause in the civil war, 1861 to 1865. It is claimed that the town furnished about 900 men, 55 of whom were commissioned officers. Many of them rendered brave and highly meritorious service. None were more soldier-like and gallant than John L. Chatfield, who went out as a major in April, 1861, but was promoted to a colonelcy in the summer of that year. He was fatally wounded at Fort Wagner in July, 1863, and died at his home in Waterbury August 9th, 1863. A monument to his memory was dedicated in Riverside Cemetery September 13th, 1887.

Waterbury has taken a warm interest in the Militia and National Guard of the state, and several of its citizens have held high offices in that soldiery. S. W. Kellogg has been a major, colonel and brigadier general; John B. Doherty has been major, lieutenant-colonel, and is now colonel of the 2d Regiment, and Lucien F. Burpee is the major.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

W. C. Bannon was born in Waterbury in 1841, and was educated in the common schools. In 1859 he went to Marshallville, Macon county, Georgia and established the general merchandise business under the firm name of Sperry & Bannon. He enlisted in the 12th Georgia Regiment in 1861, serving 4 years and 2 months; was sergeant major, and at close of war acting adjutant. He was wounded at Antietam, Wilderness and Gettysburg. He returned to Waterbury in 1870 and established the grocery business with his brother, under the firm name of Bannon Brothers, which continued until 1880. He then established the soda bottling business, which he carried on about five years. Since 1885 he has been in the restaurant business at the New York & New England depot. He was chief of the police department for two years, member of council two years and town auditor three years. While in the council he was on the committee of public lands and buildings.

George G. Blakeslee was born in 1851, in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1857 he went to New Haven and was educated in the public schools there. In 1864 he came to Waterbury and worked in a store two years, and was afterward employed with the Benedict & Burnham Manufacturing Company for 24 years. Since April 26th, 1890, he has been secretary and manager of the Matthew & Willard Manufacturing Company. He was elected quartermaster of the 2d Regiment, Conn. N. G., July 1st, 1889.

Ralph N. Blakeslee was born in Waterbury in 1856. He has carried on the teaming business in Waterbury since September, 1879. The beginning of the business dates from the time when Henry Hotchkiss drew freight from Waterbury to New Haven for a Mr. Peck. After the railroad was built the firm of Hotchkiss & Hoadley was formed, and they carried on the business about three years. Afterward C. B. Webster ran it for about 10 years, and later L. Beardsley conducted it 15 years. Then Mr. Blakeslee took the business, buying at the time 28 horses and now has over 100.

Thomas Bland, veterinary surgeon, was born in 1856, in Boston, England, where he was educated, and graduated from Boston Veterinary Institute in 1874. He came to this country at the age of 20, locating first in New York city, and came to Waterbury in January, 1878, where he has practiced since. He was one of the founders of the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association, organized February 13th, 1884, and incorporated March 8th, 1887, and was its recording secretary until June, 1891, when he was elected president. He is vice-president of the Waterbury Driving company.

Ralph L. Bronson, mason builder, was born September 10th, 1828, in Roxbury, Conn. He learned his trade with Oliver Smith, of Beekman, Dutchess County, N. Y., came to Waterbury in the fall of 1848 and worked for George Welton five years, afterward for George Gilbert, and in 1872 established business with him under the firm name of George Gilbert & Co., and later Gilbert & Bronson. Since 1888 he has conducted business alone. He was street inspector for six years.

Thomas F. Butler was born in 1856, in Ireland, came to this country in 1867, and located in Waterbury, where he learned his trade. He established himself in business in 1879. He did the plastering on the Cooley House, Franklin House, Bank street school, Parochial school, Windsor Locks, and Booth Block, New Britain.

Samuel A. Chapman was born in Ellington, Tolland county, Conn., in 1832. He came from Hartford with Rogers & Brother as a contractor in 1858, remaining with them about seven years. Afterward he was superintendent for Holmes, Booth & Haydens for 18 years, until, in 1883, the Chapman & Armstrong Manufacturing Company was established, with Samuel A. Chapman, president; F. Armstrong, treasurer; Charles Armstrong, secretary. They are manufacturers of goods of brass and other metals. Mr. Chapman is also president of

the Hammond Buckle Company, of Rockville, Conn., established in 1889.

W. M. Cottle was born August 28th, 1841, at Martha's Vineyard, Mass., and was educated in the common schools. He worked for three years in ship yards at Mystic and Fair Haven, Conn. He learned the trade of carpenter around New Haven. He came to Waterbury in 1868, worked about four years for John Fogg, and in 1871 established business for himself. He built the Waterbury State Armory, the Waterbury Rink and the Commercial Block on Bank street.

D. E. Cronin was born in 1855 in Ireland, and came to this country with his parents when he was one year old. They located in Middletown, Conn. He was educated at common schools, learned his trade of mason with Chester Sage, went to work for James Kane, of Meriden, and afterward was in business with him for one year under firm name of Kane & Cronin. In May, 1879, he came to Waterbury, and in 1887 established business with James F. Gaffney under firm name of Gaffney & Cronin, which continued until May, 1890, when he formed a partnership with John W. Gaffney under firm name of John W. Gaffney & Co. They built the Baptist church on Grand street, Industrial school, Lilley Block, St. John's parish house and nearly all of the Waterbury Manufacturing Company's shops; Catholic church, Torrington; parochial school, Windsor Locks; electric light works, Stamford; Booth Block, New Britain; State Armory, New London; State Armory, South Norwalk; County Court House, Litchfield, Conn.; White Dental Works, Staten Island.

Thomas Fitzsimons was born in Ireland in 1838, and came to this country in 1848, locating in New York. He remained there one year, and in 1849 came to Waterbury. He was superintendent for Steel & Johnson 14 years, and then with Edwin Putnam and W. H. Blake organized the Novelty Manufacturing Company, in 1872, and has filled all the offices in the company, serving 15 years as secretary, two years as treasurer, and since 1889 as president.

William E. Fulton was born August 8th, 1852, in Brooklyn, N. Y. He was educated in the public schools of New York city and at the College of the City of New York. He came to Waterbury, in 1873, and was first employed with Holmes, Booth & Haydens, as clerk, remaining four years. In 1877 he entered the employ of the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company. When the Waterbury Farrel Foundry & Machine Company was organized he was made secretary and treasurer, which offices he still holds. He married Ida E., daughter of E. C. Lewis, of Waterbury.

James F. Gaffney was born in 1861 in Waterbury, was educated in the public schools, served his time with John W. Gaffney, and in 1884 established the business of contracting and building under the firm name of Gaffney & Cronin. In 1888 he bought out Mr. Cronin's

interest, and has since conducted the business himself. He built the Bank street school house.

John W. Gaffney, contractor and builder, was born in Ireland in 1842. His parents came to America and located in Wolcottville for a short time, then came to Waterbury. Mr. Gaffney learned his trade in New Haven in 1859, and in 1864 established business in Bridgeport, under the firm name of Rutherford & Gaffney, which continued until the spring of 1867, when he established business in Waterbury. He is also engaged in the real estate business. He married Mary A., daughter of George Byrnes, of Waterbury, in 1877.

Michael Guilfoile was born in 1837, in Ireland, and came to this country in 1863, locating for a short time in Hartford, then came to Waterbury, and soon after started in the butcher business, and later adding the grocery business. He has been secretary of the West Side Savings Bank since its organization, in 1889.

J. H. Guernsey was born in Watertown, Conn., in 1848, and is a son of John J. and Mary J. (Schofield) Guernsey. He was brought up on his father's farm and educated in the district schools. He came to Waterbury in 1870, and for four years kept books and did general office work. Afterward he entered the employ of D. B. Wilson, as salesman in the hardware business, remaining 10 years, and in the spring of 1885 established business for himself in Brown's Block, moving in 1889 to his present store in the Platt Building. He married Alice E., daughter of W. L. Wooding, of Waterbury. He was elected to the council in 1890, serving one year, and was elected alderman in 1891, serving two years. He is vice-president of the Connecticut Indemnity Association, and has been connected with it since its organization. He is a member of Continental Lodge, No. 76, F. & A. M., of Nosahogan Lodge, No. 21, I. O. O. F., Ansantawae Encampment, Canton Waterbury, Valley City Lodge, K. of H., Tunxis Tribe, I. O. R. M., Seguses Council, D. of P.

W. M. Hurlburt was born in 1848, in Washington, Conn. He learned the trade of carpenter with C. M. Rowley, of Woodbury, came to Waterbury in 1869, and worked for John Dutton and Tracy & Eldridge, also followed farming. He established business for himself in 1875.

STEPHEN W. KELLOGG was born in the town of Shelburne, Mass., April 5th, 1822, and was descended from revolutionary stock; his great-grandfather was first lieutenant in a company raised the first year of the struggle for independence and was with General Arnold in that wonderful winter march across the wilderness of Maine to Canada, and died before the walls of Quebec. His grandfather, at that time a lad of 16, served in the American army, the last year of the war.

The boyhood of Stephen W. Kellogg was spent on his father's farm, but when he was 16 years old he attended school at the Shelburne Falls Academy, Reverend John Alden being the principal. Afterward he attended, for a short time, the select school of Alvin Ander-



*J. W. Millroy*





son, at the same place, when he was qualified to teach district school. He taught four winters, attending school himself, at the Falls, in the spring, and in the summer worked on his father's farm. At the age of 20 he entered Amherst College, but remained only two terms, when he became a student at Yale College, from which he graduated in 1846, taking, at commencement, one of the first three honors of his class. He now took charge, for a few months, of an academy at Wilbraham, Mass., when he entered the Yale Law School, teaching, at the same time, the Greek classes, in the classical school kept by Hon. Aaron N. Skinner, at New Haven. In two years he completed his law studies and was admitted to the New Haven county bar, in June, 1848. Soon after he located as an attorney at Naugatuck, but in 1854 he removed to Waterbury, where he has since resided, most of the time in the active practice of his profession, ranking now as one of the oldest lawyers in this part of the county. Since 1884 his son John P., has been associated with him, the law firm being Kellogg & Kellogg. For many years he has held a very prominent position in his profession, which has not been confined to this locality and few attorneys in the county are more widely or more favorably known. In 1854 he was appointed judge of the New Haven county court and for seven years was judge of probate, for the district of Waterbury, filling both positions with great ability.

Mr. Kellogg was clerk of the Connecticut senate in 1851, a member of the state senate from the Waterbury district in 1853, and a member of the Connecticut house of representatives in 1856. He was elected to the congress of the United States in 1869 and was reelected in 1871 and 1873. In that body he was very energetic and took a leading part in its affairs. He served as a member upon the several committees of the judiciary, patents, Pacific railroads and war claims, and was chairman of the committee on naval expenditures in the 42d congress and chairman of the committee on civil service reform in the 43d congress. He succeeded in procuring legislation for the improvement of the harbors on the coast of Connecticut, which had then been long neglected. He also helped to shape the tariff legislation of 1870 and 1872 so that the interests of his state were protected and his success in these efforts led to his reelection to congress twice in a district having 2,500 or more political majority against him. During the 43d congress he prepared and procured the passage of bills reorganizing both the treasury and war departments at Washington. The former department at that time had not been reorganized by any law for 40 years, but had grown to its immense proportions, by accretion as it were, by means of appropriation bills, as the necessities of the service required, especially during the civil war. That department is still carried on under the law as prepared by Mr. Kellogg. Since his retirement from congress he has been almost wholly devoted to the prac-

tice of the law, but maintains to an unusual degree his interest in public matters.

At the close of the war Mr. Kellogg was active in organizing a national guard to take the place of the state militia and drew the bill and procured its passage, which first gave the name national guard to the active militia of Connecticut. That name was subsequently adopted by a large number of other states, being now in general use. He was colonel of the 2d Regiment, Conn. N. G., for three years, and was afterward brigadier general of the guard, resigning that position while in congress.

Mr. Kellogg was married September 10th, 1851, to Lucia Hosmer Andrews, a granddaughter of Chief Justice Hosmer, who for 30 years was a member of the supreme court of Connecticut. Major-General Samuel H. Parsons, of the American army, in the revolution, was her great-grandfather. By this union there were seven children, six now living. His three daughters are married to Frank C. Plume, of Waterbury; E. N. English, of New Haven; and Irving H. Chase, of Waterbury—all active young business men. Of the three sons the eldest, Frank W., graduated from Annapolis in 1879, and is now an officer in the United States navy. John P. graduated from Yale in 1882, was in the law school of that university two years, and was admitted to the New Haven bar in 1884. He is now associated with his father. The youngest son, Charles P., graduated from Yale in June, 1890, and is now in its law school.

FREDERICK J. KINGSBURY, a son of Charles D. and Eliza Kingsbury, was born in Waterbury, January 1st, 1823. His mother was a daughter of Frederick Leavenworth, one of the most prominent citizens of this part of the county, and his paternal grandfather was John Kingsbury, Esq. He was a native of Norwich, Conn., and entered Yale College in 1780, but soon after left to enlist on board a privateer, and helped to capture several British vessels. At the close of the revolution he returned to Yale, from which he graduated in 1786. After studying law at the Litchfield Law School, he located in the practice of his profession at Waterbury in 1791, where he died in September, 1844. He served as judge of the probate court, and was appointed judge of the New Haven county court in 1801, becoming the presiding judge in 1820. His son, Charles D., was born November 7th, 1795, and was trained from youth for mercantile pursuits, in which he engaged and continued until 1838, when, by reason of his ill health, he retired from trade, devoting thereafter his attention to his large landed interests. He deceased January 16th, 1890.

Frederick J. Kingsbury was reared in Waterbury, and after graduating from Yale College, in 1846, he pursued law studies in the same institution. He next entered the law office of Hon. Charles G. Loring, in Boston, and was admitted to practice by the Suffolk County Bar, March 10th, 1848. Soon after he removed to Hartford, where for six



*Frederick J. Kingsbury*



months he was in the office of Hon. Thomas C. Perkins, one of the foremost attorneys of the state. In the spring of 1849 Mr. Kingsbury returned to his native town, where he opened a law office, and the following year was elected as one of the representatives of Waterbury in the state legislature. Twice thereafter he was elected to the same body, in which he creditably served. In his first term he secured a charter for the Waterbury Savings Bank, which he helped to organize, in 1850, and was elected its secretary and treasurer. These offices he has since filled, and to his constant services much of the splendid success of the bank may be attributed. He also aided, in 1853, in establishing the Citizens' Bank, of which he was chosen the first cashier. In 1868 he succeeded Samuel W. Hall as president of that institution, and has remained identified with it in that relation ever since. The same year he was elected president of the Scovill Manufacturing Company, and has also been continuously retained as the head of that corporation, which he had previously served as treasurer. Besides being interested in the foregoing, Mr. Kingsbury is also connected as trustee or director in many other financial, railway or manufacturing corporations. He has been the treasurer of the Silas Bronson Free Library since it was opened, in 1870, and serves as the chairman of its book committee.

Although so active in these pursuits, Mr. Kingsbury has found time to encourage many other projects for the material development of Waterbury, or whose purpose was the elevation of the moral tone of this community. He urgently favored the construction of the present system of water works, and helped to establish the fine Riverside Cemetery. He is connected with various charitable and religious organizations, serving as the treasurer of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut, and was a member of the general convention in 1877. The interests of St. John's parish, to which he belongs, have his warm support.

Mr. Kingsbury is a gentleman of broad culture, having had a wide range of reading and study, and is also a writer of conceded ability. He published, in 1856, a sketch of the life of James G. Percival, and a sketch of Chicago; and in 1880 a series of Social Science Papers. He is a member of the Connecticut Academy of Science, and was elected a Fellow of Yale in 1881, serving since as an active member of that great corporation.

Gordon B. Lawrence was born in 1850, in Waterbury, and is a son of David S. and Mary C. Lawrence. He was educated in the public schools of Waterbury. He is a carpenter by trade, which he followed until 1875, then was foreman for the Waterbury Watch Company for five years, and January 1st, 1881, started in the real estate business. He drew the charter for the West Side Savings Bank, carried it to the legislature and lobbied it through. He has been treasurer since its organization in 1889. He was elected assessor of the town in 1883

and served four terms. In 1891 he was elected by the largest majority ever given any assessor.

EDWARD C. LEWIS, a son of John and Mary Lewis, was born at Welsh Pool, North Wales, September 23d, 1826. When he was four years of age he came to America with his parents, who settled at Bridgeport, Conn. His father was a master spinner and secured work in the woolen mills of Thatcher & Bunnell, of that city, where in the course of half a dozen years young Lewis was also employed, having first for a short time attended the common schools of Bridgeport. At the age of 18 years he left the woolen factory and sought other occupation, entering as an apprentice the Bridgeport Iron Works, a concern which he and others in later life owned and operated. Here he served his time, thoroughly learning the founder's trade and becoming a master iron founder. This knowledge subsequently paved the way for his speedy advancement.

In 1847 he went to Birmingham, where he became a foreman in the foundry of Colburn & Bassett, prominent iron workers in that day. The following year he first began working for Almon Farrel, and superintended the starting of his original foundry and machine shop at Ansonia, from which has grown one of the largest and most successful concerns of the kind in this country. In this Mr. Lewis, also, in later years, secured a pecuniary interest. In 1849 he returned to the Bridgeport Iron Works where he was about a year, when for a short time he had charge of the Birmingham Iron Foundry, but, in 1852, he removed to Waterbury, where he became the foreman of the Waterbury Foundry Company, controlled by the Messrs. Farrel, of Ansonia. Here he soon demonstrated his thorough fitness for his position, evincing, also, such fine executive ability in managing the business that his employers soon recognized his work. By the simple force of his skill and character, he secured an interest in the business, becoming in a short time the active manager and head of the concern in Waterbury. Mr. Lewis also became and is at present the treasurer of the Farrel Foundry & Machine Company, at Ansonia, and has been a director since 1857. He has been associated with the company 40 years and in all that period no act was done or unkind word spoken by any of the principals of that corporation, which in the least marred the pleasant relations which have ever existed between them. In these times of self-assertion and intense rivalry such a condition is so unusual that the record of it by Mr. Lewis is a fine testimony to the excellent worth and noble character of the Messrs. Farrel—father, son and grandson.

The interests of the Ansonia and Waterbury Farrel Works were united until 1880, when Mr. Lewis wishing to stamp the business of the latter with more of his individuality, purchased the stock of his associates and reorganized the Waterbury company. He thus became the controlling owner and president of the company, a relation since



*E. C. Lewis*





sustained. At that time he took in as stockholders and directors, William E. Fulton, George B. Lamb and H. W. Curtiss, energetic and industrious young men, upon whom the cares of the concern have to a large extent fallen. Mr. Fulton is the secretary and treasurer of the company and has much of the oversight of its vast business. Besides his large interests in this company, Mr. Lewis is connected with many other manufacturing corporations in this and other towns and is also a director of several financial institutions. He is the president of the Oakville Pin Company; president of the Capewell Horse Nail Company, of Hartford; and director of the Manufacturers' National and Dime Savings Banks, of Waterbury. His interests are yearly becoming more numerous and he is regarded as one of the ablest and most successful business men of this part of the county.

Although Mr. Lewis is in all essentials a self-made man, whose educational privileges were very limited, his habits have been observant and studious, so that he has become a person of more than ordinary intelligence, and he has accumulated a vast fund of practical business knowledge. He has a kind disposition and many good social qualities, which cause him to be much esteemed. He is liberal, progressive, public spirited and deservedly popular among all classes of the town's citizens, who have several times persuaded him to serve them in public capacities. He has been a pronounced republican since the organization of that party, but in 1883 he was elected a representative to the state legislature from democratic Waterbury, over an able political opponent. In 1888 he was the republican nominee for congress in the Second Connecticut district, but was defeated by Carlos French, a popular democrat, also of the Naugatuck valley.

Mr. Lewis was married, October 29th, 1850, to Harriet M. Phippeny, of Hartford, and of the seven children born to them four are now living, namely, two sons: Edward F., born August 10th, 1862, and Truman S., born September 15th, 1866, both connected with the Waterbury Machine Works; and two daughters: Ida E., married to William E. Fulton; Mary S., married to William J. Schlegel, both being active young business men of Waterbury.

John J. McCarthy and William C. Moore are soda water manufacturers. The business was established by John J. McCarthy, who bought out Vandover Brothers in April, 1887. He carried on the business alone until March 1st, 1889, when William C. Moore entered the business, which has since been conducted under the firm name, McCarthy & Moore. John J. McCarthy was born in Waterbury April 3d, 1858, and was educated in the common schools. William C. Moore was born August 2d, 1858, in Waterbury, was educated in the common schools, and from the time he left school until he started in business was in the employ of Benedict & Burnham, and a number of years foreman of the foundry department.

John W. McDonald was born in 1847 in Ireland, and came with his

mother to this country when one year old, locating in Waterbury. He was educated in the public schools, and was the first to work for the Waterbury Clock Company as errand boy. Afterward he was employed with Steel & Johnson, and later with the Scovill Manufacturing Company. He spent some six or seven years in New York city, returning to Waterbury in 1867. He joined the Phoenix Fire Company in 1868, and is one of the oldest members of the organization. He was a member of Company D, 2d Connecticut Regiment, under Captain Cook, served two years on the police force, and was elected city sheriff in October, 1879, which office he still holds.

James J. Madden was born in Ireland June 4th, 1859, came to this country with his parents in 1867, locating in New York city, and in 1875 moved to Albany, N. Y. He came to Waterbury in 1879, was engaged with the Scovill Manufacturing Company, and afterward with the Waterbury Manufacturing Company. He was elected town clerk in 1889, 1890 and 1891.

John Moriarty was born in 1851, in England, of Irish parents, came to this country when a boy and located in New York, remaining there two years. He then moved to Brooklyn, N. Y., remained there nine years and came to Waterbury in 1866. After working a year in the factories he learned the stone cutting trade, and followed the granite and monumental business about 10 years. He worked four years on the war and navy department buildings, at Washington, D. C., and on the New York post office, custom house and Western Union Telegraph Building, New York. He then started in the grocery business in Waterbury, which he carried on about one year, after which he ran the City Hotel for five years, and in 1883 established the Waterbury Furniture & Undertaking Company with John M. Mulville, under the firm name of Mulville & Moriarty. In 1885 he bought out Mr. Mulville's interest, and has since conducted the business alone. He was the first in Waterbury to do away with the ice box and start embalming.

HENRY H. PECK, son of Selden and Lucy (Hart) Peck, was born in Berlin, Conn., December 25th, 1838. His father was a farmer in that town, and was a son of Lemuel Peck, also of Hartford county, who descended from one of the early settlers of New England. The boyhood of Henry H. Peck was spent on his father's farm until he was 17 years of age, when he entered the high school at Meriden, and later attended Kellogg's Institute, in which he obtained a good rudimentary education. He now resolved to pay his attention to merchandising, and for that purpose accepted, in 1857, a clerkship in the store of D. & N. G. Miller, of New Britain, where he remained three years, acquiring in that time a good knowledge of the dry goods trade. In March, 1860, he came to Waterbury, where, with Charles Miller, of Middletown, as an associate partner, they established the dry goods firm of Miller & Peck, which is now one of the oldest in the city of Water-



W. H. Peck

W. H. Peck



bury. For more than a quarter of a century the same business house on Exchange place has been occupied. The relations of the firm were profitably continued until February 1st, 1887, when Mr. Peck retired from the management of the business, which is still continued by Mr. Miller, under the firm name.

When these young men here began trade they were both strangers to the citizens of this part of the country, and their capital was very limited, but by industry and intelligent application to their business they prospered until they ranked among the most successful merchants of New Haven county. In the meantime Mr. Peck had become interested in other enterprises which were benefitted by his judgment and business experience. Always loyally devoted to the best interests of his adopted city, he has encouraged such measures as have had in view the promotion of its welfare, and helped to organize the Waterbury Board of Trade. This purpose also led him to identify himself with some of the leading industries of the city as a stockholder, and he became a director of several corporations. For a number of years he has been a trustee of the Dime Savings Bank, and since 1886 has been the president of that successful institution, thus being brought into prominence as one of the leading business men of the city.

From boyhood Mr. Peck has been an uncompromising advocate and adherent of the principles of the republican party, and he was elected by that organization and others of his fellow citizens as one of the representatives of Waterbury in the legislature of 1886. His associate was Henry C. Griggs, and he was given a place on several important committees, serving as chairman of the committee on fisheries, which recommended some valuable legislation.

Not long after coming to Waterbury Mr. Peck became a Mason, and later was a charter member of Continental Lodge, No. 76. He also belongs to Clark Commandery, No. 7, and has taken the thirty-two degrees of the order, whose mysteries and teachings have made him a devoted member. He is also a vestryman of St. John's parish of the Episcopal church, and generously supports not only the measures of that organization, but freely honors other demands made upon him as a public-spirited citizen.

In the past ten years Mr. Peck has travelled extensively in this and foreign countries, and being an intelligent observer, has greatly profitted by that diversion. In 1883-4, in company with three congenial friends, he made the trip around the world, traveling westward from San Francisco to China, India, Ceylon, and thence by the Isthmus of Suez and the Mediterranean to the Continent of Europe and home across the Atlantic. The entire journey was prolific with pleasures. Mr. Peck has resided at the Scovill House 32 years, is widely known and much esteemed by a large circle of friends.

E. W. Pinney was born in Hartford, in 1847, and was educated in the public schools of Hartford and Wilbraham Academy, Mass. He followed farming and road contracting for many years, was superintendent of almshouse at Hamden, Conn., five years, and in 1886 came to Waterbury as superintendent of the almshouse there, which position he held for two years. He was elected first selectman in 1890, and re-elected in 1891.

ALFRED LEGRAND PLATT.—This well-known business man of Waterbury, is a lineal descendent of Deacon Richard Platt, who came to America from England in 1638, landing at New Haven. In that plantation he was allotted 84 acres of land, but in the fall of the following year he joined the Wepawaug settlement, being made a free planter of Milford in 1646, and thenceforth took an active part in the affairs of that town. In 1669 he was elected a deacon of the Milford church. He died in 1684, leaving, for those times, a large estate, the value being 600 pounds, sterling money. Of his family, two sons, Joseph and Josiah, remained in Milford, and from the family of the latter has descended the subject of this sketch. His grandson, Josiah, whose father was also named Josiah, became a resident of Newtown, Conn., where he was married November 13th, 1758, to Sarah Sanford, and their first son, Nathan, born March 3d, 1761, was the grandfather of A. L. Platt, whose portrait here appears.

After serving as a soldier in the revolution, Nathan Platt married Ruby Smith, of Newtown, and later became a citizen of Waterbury, settling in the locality which became known as Platt's Mills, and which has since been in the possession of his family. He died in Wallingford in 1845, but was buried at Waterbury. His second son, Alfred, born April 2d, 1789, was married to Irene Blackman, of Brookfield, in 1814, and, locating at the home of his father, founded the hamlet which now bears the name of Plattsville. Here he was active in the milling business and other pursuits. His death occurred December 29th, 1872. That of his wife was earlier, November 2d, 1863, at the age of 72 years. They reared a family of six sons, all of whom became successful business men, namely: Niram B., born in 1818, died in the city of Waterbury, October 14th, 1863; Charles S., born July 30th, 1820, removed to West Stockbridge, Mass., where he built the Rockdale mills; William S., born January 27th, 1822, who, with his next younger brother, became an extensive manufacturer at Plattsville, and died March 27th, 1886; Clark M., born January 1st, 1824, engaged as above, but now living in the city of Waterbury; Alfred Legrand, born June 1st, 1825; Seabury B., born October 5th, 1828, and after being an attorney at Birmingham, is now now a resident of Lakeville, Fla.

The fifth of these sons, Alfred L., was married July 28th, 1847, to Sarah A. Sherman, of Danbury, Conn., and they reared a family of two children: Sarah Jane, born January 8th, 1849, married May 10th,



Alfred L. Platt





1870, to Jared P. King, of Waterbury, and has one son, Rupert Vivian, born October 17th, 1882; and Alfred S., born November 12th, 1854, married Eugenie A. Nettleton December 18th, 1876, and has one daughter, Alice E., born October 7th, 1877. This son also resides at Plattsville, and he is associated with his father in business.

The boyhood of Alfred L. Platt was spent at Platt's Mills, where he early gave evidence of those traits of industry and frugality which have brought him business success. Desirous of earning his own livelihood, he received his father's consent, at the age of 15 years, to work for a neighboring farmer, so that he might obtain means to attend school. The season's work netted him \$45, with which, after spending one-fifth for clothing, he entered Amos Smith's school, at New Haven. He remained three years, supporting himself by working out of school hours and teaching a few months, leaving the school with a balance of \$9 in his purse. He now worked in a button factory at Plattsville until he was 21 years of age, obtaining a knowledge of that business, when he entered the grist mill to learn that trade. But after three years he concluded to remove to Newtown and manufacture horn buttons. He there carried on that industry six years, when he went to Leominster, Mass., where he operated in the same business a like period of time, after which he returned to Plattsville, where he has since resided.

He was first engaged with his father in carrying on Platt's Mills. In 1863 he assumed charge of the distribution of the mill products and worked up a large demand for them. To better carry on this increased business he organized the Platt Mill Company in 1876, and of that body, in its reorganized form, he is the principal owner and directing head. In 1882 he erected an elevator in Waterbury, with a capacity for 60,000 bushels of grain, which has remained the only building of that kind in the city. A store house is also maintained in Naugatuck. The business of the mill company at the three points named has, through the energetic efforts of Mr. Platt, become very extensive, and in its management he has shown qualities of a high order, which have properly given him a place among the representative men of the county.

Mr. Platt is a member of Harmony Lodge, No. 42, of the Masonic Order, in Waterbury, and belongs to Clark Commandery, of the same city, taking an active interest in the affairs of both of these bodies.

Floyd B. Smith was born September 9th, 1842, in Middlebury, Conn., and was educated in the public schools. He came to Waterbury to learn his trade in the spring of 1859 with Captain Chester Curtis, and worked for him until the spring of 1865, then went to work for John Dutton, and in 1871 formed a partnership with Mr. Dutton, who died in 1874. With the exception of two years that J. K. Smith was a partner, he has carried on the business of contracting and building alone.

John C. Thompson was born in Ireland, in 1852, and came to this country in 1869, and located in Waterbury. He was first employed with the Waterbury Clock Company for a short time, afterward with Benedict & Burnham, then with the American Suspender Company, and later, for 12 years, with Plume & Atwood. He was appointed superintendent of the almshouse in 1889. He served one year in the council.

George Tracy was born January 6th, 1847, in Morris, Litchfield county, Conn., and was educated at the public schools and at the Gunnery, Washington, Conn. He learned the carpenter trade in Torrington with Hotchkiss & Son, now Hotchkiss & Bro. In 1869 he came to Waterbury to work for John Dutton. In 1871 he established business under the firm name of Tracy & Eldridge, which continued about five years, after which he conducted the business alone until 1886, when his brother, who was in the lumber business, became a member of the firm, now Tracy Brothers. They burned out first in May, 1885, rebuilt and again burned out in December, 1891, and are now rebuilding. They built the state armories at New London, Bridgeport and South Norwalk, and many other large buildings, including the White Dental Works at Staten Island.

Cornelius Tracy was born April 21st, 1853, in Morris, Litchfield county, Conn., and was educated at the public schools. He learned the carpenter trade with his brother, George, followed the business for six years in Torrington, Conn., then established the lumber business in Waterbury, which he carried on three years, and in 1886 formed a partnership with his brother in the building and lumber business, since carried on under the firm name of Tracy Brothers.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE TOWN OF NAUGATUCK.

Location and Description.—Allotment of Lands and Settlement.—Civil Organization.—Town Officers.—Probate Court.—Town Hall.—Town Farm.—Roads and Bridges.—Manufacturing Interests.—Straitsville.—Naugatuck Village.—Savings Bank and Building Association.—Naugatuck National Bank.—Electric Light Company.—Gas Company.—Water Company.—Fire Department.—Telephone Company.—The Periodical Press.—Post Office.—Inns and Hotels.—Stores and Merchants.—Physicians.—Secret and Social Orders.—Schools.—Libraries.—Congregational Church.—St. Michael's (Protestant Episcopal).—Methodist Episcopal Church.—Union City Mission Chapel.—Swedish Lutheran Chapel.—Baptists.—St. Francis (R. C.) Church.—Soldiers' Monument.—Cemeteries.—Biographical Sketches.

NAUGATUCK\* lies south of Waterbury and north of Bethany and Oxford. The latter town and Middlebury are on the southwest, west and the northwest; on the east is the town of Prospect. Its shape is irregular, the boundary lines being made to conform to the outlying hill ranges, but it is about five miles long from east to west and about four miles from north to south. The Naugatuck river divides it into nearly equal parts and along it are tracts of level, fertile lands, which are hemmed in by high hills. The highest and most prominent of these is Beacon hill, in the southeast, which clearly overtops the surrounding country. It took its name from the early settlers, as a place where beacon fires were kindled, in a system of communication at that time prevalent.

Hopkins' hill is along the Prospect line, and Great hill is on the Waterbury border in the northeastern part. On the west is Huntington hill, and the so-called Strait's mountain is in the southwestern part. There are a number of hills of lesser height and the general surface is much broken by these local elevations. The arable lands are limited, and are confined mainly to the river valley and to the intervalles formed by the tributary streams.

The principal affluents are Hop brook, in the northern part, flowing from Middlebury; Fulling Mill brook, in the northeastern part, flowing from Prospect; Beacon Hill brook, in the southeastern part and south of Hopkins' hill; Spruce brook, in the southwest; and a large brook, flowing from the southern part of Middlebury, bisecting the western half of the town and emptying into the Naugatuck river

\*Much of the matter in this account of Naugatuck is from data furnished by William Ward, of whom an extended biographical sketch appears in this chapter.

at the village of Naugatuck. This bears various names, as Long Meadow, Towantic and Scott brook, the latter name being derived from an early landholder, on this stream. Nearly all these brooks descend from the high lands of the adjacent towns and afford powers whose improvement has materially increased the wealth of the town.

The town was organized in 1844 and took its name from the valley in which it lies. Doctor Anderson says that the term "Naugatuck was originally attached not to the river, but to a place on the river;" and that there was plenty of evidence to show that Naugatuck, or the fishing place, was at Rimmon Falls, where Seymour now stands. The name being applied to the river, at that particular place, was soon given to the entire length, then to the valley and finally to the town.

Of the northern section the Indian title was extinguished by purchase from the Farmington Tribe in February, 1657. The southern part was claimed by the Milford Tribe and its lands were conveyed to Thomas Judd and John Stanley February 28th, 1685. In all there were 20 parcels, 9 on the east side and 11 on the west of the river. The former comprised the lands lying north of Beacon Hill brook and to the north end of Judd's Meadow, called by the name of Sqonk. Eastward these lands extended from the river to the Wallingford and New Haven bounds, in what are now Prospect and Bethany. The lands west of the river extended to the Cedar swamp and the Quassepaug pond. The rich meadows in the southeastern part of this purchase early attracted the attention of a number of settlers of Waterbury, who were moved with a desire to possess them. Accordingly a division of lands, by allotment, was sought and made as early as 1686. In this division Edmund Scott and others received lands along Towantic brook, many years before settlement was made. At the mouth of the brook and extending northward along the river was the first allotment to Deacon Thomas Judd. It consisted of eight acres of very superior level land and for more than 100 years it was known as Judd's Meadow. As a later allotment Judd received lands north of what is now Maple street, at Naugatuck. On the east side of the river, below the mouth of Fulling Mill brook, ten acres were set aside to Doctor Daniel Porter, in 1686.

South of Deacon Judd's meadow lands were granted to Abraham Andrus, in 1687, 6 acres; to Isaac Bronson, 8 acres; to Thomas Porter,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  acres; to Edmund Scott,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres, all before 1696. Other lands were allotted to Joseph Gaylord, John Scovill, Thomas Richardson, John Hopkins, etc. About the same time allotments were made on what was later called Gunn hill, to Edmund Scott, 60 acres, on the east side; and to John Judd, on the west side. Timothy Stanley was given six acres on the brook. Allotments were here made as late as 1720, when land was laid out for Samuel Warner.

In 1687 an allotment was made on the east side of the river, John Warner being given a tract north of what is now Maple street. Next

below, Samuel Hickox, Sr., was given five acres, part of which was an island. About where is now the Naugatuck Hotel, Thomas Judd, Jr., was given four acres and also three acres north of the Pine Hill graveyard. On Hop brook, Joseph Gaylord, Robert Porter, Abraham Andrus and Edmund Scott were given lands before 1697. At Union City and in other parts of the town, lands were taken up by Thomas Hickox, John Hickox, Jeremiah and John Peck, Samuel Tolles, the Warners and others.

All the first allotments were of small areas, but embraced the best lands, selected without reference to shape. The later allotments comprised from 20 to 60 acres each, and the land was taken without reference to quality, the ability to secure a large quantity often determining the selection.

The settlement of the town was not begun until after 1700. A short time before that date, the New Haven or county road was laid out on the east side of the river, which made the lands taken up available for occupancy and made their improvement easier. An additional inducement to settlers was now held out in the offer of grants of lands not yet allotted.

Samuel Hickox, Jr., is credited with being the first settler. He was born about 1669, married Elizabeth Plumb, of Milford, in 1690, and lived at Waterbury until about 1703. Doctor Bronson, in his history of that town, says he had a house on his tract of land as early as December 21st, 1702. This house was on the hill east of the river and beyond the old county road, a short distance north of the present residence of B. M. Hotchkiss. The house has been taken away, but the old well is still there. Samuel Hickox owned not only the lands around his house, but was the owner of a tract about a mile north, which had been allotted to other members of the Hickox family, who did not remove here from Waterbury. He died in the great sickness in 1713 and was buried in the Pine Hill Cemetery, which was taken from his land in 1709. A few years before his death he built a small carding and fulling mill, on the brook, on his upper tract of land, from which circumstance the stream took its name—Fulling Mill brook—and he thus, probably, built the first mill of the kind in the state. His wife, Elizabeth, died in 1749, and their sons, John and Gideon, survived them. Remote descendants of this pioneer family still remain in Naugatuck, in families bearing the names of Smith, Hotchkiss, Isbell, May, Warner and others, many of them active in the town's affairs.

Daniel Warner, Jr., was the second permanent settler in the town, his house being near the old county road, south of Fulling Mill brook. He was a son of Daniel Warner, one of the proprietors of Mattatuck, whose widow continued to reside in Waterbury. He built his house prior to 1708, and April 10th, 1709, his wife, Mary Andrus, died, being the first white person buried in the town. She was interred at Pine

Hill April 11th, 1709. He died in September, 1713, being one of the last victims of the great sickness of that and the previous year. They had sons named Samuel, Ebenezer and Abraham, who became early settlers in this part of the county. In 1738 the former sold the old homestead, and there have since been many owners of the property. In 1783 it was owned by Lemuel Hoadley.

Joseph Lewis, who came to Waterbury from Simsbury about 1700, and married Sarah, daughter of Abraham Andrus, sister of the wife of Daniel Warner, Jr., also settled in what is now Nau-gatuck, coming about 1713. He was probably the first settler west of the river, where he was one of the most active in developing that part of the town. Before his death he became a large land owner, having in all about 900 acres. His descendants became very numerous, many of them living in what was called Lewistown, in the southwestern part of the town. Joseph Lewis was a cloth weaver by trade, and was one of the most respected and substantial men in the town of Waterbury. About 1720 he loaned the town a sum of money to settle a judgment against it in favor of the town of Wallingford, and for that favor he was granted 80 acres of land on Towantic brook. He died November 29th, 1749, and his oldest son, Joseph, also died of the prevalent sickness that year. Another son, Thomas, born in 1716, graduated at Yale in 1741 and became a Congregational minister. Samuel, the youngest son, was the first deacon of the church in Salem, and was a justice of the peace from 1771 to 1787. In 1748 all the land in the Lewis neighborhood was owned by Joseph Lewis and his sons, John and Samuel. In 1888 70 families lived in that locality, not one of which bore the name of Lewis.

Among others who came about the same time as the foregoing was John Barnes, who bought land on the road leading from Union City to the New England railroad depot early in the fall of 1712, and settled there the following year. Later he owned large tracts on Hop brook. Of his five children four died in the great sickness of 1749. He died in 1763. His surviving child married Ebenezer Johnson, of Derby, and the property was long known by his name. In 1790 it passed to Reverend Mr. Fowler.

In the southern part of the town Thomas Richards built a house about 1714, on land which he had acquired half a dozen years earlier. He died in 1726, and 20 years later the property passed to Amos Osborn.

In July, 1720, James Brown, of New Haven, bought a tract of land of the Samuel Hickox estate, which was on the east side of the old county road and south of the present B. M. Hotchkiss place. The following year he was appointed the first tavern keeper in the town. He was also the first churchman in Waterbury, and from that fact and that he deemed himself a man of some importance, he was derisively called Bishop Brown. In 1737 he sold out to Josiah Terrell, of Milford, and removed to Westbury.

Ebenezer Hickox, one of the sons of Samuel Hickox, the first settler, located on the lot which later became the May place. He sold out to the Rew family in 1732, and in 1744 Josiah Terrel also became the owner of this property. He gave it to his son, Moses, who was the father of Irijah Terrell. The latter built on it the commodious house which became a tavern and which was used as an inn until after the building of the Watertown turnpike along the river.

Samuel, Edmund and John Scott, sons of Edmund Scott, Jr., of Waterbury, who had been allotted lands along Scott's or Towantic brook, were among the early prominent settlers of that region, much of it being in the Millville section. Samuel Scott also owned land on the side of Strait's mountain, which he gave to his son, Gideon, in 1752. In 1785 Gideon Scott had a house where is now the intersection of Scott and Cross streets, and where, in 1843, George Hoadley erected a new dwelling, using the old cellar wall. For many years this Scott family was very numerous in that part of the town.

Obadiah Scott, of another family, being a son of George Scott, was admitted as a bachelor proprietor in 1713, and in 1716 he had a house in the southern part of the town, east of the one erected by Thomas Richards. He died in 1735, and after being owned by his sons, most of the land later passed to Amos Osborn, whose descendants still occupy a part of it.

Another early settler at Judd's Meadow and along Towantic brook was Samuel Warner, who here received a bachelor's lot in 1712 and more land in 1715, some of it extending up Strait's mountain. Other lands along the brook made this one of the largest farms in those days. He died in 1741. From this family descended Stephen Warner, who was well known in Naugatuck as one of the most skillful malleable iron workers of his time.

Near the present Millville school house Daniel Williams, commonly called "Dan" Williams, made substantial improvements before 1740. He died in 1754, and his son, Daniel, conveyed some of the land to John Lewis, but descendants remained in that part of the town.

In the southwestern part of the old town of Waterbury John Andrus settled some time about 1724, becoming in the course of years a large land owner. He built a substantial house, which was mentioned in contemporary writings as late as 1814. Much of his land was conveyed to Nathaniel Gunn in 1733, and Andrus removed to Woodbury probably not long thereafter. In the same locality Joseph Lewis, Jr., son of Deacon Joseph Lewis, began the acquisition of land in 1728, and acquired real estate for twenty or more years, until he had large possessions. He owned, among other tracts, the land at Bradley's Corner, which bore for a time the name of Lewis' hill.

But the Gunns were for a number of years relatively more important than any other family in this part of the town. To such an extent had they absorbed every interest that the locality was called Gunn-

town, and members of the family were engaged in farming, milling, distilling, lumbering and merchandising. Nathaniel Gunn was the first of that name here. He purchased land of John Andrus in 1733, near Twelve Mile hill, and adjoining lands belonging to Ebenezer Warner, Joseph Lewis, Jr., Daniel Williams, John Weed, Jr., and David Judson. From these he subsequently purchased lands to enlarge his estate until he had more than 600 acres at the time of his death, in 1769. He married Sarah Wheeler in 1728, and among their sons were: Abel, Enos, Nathaniel and Jobamah, to whom was given a goodly estate, which they further increased until they were accounted very wealthy. Jobamah, especially, became a large land owner, so that in the list of 1791 he had 563 acres, part of which was used as a deer park. He built a house and furnished it in a style equalled only in cities of that period.

The Gunns were churchmen and were suspected of disloyalty in the revolution; and Jobamah Gunn was charged with being one of the parties implicated in the kidnapping of Chauncey Judd.\* On the complaint of housing and feeding the kidnapping party he was fined \$1,800 in gold. Besides having fine farm buildings, the family of Enos Gunn, near the close of the last century, put up a brick storehouse at Gunntown, in which Larmon Townsend, a son-in-law, merchandised many years, until he removed to Middlebury Center, after that town was formed. The brick building was demolished and some of the material was taken to Naugatuck village, where it was used in the erection of a hall. The Gunns, though once so numerous, are no longer here represented, and but few bearing that name live in the town.

In the extreme southwestern part of the town, on the summit of the beautiful Twelve Mile hill (formerly so called because it was twelve miles from Derby, now known as Huntington hill), which rises 900 feet above the sea and about 600 feet above the village of Naugatuck, a boundary stake was set May 18th, 1680. The committee on the part of Mattatuck were: William Judd, Thomas Judd and John Stanley, Jr. The latter appears to have been impressed with the beauty of this location, for about 1687 he secured a grant of twelve acres on the summit of the hill. A tract of 100 acres was afterward here granted to Reverend Joseph Moss, the pastor of the Derby church, which was sold by his heirs in 1739 to Thomas, Joseph and Amos Osborn, three brothers, of New Haven, who descended from one of the first Osborns of that place. They afterward made division of the Stanley and Moss lands, and by making other purchases became large land owners.

They, also, were churchmen, and Thomas Osborn was, in 1742 one of the subscribers to a fund to erect the first Episcopal church in Waterbury. In 1753 Daniel Osborn, another brother, bought the

\* See History of Bethany.



Jonas Weed place, on the northeast side of the hill. His son, Abraham, was the pioneer settler of Osborntown, buying land there as early as 1758, and later secured some of the Edmund Scott lands, allotted as early as 1723. He died in 1813. The Osborns had many descendants, some still remaining in that locality.

In the eastern part of the town the principal landowner and settler was Stephen Hopkins. He bought land at Judd's Meadow as early as 1723, but most of his future purchases were on the elevated tract of land which is known to this day as Hopkins' hill. Here Stephen Hopkins owned a tract of land, in 1757, which embraced more than 959 acres and extended from the south branch of Fulling Mill brook southward, at its extreme length, one and seven-eighths miles. In places it was more than a mile wide and had a very irregular shape, there being 23 angles, every one of which was marked with the letters "S. H." Before his death, in 1769, his estate in what is now Naugatuck was more than 1,000 acres.

Stephen Hopkins was the grandson of John Hopkins, of Hartford, where he settled in 1636, and a son of Stephen Hopkins, who built the first mill in Waterbury about 1680. He was a brother of John Hopkins, the miller of Mattatuck. Stephen Hopkins was born in 1689 and in 1717 married Susanna Peck, of Wallingford. Their sons, who attained manhood, were John, Stephen, Joseph and David. Their daughters married into the Bronson, Royce and Johnson families. Some of the descendants of Stephen Hopkins' family attained great distinction in the professions in which they engaged. A grandson, Samuel Miles Hopkins, born in the Salem Society in 1772, received the degree of LL.D. from Yale College in 1828, and his son, also Samuel Miles, became a doctor of divinity, by a degree of Amherst College, in 1854.

Doctor Lemuel Hopkins, the third son of Stephen, was born in 1750 and before his death in 1801, was one of the most distinguished physicians of the state. He was also a writer of great force, but published very little over his own name. About 1784 he removed from Waterbury to Hartford. Many other branches of the Hopkins families were noted for their good qualities as citizens and the name is one of the most honorable in the town.

Other honored and early prominent settlers were the Hoadleys, the Wards and others, whose names appear in accounts elsewhere given of the fathers of the town's history.

Originally Waterbury extended south along the Naugatuck to the Derby line. From the north of that town Oxford and Bethany were set off, but the Naugatuck region was long known as the "South Farms," and the inhabitants traveled many miles to attend meetings at Waterbury. Tiring of this they petitioned, April 22d, 1765, for liberty for four months winter preaching. Against this desire of 46 persons Samuel Porter, living in what later became Prospect, protested May 15th, 1765, because a division would make the old society too

weak and that it was sinful for the "South Farmers" to shirk their obligations to attend service at Waterbury. His scruples were respected and when the district line was run for winter preaching his farm was left outside of the limits. This provisional or winter parish was four by seven miles in extent. Having enjoyed the fruits of self rule to this extent, a movement was set on foot to form a permanent parish which should embrace four by six miles of the southern part of old Waterbury. Against this petition of November 13th, 1771, 39 of the inhabitants of that section, which later became Prospect, set themselves in opposition, claiming that while it was too far to attend meetings at Waterbury, they could no better be accommodated at the "South Farms," but that they should have a society of their own. The matter was referred to a legislative committee which reported, and the incorporation of Salem Society followed, as will be seen by this record:

"May, 1773, upon the memorial of Gideon Hicox, of Waterbury, in the county of New Haven, and others praying for society privileges, Bushnell Bostwick, Thomas Darling and James Wadsworth were appointed a committee in October last, who have reported that it is convenient and necessary that a distinct ecclesiastical society be made and constituted within the following limits: Beginning at a rock near the road from the Town Plat at Waterbury to New Haven, distant from the meeting house in Waterbury two miles, one-half a mile and sixty rods, called the 'Mile Rock' to Wallingford line; thence in said line to the tree called the 'Three Brothers;' thence south to the Beacon Gap; thence to the southeast corner of a farm formerly belonging to James Richards, lying on Beech Hill; thence west to the mouth of the Great Spruce Brook, on the west side of the Naugatuck river; thence keeping the Brook westwardly to the mouth of the Brook that comes off from Red Oak Hill; thence north-westwardly to the place where Moss Road crosses Derby line; thence northwardly in said road to Enos Gunn's dwelling house; thence a north line so far as to intersect a west line from said 'Mile Rock.'

"Which report is accepted and approved. Whereupon, it is resolved by the Assembly that the inhabitants living within the aforesaid limits be and they are hereby made and constituted a distinct Ecclesiastical Society, with all the Privileges, Powers and Immunities to such Societies usually belonging in this Colony, and shall be known and called by the name of Salem.

"Passed in the Lower House.

*Test.* W. M. WILLIAMS, Clerk.

Concurred in the Upper House.

GEORGE WILLIS, Secretary."

Under the jurisdiction of this Salem ecclesiastical society, the inhabitants of this region lived many years, and later were parts of Waterbury and other adjoining towns, many years more, when sepa-

rate town privileges were prayed for and obtained, but not without opposition.

The old Salem Parish was incorporated as a town on the petition of William De Forest and others, dated February 16th, 1844, by an act of the May, 1844, session of the general assembly, to include "all the parts of the towns of Waterbury, Bethany and Oxford lying within the following limits, to wit: Beginning at the northeast corner of the Society of Salem, in the town of Waterbury, where the same adjoins the northwest corner of Prospect, and thence running southerly by the line of the said Society to the town of Bethany, at a point called the 'Three Brothers,' thence by said Society line southerly to the southeast corner of said Society, at a point in Bethany called Beacon Gap, and thence westerly in said town of Bethany in a straight line to Naugatuck River, at the mouth of Spruce Brook; thence northwesterly, in the line of said Society in the town of Oxford to Burtis' Corner, thence northerly in the line of the said Society as it now runs, to the northwest corner of said Society to the place of beginning, with all the inhabitants residing thereon, be, and the same are hereby incorporated into a distinct town by the name of Naugatuck."

The new town was entitled to one representative. The first meeting was held on the public green, on Church street, and John Peck moderated, when the following officers were chosen: Clerk, Charles S. Peck; selectmen, Ransom Culver, Enos Osborne, Burton Sperry; treasurer, Isaac S. Johnson; town agent, Charles Nettleton; treasurer of deposit fund, Hiel S. Stevens; tything men, Francis Webster, Orrin Hotchkiss, Monroe Serrells, Enos Hopkins, William H. Tomlinson, G. O. Hotchkiss; surveyors of highways, William H. Hine, Samuel Osborne, Enos Hopkins, Gideon O. Hotchkiss, Jonathan Scott, John Hopkins, Laurence S. Lewis, Joseph O. Kane, Bennett Candee, Leverett Osborne, Bela Atwater, E. M. Payne.

The regular election in October, 1844, was also held on the green, between the Episcopal and the Congregational churches, and the first principal officers were reëlected. A tax of six cents on the dollar was voted. The selectmen were to be allowed one dollar per day for their services, and a building for the use of the town was leased of Davidson & Goodwin.

From the organization of the town until 1889 the clerks have been: 1844-6, Charles S. Peck; 1847-59, Gustavus Spencer; 1860, Edwin W. Brainard; 1861, E. P. Thompson; 1862-70, Charles M. Clark; 1871-3, George D. Bissell; 1874-7, Lauren S. Beardsley; 1878-84, J. F. Garrison; 1885-6, George D. Bissell; 1887-8, Henry C. Baldwin, S. S. Scott, assistant clerk; 1889, Arthur W. Kane, James E. Sweeney, assistant clerk.

The Naugatuck Probate District was created in 1863. David Smith was the judge, serving six years. Samuel Hopkins was the next judge, for a few years, when David Smith served again, eight

years. In 1881, George D. Bissell was elected judge, succeeded the next term by John M. Sweeney. In 1885-6, Samuel Seeley Scott was the judge, his successor being the present efficient incumbent, Judge John M. Sweeney.

The town hall was built in 1882. The agitation of the matter which led to the erection of the hall was begun in December, 1877, when B. B. Tuttle, Samuel Hopkins, Hiel S. Stevens, Patrick Conran, G. M. Allerton, James S. Lewis, Patrick Brennan, William O. Lewis and F. B. Tuttle were appointed a committee to report on this subject. They recommended, January 7th, 1878, that a two-story hall, 58 by 93 feet, be built of brick, with trimmings of granite and Ohio sandstone, and estimated the cost of the building at \$19,000. The report was acted on, and February 18th, 1878, it was voted to purchase the Lewis & Whittemore lot, on the northeast corner of Church and Maple streets. A delay took place and nothing effective was done until June 28th, 1880, when the following building committee was authorized: Bronson B. Tuttle, George M. Allerton, Charles A. Ensign, B. M. Hotchkiss, Homer Twitchell, Hiel S. Stevens, Thomas Conran and Harry S. Hotchkiss. Plans prepared by Architect L. B. Valk, of New York city, were adopted and the cost was estimated at \$30,000. In February, 1881, the lot was enlarged by the purchase on the north of five more feet of land. The hall was completed in July, 1882, at a total cost of \$54,000. The lower story is fitted up for offices and a spacious court room, while the main part of the upper story forms an auditorium, having a seating capacity for 850 people. The building has a private water supply and is one of the most creditable public buildings in the county for the cost.

The town farm is one-half a mile west from the center, on the Millville road, and consists of 110 acres. When purchased, in 1861, there was an old saw mill on the place. It is maintained at an expense of about \$3,000 per year, and the receipts from the farm are about \$1,800 per year. More than 30 inmates are admitted annually.

Among the thoroughfares of the town, the ' Straits ' turnpike long held a most important place. It took, to a large extent, the place of the old County or New Haven road, which was opened about 1700, and whose general course was on high or hilly ground. The turnpike was built about 100 years later, and followed the course of the old highway only where it was advantageous to do so. Below Salem bridge it left the hills and, crossing the river, bore to the northwest, to Watertown. On the east side of the river the Waterbury turnpike was built, forming a junction with the above at the Salem bridge, and it became a popular road which, as a public highway, is well kept up to this day. The Humphreysville & Salem turnpike was built in 1825 and vacated in 1853. It extended along the east side of the river from Seymour to its intersection with the Straits turnpike, below Salem

bridge. This road is also well kept up, and the entire highway along the east side of the stream forms a delightful drive.

The first bridge at Naugatuck was a little more than 100 rods above the present one, being somewhat lower than the present dam. On the hill, near where the road from the west entered it, was Daniel Beecher's inn. The old Salem bridge was replaced with a fine iron structure, completed in 1883, and having a span of 185 feet. The cost was about \$15,000. A good iron bridge was authorized to be built in 1891 at Union City, in place of the old wooden structure.

The Naugatuck railroad was built through the town in 1849 and stations have been located at Naugatuck and Union City. At the former place new buildings were put up in 1890. The New England railway, built through the northwest part of the town, in 1881, has a way station in Naugatuck.

Naugatuck owes its development and to a large extent its existence as a corporate body to the manifold manufacturing interests within its bounds. These have changed it from a poor agricultural section to one of the richest, most active parts of the county. Here have been, in turn, industries which have caused the town to be the center of those interests, as button making and cutlery production; and the later manufacture of rubber goods and malleable iron ware has given Naugatuck an extended reputation. The fine water power of some of the minor streams first attracted attention from the ordinary pursuits, and their successful improvement revealed the possibility of making the town a manufacturing point. A further improvement, after modern methods, and the utilization of the waters of the river were crowned with such rich results that the destiny of the town long since became apparent. This was further assured by the building of the railway, in 1849, and the liberal employment of the power of steam, which have enlarged the capabilities of a naturally advantageous location, until but few places of its size have industries already so important and which are being still further expanded.

The first improvement of this nature was on Fulling Mill brook, east of Union City, on which were also some of the other early industries. It was a fulling mill, put up by Samuel Hickox, soon after his settlement in 1703. It appears that it was afterward changed into a grist mill, and as such it was conveyed by Ebenezer Hickox to Hezekiah Rew, in 1737. James Baldwin was a later owner, who disposed of it to William Hoadley, of Branford, in 1752. Besides the mill, there was a tract of land of 200 acres, extending down the river, as far as Hillside Cemetery. Later the owners were Jared Byington and his sons, Jesse and Isaac, who had then, about 1800, a trip hammer for drawing nail iron, having a shop on the hill near by, in which half a dozen men were employed in heading them. In 1808, the New Haven & Baltimore Button Company secured a part of the property

and carried on the manufacture of metal buttons. Sometime about 1812, Amasa Goodyear, who had been with the above company, took the shops and manufactured round-tined forks, cast buttons, molasses gates, etc. He was very ingenious and a splendid mechanic, but not a practical business man, hence this venture did not continue many years. He was the father of Charles Goodyear, the inventor of vulcanized rubber. About this time, the grist mill was given up, and the other buildings were devoted to other uses.

About 1842, Lampson Isbell and Clark Warner removed to this place from Naugatuck village, and engaged in the manufacturing of wool carding machinery, being succeeded, in 1852, by the Naugatuck Machine Company, a corporation which embraced Warner and Isbell. In the same period, Samuel and Nelson Newell used part of the building in the manufacture of light rubber goods, but removed to Springfield, Mass. The Machine Company was last engaged on general work, under the management of Mr. Isbell, and suffered the loss of its building by fire. The site was last occupied by the Shepard Manufacturing Company, formed in 1886, to build engines, pumps, etc. But after a year's operation the machinery was removed and the first improved power in town has since been idle.

The second improvement was at Gunntown, now Millville, soon after the revolution, when Jobamah Gunn there put up mills and a small iron furnace, getting his ore from the western part of the state. He also forged blooms but did not operate long, as he got into financial straits. The mill, however, was kept up, and the power was used, later, for other purposes. In 1854, the Naugatuck Wheel Company was established here, and in 1867, some of the buildings were burned down. Since that time small lumber mills and wood working shops have been carried on in this locality.

Near the same time, about 1786, Samuel Scott built a mill on the brook at its lowest power, which, after the location of the highway by it, in 1788, became an important interest, for those times, in what is now the village of Naugatuck. Jesse Wooster was a later owner, and in 1825 he made an exchange of it with William De Forest, who owned the next power above, for that site. The latter had been improved, after 1810, by Enos C. Candee, for small clothing works, which were later carried on by Leverett Candee, his son, but became the property of William De Forest in 1820, who had Silas Grilly as his associate, in 1822. Upon the removal of his woolen machinery, the buildings were converted into shops for the manufacture of eight-day clocks, by Jesse Wooster, Francis Spencer, Giles Hotchkiss and others. Later the rubber works were here located and the power was much improved.

William De Forest also improved the lower power and enlarged the building for his clothing works, in which woolen and satinet goods were made. Becoming embarrassed De Forest sold to Thomas Lewis,

who built a new mill in place of the burned one, which, in turn, was also destroyed by fire. The stone part of the present plant was now built by Lewis and others, and other improvements were later added by them.

In the summer of 1880 the plant passed to the Dunham Hosiery Company, organized for the manufacture of hosiery, stockinet, worsted and woolen goods. The incorporators were Austin C. Dunham and seven others, all living in Hartford except Dwight P. Mills, the resident manager. The company has since operated the mills and is giving employment to many persons.

On the Great or Fulling Mill brook have been many industries, some very important in their day. At its head, at Russell's pond, in Prospect, the Russell family made bone buttons, and the next power below, in Naugatuck, was used in the same way, by Amos Ellis. Later cloth covered buttons were made there by Harris and Robert Isbell, but both shops have long been closed.

The next power below was utilized by William S. Keely and others as the Union Suspender & Scrof Company, organized in 1867. A large stone factory was built, which has long since been idle, as the industry flourished but a short time.

At the next lower power many industries were carried on, one of the first being wire drawing, in a shop where were Wooster & Judd. Later there was here the button factory of Horace Smith and Edwin Hopkins, which became the Smith & Hopkins Manufacturing Company, in 1848, and had, as later owners, Eldridge Smith, Enos Hopkins and E. S. Wheeler. They made cloth covered buttons and employed from 50 to 80 hands. In 1861 they removed to Westport, when a man by the name of Kirk occupied the building in web making. Later James Bird here made a patent pulley and in 1890 the plant was used by John Bird and the Connecticut Button Works.

The power next below was also improved to operate a button shop, by David Hopkins and Rufus Russell, bone buttons being made. Later silk twist was there spun, and afterward Matthew Anderson made stockinet goods. J. K. Godfrey used the building in making brass and German silver thimbles, in which industry he was succeeded by the present proprietors, David and Herbert Pratt. They are English manufacturers of experience and employ automatic machinery in the production of many grades of fine thimbles.

Going lower down the stream the works of E. F. Smith & Son are approached. They are manufacturers of vegetable and ivory buttons and small brass goods. Clark Scott was an early occupant of this site and made tin buttons. John Bronson was there later, adding the making of brass buttons. Asahel Smith succeeded, in 1838, in here making bone buttons, by using a new process. Later he made vegetable ivory buttons, in a small way. In 1861, he was followed by his son, E. F., who built a new factory in 1866, 30 by 100 feet and several

stories high. Steam has been added to the water motor, and there is a power of more than 50 horses. From 30 to 40 hands are employed.

Still another button shop was established, at the next lower power, where Harry Smith made composition buttons, some time about 1825, but later turned them out of real ivory. The shop burned down, when E. C. Tuttle bought the property and improved the power by putting in a 40 foot overshot wheel, for use in his hoe shop, which he removed to this place from Prospect. He made a fine quality of goods and in 1851 he increased his capacity by forming the Tuttle Manufacturing Company, composed of himself, George Benedict, Thomas Lewis and others. This corporation in 1877 had a capital of \$100,000 and real estate valued at \$38,000. At that time Calvin H. Carter was the president and George D. Bissell the secretary. A large business was done for many years in the manufacture of farming tools and implements.

After a time, E. C. Tuttle withdrew and formed a new company, which had among its members E. C. Tuttle, L. S. Hinman, Stephen Warner, Enos Hopkins, Frank Howard and J. H. Whittemore. Warner was a practical malleable iron maker, coming to Naugatuck from Straitsville. The goods of the new company were also of a superior make, and the Tuttle brand everywhere commended them. The works were on the raceway in the village of Naugatuck, on the site of the lower rubber works. From that enterprise have sprung the extensive malleable iron works at Union City, embracing a number of very large and well arranged brick buildings and machinery moved by powerful steam engines. Many varieties of malleable goods are made, and hundreds of men are employed.

The Tuttle & Whittemore Company was incorporated in 1871. Nine years later the capital was increased from \$30,000 to \$60,000, and in 1887 to \$100,000. The principal directors for years have been J. H. Whittemore, B. B. Tuttle and Willard Hopkins.

The old plant of E. C. Tuttle, on Fulling Mill brook, having been unused some time, was occupied by the Connecticut Cutlery Company, formed in 1866 of B. B. Tuttle, J. H. Whittemore, L. D. Warner, Homer Twitchell and others, the two last named being the manager and superintendent. Pocket cutlery and shears were manufactured and from this time on, for a number of years, Naugatuck was a great cutlery center. In 1869 the interest of L. B. Taylor, of Chicopee, was merged with that of the company, and Taylor became the manager. In 1877 the principal stockholders were Whittemore, Tuttle, Warner and George A. Lewis. At one time 150 cutlers were employed. The company discontinued about 1880, and the plant was soon after occupied by the Gifford Manufacturing Company, organized to manufacture shears and edged tools. After several years operation the business was suspended and the works have since been idle.

Below this place, on the same brook, were the works of the Union Knife Company, organized in 1851. At that time Enos Hopkins was



the principal owner, but John A. Peck later held a majority part of the stock and was the president. In 1877 F. H. Harris became a member and was elected president. Andrew Hills was the superintendent many years. Pocket cutlery only was made. In February, 1885, the works burned down and have not been rebuilt.

In addition to the foregoing interests, on Fulling Mill brook were, as early as 1807, the button shops of Samuel Grilly, on the South branch. Here, later, Horace Smith had a button shop in which a dozen men were employed. Near the lower end of the main stream George Smith was the last occupant of another button shop; and at the lowest power, Letson Terrell had another button and thimble shop. He removed the latter interest to the Pratt shops and in 1876 Homer Twitchell became the owner of the property, which he improved for the manufacture of umbrella and parasol trimmings. In 1880 the manufacture of the Linsley Safety Pin—an all wire pin—was added and large quantities are produced. Recently Frank M. Twitchell has been associated, the firm becoming H. Twitchell & Son. Fifty persons are employed.

The power of the Naugatuck was not so early utilized. In 1824 Daniel Beecher sold the privilege to Chauncey Lewis and Silas Grilley, and a dam was built whose power was used by them in the manufacture of gilt buttons. Milo Lewis was later interested. Sylvester Clark purchased the place and made clocks on a large scale. He sold out to John Tatlow, a machinist, who here manufactured weaving and carding machinery and later that interest was taken by the Naugatuck Machine Company at Union City. Lyman Bradley occupied the site, later, in making pocket cutlery. Other interests occupied the powers before they were finally taken by the Rubber Works. Among these were carriage works and the Naugatuck Wheel Company, incorporated in 1878, and which moved to Wallingford in 1879. The Allerton Iron Works Manufacturing Company, organized in 1868, after a few years operation, removed to Norwalk, Conn.

The lower power on the river was improved by Richard Ward, who built a small dam and fitted up a barn for a clock factory. In 1832 it was burned. He now built a small shop, higher up the stream, and made eight day brass clocks, having as an associate Sylvester Clark, a very skillful clock maker. They were succeeded by Lauren Ward, who invented pin and tack making machinery. In 1866 another son, William, was associated and the firm has since been L. & W. Ward, manufacturers of novelty goods.

The Naugatuck Cutlery Company was organized in 1872 and a well ordered plant was established at Cotton Hollow, on Beacon Hill brook, where operations have since been carried on. In 1877 the company was composed of G. B. Twitchell, E. B. Mallette, John H. Twitchell, Isaac G. and Elton E. Hotchkiss. The capital was \$16,000 and the company had real estate valued at \$12,000. Large quantities of fine

pocket cutlery were made, the product some years reaching 40,000 knives. In 1886 the property passed to Joseph Schofield, who has since operated the factory, which has a yearly output of \$20,000 worth of goods.

In March, 1886, I. L. Trowbridge established a paper box factory, at Smith's Lane, Union City, which has been moved to the village of Naugatuck. In the winter of 1888 it was sold to White & Wells, the proprietors in 1890. Thirty employees are given occupation.

The Diamond Laboratory Company was organized in 1888 and commenced operations in connection with the Diamond Bottling Works, of J. O. May, established in 1881. A large building near Hop brook is occupied and a full line of marshmallow preparations are made. J. O. May is the manager of the company, which employs a score of persons.

But the main industry of the town for many years has been the manufacture of rubber goods, under license of the Goodyear patents. The leading companies operating here have been very successful and have established plants which cover many acres, and in which are employed thousands of men. In the main part of the village much of the area has been given up to that line of manufacture.

The Naugatuck India Rubber Company, incorporated in 1844, was the pioneer organization; and the present Goodyear Metallic Rubber Shoe Company has become one of the largest corporations of the kind in the country. Its first organization was effected in the month of January, 1845, and the original capital was \$30,000. In 1882 it was reported ten fold that amount, and there was real estate valued at \$50,000. In 1890 the capital stock was \$1,000,000. Samuel J. Lewis was president of the company until his death, in 1858, when he was succeeded by James E. English, who held that office until his death, in March, 1890. After that time the directory was composed of George A. Lewis, E. A. Lewis, Bronson B. Tuttle and Henry F. English.

The company's original works were on Scott brook, in the western part of the village, but it has expanded until three separate plants are occupied, two in that locality and the third near the center of Naugatuck village. This fine plant was erected in 1886. Water power has been supplemented by steam, there being in 1890, a combined power equal to 2,000 horses. Most of the buildings are of brick, and afford a working capacity for 2,000 hands. When fully operated, the daily product is 25,000 pairs of boots and shoes.

The Goodyear India Rubber Glove Company was established at Litchfield, in 1844, but removed to Naugatuck in 1847, where it became a corporate body with the above name. Brazilla Arntz, the founder of the company, was chosen president and Gustavus and Francis Spencer were also interested. The capital was but \$5,000 and the company did not prosper much. For the first two years the operations were carried on in a building on Rubber avenue, when a small

shop was secured on the south side of Maple street. Gloves, mittens and finger cots were the principal products. In 1852 the foregoing sold out to L. T. Bergen and others, whose capital was \$25,000. In 1856 George M. Allerton became the president of the company and B. M. Hotchkiss the superintendent, and under their direction the corporation attained most of its large proportions. The former died in December, 1882, when J. D. Vermeule, the present president, was elected, and also serves as treasurer, succeeding, in the latter office, R. G. Allerton, the treasurer from 1860 until his death in 1877. Since January, 1883, B. M. Hotchkiss has been the vice-president, and George M. Allerton, Jr., the secretary. F. F. Schaffer is the superintendent, serving since 1885. The capital of the company has been increased to \$300,000.

In 1882 the Goodyear Rubber Manufacturing Company was organized with an authorized capital of \$100,000, and having substantially the same directory as the foregoing company, its interests have been identical. In the same year these corporations purchased the plant on the north side of Maple street, where had been the Union Rubber Company, composed of Charles B. Hotchkiss, Thomas Lewis, Milo Lewis and others. The products were mostly rubber clothing. In 1859 the works were burned and the interest was transferred to Harlem, N. Y. The site next passed into the hands of the Phoenix Rubber Company, organized in 1862, with Warren Ackerman president, and John Sweet superintendent, and that company erected a part of the brick buildings now used. During the war operations were successfully carried on in the manufacture of army goods, but, later, business was suspended. The plant then lay idle until it passed to the present ownership. The buildings have been much enlarged and the entire plant has been well equipped for its various uses. Steam and water power, to an aggregate of 690 horse power, are used.

To the original products were added the manufacture of many varieties of goods—blankets in 1862, horse goods in 1865, boots and shoes in 1878 and many specialties later. These are manufactured in three departments, devoted to boots and shoes, clothing, general and druggists' goods. The number of hands employed approximates one thousand.

The Beacon Valley Rubber Company was incorporated in July, 1885, to manufacture India rubber clothing. The capital was \$20,000. E. H. Carrington was the president and R. M. Smith the secretary of the company. A building on Beacon Hill brook was occupied until business was suspended.

Straitsville is a hamlet in the southwestern part of the town, on the Beacon Hill brook, where the Straitsville turnpike passes along its course. Near by the road passes through a gap in the hills, barely wide enough for a passageway for the brook and the road. The cliffs on both sides are lofty and one point projects in a conspicuous man-

ner. Fifty years ago the hamlet was a lively place of business, and on the brook, to its confluence with the Naugatuck, were many industries, nearly all of which have passed away. The Collins tavern at Straitsville was a favorite stopping place for travelers along the turnpike. About 1825 Collins built a store near his tavern, and in it the Straitsville post office was opened. The office has been discontinued, and the store was destroyed by fire. About 1874 a Union chapel was built in the hamlet, which has since been used by various denominations. There are also some mechanic shops and a school house.

The Collins family put up a grist mill on Beacon Hill brook about 1824, in which Edward Benham manufactured plumbago at a later period, and subsequently the building was used by the Renz Brothers, skillful workers in steel, as their shear works. It was burned in 1875, the loss being \$10,000. Also, about 1825, Milo Hine operated a trip-hammer on hoes and forks, employing from six to ten men. About 1840 Eben Tuttle here forged the iron for his hoes, which he finished at his shop in Prospect, so operating until his removal to Union City.

In 1839 Colonel Alvin Sperry and others started small malleable iron works at Straitsville, which were burned in 1845. At that place were engaged in that industry Stephen Warner and others, skilled in that art, whose labors were later made more effective in the malleable works at Union City.

In the cooerage of Asa Hine many persons were employed, and there was also a small carriage spring factory. Collins, Hine & Bradley had a clock factory prior to 1828, and F. B. Hine had a wood carving shop to prepare clock cases; but the former was discontinued about 1835.

On the old county road, toward Naugatuck, Elihu Benham had a tannery about 1812, and in 1828 Benham & Brown opened a store near the same place. Not far from this place Matthew Baldwin had a pioneer linseed oil mill; and later, near the same place, Richard Ward, James Sherman and Marshall Baldwin put up another oil mill, about 1820, but it was not long operated. After other uses Robert Renz improved the privilege after his shear works had been burned at Straitsville, in 1875, and here carried on that industry until his death, about 1880. Five years later the Beacon Valley Rubber Company occupied the place, but after a few years the buildings were burned and the power was not again used. Lower down the brook, in 1819, Josiah Culver used an old school house as a novelty factory, but that power is also abandoned.

At Cotton Hollow, the lowest power on Beacon Hill brook, a paper mill was built and operated by Charles Goodyear and Burr Benham. In 1833 Milo Lewis converted it into a cotton warp factory, and as such it was later operated by Thomas Lewis. The building was destroyed by fire, but the power is now utilized by the Naugatuck Cutlery Company.

Naugatuck Village, the principal business center of the town, is an important station on the Naugatuck railroad. It is pleasantly located on both sides of the Naugatuck river, and with Union City, a mile further up the stream, forms one of the most thriving manufacturing places in the state. Its growth and general improvement, the past few years especially, have added much to its beauty and prosperity. There are many fine streets, good sidewalks, handsome public buildings, substantial business blocks, a number of elegant residences and hundreds of more humble homes, built in modern styles of architecture. The population is several thousand and is steadily increasing. Most of the growth has been since the era of manufactures, and since the place bears the name of Naugatuck. For a hundred years prior to that time the locality bore the name of Salem Bridge. The following are the chief interests, aside from the manufactories before named:

The Naugatuck Savings Bank and Building Association was organized in 1853. Its officers were David Smith, president; Enos Hopkins, vice-president; Gustavus Spencer, secretary and treasurer; Homer Twitchell, William F. Goulding, Stephen W. Kellogg, Hiel S. Stevens, Eli Nichols, Timothy Langdon and George H. Hoadley, directors. Quite a fair amount of business was transacted, when the legislature annulled the charter in 1858, and the affairs of the association were closed up by George Hine and John A. Peck, as commissioners.

The Naugatuck Savings Bank was next organized under a charter granted in 1870, with J. L. Isbell, president; Francis Spencer, vice-president; A. J. Pickett, secretary and treasurer; J. H. Whittemore, John A. Peck, A. J. Pickett, Luther S. Platt and David Smith, trustees; L. D. Warner and George A. Lewis, auditors. Luther S. Platt succeeded Pickett as treasurer, and the bank was kept at his office. In July, 1885, A. H. Dayton was elected secretary and treasurer, and the bank was removed to its present office in the town hall. April 1st, 1890, the total assets of the bank were \$409,822.38, of which amount more than \$15,000 was in the surplus and undivided profits. The officers of the bank in 1890 were: President, Hiel S. Stevens; vice-presidents, Willard Hopkins and L. S. Beardsley; treasurer, A. H. Dayton; trustees, Homer Twitchell, J. H. Whittemore, William Ward, D. P. Mills, L. D. Warner.

The Naugatuck National Bank was organized September 10th, 1883, with a capital of \$100,000. An office was opened in the Town Hall, where this institution has since maintained a prosperous existence. At the end of the year 1889 the bank had a total resource of more than half a million of dollars, and its surplus fund amounted to \$24,000. Its affairs were ably managed in 1890 by a board of directors, composed of George A. Lewis, president; F. W. Tolles, vice-president; A. H. Dayton, cashier; Homer Twitchell, F. B. Tuttle, E. H. Carrington and D. P. Mills.

The Naugatuck Electric Light Company was chartered April 16th,

1887, with a capital of \$15,000 and the following directors: L. D. Warner, president; A. H. Dayton, treasurer; A. M. Young, B. B. Tuttle, E. H. Carrington and F. W. Tolles. A plant of the Thomson-Houston system was established in the rear of Meadow street and, June 1st, 1887, the first arc light was successfully illuminated. Since January, 1888, L. S. Beardsley has been the secretary and manager of the company, which had, in the summer of 1890, real estate of the value of \$20,000 and lighted 20 arc and 450 incandescent lamps.

An earlier attempt at public lighting was made by the Naugatuck Gas Company, which was organized in 1862 and whose works were established on the east side of the river. After some changes the property passed to Frank Longfellow, but the enterprise did not prove satisfactory or profitable. Mains were laid on the principal streets, one of them crossing the river. The gas was of poor quality, and after a few years the works were damaged to such an extent by a flood in the river, that they were not restored.

The Naugatuck Water Company was organized in 1887, with an authorized capital of \$50,000. The first president of the company was Homer Twitchell, who was succeeded, in 1889, by L. D. Warner. S. S. Scott has been the secretary and treasurer of the company since its organization. In June, 1890, the company had improvements and property valued at \$83,157.85, and was successfully operating a system of water works which embraced eleven miles of 10-inch distributing mains, on which were 56 public hydrants, and supply pipes for several hundred services. The first flow of water was in September, 1889.

The works were located and constructed under the direction of Engineer T. H. McKenzie. A fine supply of pure, soft water is obtained from a point on Beacon Hill brook, three miles from the center of the village, where a storage reservoir was constructed. This has a capacity for more than seven million gallons and has an elevation 255 feet above the bridge, giving a pressure of 110 pounds to the square inch.

Consequent upon the water works was organized the Town Fire Department, under the general laws of the state, the same being authorized by a vote of the town May 14th, 1888. On the first of October, the same year, six fire commissioners were elected, namely: George H. Carroll, John E. Ryan, Dan. O. Darnell, E. A. Saunders, F. F. Schaffer and Patrick Brennan, who direct the affairs of the department. The commissioners have been authorized to purchase the necessary apparatus for the department, and a volunteer fire company has been formed to man it. The erection and use of 75 fire hydrants has also been authorized.

The Naugatuck Telephone Company was organized in 1879, by George M. Allerton and others, to build a telephone line from Waterbury to Naugatuck.

The periodical press of the town embraces three weekly papers

and several publications of occasional issue. The oldest of the former is the *Naugatuck Enterprise*, which was established November 9th, 1877, by Burton A. Peck, and it has since been conducted by him as an independent local paper. Originally it was a four page paper of 20 columns, but March 5th, 1885, it was enlarged to eight pages. In 1884 the office of the *Enterprise* was burned, but the paper was re-established in a new office on North Water street, which is also devoted to job work.

The *Naugatuck Review* was established in November, 1879, by J. H. Beale as editor and proprietor, being a 28 column folio. Soon after Fred. Wilder and later Henry C. Baldwin became associate editors. On the 4th of December, 1885, Beale's interest passed to the Naugatuck Printing & Publishing Company, whose stockholders were L. D. Warner, A. H. Dayton, E. A. Dorlan and William W. Works, and the latter two became the managers. In a few months Works retired and Dorlan alone managed the publication, the editors at different periods being S. M. Stone, C. Collard Adams, William C. Shepard, etc. In April, 1889, the *Review* was consolidated with the *Agitator* but, January 1st, 1890, it was re-established as an eight page, independent republican weekly.

The *Naugatuck Agitator* was founded in January, 1886, as a workingman's paper and was published on the co-operative plan by the Knights of Labor, having D. W. White as the editor. Henry C. Baldwin succeeded him as editor. At the end of another year, D. W. White and J. W. Gunn, as the Agitator Publishing Company, were the editors and proprietors, and so continued two years. In July, 1888, White sold his interest to E. R. Clyma, the firm now becoming J. W. Gunn & Co. In April, 1889, Clyma became the sole owner of the *Agitator* and on the 27th of that month, by a joint arrangement, the *Review* was consolidated with it and the papers were published as the *Naugatuck Citizen*. After September, 1889, Clyma was the sole publisher of the *Citizen*, and January 1st, 1890, the *Review* was revived by the old management. The *Citizen* is continued by E. R. Clyma as a weekly labor and independent local.

The *Parish Bulletin* has been issued since the fall of 1886, the publishers being the "Parish House Association." At first it appeared monthly, but after a few years the issues were less frequent, being a quarterly in 1890. It is devoted to the interests of the Congregational church at Naugatuck, and the pastor, Reverend W. F. Blackman, is the editor.

The post office was established with the name of Salem Bridge and continued with that title until August 21st, 1834, when the name was changed to Naugatuck. At this time Robinson S. Hinman was the postmaster, holding that position until he removed to New Haven, a few years later. Successive postmasters have been: John A. Peck, L. S. Spencer, Luther S. Platt, Alonzo Ward, G. D. Bissell and, since

May, 1889, L. S. Moulthrop. There is a fine place of business and the office has many mails per day, with a constantly increasing patronage.

Some time about 1721 James Brown kept the first public house in this locality. It was a small building, on the old county road, near the present B. M. Hotchkiss place, southeast of the village. The second tavern was farther north on the county road, on the site of the present May place. It was built by Irijah Terrell and was a well favored house until the county road gave place to the Straits, or Watertown turnpike, which was built at the base of the hill about 1800. Several years later Chauncey Lewis put up a part of the present Naugatuck Hotel, at the east end of the new Salem bridge. Here many landlords have entertained the public and the house has several times been repaired and enlarged. On the west side of the river, on the present B. B. Tuttle place, was the popular hostelry of Daniel Beecher, which he kept from 1797 until about 1834. He was a large farmer and also one of the principal men of the community. The house was large and for those days fine, and a good sign told the public that it was "D. Beecher's Inn." Baldwin Beecher succeeded his father as landlord, but after the railroad was built the inn became a residence and still stands near the old site. At both the above houses popular gatherings were held, as were also the occasional communications of the old Harmony Masonic Lodge of Waterbury.

On the "pike," above Beecher's Inn, was the toll gate kept by Francis Fouge, a French soldier or adherent of the Bonapartist cause, who had fled to this country. He was eccentric and had singular religious views, but was a great favorite among the young people. Upon his death he was interred in the Hillside Cemetery, the band playing dirges in place of having the customary exercises. John Arndt and John D. Grové were others of Napoleon's soldiers in this locality, and both died in the town. A recent movement to build a modern hotel will supply a want which has long been felt in this growing town.

The three corners at Maple and Main streets have long been devoted to mercantile purposes. Here have traded, among others, Josiah Culver, being in trade many years; Benjamin Dayton and Ezra Porter. The first store on the west side of the river was built about 1834 and was occupied by Henry Spencer and Asahel Lewis, who continued in trade about eight years. The firm also undertook to manufacture silk from native cocoons. Others of the Spencer family—Elihu, Stearns, Frank and Gustavus—were also well known tradesmen, the latter removing to New York. Andrews & Smith merchandised many years. Among the later tradesmen have been, E. H. Carrington, John A. Peck, E. E. Barnum, H. H. Patterson and F. W. Tolles, a number of whom have continued many years. Each department of trade has now many representatives and there are a number of good stores in the town.

At Union City, the Union Trading Company engaged in business



in 1853, L. S. Spencer being the manager. Since that time stores have been kept at that place and there is also a post office, these interests being, in 1890, in charge of Charles H. Smith.

One of the first stores in this town was at Bradley's corner, beyond Millville, on the road leading to Gunntown church (so called). It was kept by Larmon Townsend until about 1807. The building was of brick and on being taken down some of the bricks were carried to Naugatuck and used in the erection of Nichols' Block. In later years small stores have again been kept at Millville.

The first physician of whom any account has been preserved was Doctor Daniel Beekley, who lived in the Salem society prior to 1800, and was at this place probably a score of years. Doctor Nimrod Hull was also an early practitioner, and is remembered as a man of ability, but was so stern in his aspect that the young boys shunned his presence. He died in the town. Doctor Lucian Spencer, an able, popular man, was here prior to 1840, when he moved to Bethany, where he lost his life in the burning of his house in February, 1844. Doctor Timothy Langdon had here a good practice until his removal to New Haven, to which place Doctor Pierpont also removed. Doctors Norton, Bartlett and Brainard were located for short periods only. Doctor John D. Meers was for many years an active physician at Naugatuck, and died in the town. His son, E. S. Meers, was also a physician, who removed to the West. Doctor John D. Brundage also removed. Doctor F. B. Tuttle has been here many years and is one of the leading physicians of this part of the county. Contemporary with him, in 1890, were Doctors Edward Fitzgerald, C. E. Scott, Frederick Spring, A. J. Walsh and W. F. Hinckley. The latter is also a druggist. Others having drug stores are J. O. May and A. W. Kane.

Robinson S. Hinman was among the first located attorneys, coming from Southbury before 1830, and removing to New Haven. Morton J. Buell and Stephen W. Kellogg removed to Waterbury after having been at Naugatuck for several years. Charles A. Nettleton and George F. Gardiner removed to New York city, where the former became a very able lawyer. Others remained a few years only. George Hine has been an attorney at Naugatuck since 1860; Henry C. Baldwin since 1872; Burton A. Peck since 1873, and for less periods William Kennedy and Judge John M. Sweeney.

Of the many Lodges and societies which have been organized in the town, Shepherd's Lodge, No. 78, F. & A. M., ranks as the oldest and relatively as one of the most important.\* It was instituted in 1851, with 22 charter members. Since 1851 there have been but few years when there were less than ten admissions per year, and the aggregate mem-

\* Harmony Lodge, No. 42, was organized at the house of Daniel Beecher, at Salem Bridge, in 1797, and for many years its communications were alternately held in this town. The Lodge finally became permanent in Waterbury, and an account of it is given in the history of that town.

bership has been very large. In 1889 the number in active fellowship was reported as 173. The Lodge held its communications for many years in what is now Foresters' Hall, but for more than a dozen years has occupied the large and fine Masonic Hall on South Water street. The masters of Good Shepherd since its organization have been: Marshall Hoadley, 1851-2; Timothy Langdon, 1853-5; John A. Peck, 1856; Robert H. Isbell, 1857; David Smith, 1858; Eldridge Smith, 1859; David Smith, 1860; Homer Twitchell, 1861-2; David Smith, 1863; John S. Floury, 1864; Dwight W. Lewis, 1865; David Smith, 1866-7; Hubert H. Johnson, 1868-9; E. S. Terrell, 1870-2; John N. Beebe, 1873; Homer Twitchell, 1874; John N. Beebe, 1875; A. H. Brothers, 1876; B. A. Treat, 1877; H. S. Hotchkiss, 1878; Leon M. Woodford, 1879-80; William D. Middlebrook, 1881; John N. Beebe, 1882; M. S. Baldwin, 1883; J. F. Payne, 1884; H. E. Baldwin, 1885-6; William E. Schaffer, 1887-8; T. J. Northrop, 1889-90.

Allerton Chapter, No. 39, R. A. M., was instituted September 4th, 1876, and at the end of one year had more than 40 members. In the summer of 1890 the number was about 90. Among the principal officers were: Henry E. Baldwin, H. P.; Thomas J. Northrup, K.; Charles F. Landers, E. S.; L. B. Hoadley, T.; William E. Schaffer, S.; John Wood, P. S.

Centennial Lodge, No. 100, I. O. O. F., was instituted November 22d, 1876, with 10 charter members. Its history since that time has been one of growth and increasing interest. In 1890 about 100 persons claimed membership, and at its head were, as principal officers: A. W. Smith, N. G.; George H. Cowell, V. G.; H. H. O'Donnell, secretary; F. W. Tolles, treasurer; John Kirk, C. F. Hungerford, F. W. Tolles, trustees. The Lodge holds its meetings in the Whittemore Block, corner of Maple and Water streets.

Gavel Lodge, No. 10, K. of P., was organized a score of years ago at Naugatuck, but after about six years its meetings were suspended. But April 27th, 1887, on the application of 16 members, the Lodge was revived with the same name and number and has since flourished. In 1890 there were 75 members who met stately in Odd Fellows Hall.

In September, 1889, Scott Division, No. 10, of the First Connecticut Regiment Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, was organized of members of Gavel Lodge, and No. 10 had 30 men and the following officers in 1890: D. D. Gibbud, Sir K. C.; Charles Moss, 1st lieutenant; Henry Zooner, 2d lieutenant; S. S. Scott, K. secretary. Reverend J. W. Ellsworth, of the Gavel Lodge, is chaplain of the State Lodge, entering upon that office in 1890. The assembly of the Rank is in Barnum's Hall, on Church street.

Isbell Post, No. 43, G. A. R., was organized October 30th, 1874, with 34 charter members. There has been a membership of 75, but, in 1890, the number belonging was only 42. The Post was instrumental in the erection of the soldiers' monument and stately decorates the

graves of deceased comrades. Its place of meeting is in the Odd Fellow Block, and the Post commanders, in the order of their service, have been: George D. Squires, William H. Vredenburg, Rufus W. Lewis, Henry C. Baldwin, D. D. Gibbud, R. W. Lewis, Michael P. Coen, Henry E. Sears, Horace E. Jones, George Cragg.

In the same hall meets General Israel Putnam Camp, No. 35, Sons of Veterans, which was established March 20th, 1889, with 13 members. A number of members have since been added and there is a growing interest in the order.

A few years ago the Knights of Labor had several assemblies in the town and were about 700 strong, exerting a controlling influence in local political affairs. But this interest and large membership was not long maintained, but few having an active membership in that order in 1890.

A Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was instituted at Naugatuck, and December 3d, 1875, became a corporate body, with John M. Millidy, president; Thomas Conran, recording secretary; and 11 charter members. At one time there were 60 members, but a decreasing interest caused the Division to disband half a dozen years ago.

Court Unity, No. 5990, Ancient Order of Foresters, was incorporated February 14th, 1877, with 17 charter members. Its meetings are held in the hall of the order on Main street.

At Union City is the German Eintracht Lodge, No. 524, D. O. H., which has an interested membership. At the same place the German Maenorchor Society holds its meetings, being in a growing condition.

In Masonic Hall are held the meetings of Evergreen Chapter, No. 22, Order of the Eastern Star, which is reported flourishing and having an increasing membership.

One of the first complete reports on the schools of the town is that of 1857, from which the following statistics are gleaned:

Center District, composed of the old Districts Nos. 1 and 2, had 43 weeks of school per year, maintained at an expense of more than \$2,000. Enrollment 230 pupils.

Middle District, No. 3, had the same number of weeks, and there were but 15 pupils.

Millville, No. 4, had 36 weeks of school for its 35 pupils and the highest wages were \$18 per month.

Union City, No. 5, had 34 weeks of school, 71 pupils registered, a repaired and enlarged school house, and the total expenses were \$1,222.

Pond Hill, No. 6, had 32 weeks of school, 40 children in attendance and the expenses were \$157.

Straitsville, No. 7, had 36 weeks of school and 30 pupils enrolled.

In the entire town the enrollment for winter schools was 403, from which an average attendance of 390 pupils was secured. The cost of

maintenance was \$3,737.43. At this time the acting school visitors were C. S. Thomas, S. H. Smith and T. G. Carver.

In 1860 the high school of District No. 1 had 42 weeks of instruction; there was an attendance of 193 pupils and four teachers. This school cost the town nearly \$2,000. From 1863, for ten years, the principal was H. H. Johnson, who has since been identified with the educational interests of the town. His successor was S. C. Minor, and in 1875 E. B. Kellogg became the principal.

In 1876 another department was added to those already connected with the Center district, making seven in all, and the studies were graded from the primary to the higher mathematics and the classical languages. The Union City school had four departments and reported a new school house erected. The children enumerated were 872; registered, 663; and in attendance, 464. The entire school expense of the town was \$7,120. The examining committee this year was composed of Reverend J. L. Scott, Doctor F. B. Tuttle and Professor H. H. Johnson.

In 1877 Union district, at the Center, began its records, the committee being composed of B. A. Treat, J. W. Page and W. P. Coen.

In 1881 the town had six districts, nine school buildings, having 16 rooms and a seating capacity for 753 pupils.

In 1889 the schools of the town occupied 20 rooms, in which 23 teachers were employed. There were sittings for 919 pupils, and from the 1,252 pupils registered, there was secured an attendance, averaging for the year, 723. In Union Center the number registered was 694, and in Union City, 395. Of the latter schools, H. H. Johnson was the principal, with five assisting teachers. The total expense for all the schools in the town was \$11,356.21.

In the Union Center district there were 12 teachers, including the principal, W. W. Abbott, who has filled that position since 1888. His predecessors in that position have been: 1877, E. B. Kellogg; 1878-84, A. P. Mallory; 1885-7, George W. Wilbur. The schools are well graded and the scholarship of the high school has been advanced to a fine standard.

In 1889 a school house was completed on Rubber avenue, on the west side, at a cost of \$12,980; and it was voted to expend a like sum in putting up a suitable building on the east side.

In addition to the interest and support of the public schools, there have been several select schools of good character. One of these was taught by Gustavus Spencer about 1840, at the house of Daniel Beecher, and it was attended by some of the leading citizens of the present time. He was a graduate of Yale and was reputed a good teacher. He married one of Beecher's daughters and afterward engaged in mercantile pursuits in the town.

Akin to the educational interests of the town is the Young Men's

Catholic Institute, which was organized in 1871. In the main the institute has flourished and it maintains a library in the town hall.

The first public collection of books was in the old Salem Library, which was probably the first one established in the entire Naugatuck valley. From fragmentary records it appears that it was founded in 1783, and it was kept first in a small way, the effort, perhaps, being confined to the younger members of the community. Later it received general support and most of the families of Salem Bridge community subscribed to the constitution of the library and placed themselves under bonds of £5 each to observe the articles of the same. In this way it was a noteworthy institution from 1789 to 1830.

The library was managed by a committee which, in October, 1789, was composed of Deacon Elisha Stevens, Amos Culver, Israel Terrel, Thomas Porter and Doctor Daniel Beekley. Usually the Congregational minister was the librarian, but when the church had no pastor, some prominent citizen served as librarian, keeping the books at his home. In 1830 the old Salem Library elected its last board of officers, which were: Librarian, Reverend Amos Pettengill; clerk, Thomas Porter; treasurer, Truman Porter; committee, Josiah Culver, Abraham Hotchkiss, Giles Hotchkiss, Reul Sperry and Alfred Stevens.

The Salem Library was soon after merged with the Juvenile Library, which had been formed a few years previously by the young people of Salem Bridge. This library was made up mainly of books contributed by the members and the remnant of the old Salem Library, and was kept at the parsonage of the Congregational church. It appears to have been discontinued before 1840, and its books were divided among the members. After this came the public school library and very recently the fine library in the parish house.

The first settlers attended religious meetings at Waterbury, and belonged for many years to the parish of the First Congregational church of that town. In the course of time the privilege to hold winter meetings at their own homes was desired and granted. This privilege, once enjoyed, led to the further desire for all the privileges of a separate parish which, after some objection on the part of Waterbury, was granted and the formation of the Salem Society ordered, viz.: "By the act of the Governor and company, convened at Hartford, upon the second Thursday in May, A. D. 1773. there was made a distinct society for society privileges of that part of Waterbury called Judd's Meadow, and part of Milford and Derby adjoining."

But the formation of a church did not follow until eight years had elapsed. It was organized February 22d, 1781, with the name of the "Congregational Church of Salem." The constituent members were ten males and six females, most of whom had been connected with the Waterbury church. At the end of the year the members were: Gideon Hickox, Gideon Hickox, Jr., Samuel Hickox, Gideon Hotchkiss, John Lewis, Samuel Lewis, Amos Osborn, Samuel Porter, Ashbel

Porter, Enoch Scott, Samuel Scott, Elisha Stevens, Sarah Hickox, Philena Hickox, Eunice Lewis, Elizabeth Osborn, Hannah Porter, Sarah Smith, Susannah Tirrill, Sarah Tirrill. In 1785 the church had a revival and 14 persons were added to the membership; in 1787, 33 were added; in 1789, 11 were added; in 1800, 16; and 1801, 15. The church had in 1836, 150 members; but five years later there were only 117. In 1860, 200 members were reported, but in 1872 the number had decreased to 163. Seven years later, however, the members again numbered 249. In 1885 the number had fallen to 219, but a revival that year increased it by the addition of 54 persons. This, with the single exception of one year, was the largest yearly increase. In 1818 63 members were added. In June, 1891, there were 310 members, 174 of whom had been added during the pastorate of Reverend W. F. Blackman.

For twelve years after the formation of Salem society there was no regular preacher, and a number of persons were invited to settle. Medach Rogers preached more or less from 1781 to 1784, but Reverend Abraham Fowler was the first settled minister. His pastorate extended from January, 1785, to March, 1799. The subsequent ministers, pastors and stated supplies were as follows: Noah J. Simmons, 1799-1800; Jabez Chadwick, 1800-1803; Matthiaz Crozier, 1804; Stephen Dodd, 1811-17; Amos Pettingill, 1823-30; J. B. Richardson, 1832-4; Seth Sacket, 1834-8; Chauncey G. Lee, 1838-40; H. A. Taylor, 1840-1; Marshall Eames, 1842-3; Charles S. Sherman, 1843-4; Albert K. Teele, 1845-9; Charles S. Sherman, 1849-69; C. C. Painter, 1869-72; Fred'k T. Perkins, 1872-5; D. A. Easton, 1875-9; S. C. Leonard, 1879-84. W. F. Blackman began work January 1st, installed June 25th, 1885, resigned September 13th, 1891, to become pastor of the church at Ithaca, N. Y.

The ministers sent out by this parish have been: John H. Pettigill, John S. Hull, Thomas Lewis (Episcopalian), Edwin S. Lines (Episcopalian), John Scott.

In 1781 the parish proceeded to build its first meeting house, using the proceeds of a tax of a shilling an acre on all the lands in the Salem society. It was placed on the hill east of the village, north of the B. M. Hotchkiss place, and it was occupied in 1782. The site was selected to accommodate those living the Prospect way, as well as the inhabitants of the valley, and was at that time more central than in later years. A bell was placed on the building after 1791, but a stove was not supplied until 1827. The change in the village caused the removal of the frame of the meeting house to the site now occupied, where the house was rebuilt in 1831. In 1854 it was removed to make place for the present edifice, which was dedicated in 1855. This house originally cost \$16,000. It was improved ten years ago at an outlay of \$3,000, and new steam heating apparatus was supplied in 1890. The old meeting house stands opposite the Episcopal rectory and has been converted into a business building.

In 1810 a residence was built on the west side of the river, south of Daniel Beecher's place, for use as a parsonage. But the first parsonage proper was not built until 1845, upon the coming of Pastor Teele. Its cost was not quite \$2,000. In 1883 the present parsonage was purchased, and with it the lots of land which now constitute the fine real estate of the society.

In the rear of the parsonage and on ground extending to Meadow street one of the largest and most attractive parish houses in the state has been erected. It was appropriately dedicated April 10th, 1888. The building cost more than \$26,000.

The Parish House Association was formed December 10th, 1888, and has since ably carried forward its chosen work. It yearly maintains a course of lectures and also provides instruction in special studies. Many of the most active of the members of the parish belong to it.

In this house are kept a well-stocked reading room, opened November 28th, 1888, and the Howard Whittemore Memorial Library was opened soon after. The latter is supported by an endowment made October 24th, 1888, when J. H. Whittemore set aside a fund of \$12,000 for that purpose. The gift is in memory of his well-beloved son, J. Howard Whittemore, Jr., who died May 28th, 1888. In 1891 the library contained 1,800 volumes and was being enlarged at the rate of several hundred volumes yearly.

The Sunday school, which now meets in the parish house, was first organized as early as 1818. It has ever since been a most useful adjunct of the church, and is now in a very prosperous condition.

The names of the deacons, together with their appointment and removal, since the first organization of the society, are as follows:\* Samuel Lewis, chosen 1783, died 1788; Gideon Hotchkiss, chosen 1783, died 1807; Elisha Stevens, chosen 1788, died 1813; Calvin Spencer, chosen 1791, died 1846; Truman Porter, chosen 1813, died 1838; Thaddeus Scott, chosen 1813, died 1832; Lucian F. Lewis, chosen 1834, removed 1853; Sheldon Hoadley, chosen 1838, died 1858; Samuel Hopkins, chosen 1853, term expired 1879; David R. Stevens, chosen 1858, removed 1863; William E. Brown, chosen 1858, removed 1861; Julius Tuttle, chosen 1863, removed 1867; Lucian D. Warner, chosen 1868, term expired 1881; Edward P. Thompson, chosen 1868, died 1868; Horace Williams, chosen 1876, term expired 1883; James Smith, chosen 1877, term expired 1885; Samuel Hopkins, chosen 1879, term expired 1887; Lucian D. Warner, chosen 1881, term expired 1889; Willard Hopkins, chosen 1883; James Smith, chosen 1885, now in office; Samuel Hopkins, chosen 1887, died 1889; Frank Warren, chosen 1889, now in office; Lucian D. Warner, chosen 1889, now in office; S. F. Payne, chosen 1891, now in office.

St. Michael's (Protestant Episcopal) parish was formed in 1786.

\* In April, 1876, the church changed the deacon's term of office from life to eight years.

A considerable number of the early settlers of the southwestern part of the town were churchmen, and they were occasionally visited by missionaries of the Church of England, who held services in private houses. In 1734 Reverend Samuel Johnson came from Stratford and celebrated the rite of baptism. The same year the Church Litany was first used in the public worship conducted by Reverend Mr. Arnold, of the Foreign Society. After this period occasional services were held. In 1784, a project to establish a church was encouraged by Abel Gunn, who deeded a tract of land, worth £100 in silver coin, to help pay rates, etc. The formation of an Episcopal parish, within the limits of the Salem Society, followed February 16th, 1786, at a meeting where 17 persons were present. Thomas Osborn moderated and Samuel Gunn was the clerk. In 1803 the parish voted to build a church, 34 by 40 feet, and to add a steeple. Jobamah Gunn furnished a site on the hill near his residence, at Gunntown, several miles southwest of Naugatuck village, and the house was there built. It was a plain frame. A bell was placed in the steeple about 1810. About the same time the parish in Oxford and St. Michael's were served by the same rector, Reverend Chauncey Prindle, and there were but 57 families in both parishes.

In 1830 it became evident that the center of population would shift from the hill to the meadows along the Naugatuck and it was determined to remove the church edifice to that locality. Daniel Beecher donated a site south of the Congregational meeting house, to which the frame work of the building was moved. The house was finished in 1832 and was consecrated the same year by Bishop Brownell. In a repaired condition it was used until August 15th, 1875, when it was sold to the Naugatuck school board and was removed to make way for the new church edifice. The corner stone of this was laid September 29th, 1875, and May 19th, 1876, the church was consecrated by Bishop Williams. It is a fine edifice of brick, trimmed with stone, in the modernized style of Gothic architecture, and cost \$20,000. Much of the credit for its erection is due to the rector at that period, Reverend J. L. Scott, whose energies in this direction were untiring until the heavy task was accomplished.

In 1860 a rectory was built on an adjoining lot, which was first occupied by Reverend C. F. Woodruff, who left the parish to become a chaplain in the Union army, in the civil war. July 19th, 1878, the rectory caught fire and was much damaged, but has been enlarged and repaired to afford a home worthy of the parish. Soon after the removal of the church to Naugatuck there were only 20 communicants in the parish. In 1890 the number was 275, and among the official members were John M. Page and William Mitchell, wardens; F. B. Tuttle, F. F. Schaffer, C. F. Hungerford, John Ward and others, vestrymen. E. E. Hotchkiss was the clerk of the parish.



Among the rectors have been: 1832, Reverend O. Hopson; 1847, James Mackay; 1850, Joseph Scott; 1857, Thomas G. Carver; 1860-1, C. F. Woodruff; 1862, Edwin E. Johnson; 1865, William T. Fitch; 1867-78, James L. Scott; 1878, Edward R. Brown; 1881, Charles R. Talbott; 1881, E. C. Gardner; 1889, J. W. Ellsworth, the latter still serving the interests of the parish.

A class of Methodists was organized at Naugatuck about 50 years ago, and occasional meetings were held earlier than that at Union City and Straitsville. In the village private houses and halls were first occupied. July 30th, 1851, a site for a meeting house was purchased on Water street, which was conveyed to trustees. Henry Goodwin, Andrew Hills, Marshall F. Whitney, Isaac Schofield, Fred A. Bevins, Leander Hodge and Samuel Porter, who also were among the leading members of that period. A frame church, of small proportions, was used until 1868, when the second church building was occupied. This was more desirably located, occupying the southeast corner of Maple and Church streets. This building was also a frame, plainly furnished, yet well served its purpose until April, 1887, when it was sold for \$7,500, to be converted to business purposes. Meantime, on the 11th of October, 1886, the site for the present church building, in a more private part of the village, had been purchased. Upon this an edifice of wood, 40 by 70 feet, with a main tower, 14 by 14 and 75 feet high, and a rear extension for choir and parlor purposes, was erected at a cost of \$9,200. The house is in the Gothic style and is completed most attractively. It was dedicated July 1st, 1887, by Bishop Foss. In 1890 the controlling board of trustees were S. D. Hill, H. N. Williams, John Hollister, Elton Hotchkiss, Stephen Johns, W. F. Hinckley, Goodell Lines and John Osborne.

The congregation has had marked seasons of growth and declining interest, some of the latter very much affecting the membership, which at times was quite small; but from the increased population of the town an active, progressive membership has been recruited.

The ministers since the church has been a separate charge have been: 1851, Reverend W. Gay; 1855-6, A. V. R. Abbott; 1857-8, S. H. Smith; 1859-60, T. B. Chandler; 1861-2, W. Ross; 1863-4, G. H. McCoy; 1865-6, G. H. Goodsell; 1867, S. J. Stebbins; 1868, W. T. Gilbert; 1869-71, C. W. Church; 1872-4, A. P. Chapman; 1875-7, J. W. Davis; 1878, A. O. Abbott; 1879-80, C. Dixon; 1881-3, N. Edwards; 1884-5, B. F. Kidder; 1886-8, A. J. Smith; 1889, S. K. Smith.

The Union City Mission chapel, a neat Gothic frame building, holding several hundred people, was erected a few years ago at a cost of about \$2,000. The ladies of Union City were largely instrumental in furthering this work, and the chapel is used mainly for Sunday school purposes. For several years W. H. K. Godfrey has been the superintendent. Various denominations here hold preaching services.

On the west side of the river, at Union City, a Swedish Lutheran chapel has just been completed through the liberality of John H. Whittemore, and that sect stately occupies it. The building is very neat and occupies an imposing site.

Among the citizens living in the Salem Society, soon after 1800, were a number of Baptists, who first worshipped with the church in Waterbury. In October, 1817, 60 persons living in Salem, Prospect and Bethany, were set off from the Waterbury society to organize a new church, in the localities indicated. This was formed October 30th, 1817, and for several years preaching was held in private houses. Two meeting houses were now built, one on Fulling Mill brook, occupied December 22d, 1819, the other, three miles away, in the Straitsville locality. The latter was first used March 11th, 1821. The church soon numbered 115 members. Interest declined and in 1823 only 88 belonged. Elder Samuel Potter, their preacher, died in 1833. Ten years later the church became extinct and the houses were converted into dwellings.

St. Francis' Roman Catholic Parish was constituted in 1866. Sometime about 1850 the first mass of the Catholic church in this town was said at the house of Patrick Conran. The attendants were few in number but devoted to the faith of their church, and each succeeding meeting produced a greater interest. A mission was soon established and under its direction a small frame church was built, on Water street, which was occupied in 1857. Priests from adjoining parishes now stately celebrated the rites of the church, and, in the course of nine years, the members of the mission were enough in numbers to justify the formation of a separate parish. It was constituted in 1866 and Reverend Father Brady became the first resident priest. The George Hine place, on Church street, was purchased in 1868 as the site for the future church property, in Naugatuck. The residence on it was converted into a rectory, and within one year's time the debt accrued on account of this purchase was paid. The zeal and interest manifested caused a church building fund to be begun, which, in the course of a dozen years amounted to \$20,000.

Accordingly, with this promise of future beneficence, the erection of the present fine church edifice was begun. Ground was broken April 7th, 1882, Father Fagan himself removing the first shovelful of earth. The corner stone was laid July 23d, 1882, the ceremonies being witnessed by a greater throng of people than had ever before been assembled at Naugatuck. On that occasion more than \$5,000 was collected for the building of the church, which was carried toward completion as the means permitted. The work was done in the most substantial manner, under the careful direction of Father Fagan, and there is no evidence of stint anywhere. The spacious chapel, seating 1,160 people, was first finished and occupied several years before the auditorium was ready for use, in the fall of 1890. The entire cost was about \$100,000.

The edifice attracts universal attention. It is purely gothic and of a cruciform shape. The front breadth is 66 feet, the width at the transept 98 and the depth is 141 feet. The rear wall is expanded in a pentagon shape, forming the chancel, and to the right is an addition to be used as a vestry and a chapel. Beneath is a large boiler to heat the building. This chapel is entered from a vestibule, which communicates also with the church, thus allowing communication between the body of the church and the vestry without passing through the chancel. This arrangement, as also many other novelties and conveniences, were the suggestions of Father Fagan to the architect, James Murphy, of Providence. On the right hand corner, in front, is a tower, 150 feet high, the right proportion of whose dimensions needs no further comment than that it is modeled after the tower of St. Gertrude in Louvain, Belgium. This tower will contain a deep sounding bell.

The basement of the church is of undressed granite, and the superstructure of brick with granite trimmings. The walls are massive and are flanked by buttresses, capped by stone, with turrets and pinnacles. The front of the building resembles the Garfield Memorial church in Washington, but it is not copied therefrom. The general appearance is very pleasing and restful to the eye. It must be seen on all sides to be appreciated, for each side and each corner has its special architectural beauties, enhanced by a succession of broken lines, which, with the undressed stone, gives the effect of light and shade.

The auditorium seats 1,080 people and like the chapel is finished in oak and walnut. From each seat is afforded an unobstructed view of the handsome altar and the celebrant. Over the altars are elaborately stained glass windows, bearing typical and figurative emblems. From the chancel the eye naturally turns to the beautiful memorial windows at the ends and sides of the transepts. On leaving the church a massive window in the front wall, having a sill twenty feet long and a generous arch, shows its beauties. The lines of the Gothic arches within the church are perfect, and the effect, with the varied colors of the upper range windows and of the frescoing, is surpassed by few churches of greater pretensions. It may, indeed, serve as a model for churches in our larger cities, both in exterior appearance and its interior arrangement.

REVEREND JAMES FAGAN, the honored pastor of Saint Francis' Church (Roman Catholic), of Naugatuck, was born in Providence, R. I., April 23d, 1842, the youngest of a family of five children. His parents were John and Catherine (Donnelly) Fagan, natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, who came to America about 1830. His father was a man of intelligence for his opportunities, being a skillful wool dyer, but deceased while yet a comparatively young man. The mother was a woman possessed of many superior qualities, not the least being the

great piety which pervaded her life and which made her earnestly desire that her only two sons might be consecrated to the priesthood in the church to which she was so warmly attached. Her elder son, John, was the first native ordained as a priest in the old diocese of Hartford, and became a distinguished clergyman. After being a useful pastor of the church at Collinsville, he became the priest of St. John's church, Stamford, where he died December 5th, 1873, before he had attained the age of 37 years, his death being caused by overwork in his large parish. The younger son, James, was also carefully educated for the office which he has for twenty years acceptably filled. After attending the public and parochial schools of Providence, he pursued a classical course at the Holy Cross, at Worcester, Mass., leaving that institution in 1868. He now entered the American College at Louvain, in Belgium, where for four years he studied philosophy and theology, when, on the 25th of July, 1872, he was ordained to the holy ministry, by Archbishop Cattani, at his private chapel in Brussels. Returning to America, he became an assistant priest to the Reverend Father Hughes, V. G., of Hartford, remaining there two years. He was next appointed an assistant to the Reverend Doctor Carmody, of St. John's church, New Haven, where he also served several years. His next appointment was as an assistant to the Reverend James Lynch, V. G., of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, of Waterbury, where he labored about six months. In this period the Reverend Richard O'Gorman of St. Francis' church, Naugatuck, died and, December 17th, 1876, the Reverend James Fagan was transferred to the vacant parish as its resident priest, and in that relation has since served with much success. How faithful and efficient have been his labors is attested by the growth of the parish interests. When he assumed charge there were less than 1,000 souls and the temporalities were valued at \$10,000. Now the parish has property valued at \$110,000, with but \$15,000 debt, and there are 500 Catholic families, yielding a membership of 3,000 souls. His zeal and energy were largely manifested in the erection of the new St. Francis church, which is a grand and imposing monument to the Catholic faith and the sacrificing devotion of his parishioners. It is one of the finest edifices in this diocese and palatial compared with the little church which he found when he came to Naugatuck.

Father Fagan is warmly interested in all matters pertaining to his parish, which are constantly calling forth his best efforts, but in his relations to the community at large he is liberal and progressive. For thirteen years he served as a member of the board of education of the village of Naugatuck, being secretary of that body three years, and is an earnest advocate of the best measures of education. He actively aided the Grand Army of the Republic in building the soldiers' monument on the church green, and delivered the reception address when it was dedicated May 30th, 1885. Many other public improve-



*Rev. James Fagan*



ments have received his favorable support or consideration, and he has thus won the esteem and good-will not only of his church, but also of the most of the other citizens of the town, regardless of religious belief or profession.

The Soldiers Monument, at Naugatuck village, stands on a beautiful site, on the school green, about midway between the Congregational and Episcopal churches. It is of the best quality of Ryegate, Vt., granite and is  $31\frac{3}{8}$  feet in height. The main shaft has a rough finish and bears the names of the twelve great battles of the war :

ATLANTA,	ANTIETAM,
GETTYSBURG,	PETERSBURG,
MALVERN HILL.	CHANCELLORSVILLE,
VICKSBURG,	FORT WAGNER,
COLD HARBOR,	WILDERNESS,
FREDERICKSBURG,	CEDAR MOUNTAIN.

It is surmounted by a figure eight feet in height, representing a soldier in the infantry service, standing at ease. Above the solid base of the monument is a heavy die, plainly inscribed as follows :

East side :

Erected by the Citizens of Naugatuck, A. D. 1885, in  
Memory of Her Sons who Fought to  
Maintain the Union.  
1861-1865.

West side :

The Citizen soldier.  
Fearless in War,  
Industrious in Peace.

North side :

May the God of Nations  
Preserve Our Country in the Blessed Bonds of  
Peace now Established.

South side :

The Deeds of Those  
Who Died in Defense of the Government  
Of the People are Immortal.

Around the monument is a heavy granite coping, and the lot has been graded and sodded in a fine manner. It was appropriately dedicated May 30th, 1885, nearly the entire community and many visiting strangers participating.

The movement which led to the erection of the monument was inaugurated by Isbell Post, No. 43, G. A. R., in the fall of 1879, and was the first of several attempts in that direction which led to fruitful results. That body appointed three of its members — Henry C. Baldwin, Rufus W. Lewis and William H. Vredenburg — and invited nine other citizens of the town — George M. Allerton, Patrick Brennan, Reverend James Fagan, George A. Lewis, John Page, Robert M. Smith, Homer Twitchell, Bronson B. Tuttle — to be constituted a com-

mittee to undertake to erect a suitable monument. It was organized October 4th, 1879, and the duties with which it was charged were begun. In December, 1882, George M. Allerton, the chairman, died, and Bronson B. Tuttle was placed in his stead, where he served until the work was ended, J. H. Whittemore having been added to fill the vacancy in the committee. The contract for the monument was placed in October, 1884, with the Ryegate, Vermont, Granite Company, and the pile, with the curbing, cost \$3,885. This amount, with the incidental expenses, made the project cost \$4,462.07. Of that sum \$2,000 was appropriated by a vote of the town December 4th, 1882, and the balance was secured by subscriptions raised mainly by R. W. Lewis, H. C. Baldwin and other members of Isbell Post, who kept the matter constantly before the public until the beautiful monument was successfully reared.

The cemetery first opened in the town is called the Pine Hill or Ancient burial ground. "April 11, 1709, the Selectmen of Waterbury, with the presence and consent of Samuel Hickox, laid out and sequestered  $\frac{1}{2}$  A. of land of said Hickox, on the southard end of an hill, at Judd's Meadow, called the Pine Hill, on the east of the River between Thomas Judd's, his land, for a burying for that part of said town or any other as shall see cause to make use of it, and there, on said day, the wife of Daniel Warner was buried.\*"

Here were interred the dead of the eastern part of the town, while the western part made burials in the Gunntown cemetery, which was opened at a later day.† The latter is still used to some extent. The former, after the lapse of more than a hundred years, fell into a neglected condition and so remained a long time, but has lately received care at the hands of the proper authorities. In it are some very old headstones.

The Hillside Cemetery, on the ridge north of the ancient ground, was opened the latter part of the last century. It has an advantageous and beautiful location, the original part being called Walnut Dale. In 1872 the cemetery was enlarged and the following year the addition was mapped out and graded at the expense of the town. There were, however, no systematic plans or rules governing the cemetery until 1882, when F. W. Tolles was appointed the agent, and has since so served. The town has improved the cemetery, but several costly and extensive improvements were made at the expense of John H. Whittemore, which have placed this among the many attractive cemeteries of the county.

The Catholic Cemetery, on the ridge still further north, has also a fine location, which was enhanced by the grading of the grounds in 1878. The area is smaller than that of Hillside, but both contain many fine monuments.

\* She was first interred at that place.

† The cemetery was used before the revolution but was not formally conveyed to the town until March 3d, 1860.



The Grove Cemetery is the newest, but most extensive place of burial in the town. It embraces 22 acres, located on the hillside, just east of the river and about one mile below the village. Much of the area is covered with a natural growth of forest trees, which suggested the name. Its excellent situation, together with the surroundings, will permit this to be made one of the finest cemeteries in the county. It is controlled by the Grove Cemetery Association, which organized with a capital of \$6,000 November 8th, 1886. The following January the association was incorporated by the legislature, a special charter being granted for that purpose, under which it was reorganized June 6th, 1887, with the following board of trustees: B. B. Tuttle, president; F. W. Tolles, secretary; A. H. Dayton, treasurer; F. B. Tuttle, L. D. Warner, George A. Lewis and Willard Hopkins.

The entire tract has been enclosed and all the drives located and graded, after the plans of Schofield & Starr, of Bridgeport. Three acres have been plotted into burial lots and prepared for interments, the work being done under the personal direction of the president.

On Sunday, June 16th, 1889, the cemetery was formally dedicated in the presence of 400 people, all the Protestant clergymen of the town participating. But the first interment had been made before this time, December 15th, 1886, when Mrs. Juline L. Warner was here inhumed.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

GEORGE MILTON ALLERTON, the president of the Goodyear India Rubber Glove Manufacturing Company, whose death occurred December 2d, 1882, was one of the best, most respected and useful citizens that ever lived in the town of Naugatuck. His worth is still cherished and he is remembered as a man of the highest character, having generous and noble impulses, hospitable and true-hearted, favoring and urging everything which would promote the welfare of his adopted home. Fitly was it said of him by one who knew him intimately: "Earth never lost a truer, manlier soul, nor heaven opened wide its gates to receive a kindlier, gentler spirit." He was born in Washington, Dutchess county, New York, December 1st, 1831, and was therefore, at his decease, but a little more than 51 years of age. He was a son of Milton B. Allerton, who was born at Amenia, New York, August 21st, 1799, where his father was engaged as a country merchant until his removal to the city of New York, where he also followed mercantile pursuits until his death, December 8th, 1866. Another son, Reuben German, who also died in New York city, was widely known as the author of a book on piscatorial sports. The father of Milton B. Allerton was Joshua Allerton, one of the most prominent in his day of the citizens of the Hudson river valley, where the family is still favorably known, and its members who have removed to other localities have in many instances become influential business and professional men.

The ancestors of George M. Allerton were descendants of Isaac Allerton, one of the pilgrim fathers, he being in the eighth generation of that lineage. Isaac Allerton was born in England about 1583, and removed to Holland on account of his religious principles in 1609. Later he entered into the project to remove to America, and he and his family were among the passengers of the "Mayflower," who landed at Plymouth in 1620. His relative importance in the founding of that colony appears in his signature to the compact, his name being fifth on the list, those signing before him being Carver, Bradford, Winslow and Brewster. Besides being a man of wealth, he was just and fair-minded, with a tendency to more liberal views than some of his compeers, and his subsequent course in public matters gave offense to these colleagues. He also suffered financial misfortunes, and these circumstances led to his withdrawal from the Plymouth colony and to his settlement in New Haven about 1647. There he was occupied as a trader and shipmaster, ranking among those who were entitled to the prefix *Mister* in connection with their names. He built "a grand house on the creek, with Four Porches," on two acres of land, located where is now Union street, in the city of New Haven. There he died about the beginning of 1659, his estate being inventoried in February of that year. He was twice married and had five children, the fifth one being a son, Isaac, the only child by his second wife, Fear Brewster. This son was born in Plymouth in 1630, and graduated from Harvard in 1650. Like his father, he was a man of much ability, and became prominent in business affairs. He, also, had a son Isaac, born in New Haven in 1655, whose son, John, born in New Haven in 1685, had a son Isaac, in the fifth generation, born in 1724, at Norwich, who had a son, Jonathan, who was the father of the Joshua named above, and who was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. Every generation of this branch of the Allerton family has had members of superior qualities, the honored name of Isaac Allerton, the Puritan, being thus worthily perpetuated.

George M. Allerton's family consisted of five children, the fruits of two marriages. He was first joined in wedlock October 5th, 1858, to Lois Mabbett, of Dover, New York, who died in February, 1865, leaving three sons, all born in New York city, namely: George Milton, January 27th, 1860, who married Josephine D., daughter of Judge J. W. Webster, of Waterbury, June 20th, 1883, who is secretary of the rubber company; Charles Goodyear, September 9th, 1862; and Louis Mott, February 11th, 1865. The second wife, now the surviving widow, was Mary Alida, daughter of Reuben Leggett, of New York city, to whom he was married January 24th, 1877, at Naugatuck, where their two children were born: Anna Ogden, October 14th, 1877; and Robert Wade, August 14th, 1882. All the family now reside in Waterbury.

The recital of the early history of Mr. Allerton's life differs but very



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little from the story of the lives of most of our successful business men. He was taught to work in his boyhood and to depend upon his own efforts for a living. After serving as a clerk in a dry goods store, he began business for himself, becoming interested in the sale of rubber goods. He had no capital but his own energy and a natural capacity for affairs where prudence, pluck and perseverance, if judiciously exercised, are bound to ensure success. After having charge of the company's store in New York, he assumed the management of its business in 1856, and his subsequent career, as expressed in the eloquent language of his friend, Judge S. W. Kellogg, was as follows:

"The capital was then small, and somewhat impaired; its articles of production were very limited. While the Goodyear patent existed, the company's manufacture was confined pretty much to the articles indicated by its original name, for which only they had a license. For several years following the panic of 1857, it was a continued struggle of the company for existence. Men less enthusiastic, less energetic than Mr. Allerton would have given it up and sought other business. For two or three years during the war, the company was almost wholly engaged in the manufacture of goods for the army, especially for hospital and surgeon's supplies. The company sought no government contracts, but manufactured largely for Philadelphia and other contractors. When the war closed it found the glove company, with a large force of help, engaged almost entirely in the making of army goods. All that work came to a sudden end. Many companies in the country engaged in army work, like those making woolen blankets and cloths, were forced to stop for want of orders. It was then that Mr. Allerton's happy faculty and tact as a business man stood the company in good stead. He was quick to foresee some new thing to which the use of rubber could be applied, some new article or some improvement upon an old one, which would take with the trade, as the saying is, and find a ready and a profitable market. The old Goodyear license no longer confined the company to a single class of goods.

"I think it was one great element in Mr. Allerton's successful management of the business in those years, that he had the faculty of seeing in advance what new things could be manufactured with profit, which would command a ready sale. And yet he was always modest in his own claims of what he did, giving credit to those associated with him for much of the company's prosperity. How often have I heard him speak of the invaluable services of his superintendent all these years, Mr. B. M. Hotchkiss, of Naugatuck. How often have I heard him speak of the successful management of the affairs of the company in New York by his associate, Mr. J. D. Vermeule, who today takes Mr. Allerton's place in the company. How often of late years have I heard him speak in high commendation of younger men who have come in with their assistance as the business has grown, in the office and factories and the stores in New York.

“ Mr. Allerton came from New York to Naugatuck in the year 1867, as the enlarged business of the company seemed to require his residence here. It needs no poor words of mine to tell the people of Naugatuck how valuable a citizen they have lost. He came as a stranger to most of them, but he speedily identified himself with all their best interests. In town, school and all matters of public interest, he lent a hearty and a helping hand. With a load of business as heavy as any man ought to bear, he took in addition his full share of the public burdens. His good nature was such that he allowed his friends to impose more public and social work upon him, than he ever ought to have taken with all his other duties and cares.

“ Every man has his faults and imperfections. Mr. Allerton had his, but his faults were on the side of generosity and honest impulse. He was nervous and impulsive, and ardent in espousing the side of any question that he believed to be right. If he differed with a man, it was a good-natured difference on his part. He had not one element of meanness or malice in his nature. He took no pleasure in speaking of the faults of another; he loved to talk of their good traits of character. He was full of generous charity wherever it was deserving; and God and they only who received its benefits, knew all that he did to help others. The humblest man in his employment could go to him in trouble and find a friend.”

Mr. Allerton was buried at Dover Plains, N. Y., his native village, in which he had never lost his interest, the last rites being performed by the Masonic fraternity, to which order he was much attached; and for him Allerton Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of Naugatuck, was named. The benediction of Brother Kellogg expresses the high regard entertained for him by this brotherhood:

“ Peace to thy ashes, and rest to thy soul, departed brother; and may we learn by thy example to be more charitable to others, to do more kindly deeds for our fellow-men, and to be more tender, loving and true to family and friends until the end.”

George S. Andrew was born in Orange, Conn., in 1833, and married Harriet L. Scott, sister of Seabury Scott. They had eight children: Emma S., Samuel J., George W., Charles B., and Bradford S., now living, and three that died in infancy. Samuel J. is in business in New Haven with his uncle, F. S. Andrew. Charles B. Andrew is in the boot and shoe business. Emma S. married J. Alvin Scott, and resides in Everett, near Boston, Mass. The rest of the family live in Naugatuck. Mr. Andrew died in 1888. He carried on a general store in Naugatuck a number of years, and afterward was in the coal, wood and lumber business. His son, George W., succeeded in the coal, wood and lumber business, in the spring of 1888. He had conducted the business five years prior to this for his father. George S. Andrew occupied a prominent place in the affairs of Naugatuck. He was post-master under Buchanan's administration, and held several town offices.

George W. was educated in the schools of Naugatuck, and took a course at Yale Business College. He married Mary A. Gillette, of Prospect, in 1883. They have three children: Alvin G., Leroy S. and Ruby.

Samuel N. Andrew, born in Orange, Conn., September 27th, 1824, is a son of Samuel, and grandson of William Andrew. Samuel, Sr., was born in 1800, married Salina Smith of Orange, Conn., and settled there. They had five children: Samuel N., Caroline A., Esther L. (deceased), George S. (deceased), and Frank S. The father moved to Oxford, Conn., when Samuel N. was 14 years old, and he died in the village of Naugatuck in 1875. Samuel N. was educated at the common schools and the Naugatuck High School, and chose the business of farming. He has been assessor, justice of the peace and member of the board of relief. He has been twice married: first, October 26th, 1846, to Amelia Thompson of Oxford, by whom he had five children: Ella A., born May 13th, 1848; Floyd L., born June 8th, 1849; Noyes T., born July 10th, 1852; Esther L., born March 26th, 1858; and Frederick S., born December 18th, 1860. His wife, Amelia, died May 22d, 1885, and he married Adelaide U. Hall, of Waterbury, December 14th, 1886.

Canfield B. Booth, born in Roxbury, Conn., in 1844, is a son of Captain Ira and Louisa (Bishop) Booth. He came to Platt's Mills in 1866, remained there until 1870, then came to Naugatuck. Captain Ira Booth had eight children, of whom Canfield B. was next to the youngest. He was twice drafted in the war of the rebellion, but was too young to serve. He had three brothers that served in that war, and one died at Newbern, N. C. Mr. Booth married Catherine E. Roberts of Waterbury, and they have five children: Charles C., Grace L., William H., Winfred G. and Edith M.

Andrew Brennan, born in Ireland December 15th, 1833, landed in America January 3d, 1855, went first to New Jersey, four months later removed to Hamden, Conn., and came to Union City in 1857. He was engaged with the Malleable Iron Company until 1877. In 1878 he established the business of the Union City Coal Company. He married Elizabeth Martin of Naugatuck, May 16th, 1858. She is a native of Ireland. They have nine children living.

Miles S. Clark was born in Prospect, Conn., June 8th, 1824. He commenced to learn the carpenter trade when he was 16 years old, and two years later came to Naugatuck, and finished his trade with Amos Hotchkiss. He was afterward engaged in the hoe shop of E. C. Tuttle. In 1861 he went to Canada and helped Mr. Tuttle put the machinery in a shop there. Returning to Naugatuck he worked at Platt's Mills 15 years, and has since been engaged in various enterprises pertaining to his trade of builder and joiner. He moved to Union City in 1882, and lives in the old Clark Warner house. He married, in 1872, Adella E. Platt of Waterbury. They have two children: Allerton F. L. and Ludella S. G.

Patrick Conran was born in the parish of Freshford, Kilkenny county, in Ireland, on St. Patrick's Day, 1827, came to this country in 1846, and finally settled in Naugatuck in 1849, where he has since resided. He is the oldest foreign born citizen in this town. He was the first one to collect a dollar for the Catholic church here in 1857, and before that he subscribed largely to aid in the erection of the first Catholic churches built in Waterbury and Birmingham, Conn. He has taken a deep interest in the improvement of the town, and has been a member of every committee appointed by the town since he resided here, wherein the town has been interested in making public improvements. He drove a team from Naugatuck to New Haven before the railroad was built. He married Julia Purcell, who was born in the same county, and they have had four children: Thomas, Katie E., Mary A. and Lucy. Thomas has been selectman for 11 years. Mrs. Conran died in 1884. Although Mr. Conran has been a dealer in liquor, he has never tasted a drop of it or used tobacco in his life. He was present at the first funeral of a Catholic buried in Waterbury, Conn., Christmas Eve, 1847. He is now the largest individual owner of real estate in Naugatuck, and the fourth largest tax payer. In politics he has always been a democrat, and has never accepted any office, although often nominated.

Amos Culver, born in Naugatuck, April 21st, 1841, is a son of Josiah and Melina (Hotchkiss) Culver. She was the youngest daughter of Major Orin Hotchkiss, of Naugatuck. Josiah Culver was born in Naugatuck in 1799. His father was Amos Culver. Josiah died at the home of his son, Amos, in 1888. He had held most all the prominent offices of his town, and was a member of the legislature in 1863. He was a life long democrat and a self-made man. He was twice married. His first wife died, and in 1841 he married for his second wife, Abigail Hotchkiss. By his first wife he had one son, Amos; by his last marriage, Josiah R., who died in 1880. Amos, the only one of the family living, received a common school education in Naugatuck, and first engaged in farming. For five years he was engaged in the mercantile trade in Naugatuck. He is a large real estate owner. He has held several of the most important offices in his town, such as justice and assessor, but his private business has prevented him from accepting office as he otherwise would. He married in 1872, Julia, daughter of Henry Church, of Seymour, Conn. He is at present building one of the finest blocks in Naugatuck, on the site where his father kept store for 20 years.

Harvey G. Denniston was born in Blooming Grove, Orange county, N. Y., August 23d, 1829, removed to Prattsburgh, Steuben county, N. Y., in 1857, and practiced law in Penn Yann, N. Y., until 1862. In that year he enlisted as private in Co. G., 107th regiment, N. Y. Vol., was commissioned as second lieutenant in 1862, and as first lieutenant in 1863. He was in the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Freder-



icksburgh, Chancellorsville, Gettysburgh, Falling Water and Lookout Mountain. He resigned April 4th, 1864, and was mustered as captain in the 188th regiment, N. Y. Vol. He served in the battle of Hatcher's Run, was A. A. A. general of the 2d Brigade 1st Division of the 5th Army Corps, and fought in the battles of Weldon Railroad, Dabney's Mills, the second Hatcher's Run, Lewis Farm, Gravelly Run and Five Forks. After the last battle he was brevetted lieutenant colonel, and colonel and brigadier general. He was in the Danville fight and was at Appomattox at the surrender of Lee. He was mustered out July 1st, 1865. He practiced law in Prattsburgh, N. Y., until 1872, when he removed to Connecticut. In 1874 he moved to Union City, where he has since resided. He married, in 1870, Emogene A. Tuttle, of Auburn, N. Y. They have had one son, Franklin Tuttle, born October 25th, 1882.

William J. Freeman, born in Naugatuck March 9th, 1855, is a son of Pierce and Julia Freeman. They were both born in Ireland, and came to this country and settled in the town of Naugatuck. William's father died when he was but four years old, and he lived with his mother until he was 9 years old, then went to work in a woolen factory. He next worked on a farm, then one year on the New York & New England railroad. This work not being congenial to his taste, he went to work for L. B. Tucker, a butcher, then of Middlebury, Conn. He had never had the opportunity of acquiring an education, so now he hired out by the year, with a chance of three months schooling, for four years, which he greatly improved. He purchased the business of his former employer, and removed to Naugatuck. He does business in both Naugatuck and Millville. He was elected 3d selectman in 1889. He was married to Mary F. Booth of Long Island, in 1876. They have one daughter, Nellie E., born in 1880.

Billious C. Hall, born in Wallingford, Conn., in 1834, is a son of Edward L. and Mary K. (Cook) Hall, and grandson of Deacon Josiah Hall. The Halls were among the earliest settlers in Wallingford, and are of revolutionary stock. Mrs. Edward L. Hall is still living. Billious C. came to Naugatuck in 1859. He has been twice married; first to Grace, daughter of Oliver and Harriet Evans, in 1859. She died in 1861, and in 1863 he married Addie, daughter of Asahel and Elizabeth Smith of Naugatuck. They have three sons: Clarence D., Edward C. and Louis H. Mr. Hall served nine months during the late war, in Company B, 27th Regiment Conn. Vol. He was in the battles of Fredericksburgh and Chancellorsville, was taken prisoner at the latter battle and sent to Libby Prison, remaining there about 10 days, when he was paroled. He was discharged July 22d, 1863.

Thomas Hartle, born in England in 1833, came to this country in 1852, and settled in Union City. He was employed by the Union Knife Company until they burned out, and is now engaged in caring for his real este. He married Mary Drable, born in England. They

have five children: Sarah Ann, Emily, Mary Elizabeth, Thomas and Lillie. They were all born in this country except Sarah Ann, who was born in England.

George Hine, son of Reuben L. Hine, of Middlebury, Conn., was born in that town December 31st, 1825. He was educated at the common schools, and afterward studied the classics with N. J. Wilcoxson of Oxford. He studied surveying and after teaching school eight years, entered a store in Naugatuck, where he worked seven years. Then he commenced to study law, in 1857, with George F. Gardiner, of Naugatuck, and was admitted to the bar in 1860. He has practiced law in several different states, and always has had a lucrative practice. He has been twice married; first to Louisa P. Brown of Sandisfield, Mass., in 1856. They had one son, George Hine, Jr. Mrs. Hine died in 1858, and Mr. George Hine, Jr., died January 24th, 1890. Mr. Hine married for his second wife, Eliza J. Flynn, July 4th, 1858. They have four children: Sadie, Charles, Eliza J. and Don.

Charles B. Hoadley was born January 10th, 1832, in Waterbury, and came with his parents to Naugatuck. His pioneer ancestor was William H., who was born in England in 1630, landed in Saybrook in 1663; his name appears on the new Plantation Covenant book January 20th, 1667. He was one of the representatives of the town of Branford for nine sessions. He was the father of William, 2d, who died May 2d, 1738. The latter was the father of William, 3d, born 1739, died 1825, who was the father of Jude. The latter died in 1822. He was the father of Asa, born 1772, died 1805; he the father of Erastus, and Erastus was the father of Charles Burton Hoadley, the subject of this sketch, who is engaged in blacksmithing. He served two terms in our late war; enlisted first September 2d, 1862, in Co. H, 23d regiment, as corporal, and was discharged August 1st, 1863; the second time in the 3d Independent Battery as sergeant. He was in front of Petersburg from November 25th, till April 14th; also received injuries on the march, for which he gets a pension. He is a member of the F. & A. M., of the G. A. R., and of the I. O. G. T. He married Lucinda Wooding, of Cheshire, December 14th, 1854. They have four children: Charles W., Howard B., Frank L. and Carrie A. Erastus William was sometimes called Skipper to distinguish him from William, the son of William. He is remembered as a man possessing wonderful ingenuity. He was a very useful man to repair or improve the machinery used in his time. The gilt button burnishers employed at the Benedict shop in Waterbury would always wait for him to repair their lathes, believing that he could do it better than anyone else. It is said that he made a valuable improvement for making button eyes. It is also said that on one occasion he appeared on the street holding in his arms a button eye machine; on one arm he carried a coil of wire, he working with vigor his machine while a stream of button eyes issued and fell to the ground. He died Feb-

ruary 14th, 1836, a comparatively young man, at a time when the new era of invention was about to commence, for soon after his death there was a wonderful revolution in constructing new machinery. Had he lived, he probably would have been foremost in the planning of the new machinery made about that time. It is said that he often declared that he could send signals over a copper wire, but was laughed at, no one believing at that time that the telegraph would ever be used. He married Abigail B., daughter of Henry Porter. Their children were: Caroline, married Robert B. Hine, who is now deceased; and Charles B.

Lemuel B. Hoadley, born in Naugatuck August 5th, 1830, is a son of Marshal and grandson of William Hoadley, all natives of Naugatuck. Marshal married Nancy Judd. They had seven children. Lemuel was the fourth child. One brother, John, lives in Naugatuck. Lemuel B. was first engaged in business in Naugatuck as a carpenter and joiner, and followed that trade until 1865, when he engaged with the G. M. R. Shoe Company, and has remained with them since, first in the mill room, and since 1880 as superintendent of the repairing department. He has been twice married. His second wife was Catharine Adamson, died March 11th, 1891. They had four children: William C., Mary, Nancy and David. Mr. Hoadley was selectman of the town in 1888 and 1889.

Burritt M. Hotchkiss was born in the town of Cheshire, Conn., in 1821, and died July 5th, 1891. At the age of 11 years, he went to Ohio. He received his education there, and engaged in farming. In the spring of 1844, he came East and settled in Naugatuck. He was employed for two years by the G. M. R. Shoe Company, then returned to Ohio, and remained there two years, and in 1848 came again to Naugatuck. In 1849, he began work for the G. I. R. G. Company. At this time there were only two other men at work in this factory, one of them was the president. Mr. Hotchkiss was connected with this company from 1849 until his death. In 1856, he took charge of the factory, at which time the company employed five men and ten women. They now employ about 800 hands. In 1882 Mr. Hotchkiss was chosen vice-president of the company. He was twice married; first to Adeline M. Hall, of New Hartford, Conn., in 1844. They had three children: Robert, born 1849; Frank, born 1851; and Ella, born 1855, died 1881. Mrs. Hotchkiss died in 1873. His second wife was Emily J. Smith, of Naugatuck. His sons are both engaged in the rubber business; Robert with the Boston Rubber Company in Massachusetts, and Frank with the Fairfield Rubber Company in Fairfield, Conn.

Harry S. Hotchkiss, born in New Haven, October 27th, 1845, is a son of Lucius E. and Harriet L. (Cooper) Hotchkiss. He was educated in Naugatuck, and at a boarding school in New Jersey. He learned the trade of a mason from his father, who came to Naugatuck in 1855.

and built the brick part of the Malleable Iron Works, and also the masonry of the Congregational church. Harry S. came to Naugatuck about the same time, and has lived here ever since. He has been engaged in mason work in Naugatuck and other towns for the past 25 years. He married Miria R. Beach, of Winchester, Conn., daughter of Hezekiah Beach. They have a daughter, Cora I., married to Harry A. Bennett, of New York city. Mr. Hotchkiss has held the office of first selectman one year, and third selectman two years, and has been assessor two years. He is a member of the F. & A. M. of Naugatuck, has taken the 32d degree, and is a member of the Mystic Shrine at Bridgeport.

Hooker Hotchkiss, born in Bethany, Conn., in 1841, is a son of Eber and Thirza (Driver) Hotchkiss, the former born April 1st, 1797, died 1849, and the latter born September 30th, 1802. They had eight children: Dillazon, Gracia, Samantha, Jane, Samuel, Eliza, Eber and Hooker. Hooker moved to Naugatuck about 1875 and is engaged in farming and the real estate business. He married in 1888 Elizabeth Culver, daughter of Henry Hotchkiss of Cheshire.

Charles F. Hungerford was born in Watertown, Conn., in 1857. He was educated in the common schools of that town, and at a business college in New Haven. He came to Naugatuck in 1877 and was employed as bookkeeper until 1887, when he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in partnership with W. F. York. The latter retired in July, 1889, and Mr. Hungerford has since conducted the business alone as the Naugatuck Furniture Company. He was elected town clerk in 1890. He was married in 1883, to Carrie, daughter of S. Seabury Scott, of Naugatuck. They have one son, Seabury S.

John L. Isbell was born in Roxbury, Conn., in 1815, removed to Union City in 1832, and engaged in making machinery for woolen and cotton mills. He died in 1877. He was twice married; first to Eliza Botsford, by whom he had one son, John D., who was first lieutenant of the 18th Massachusetts regiment in the war of the rebellion, and died in the service; and one daughter, Frances E., who married John B. Yale. Mrs. Isbell died in 1861, and in 1863, Mr. Isbell married Amy S. Curtiss, of Bridgeport, Conn., daughter of William Curtiss. By this marriage he had three children: Howard L., born 1865; Maud, born 1870; and Arthur C., born 1876.

Hubert H. Johnson was born in Naugatuck in 1837 and was educated at the high school of Naugatuck. He is a brother of the late Professor E. E. Johnson, of Trinity College, and rector of Trinity Parish, Hartford. Mr. Johnson has been principal of the Union City school for 14 years; prior to that he was teacher of the Naugatuck school 11 years. He married Catherine A. Smith, of Naugatuck, in September, 1858. They have six children.

Andrew Knapp was born in Newtown, Conn., June 8th, 1844, and

came to Naugatuck in 1873. He is a son of Andrew Knapp, who was at one time engaged in manufacturing combs at Newtown. Since he came to Naugatuck he has been engaged in keeping the Knapp Club House. This club was organized by him in June, 1875, with a membership of 30. Doctor F. B. Tuttle was president, Andrew Knapp, secretary, and J. T. Garrison, treasurer. This club now has a membership of 169, with E. H. Carrington, president, M. H. Lawless, secretary, and Andrew Knapp, treasurer. Mr. Knapp has always had charge of the club. He is a member of F. & A. M. Lodge of Winsted, of the Ansonia Chapter, and of the Waterbury Council.

James S. Lewis, born in Naugatuck in 1827, is a son of Selden, born 1791, whose father Ezra, born 1768, was a son of John. They all lived and died on the farm now owned by James S. Selden had five children: Albert, Burritt, Amelia, James S. and John E., all living but Albert, who died in 1889. Selden died in 1874. James S. was educated in the common schools of Naugatuck and has always followed farming. He has held the offices of selectman and assessor. He was married in 1852, to Mary J., daughter of Larmon Osborn. She was born in 1829. They have one daughter, Jennie E., who is married to Noyes T. Andrews, and has three children: Lewis F., Alice T. and Mabel.

James O. May, born in Naugatuck in 1853, is a son of James W. and Abigail P. (Hotchkiss) May, who was born in Prospect, Conn. The father of James W. was Calvin, son of Luke, whose father William, was a son of Eleazer, who was the head of the Pomfret branch. James W. settled in Naugatuck about 1844. He had four children: Martha B., Calvin S., Jenny L. and James O., who married, in 1876, Ida E. Judd, daughter of Rufus and Louise Judd, of Waterbury, and has one child, Pauline L., born in 1886. Mr. May is engaged in the drug business, and is manager of the Diamond Laboratory Company of Naugatuck. One Hickox, an ancestor of Mr. May, was the first settler on the east side of the river in Naugatuck. Mr. May's grandfather, Major Orrin Hotchkiss, a prominent officer in the war of 1812, and a man well known in civil authority in New Haven county, was one of the first settlers in Ohio. His farm is supposed to have been where is now Columbus, Ohio, the state capital.

Enoch Newton, born in Naugatuck in 1821, is a son of John and Sybil (Thomas) Newton. John Newton was born in 1788, and died in 1866. He came to Naugatuck with his wife in 1810. They had five children: Thomas H., Hannah F., John, Enoch and Harriet M. They were all born in Naugatuck. The mother was born in 1789, and died in 1867. Thomas H. has been twice married; first to Ellen M. Lewis of Roxbury, and second, to Philura C. Gilbert. Hannah married Ansel Spencer. John married Eliza Thomas. Enoch is a bachelor. His grandfather, Miles Newton, came from Milford and settled in Waterbury. Enoch owns the old Newton homestead in Naugatuck.

Frank S. Nichols was born in Naugatuck October 28th, 1842. His father, Isaac Nichols, of the same town, was born in 1820, and died in 1882. He was a wheelwright and also carried on the grocery business. He served nine months in the 23d Connecticut Volunteers in the rebellion. Frank S. was connected with the Rubber G. M. R. G. Company seven years, then went into the oil business, but finally returned to Naugatuck in 1875, where he bought out his brother, Fred. O. Nichols' grocery, and has since conducted it. He was educated in Naugatuck and at a boarding school in West Haven. He enlisted in the war of the rebellion in 1861, in Company K, 6th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, was in several sharply contested battles, and before Richmond with General Butler, and was discharged in 1864. He was married to Maria Camp, of Plymouth, Conn., and they have two children: Lewis F. and Emma J. Fred. O. Nichols served three years in the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery.

William J. Noble, born in Pittsfield, Mass., in 1857, is a son of William and Ann Noble, who came from England and settled in Pittsfield in 1855. They had ten children, six now living: William J., Henry W., George, Walter, Wallace and Charles. William J. came to Naugatuck in 1879, and was with the Dunham Hosiery Company nearly seven years. He then established the livery business which is still known as Noble's Stable, and is now run by John Breen. In 1884 he married Delia Fallon, of New York state. They have four children: Frank N., Alphonse, May and Myron.

John A. Peck, born in Monroe, Conn., May 6th, 1820, is a son of John, and grandson of Shadrach, natives of Fairfield, Conn. John A. and his father came to Naugatuck in 1840. The former bought the Naugatuck Hotel and ran it for eight years. He remodelled and refurnished it and sold it to Stephen H. Nichols in 1849. He was appointed postmaster of Naugatuck in 1844, and resigned in 1849. He engaged in the manufacture of pocket cutlery, as president of a joint stock company in 1850, and continued the business over 30 years. He temporarily moved to Chicago in 1879, and established a store there in connection with the factory here. Five years later, in 1885, he returned to Naugatuck. He married, in 1840, Eunice, daughter of Enos Candee, of Oxford. They have three children living: Mary E., E. Louise, and Lelia. Mr. Peck served in the legislature from Naugatuck in 1856 and 1869.

Luther S. Platt, born in Middlebury, Conn., July 4th, 1820, is a son of Gideon, and his ancestors for four generations have borne the same name. The grandfather of Luther came from that part of the town of Milford now Orange to Waterbury, now Middlebury. The father of Luther married Lydia Sperry, of Waterbury. They had six children, of whom Luther was the youngest. He married, in 1847, Diantha Thompson, of Middlebury, Conn. They have one son, Frederick G., born in 1848, now engaged in the lumber trade in New Britain,





*77 Schaffner*



Conn. Luther S. was first selectman of the town of Middlebury 14 years, and served in all the offices in that town, except town clerk and treasurer. He represented the town in the legislature in 1861 and 1868. He moved to Naugatuck in 1872, was appointed postmaster, and held this office 11 years, when he resigned in favor of A. J. Wood. Mr. Platt was treasurer of the Naugatuck Savings Bank eight years. He is now engaged in the insurance business and settling estates. He has been collector and trial justice.

FREDERICK F. SCHAFFER, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Prussia. He was born June 12th, 1853, a son of William E. and Dorothy Schaffer, and came with his parents to America when he was a mere child, living first in this country in a small village near New Brunswick, New Jersey. When he was about ten years old his parents removed to that city, where Frederick obtained a limited common school education, being deprived of these advantages when he was 13 years of age, when he began to earn his own livelihood in one of the mills of the New Brunswick Rubber Company. His future education was wholly self-acquired, as the result of a thoughtful, inquiring mind and studious habits, which have greatly aided him in his business successes.

After serving the New Brunswick Company six years, he secured a position with the New Jersey Rubber Company, where he industriously applied himself and learned all the details of manufacturing rubber boots and shoes, becoming very proficient in that business. In November, 1876, he came to Naugatuck, where he took the position of superintendent of the boot and shoe department of the Goodyear India Rubber Glove Manufacturing Company, ably serving in that capacity until the spring of 1885, when he became the general superintendent of the works of that extensive corporation, continuing as such to the present time. Here he has been afforded ample opportunity to demonstrate his thorough knowledge of the manifold details connected with that industry, and his management of its affairs has evinced executive ability of a high order. The corporation has become one of the foremost of the kind in this country. These attributes of skill, tact, and good judgment have also been exercised by Mr. Schaffer in other relations of his life, and being reinforced by a genial disposition, have deservedly made him popular in this community. He has been called to fill positions of honor and trust and in 1891 was elected as the first selectman of the town, in spite of former adverse political majorities. In politics he is a republican, but he has never allowed partisan feeling to obscure his recognition of right and justice outside of his own party lines.

Mr. Schaffer is a member of the Naugatuck Episcopal society and serves as a vestryman. He is also an active secret society man, belonging to both the Masonic and Odd Fellow Lodges of this town, and takes a warm interest in the affairs of these orders. He has been

twice married: first, in December, 1877, to Minnie M., the daughter of Wales Perkins, of Naugatuck, who deceased March 7th, 1888. By this union there were three children: Frederick W., born December 18th, 1878; Winnabel May, born October 20th, 1879, and Hazel J., born July 13th, 1882. For his second wife he married October 8th, 1889, Melicent M., daughter of Richard and Almira Nichols, of Litchfield, Conn., and there is one child, Dorothy A., born April 10th, 1891. All the children survive, and the domestic life of the family is singularly happy and interesting, Mr. Schaffer being a generous husband and a kind and indulgent father.

Joseph Schofield, born in Sheffield, England, in 1830, came to this country in 1862, and worked at cutlery making in Shelburne Falls, Mass., at New Britain, Conn., and at Waldon, N. Y. He then came to Naugatuck and worked for the Naugatuck Cutlery Company until 1886, when he bought the business and is now operating the factory. He manufactures all kinds of pocket cutlery, and his reputation for fine and durable work is acknowledged throughout the country. The business is still carried on under the name of the Naugatuck Cutlery Company. He employs 20 hands. The business was established about 1870. Mr. Schofield was married in England, and brought his wife and five children with him to this country. They now have ten children.

S. Seabury Scott, born in Derby, Conn., in 1838, is a son of Reverend Joseph Scott, an Episcopal minister, who died in Naugatuck in 1859. S. Seabury came to Naugatuck with his parents in 1849, and has since made this place his home. He was engaged in the manufacture of hair pins until 1887. He served as judge of probate, for the district comprising Naugatuck and Beacon Falls, in 1885 and 1886. He is secretary and treasurer of the Naugatuck Water Works. He married Laura Jacobs, of North Haven, in 1860. They have one daughter, wife of Charles F. Hungerford.

CHARLES HENRY SMITH, the popular merchant and postmaster of Union City, was the third child of Richard Lewis and Lydia Ann (Boughton) Smith, of Milford. The father was the oldest child of Ebenezer Smith, who was the second son of David Smith, a descendant of one of the early settlers of Milford. Like his ancestors he was a farmer and was esteemed a good and useful man. He died November 24th, 1884. The mother was born March 12th, 1814, and was the eighth of the ten children of Jonas and Lydia (Hine) Boughton—an old and honored family in the western part of the county. She still survives. Jonas Boughton died in 1859, aged 80 years, and his wife deceased five years later, aged 86 years. Several of their children have also become octogenarians, their lives being full of honors as well as years.

The five children of Richard L. and Lydia A. Smith were: Lewis Brainerd, born September 22d, 1840, who was a captain in the Union



Charles H. Smith



army, in the civil war, and who was killed April 2d, 1865, at Fort Gregg, in front of Richmond; Charlotte Ann, born October 26th, 1842, died September 4th, 1844; Charles Henry, born December 16th, 1844; Emma Eugenia, born July 6th, 1847, became the wife of Otis Street, of Milford; George Franklin, born March 1st, 1852, who is a business man in New York, but resides in Milford.

The boyhood of Charles H. Smith was spent on his father's farm in Milford, attending the high school in the village of Milford, where he received the most of his education. After this he was engaged as a clerk in the store of E. T. Turner, in Waterbury, when he worked five more years in the same capacity for Wilcox, Hall & Co., of New Haven. In April, 1871, he came to Union City when, in partnership with Floyd L. Andrew, he established a mercantile business, which became, by purchase, his own in 1877. His trade has been successfully continued and he is now one of the oldest merchants in the town. On the 18th of June, 1879, he was appointed postmaster of the Union City office and has since filled that position in connection with his mercantile pursuits. He has also been interested in manufacturing, serving as vice-president of the Shepard Manufacturing Company of Union City, from 1886 to 1889.

Mr. Smith has manifested a proper interest in public affairs and was elected third selectman in 1889 and second selectman in 1880. He also serves as treasurer of the Union City school district. In all these relations he has been progressive and public spirited. He has taken an active interest in several secret orders, being a member of Shepherd Masonic Lodge, of Naugatuck, and of the Salem Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen. Of the latter body he was the past master in 1889.

In politics Mr. Smith is a republican, and gives his support to the Congregational society in religious matters. He was married October 3d, 1871, to Ella A., daughter of Samuel Noyes Andrew, and sister of Floyd L. Andrew, his former partner. This family is one of the oldest and most respected in Naugatuck. Two children were born as the fruit of that union: a daughter, Madeline, who died February 20th, 1890, at the age of seven years; and a son, Brainerd A., born March 16th, 1889. Mr. Smith is still a young man, but by his industry and business capacity, has fairly worked out a place for himself among the foremost citizens of the town.

James Smith, born in Middlebury, Conn., in 1815, is a son of William H. Smith, who was born in 1793 and died in 1873. The latter had six sons and four daughters. The father of William H. was Ebenezer, and his grandfather Ebenezer, one of the first settlers of Middlebury. James Smith was the eldest son of William H. He was engaged in the mercantile business in New Haven for about five years, then resided in Middlebury, Conn., two years, after which he removed to Exeter, Otsego county, N. Y., where he was engaged in

farming for 11 years. He then moved to Waterbury, from there to Southbury, then to Middlebury, and in 1873 came to Naugatuck. He was a member of the legislature from Middlebury in 1870. He was married in 1841 to Mary W. Curtiss, of Exeter, N. Y. They have had nine children, seven of whom are living: Floyd B., Mary E., Sarah D., Julia M., William H., George B. (died in infancy), Edward C., Robert M. (died at the age of six years), and Frederick A.

Theodore A. Smith, born in Naugatuck March 12th, 1831, is a son of Lewis Smith and Clara Nichols, a sister of Isaac Nichols. They had two children: Theodore A. and Eliza J., who married Samuel Platt, of West Haven. Theodore married Bertha L. Dennis, of Middlebury, in 1864. They have no children. His grandfather was Elisha Smith. All three generations were blacksmiths. Theodore A. still works at his trade in Millville, Naugatuck. He has been for seven years past, justice of the peace.

Charles Spencer is a son of Thomas and grandson of Deacon Calvin Spencer, all born in what is now Naugatuck. In early life Charles engaged in the millwright and carpenter business. He helped build the large water wheel at the shoe shop, which was at that time said to be the largest one in the United States. Since his father's death he has been farming. He has been twice married; first to Charlotte Patterson, who had one son, Charles, born in 1858. Mrs. Spencer died in 1858. His second wife was Emily, widow of Charles Patterson. She had one daughter, Mary E. Patterson, who married Alvin D. Ayres.

Hiel S. Stevens, born in Waterbury in 1814, is a son of David, and grandson of Elisha Stevens. The family settled early in Naugatuck and has been identified with its industries for nearly a century. Hiel S. Stevens learned the carpenter's trade and has worked at it nearly all his life, and has helped construct a large number of buildings in Naugatuck. He has held the offices of town treasurer and selectman, has represented the town three terms in the legislature and has twice represented the district as senator. He married Rebecca Lines, of Bethany, February 14th, 1850. They have had three children: Alice E., born in 1850; Emma F., born in 1852; and Edward E., born in 1863. Mrs. Stevens died in 1874. Edward E. is the only survivor of the children.

Edward J. Sweeney, born in Tarrytown, N. Y., in 1857, is a son of Eugene and Mary A. (Webb) Sweeney, both born in Ireland. They had six children, who came to Naugatuck with their parents in 1860. One son, Eugene, is a lawyer in New York, William is a banker in Montana, Dennis is foreman of the arctic department Rubber Company, G. M. R. Edward J. was educated in Naugatuck, and engaged first at carpenter work. He started in business in 1884, as an art dealer and picture framer. He married Ellen Leary, of New York, in 1882. They have three children: Mary, Nellie and

Eugene. Mr. Sweeney is a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters.

James E. Sweeney, son of Edward Sweeney, was born in Naugatuck November 6th, 1856. He was educated at the high school of Naugatuck, and one term at Cargill Commercial School, New Haven. He was employed for two years as a teacher in Naugatuck, and one year in Litchfield, Litchfield county. He was appointed deputy sheriff in 1884, was reappointed in June, 1887, and again in 1891 for four years. He also engaged in the insurance and real estate business. He married Frank E., daughter of Samuel Platt, of Naugatuck. They have one son, James P., born October 23d, 1888.

Isaac B. Tolles, born in Bethany in 1816, was a son of Daniel, and grandson of Daniel, both natives of Bethany, and among the pioneers of that town. Jared Tolles, an uncle of Isaac's father, served in the revolutionary war, and was a pensioner. Isaac B. was engaged in mercantile business in Bethany until 1847, when he came to Naugatuck and engaged in business in a general store one year. He then returned to Bethany and remained there four years. Moving back to Naugatuck in 1852, he has since made that place his home. He continued the mercantile business until 1882, then retired, and has since been a farmer. He married Maria W. Buckingham of Middlebury, in 1843. They had eight children, of whom Colonel Fremont W. is in the furniture and undertaking business in Naugatuck. He succeeded David Smith in 1874. E. F. Bassett established the business in 1850. Under Mr. Tolles' management the business has been prosperous, and today six men find employment in this establishment. Fremont W. Tolles was a member of the legislature from Naugatuck in 1883, filling the office of clerk of the committee on banks. He has been elected town treasurer three times; is an incorporator of the Naugatuck Savings Bank, took an active part in the organization of the Naugatuck National Bank, and is director and vice-president of same; is agent of Hillside Cemetery and superintendent and secretary of the Grove Cemetery Association; has been for 10 years treasurer of Centennial Lodge of Odd Fellows, and a director of the Odd Fellows' Mutual Aid Association of Connecticut. He is an ardent lover of the gun and rod, and although one of Naugatuck's busy men, annually finds time for an outing in the woods of Maine and Canada, and takes pride in showing his friends the various heads he has taken during these outings, which include moose, caribou, deer and bear.

Bronson B. Tuttle, born in Prospect, Conn., December 28th, 1835, is a son of E. C. Tuttle, who is well known as the manufacturer of light farming tools, of the Tuttle Manufacturing Company, and E. C. Tuttle Manufacturing Company, of Naugatuck, also the founder of the Auburn Manufacturing Company, of Auburn, N. Y. The early life of our subject was spent with his father in managing the business. After his father's works burned, he formed a partnership with J. H. Whitte-

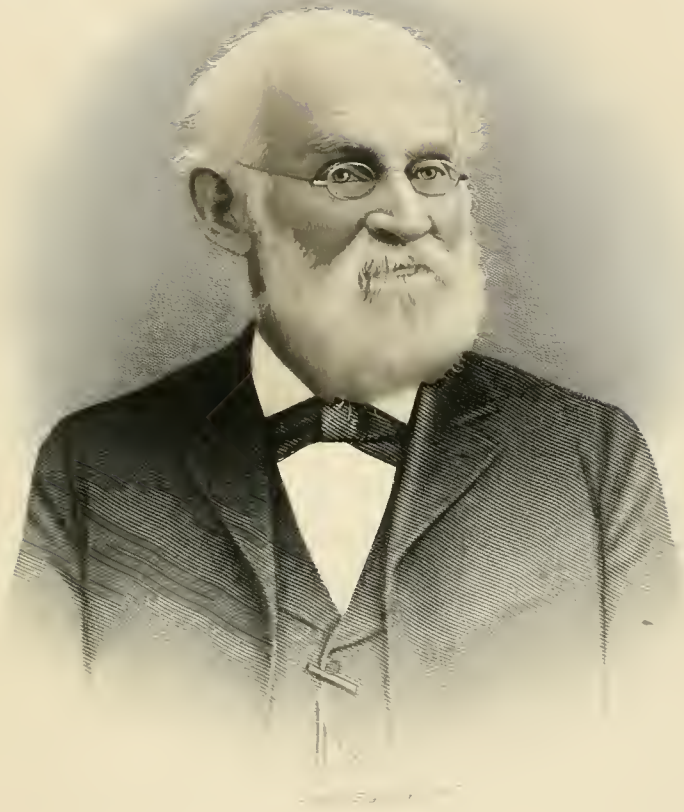
more in manufacturing malleable iron castings, not only in his own town, but also in Troy, Cleveland, Indianapolis and Chicago. He has been connected with the Naugatuck Savings Bank and Naugatuck National Bank, both as a trustee and director. He has been elected as senator from the 5th district.

HOMER TWITCHELL was born in Oxford, Conn, August 19th, 1826, his parents being Isaac and Frances (Smith) Twitchell. The father was a son of Enoch Twitchell, also of Oxford, who was in the sixth generation in descent from Jacob Twitchell, one of the first settlers of Massachusetts. Isaac Twitchell died September 1st, 1849, aged 72½ years, and his wife deceased April 2d, 1865, at the age of 83 years. Their son, Homer, was the youngest member of a family of nine sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to mature years, and was the only one to remain continuously in the county. He has always been identified with the interests of the Naugatuck valley. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm, where he received a common school education. When he was 18 years of age he went to Waterbury to learn the trade of a pocket cutler, and since 1844 he has followed manufacturing pursuits. After being engaged some years as a workman in the shops of the Union Knife Company and other establishments, he became the superintendent of the Connecticut Cutlery Company, being connected with that industry until 1870. In that year he began the manufacture of umbrella trimmings at Union City, adding safety pins in 1872. These specialties he has since successfully produced, their manufacture constituting an extensive and lucrative business. In 1879 his son became an associate member of the firm, which then became Homer Twitchell & Son, and as such has been continued.

Besides being at the head of this enterprise Mr. Twitchell has been actively connected with the advancement of other industries, identifying himself with such projects as would, in his opinion, best advance the interests of his adopted town, in whose welfare he has always manifested a proper concern. He was active in forming the Naugatuck Water Company, and was first president of that corporation. He was, also, one of the organizers of the Naugatuck Savings and National Banks, serving as president of the former institution until 1889 and since as a trustee. Of the latter bank he is a director.

Mr. Twitchell has always been an advocate of the principles of democracy, and has been elevated by that party and others of his townsmen to many positions of honor and trust, in all of which he has given most creditable service. His later preferments were unsought on his part, the nominations being freely tendered to him, and his worth and popularity easily secured his election. In addition to filling a number of minor offices in the town, he was the first selectman a number of years. In 1864 he was elected the representative from Naugatuck in the state legislature. Twenty years later, in 1884, he was a delegate to the national democratic convention, which nomi-





Norman Jewett



nated Grover Cleveland for president. In 1888 he was chosen the state senator from the Fifth Senatorial district, and was reëlected in 1890. In these bodies he was active and influential, bringing to bear upon his public life the same energy and good judgment which he has applied to his business ventures.

Since 1845 Mr. Twitchell has been a member of the Masonic order and was several times elected as master of the Lodge in Naugatuck. Although not a member of that organization, he has identified himself with the Congregational society and supports its measures.

Senator Twitchell was married May 21st, 1855, to Lavinia, daughter of Abner Mason, of South Coventry, Conn. By this union there was one child, Frank Mason, born April 7th, 1856, who was also trained to mechanical pursuits, and is now a successful manufacturer of this town. In December, 1883, he was married to Emma, daughter of A. J. Spencer, of Middletown, Conn. Both father and son are properly classed as representative men of this community, having largely contributed to its development as a manufacturing center and place of industrial thrift and prosperity.

WILLIAM WARD, one of the oldest native manufacturers of Naugatuck, was born in what is now that town March 7th, 1825. Until he was 18 years old his time was taking up working on a farm, in a comb shop, the woolen mill of William De Forest & Co., and attending for a short period the common schools of that day, his educational privileges being limited to those meager opportunities. In the spring of 1843 he went to Washington, Conn., to learn the wagon maker's trade, which occupation he followed at his native place from the fall of 1844, with a little exception, until the fall of 1848. He now removed to New Haven, where he was employed by the carriage making firm of Starr & Darrow, located at the foot of Wooster street, and was later in the employ, for a number of years, of G. D. Cook & Co., carriage builders, on State street, in the same city. In the spring of 1864 he accompanied George Cook to Central City, Colorado, where he was connected with the Cook & Kimball Mining Company more than a year, when, in the winter of 1865-6, he returned to New Haven, crossing with a mule team the northern portion of what was then called the Great American Desert.

In April, 1866, he removed his family from New Haven into the old homestead, in Naugatuck, where he has since permanently resided, engaging the following year with his elder brother, Lauren, in a manufacturing business which has been successfully carried on by them as L. & W. Ward. They produce a full line of brass curtain, screw and ring goods, and their industry is well supported. The brothers are recognized as being among the most useful citizens of the town.

William Ward is a lineal descendant of two of the oldest families in the state, the ancestry of both being clearly traced back to England.

Andrew Ward, the first American progenitor, on the father's side, was a son of Richard Ward, of Suffolk, England. He lived in Boston as early as 1634, being made a freeman of that town May 14th, that year. Two years later he settled in Wethersfield, Conn., where he was a member of the first church in the state, and was also a member of the first court in Connecticut. He died in Fairfield, Conn., in 1659, leaving a son, Andrew Ward, Jr., born in 1647, who settled in the eastern part of this county, but died in Killingworth. One of his sons, Captain William Ward, born October 18th, 1678, became a resident of Wallingford, where his son, John Ward, a druggist, was born in 1714. Abel Ward, a son of the latter and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was also born in Wallingford, July 1st, 1740. He removed to Woodbridge, where he had married Rachel Hotchkiss, September 21st, 1787, who bore him one son, Richard, the father of William Ward.

Richard Ward was raised in what is now the town of Bethany, and was married December 15th, 1811, to Roxanna, a daughter of Culpeper Hoadley (who was a revolutionary soldier), and Mollie Lewis, his wife. She was a granddaughter of Samuel Lewis, Esq., of Lewistown, Naugatuck, who was a son of Joseph Lewis, an early settler of the southern part of old Waterbury, who was a grandson of John Lewis, of Kent, England, who sailed in the ship "Hercules," for New England in the month of March, 1635. The children of Richard and Roxanna Ward were: Lewis, born September 27th, 1812, died in Naugatuck, August 3d, 1878; Lauren, born December 27th, 1814, now a member of the firm of L. & W. Ward, manufacturers, Naugatuck; Maria, born February 11th, 1819, living as the widow of Ralph Smith at Bridgeport, Conn.; Mary, born February 17th, 1823, died August 2d, 1842; William, born March 7th, 1825, the youngest of the family.

Richard Ward died at Naugatuck March 2d, 1851, his widow surviving him until February 6th, 1865. He was a man of many excellent parts, of sterling honesty, industrious in his habits and possessed more than ordinary ingenuity in his mechanical pursuits. By trade he was a millwright, but subsequently he was engaged in the manufacture of wagon spokes, pumps and clocks. In the latter occupation he invented a clock which was practically self-winding. He was also a pioneer manufacturer of lead pipe for hydraulic purposes, and was one of the first, if not the first, to draw lead pipe of continuous lengths in this country. He was one of the principal mechanics in his day and helped to lay the foundation for the manufacturing industries of this town, which have given it such a favorable position. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812.

William Ward was married May 2d, 1852, to Elizabeth A. Hine, of Milford, Conn., and the fruits of the union were three children: Emmie E., born May 6th, 1853, married Walter P. Hatch, May 20th, 1873, and resides in Milwaukee, Wis.; Alice M., born February 4th, 1856,



*William Ward*



married Charles A. Briggs, of Clermont, New Hampshire, April 20th, 1876, now living in Waterbury; Josephine B., born October 27th, 1864, married Clarence C. Isbell, of Milford, September 10th, 1884, and now living at North Adams, Mass.

Mr. Ward has, since the organization of that party, been an active republican, serving a number of years as chairman of the Naugatuck town committee. But while taking a lively interest in the affairs of his town, he has generally refused to be a candidate for office. He was one of the incorporators of the Grove Cemetery Association, and has been for several years a trustee of the Naugatuck Savings Bank. Few public improvements have been made without his favorable support. He is also well known as an antiquarian and has searched the old Waterbury records diligently for facts relating to the first settlers of what is now the town of Naugatuck. The genealogy of the Ward family has greatly interested him, and he has extensively traced the history of his ancestors, gathering a large fund of matter, with a view to publication, but on account of stress of other business duties, has been compelled to leave to others the completion of that important work.

Charles O. Wedge, born in Naugatuck, May 27th, 1842, is a son of Chauncey J. and Polly S. (Farrell) Wedge. They had nine children: Jane O., Adelia A., Helen M., Charles O., Franklin C., Chester J., Edwin G., Lydia P., and Leva S., of whom Charles O. was the eldest son. Chauncey J. was born in 1812 while his father was in the war. He was a carpenter and wheelwright, and was engaged in this occupation nearly 60 years, building many large manufactories in this and other states. Charles O. and Franklin C. are the only children that live in Naugatuck, and both are carpenters. Charles O. commenced to learn the carpenter trade when 12 years of age, with his father, and followed this calling for three years. In 1857, at the age of 15 years, he engaged with Lyman Bradley, the pioneer knife maker of the United States, in the manufacture of pocket cutlery, in Middlebury, Conn., and followed that occupation until 1878. Since that time he has been a contractor and builder, and has built a number of dwellings and other buildings in Naugatuck and adjacent towns. In 1865 he married Delia Palmer, of Sharon, Conn., and from this union they have three daughters: Delia A., Lena P. and Gertrude J. Delia A. was married to Henry P. Bird in November, 1888, of Shekomeko, N. Y., and resides in Danbury, Conn.

Noyes S. Wilmot, son of John and grandson of Valentine Wilmot, both farmers, was born in Naugatuck in 1830. At an early age he began work as a moulder for Tuttle, Whittemore & Co., and was superintendent of their shop for 22 years. He was one of the first moulders in this shop, beginning about 1852. He enlisted August 30th, 1862, in Company H, 23d Regiment Conn. Vol., was taken prisoner at the battle of Brashear City, and was paroled shortly after. He was discharged August 31st, 1863. He was married in 1859 to

Mary A. Breneiser, of Reading, Pa. They have seven children: Edmund B., Louisa R., Frank H., Charles E., Louis H., Benneville N. and Mary T.

Andrew Wylie was born in Elderslie, Scotland, in 1851, and came to this country in 1869. He first went to Perry, N. Y., and came to Naugatuck in April, 1870, where he worked in the woolen mills six years as a spinner. Afterward he became baggage master at Naugatuck station, and finally he engaged as shipping clerk for the glove company, where he has since been employed. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. of Naugatuck. He was married in 1871 to Sibley Baxter, who came from Port William, Scotland, the same year that Mr. Wylie did. They have six children living: Isabella G., Sibley D., Alexander J., Barbara W., Andrew B. and William H. They have lost two: Catherine J., aged 17, and Barbara, aged 8.



## CHAPTER XVII.

### THE TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY.

Description and Natural Features.—Settlement and Settlers.—Civil Organization.—Town Officers.—Roads and Bridges.—General Interests.—Middlebury Village.—Physicians.—Quassepaug Lake.—Schools.—Religious Interests.—Cemetery.—Biographical Sketches.

ORGANIZED as a parish in 1791 and incorporated a town in 1807, Middlebury received its name from the fact that it occupies a *middle* position between Waterbury and Southbury, from which it was mainly formed. On the north is Watertown, and northwest Woodbury, in Litchfield county; south and southeast are Oxford and Naugatuck. The town is small, being less than five miles square, with greater length north and south. The surface is elevated and broken by high hills, the chief ones being Mount Fair, on the east, Sandy Hill, on the south, and Breakneck in the northwestern part. The latter, tradition says, received its name in the times of the revolution, when General Lafayette, with his command, passed over it on his way from the east to the Hudson river country. In descending the steep hill, one of the oxen used in transporting goods, fell and broke his neck—hence the name. It is a fact, however, that the name Breakneck was applied to that locality many years before the revolution,\* and was, no doubt, suggested by its perpendicular appearance, as viewed from some directions. Many huge rocks are scattered over the surface of the town, or appear in ledges. Most of them are granite. There are fine lands in some localities, which have been well improved. In other parts the soil is not susceptible of successful tillage, being rough and sterile, but has been used for grazing purposes.

Nearly the entire drainage is into the Naugatuck and the Housatonic. Into the latter stream flows the Eight Mile brook, being the boundary line on the west and the outlet of Quassepaug lake or pond. This is a beautiful sheet of water, with pleasant surroundings which have caused it to become a place of resort. Southeast is Kissawaug or Long Meadow pond, whose outlet, flowing into the Naugatuck, is Towantic brook. Hop brook, flowing into the same stream several miles farther north, drains the northeastern part of the town, having

\*See Cothren's "History of Woodbury."

as affluents a number of small brooks. Numerous springs abound in the town.

Nearly all the present territory of Middlebury was included in the Mattatuck purchase and the early history is closely connected with that of Woodbury and Waterbury. Settlements were not made as early as in the localities along the Naugatuck and the Pomperaug and by far the greatest influx was after the revolution. Among those who claim pioneer distinction were the Bronsons, in the Breakneck section, where, in 1707, was born in the family of Isaac Bronson, the first white child. This also received the name of Isaac, who became a well-known citizen of that part of the town and was the great-grandfather of Julius Bronson, born in the same locality in 1807, and who was, in 1890, one of the few surviving old men in the town. The Bronsons were numerous and influential; but few have remained in Middlebury. Here the Abbott family settled later and descendants occupy some of the old places improved many years ago. The Tyler family lived west of the Bronsons, in what is to this day called the Tybertown district. Here was born the Reverend Bennett Tyler, D. D., who became famous as one of the old school theologians, and was president of Dartmouth College.

Ebenezer Smith was nearer the outlet of the Quassepaug, locating there about 1720. He had sons named Ebenezer, Samuel and Daniel, the former serving in the revolution. For many years they were leading men in that part of the town, in which some of the Tuttle also settled in 1740, and became active in affairs of the community.

In the southern part of the town David Wooster settled about the same time. He opened a good farm and made fine improvements. The Wooster house, built before the revolution, still remains in a good state of preservation. Historic interest attaches to it on account of the fact that Chauncey Judd was there confined several days after the robbery of Captain Dayton, of Bethany,\* in the revolution. The property still belongs to the Wooster family.

In 1800, or soon after, there lived in Middlebury, James Tyler, Ashbel Munson, Abner Munson, Thaddeus Bronson, Elisha Blackman, James Porter, Jonathan Sanford, Titus Bronson, Thomas B. Wooster, Philo Bronson, Gad Bristol, Anson Tuttle, Ephraim Tuttle, Jairus Bronson, Roswell Tyler, Jacob Hall, Beers Radford, Job Wheeler, Daniel Abbott, Eli Thompson, Ebenezer Smith, Jr., Daniel Tyler, Jr., Aaron Benedict, Ebenezer Richardson, David Hine, Adonijah Scott, Samuel Benham, Jr., Daniel Wooster, Thomas Mallory, Ezekiel Stone, John Stone, Phineas Benham, Eli Hine, David Wooster, Japhet Benham, Amos Benham, Enos Bradley, David Porter, Alexander Hine, Nathaniel Richardson, Simon Manville, Asabel Bronson, Augustus Peck, Roswell Bronson, John Bradley, Truman Stoddard, Horace Bronson, Daniel Tyler, Samuel Porter, Hezekiah Clark, Josiah Porter,

\*See account of Bethany.

John Manville, Enos Gunn, David Mallory, Gamaliel Fenn, Edward Smith, Jr., Samuel Merrill, Jesse Roberts, Jonas Bronson, Marcus Bronson, Caleb Munson, Lambert Munson, Seth Bronson, Benjamin Hine, Larmon Townsend, Asa Wheeler, David Abbott, Jacob Scott, Samuel Fenn, John Northrup, Uri Manville, Isaac Bronson, David Mallory, Gideon Platt, Thomas Riggs, Amos Camp, John Gunn, Asa Fenn, David Hungerford, Mark Mead, William Bassett, A. M. Northrup, Stephen Stone, Agur Bassett, Andrew Clark, Hezekiah Peck, Anson Platt, Philo Scott, Miles Newton, Henry Tyler, Alvin Tuttle, Mark Stone, Joseph Munson, Laban Hine, Nathan Clark, Caleb Nettleton, Calvin Camp, Leonard Bronson, Manville Scott, William H. Smith, Erastus Tyler, Abraham Osborne, Azubah Munson, Larmon G. Townsend, Charles Townsend, Anson Platt, Henry Townsend, Horace Manville, Ira Mallory, Garry Scott, Stephen S. Hawley, Chester Riggs, Alvin Hine, Garry Wooster, Elihu Baldwin and James Williams.

In the last 50 years the character of the population has been changed, many of the old families becoming extinct and a new element coming in. The inhabitants are also less in number than 50 years ago, being less than 700.

Middlebury was incorporated as a town by an act of the October, 1807, general assembly, on the petition of Ebenezer Smith and others of the Society of Middlebury, in the towns of Waterbury, Woodbury and Southbury. The petition was filed April 24th, 1807, and the prayer was that the bounds of the town should be the same as those of the parish of Middlebury. The towns of Woodbury and Southbury consented to the incorporation without protest, but Waterbury objected, as the arrangement would deprive it of some of its best citizens. The question of the relative support of the poor and the maintenance of the bridges on division lines was left for decision to a commission composed of Andrew Hull and Rufus Hitchcock, of Cheshire; Josiah Dudley, of Derby, and Mark Harrison, of Wolcott. This committee was to meet at Beecher's inn, at Nangatuck, in December, 1807.

The first town meeting was held at the meeting house November 16th, 1807, and those elected were the following: Clerk, Larmon Townsend; selectmen, Eli Bronson, Aaron Benedict, Ephraim Tuttle; treasurer, Larmon Townsend; constables, Stiles Thompson, Amos Benham; listers, Nathaniel Richardson, Asahel Bronson, Isaac Riggs, Theophilus Baldwin, Ezekiel Stone; grand jurors, Adam Tuttle, Titus Bronson, Ebenezer Richardson; tything men, Ezekiel Stone, Roswell Tyler; surveyors of highways, John Bradley, Hezekiah Clark, Daniel Smith, Isaac Riggs, Eli Hine, Job Wheeler, Roswell Tyler, Caleb Munson, Jr., Eli Thompson, Dan Sexton, Philo Bronson, Abel B. Bronson, Daniel Wooster, Augustus Peck.

The following committee was appointed to settle with the old towns out of which Middlebury was formed: Ephraim Tuttle, Eli Bronson, Aaron Benedict, John Stone, Simeon Manville, Daniel Smith, Eli Hine.

On the 11th of April, 1808, the town voted, by 67 to none, to become a part of New Haven county, and Captain Isaac Bronson was appointed to convey the sense of the meeting, as expressed by the vote, to the proper authorities.

On the 19th of September, 1808, David Thompson, Esq., Eli Bronson, Larmon Townsend, Roswell Bronson and Aaron Benedict were appointed to memorialize President Thomas Jefferson in regard to the privations resulting from the enforcement of the embargo laws, which they did in a fine paper.

In 1818 Aaron Benedict was chosen delegate to the constitutional convention, and when the town voted on the adoption of the constitution, October 5th, 1818, but 23 favored it and 76 were opposed.

The town clerks of Middlebury have been: 1807 to 1844, Larmon Townsend; 1845 to 1852, Albert Crane; 1853, George B. Parsons; 1853 to 1857, E. S. Smith; and from 1857, continuously to 1890, Marcus De Forest.

Considering the small population of Middlebury, its roads are usually in a good condition. The annual outlay for their maintenance approximates \$1,000, including repairs on bridges. One of the first bridges built by the town was at the outlet of Quassepaug lake, put up in 1810. It stood a few rods above Foot's mill. The construction of the early roads was a vexatious matter. The courses were often poorly defined, sometimes in dispute and frequently modified, as the opening of new farms demanded. Moreover, the means were limited and labor not at all times available. Various methods for keeping them in repair were tried, sometimes being put in charge of many supervisors, and at other times being sold to lowest bidder to keep in repair. In 1855 they were placed in charge of a committee, composed of Luther S. Platt, Josiah Hine, James D. Wooster, Lester Bronson and H. F. Johnson. Ten years later Robert Camp was appointed town inspector of roads.

Since 1881 the town has had the benefit of a line of railway, the New England railroad passing through the southeastern part and having a flag station at Bradley's.

Agriculture affords the principal occupation of the people, and there are a number of rich, productive farms, with neat and well-kept buildings. Until 50 years ago a number of other industries gave profitable occupation, whose pursuit has been transferred to manufacturing centers. There were a number of small mills and shops on the brooks, and in other localities were cooperages, hat shops and fruit distilleries, which brought large sums of money into the town. Among the hatters were the Benhams and the Tutties, the former being half a mile south of the center. But little has been done in distilling since 1878. Among those who formerly carried on that business were: Nathaniel Richardson, Eli Thompson, William Brown and Henry S. Wheeler. The cooperages were engaged in making casks

for the West Indies trade, and those who had large shops were: Daniel Wooster, Thomas D. Wooster, Uri Manville and Burritt Manville.

There was in the beginning of the present century, at the outlet of the Quassepaug lake a mill known as Foote's, which soon after became the property of Michael Bowers. As such it became favorably known. Near the same place George Lewis and others had a small woolen mill, and at a later day satinets were made in that locality. All have long since passed away.

In the northern part of the town Daniel Abbott and others manufactured a new kind of pump, discontinuing about 1850. At one time a large business was done. In the same part of town, on Hop brook, Isaac Bronson built a saw mill, about 1787. This was owned by the Bronson family until 1856, and Levings Abbott has since been the owner. Lower down the brook were the Moses mills, one of them being spoken of as old in 1808, when John Moses, of Massachusetts, conveyed them to Abraham Moses. Before 1820 Eli Hine was the owner, and they were last operated as corn mills. The next lower power was used, from 1845 for about ten years, by Leonard Fenn, who had an axe factory. He was a skillful workman. Later files were there made by Reagan and others. The building was destroyed by fire. Lower down the stream Otis Ellis improved a small power, about 30 years ago, and metal buttons were there made. That industry passed away many years ago.

At the hamlet of Bradleyville, on Hop brook, near the east line of the town, Enos Bradley built a saw mill and clothing works some time after 1795. He was a fine cloth dresser, and rough cloths were brought to this mill from all parts of the county. After his death, in 1845, Lyman Bradley manufactured here, making wagon wheels. At a later period he made pocket cutlery and disposed of this business to Samuel Root, who successfully manufactured pocket cutlery at that point. He employed a number of skilled English workmen and produced a fine line of goods. Operations were discontinued in 1887, and many buildings at Bradleyville, in consequence, have been vacated. In other parts of the town Nathan Newton and David Wooster carried on the manufacture of wagons.

North of Bradleyville the manufacture of brick was carried on extensively by Samuel French, who there erected a large brick mansion. Later Roswell Wheaton had a brick yard at the same place.

Near the geographical center of the town is the village of Middlebury, often called Middlebury Center. It is located on a plateau overlooking much of the surrounding country, and has a pleasant and healthy situation. There are about a dozen buildings, grouped around a green of several acres, among them being Congregational and Methodist churches, and a two-story school building which was erected in 1814 for an academy. At the village is kept the Middlebury post office, which has a daily mail supply by stage from Waterbury.

In the earlier history of the village, whose existence began with the organization of the town, several stores and public houses did a large local business. Larmon Townsend here engaged in trade about 1808, coming from Gunntown, and successfully continued until his death about 1845. His store was on the west side of the green, and his residence the present Wheaton place. Samuel Smith began trading near the same period, and in 1841 James Smith & Co. were merchants at this point. In later years but little merchandising has been done.

Public houses also have become things of the past. Amos Camp had an inn about 1820 and later; John Bradley kept a house where is now the Congregational parsonage; Mark Stone was on the south side of the square, and Harris Smith on the southwest corner of the green.

It is said that Doctor Abel Bronson was the first physician in the town. Doctor Stephen S. Hawley located a mile east of the village before 1800, and died in the town. Doctor Marcus DeForest has been a practitioner more than a score of years. Other physicians have been Doctors Foote, Lindsley, Norton and Crane.

The beautiful Quassepaug lake is on the northwestern line of the town and lies partly in Woodbury. It is about two miles long and more than a mile in width. Its waters are clear, cool and in parts very deep. The lake abounds with fish, mostly bass and pickerel, and the locality has always been a favorite resort of sportsmen. The outlet of the lake is Eight Mile brook, which was early utilized to operate mills, etc., but in more recent years the privilege has become the property of the Southford Paper Company, which uses the power at its mills, and the intermediate sites have been abandoned.

The scenic attractions of this locality are numerous, which led to the selection of the lake as a place for pleasure resort, in 1874. That year Hiram J. Wallace purchased the Uri Manville farm, at the south end of the lake, and began his improvements, which have been continued from year to year. In 1883 his son, George W., was associated with him, and after his father's death, in 1888, he became the owner of the resort. This embraces a hotel, a number of attractive buildings, arranged for the comfort and amusement of the guests who so freely patronize it; a score of row boats and the steam yacht "White Deer," placed on the lake in 1888, which has a carrying capacity for 36 persons. The Wallace resort is connected with Waterbury by telephone.

On the east side of the lake is another resort, called Richardson's Grove, consisting of 16 acres. Its improvement was begun in 1878 by Eben E. Richardson, and has been carried on by him until it has become a delightful and popular resort. Several cottages have been provided for permanent homes, and all the conveniences for a day re-

sort have been attractively arranged. At this place a specialty is made of shore dinners, which are largely patronized.

Schools have been maintained in the town since its organic existence, and soon after the first settlers had come, efforts to educate the youth had been made. In the principal neighborhoods school houses had been built, which now passed under district control. In the main these districts have been continued as the Center, Breakneck, Kissewaug and Hop Swamp, in each of which 36 weeks of school was maintained, in 1889, at an outlay of more than \$1,100. At the Center an academy or select school was successfully taught about 30 years, in a building especially erected for it, about 1814. It has long been used for a public school house and a town hall.

In 1856 the schools of Middlebury were placed in charge of a board of trustees, composed of Jonathan Judd, Gilman E. Hill, Marcus De-Forest, E. S. Smith, Ebenezer Smith and D. M. Beardsley. In 1889 the school visitors were G. B. Bristol, H. S. Atwood, L. Abbott, D. M. Fenn, G. W. Elliott and A. S. Clark.

The town also had a public library, which has been allowed to go down, although some of the books still remain to tell of its former usefulness.

The Ecclesiastical Society of Middlebury was created by the general assembly December 29th, 1790, and the new parish was made to embrace parts of Woodbury, Waterbury and Southbury. The meeting for organization was held January 27th, 1791, and arrangements were soon made for preaching services. Provision was also made for building a meeting house. A frame structure, 38 by 54 feet, was put up in 1793, and was used early the following year. It was last occupied May 5th, 1839, when it was taken down and the erection of the present edifice begun. This was dedicated April 29th, 1840, and cost, as then arranged, \$3,438.41. It was at that time regarded as a fine place of worship, but subsequent improvements have modernized it and made it more attractive. A parsonage on an adjoining lot affords a comfortable home.

The members of the society were not constituted a church until February 10th, 1796, when the following 12 persons entered into covenant relations: Josiah Bronson, Isaac Bronson, Thomas Richardson, Nathan Osborn, Samuel Chatfield, Seth Bronson, James Tyler, Titus Bronson, Elijah Bronson, Josiah Bronson, Jr., Eunice Richardson, Elizabeth Osborn.

At this time Josiah Bronson was chosen as the clerk of the church. On the following March 22d, 24 more persons were added to the membership of the church, the males being Daniel Tyler, John Stone and John Thompson. Among the females were the wives of Isaac Bronson, Josiah Bronson, James Tyler, James Manville, Samuel Chatfield, Seth Bronson, Elijah Bronson, Eli Bronson, Nathaniel Richardson, Thomas Barnes, Asa Lyman, Daniel Tyler, Eli Thompson, Amos

Curtis, John Thomson, Josiah Bronson, Jr., Ezekiel Tuttle, Reuben Webb, Roswell Bronson. The deacons appointed this year were Nathan Osborn and Seth Bronson.

In 1799 15 persons were enrolled as members, and in 1800, 37 joined. For the next dozen years, but a few joined each year, but in 1814, 26 joined, and in 1817, 28. A like number were added in 1822. In the three years following 1830, about 100 persons entered into fellowship. In 1842 there was another period of revival, some 25 persons joining; about the same number were added in 1855, and nearly double that number joined in 1868. In 1889 the church had 91 members, of whom 30 were reported as living outside of the bounds of the parish.

The church had no regular minister until the Reverend Ira Hart was ordained and installed November 6th, 1798. He was dismissed April 5th, 1809, and was succeeded by the Reverend Mark Mead, ordained and installed November 4th, 1809, and dismissed March 30th, 1830; Jason Atwater, installed October 20th, 1830, and dismissed October 15th, 1845; George P. Prudden, as stated supply, from December, 1845, to March 30th, 1851; Joel R. Arnold, as stated supply, from December 1st, 1851, to March, 1854; R. J. Cone, as stated supply, from June 3d, 1854, to December 16th, 1855; Jonathan S. Judd, installed June 25th, 1856, and died during his pastorate, May 11th, 1864; Clinton Clark, as stated supply, commencing June 1st, 1865. He was suddenly taken ill September 23d, 1871, and died on the highway between the farms of Eli and Jerad Bronson.

Reverend David Breed began preaching in May, 1872, and was installed October 17th, the same year. He resigned October 30th, 1876, and was the last regular pastor. The ministers since that time have been stated supplies, as follows: H. G. Marshall, from June 1st, 1877, to June 7th, 1885; William J. Murphy, from October 4th, 1885, to November 6th, 1887; Myron A. Munson, from May 28th, 1888, to November 25th, same year; William F. Avery, since December 17th, 1888.

Those elected to the office of deacon were, in 1796, Nathan Osborn and Seth Bronson, the latter serving until his death in 1828; John Stone, 1799-1834; Ebenezer Richardson, 1818-26; Sherman Curtis, 1825-48; Leonard Bronson, 1833-50; Daniel Clark, 1833-6; Giles A. Gaylord, 1836-42; Robert H. Bronson, 1845-52; Joseph P. Platt, 1852-63; Marcus Bronson, 1853-6; Gillman E. Hill, 1856-79;\* Gould S. Clark, 1864 to present time; Lewis B. Tucker, 1872-6; J. C. Scovill, 1877-87;\* David M. Fenn, 1888 to present time; Frederick G. Scott, 1888 to present time.

Doctor M. De Forest is clerk of the parish and treasurer of the several funds created for the maintenance of the church work. The oldest of these, the "Ministerial Fund," was begun March 17th, 1790, and was raised to £1,086, or about \$3,621. The contributions varied

\*Died in office.



from £1 to £105, the latter being given by Benjamin Munson. Josiah Bronson was the treasurer of this so-called "Bank for the support of the Gospel in Middlebury." In 1890 this fund amounted to \$3,725. A second or new fund was raised by "The Middlebury Fund Company," organized January 13th, 1814, and originally amounted to \$1,136. Philo Bronson was clerk of this fund and was succeeded by Ebenezer Smith, Robert Camp and Doctor De Forest, in the order named.

The Sabbath school connected with the church has 75 members enrolled, and D. M. Fenn is the superintendent.

It is said that Jesse Lee visited the town as early as 1790\* and preached the doctrines of Methodism; that eight years later Peter Van Ness came, and was followed, in 1800, by James Coleman; by Ebenezer Woodburn, in 1803; Phineas Pierce, in 1808; Gad Smith, in 1812; and Billy Hibbard, in 1815. They held meetings at the houses of Daniel and David Abbott; in a barn and cider mill, near Tylertown; at the Breakneck school house, and more latterly at the academy at the Center. As a result a number of persons were converted and the present Methodist church thus early had its beginning. Among the early members were: at the first period named, Daniel Abbott; in 1806, Thomas B. Wooster, Jacob Hall, Ephraim Tuttle, Joseph Munson, Lucinda Wooster Munson; in 1810, James Wooster and Nancy his wife, the former a very pious man and the latter also abounding in good works which were richly attested in her legacy of \$1,500. In 1812 or 1813, David Abbott and Sarah Tyler, his wife, became Methodists, the latter leaving the Congregational church, much against the will of her parents and friends. For many years this worthy couple were leading Methodists, and their son, Ira, was a minister from 1839 until 1875. Another son, Alvin, also preached a short time. Four grandsons followed in the same steps, viz.: Larmon W. Abbott, Alvin V. R. Abbott (son of Alvin Abbott), Bennett F. Abbott (son of Ira Abbott) and Joseph W. Munson. Daniel Wooster also became a Methodist minister.

In 1814, among the additions were Daniel Wooster, Almira Wheeler, Aunt "Becky" Buckley, so wonderfully gifted in prayer, and Aunt "Becky" Tuttle. In about 1818 the additions were Ruth Mallory, Anson Tuttle, Philo Woodruff, Eliza and Mary Northrup Harriet and Lucy Munson, Susan Tyler, Willis Treat, Joseph Wheeler, Joel Atwood, John Northrup and Truman Wooster.

For a period of ten years the growth was slow and some members removed; but in 1831, under the preaching of Heman Bangs, there was a renewed interest and the purpose of building a church was now formed. In 1832 James Wooster leased a lot of land at the Center on which to build the house of worship. On this lot the district school house stood and there was some objection to the Methodists occupying it, but these were overruled. The school house was moved

\*From account by Anson F. Abbott.

and good fellowship with the opposing Congregationalists was soon established. The building, begun in 1832, was not completed for several years, when it was occupied at a cost of \$3,000. It is a plain, almost square structure, having a two-story appearance so as to afford gallery room. In 1878 it was thoroughly improved at an outlay of about \$500, and a parsonage, near by, was purchased for \$1,000. The principal actors in this movement were Nelson J. Hayes, H. W. Munson, Ira Abbott, Lewis Tyrrell, Levings Abbott, Harriet L. Gaylord and Charity S. Fisher, a few only of whom lived in 1890. The house has a most beautiful location and the surroundings are fairly well kept. The property is valued at \$4,500.

The members in 1890 numbered 60, and formed a class led by Spencer Judd. The Sunday school had E. B. Hoyt as its superintendent.

David Wooster was for more than 40 years a local minister connected with this church.

In 1832 Middlebury and Southbury became parts of the Woodbury circuit, and the ministers for the next seven years were the Reverends R. Gilbert, A. S. Hill, H. Hatfield, and E. W. Bales.

Since 1839 Middlebury has sustained an independent or separate circuit relation to the conference, and the appointees have been the following clergy:

1840, G. L. Fuller; 1843-4, G. Waterbury; 1847-8, F. W. Sizer; 1849-50, W. H. Bangs; 1851, W. Gay; 1852-6, E. D. Beers, Joseph Smith, L. W. Abbott, James R. Sayres and other supplies; 1857-8, C. W. Lockwood; 1859, C. W. Powell; 1860, B. T. Abbott; 1861, J. S. Breckinridge; 1862, M. Lyon; 1863, G. H. McCoy; 1865, G. H. Goodsell; 1866-7, D. Osborn; 1868-9, Ira Abbott; 1870-1, local supplies; 1872, L. W. Holmes; 1873-4, D. F. Pierce; 1875-6, local supplies; 1877, J. B. Shepherd; 1878-80, N. L. Porter; 1881-3, W. Wake; 1884-5, L. W. Holmes; 1886-8, S. K. Smith; 1889, G. A. Graves.

There is one principal cemetery in the town, which is located near the center. In other parts are a few private grounds. The town maintains a hearse, and has also provided the usual appliances of a well-ordered country cemetery, frequently acting on this matter. In 1810 Theophilus Baldwin and Daniel Smith were chosen grave diggers. In 1811 it was voted to ring the bell on the meeting house at nine o'clock at night for funerals, the town to pay the expense. This custom, with some variation of hour, has since been followed.

In 1828 the town caused the burial ground to be laid out more systematically, and arranged the lots in a system of blocks. This work was done by a committee of leading citizens: Larmon Townsend, Leonard Bronson, Erastus Smith, Daniel Wooster, Nathaniel Richardson, Horace Bronson, Ezekiel Stone, Eli Thompson and Joseph Munson. At this time there were 91 lots, 63 of them occupied. It was recommended that a highway be laid out to the cemetery. In 1841 the

grounds were enlarged by purchasing land at the rate of \$100 per acre. In 1870 the cemetery was again enlarged, the land being purchased of Julius Bronson. In more recent years the cemetery has been placed in the care of an agent, appointed by the town, which has resulted in improving its appearance. The supervising committee is composed of Levings Abbott, A. S. Clark and Marcus De Forest.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Levings Abbott, born in Middlebury in 1832, is a son of Reverend Ira Abbott, who was born in Middlebury in 1811 and died in the same house in 1883. He was a Methodist minister, and after 44 years of active life in the ministry, retired to his native place, performing all the duties of a pastor for three years in the M. E. church in Middlebury. His wife was Lydia Wooding, of Hamden. They had three sons: Levings, Bennett T. and Heman B. Bennett T. is also a Methodist minister. Levings was educated at Fair Haven, Easton and Waterbury academies. In his youth he learned the trade of burnishing, and followed it three years in Waterbury. He came to Middlebury in 1852 and established the business of milling and built a saw and grist mill on Hop brook. In 1884 he built the circular saw mill, taking his son George F. into partnership with him, under the firm name of L. Abbott & Son. They do an annual business of \$20,000. Mr. Abbott married, in 1852, Grace C., daughter of John A. Coe, of Derby. They have two sons: Wilbur C., in Babylon, N. Y., and George F. Levings Abbott was in the legislatures of 1873 and 1874, and has been selectman nearly 20 years.

Heman B. Abbott, born in Waterbury, November 24th, 1850, is a son of Reverend Ira and Lydia Abbott. He was educated in the common schools and at Wesleyan Academy, Wilbraham, Mass. He first settled on the old homestead, where his father was born and died. Heman was then 12 years old. He then came to his présent residence, called Lake View Farm. He and Mrs. Abbott are members of the M. E. church, of Middlebury. He married Alice E. Tuttle, of Middlebury, daughter of Truman Tuttle, October 26th, 1870. They have two sons and one daughter: Edmund J., born August 24th, 1872; Edith V., born March 4th, 1874, and Arthur J., born October 4th, 1876. Mr. Abbott is a member of the Mad River Grange, of Waterbury.

Henry S. Atwood, born in Watertown, Conn., in 1827, is a son of Joel and Nancy (Guernsey) Atwood. He was educated at the common schools of Watertown and Armenia. He came to this town in 1847, settled on a farm and has since resided there. He married Maria, daughter of Joseph Wheeler, of Southbury. They have 10 children. Only two, Dwight M. and Sarah A., live at home. Mr. Atwood owns over 1,000 acres of land in Middlebury, Southbury, Woodbury, Watertown and Waterbury. He takes a lively interest in town affairs, is selectman, and member of the board of education, and has charge of

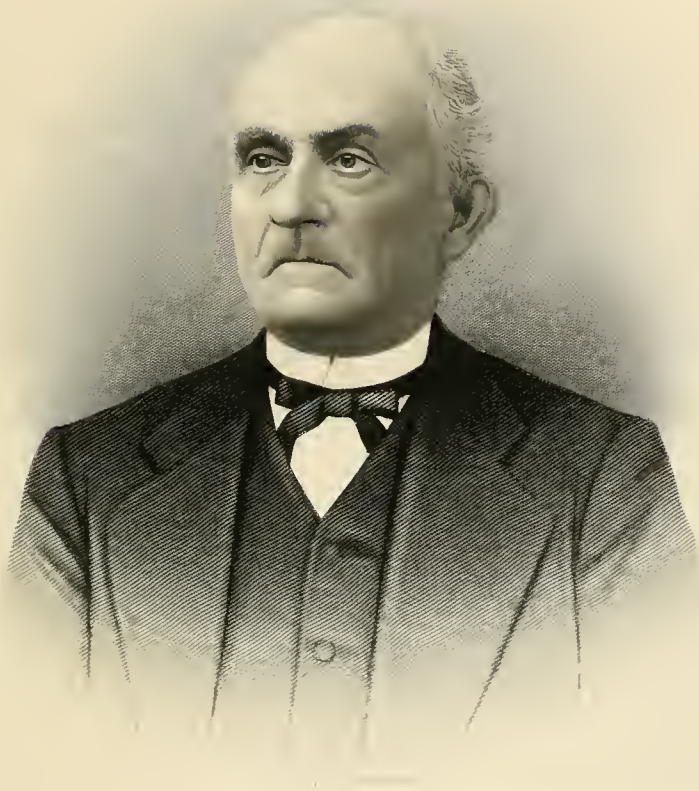
the highways of the town. Mr. and Mrs. Atwood are members of the Congregational church of Middlebury.

Irving E. Baldwin is a son of James E. and Mary E. (Fenn) Baldwin, the latter a daughter of Miles Fenn, of Middlebury. James E. was married in 1856, and had three children: Martha C., Ida J. and Irving E. James E. was born in Middlebury in 1833, and was a son of Elihu Baldwin, who came from old Milford to Middlebury, and resided here until his death. Elihu Baldwin was born in 1787 and died in 1867. His wife was Mary Clark, by whom he had two children: Merritt C., born 1823, died 1852; and James E., who moved to Southbury in 1888. The father, Elihu, came to Middlebury about 1800.

John T. Basham, born on the ocean on an American ship, February 24th, 1850, is a son of William and Elizabeth Basham, who were both born in England, came to this country in 1850, and settled in Bethany. They came to Middlebury in 1888. They had six children, of whom John T. was the eldest. He married Martha J. Culver, of Middlebury, in 1874. John T. Basham came to Middlebury in 1869, purchased the farm of L. P. Benham in 1878, and has resided there since. He has taken an active part in town affairs, has been selectman, assessor, and is now justice of the peace and collector of taxes.

George B. Bristol, born in Middlebury in 1836, is a son of George E. and Martha (Porter) Bristol. The father of George E. was Gad, who was born in Southbury and died in Middlebury, where he had lived a number of years. His father was Eliphalet, son of one of three brothers that came from England and settled in Milford. George E. had two children: George B. and Julia A. Gad Bristol was the first of the name in Middlebury. He was here at the organization of the town. George E. Bristol was born in 1804 and died in 1872. His son, George B., was educated at Watertown High School. He married Jane L., daughter of Joseph Squires, of Woodbury, Conn., in 1856. She was born in Pittsfield, Mass., in 1835. They had one daughter, Julia H., born in 1861, died in 1878. George B. Bristol has been constable of the town 25 years and selectman several years. He had charge of the highways for a number of years, and very many of the improvements in the highways were made by him. He has studied medicine and made a specialty of electricity, and has treated many cases of paralysis, rarely failing to give relief.

ROBERT CAMP, one of the oldest and most prosperous farmers of Middlebury, was born July 9th, 1811, on the place now occupied by him, to which his father had removed from Milford about the beginning of the present century. His parents were Amos and Mehitabel (Smith) Camp, both descendants of two of the oldest families of their native town. The immediate ancestor of the father was also named Amos Camp, and he was the descendant of one of the three Camp brothers who first located in this state. One settled on the Connecticut river near Middletown; another removed to the western part of the



*R. Camp.*



state; and the third was the Milford ancestor. In that town an allotment of six acres of land, on Broad street, has remained in the name of the Camp family more than 156 years. This Amos Camp, grandfather of Robert Camp, had three children: Sarah, who married Hezekiah Clark, of Milford; Hannah, who married Gideon Camp, of New Milford; and Amos (the father of Robert), who was born in Milford, in 1771, and died at his home in Middlebury, November 24th, 1831. His wife, Mehitabel, died August 30th, 1834, aged 61 years.

They made the journey to Middlebury on horseback, where they purchased a tract of land previously owned by Amos Bronson, and where he had kept a public house. Both were frugal and industrious and prospered in their occupation as farmers. They had a large family, namely: Lyman, born August 3d, 1798, who married a daughter of Asahel Bronson, and lived in Middlebury until his death July 18th, 1848 (Their son, C. B. Camp, resides in Brooklyn, N. Y.); Calvin, born August 21st, 1800, who married a daughter of Deacon John Stone, and their son, Ellery, is a merchant in New Haven (Calvin died in Middlebury in April, 1884); Mehitabel, born September, 1803, married David Stone, and resides as his widow in New York, Julia, born July 2d, 1805, died in 1808; George, born January 3d, 1809, died a young man in New Haven in 1824; Robert, born July 9th, 1811; and twin sisters, born July 7th, 1813—Clarissa married Dwight Northrup and died in Bethlehem, Conn.; and Julia, who married Jerome Strong, of the same town, also deceased.

The boyhood of Robert Camp was spent on his father's farm, where he was trained to those habits of industry and thrift which have enabled him to make a success of his occupation. Early thrown upon his own resources and having only his energy as his capital stock in trade, he applied himself so diligently to the work of carving out a place for himself that he soon won the confidence and credit of those who could assist him, which credit has never been withdrawn, nor has the confidence been diminished. To his own share of the paternal homestead, near Middlebury center, he added by purchase the shares of other heirs until he now owns the major portion of it, and has improved the place until it is in an excellent condition. In 1860 he removed the old house and built on its site the present residence, now occupied by himself and son's family. For many years Mr. Camp was a successful wool buyer, but he has mainly devoted himself to the work and cares of the farm, which he has so prudently managed that his labors have been well repaid. His success demonstrates what may be accomplished by pluck, perseverance and well-directed efforts even in this much-depreciated avocation. In the spring of 1888 he suffered the loss of the use of his sight, and his almost total blindness has incapacitated him from further active work in spite of his being vigorous in other respects.

Robert Camp was married September 10th, 1834, to Olive A.,

daughter of Truman Judson, of North Woodbury, and she died November 9th, 1869, at the age of 58 years. Three children were born to them, the youngest, Charles J., dying March 11th, 1854, at the age of about three months. A daughter and a son survive. Sarah H., born November 1st, 1840, married Samuel Fenn, of Middlebury, and they have two children: Robert Miles and Addie Julia. The son, George Pruden, was born October 30th, 1846, and resides on his father's homestead. He married October 28th, 1868, Mary Eunice, daughter of Darius S. Crosby, of New York city. Their children are: Gussey Wilson, born August 5th, 1869; Carrie Louise Andrews, born April 10th, 1871; and Harry Crosby, born June 24th, 1878.

Robert Camp has always been interested in the affairs of his native town, serving it in various capacities, being also a selectman in 1862. As a member of the Congregational society, he was for twenty years the treasurer of the ministerial fund. He has also served as a director of the Ansonia Bank, and is interested in other corporate bodies in the Naugatuck valley, whose cares have added other duties to those of his already busy life.

Gould S. Clark, born in Prospect in 1814, is a son of Merritt Clark, of Prospect, who came from Orange to Prospect about 1812, and had four children: Gould S., Julia, died in Watertown, Conn., in 1836; Emily, married Henry B. Skilton, former husband of Julia; and Merritt, who now lives in Prospect, on the old farm. Gould S. Clark came to Middlebury in 1842, and settled on the Tyler farm in the Tyler school district. He united with the Congregational church in 1842, and was chosen deacon of the church of Middlebury in 1864. He represented the town in the legislature in 1857, 1871 and 1872. In 1840 he married Maria H. Skilton, sister of Henry B. They have had three children: Julia M., born 1842, died 1860; Emily E., born 1843, died in 1891; and Artison S., born 1849, married Lilian A. Chamberlain, of Naugatuck, in 1875, and has four children.

Erastus S. Curtiss, born in Southbury, Conn., in 1825, is a son of William, and grandson of Joseph Curtiss. William married Hannah Peck, of Middlebury, daughter of Augustus Peck, and had four children: Dwight D., M. Elizabeth, Harriet M. and Erastus S. Dwight D. died in 1885. Elizabeth and Erastus live in Middlebury with their mother. Harriet M. married Charles Yale, of this town. William, the father, died in 1878. Erastus is a farmer, and has been grand juror of the town.

David M. Fenn, born in Middlebury in 1837, is a son of David M. and Tabitha Fenn. He was educated at the common schools of Middlebury. He is a bachelor and owns the old homestead where his father and grandfather lived and died, near Quassepaug lake. He also owns the Captain Ephraim Tuttle farm, his grandfather on his mother's side. The old house built by Captain Ephraim Tuttle is still standing. This farm was in the Tuttle family about 200 years. Mr.



Fenn has been selectman, was elected to the legislature of 1884, and was on the committee of joint rules.

Samuel S. Fenn, born in 1841 in Middlebury, is a son of David M. and Tabitha (Tuttle) Fenn. The father of David M. was Captain Samuel Fenn, born 1767, died 1852. David M. Fenn was born in 1799, and died in 1862. He had five children: Martha C., Mary E., David M., Samuel S. and Harry S. Samuel S. was married in 1868, to Sarah, daughter of Robert Camp, of this town. They have two children: Robert M., born 1870, and Addie J., born 1872. They lost one daughter, Ida M., born May 30th, 1871, died August 1st, 1871. Samuel S. was educated at the high schools of Waterbury and Watertown, and was engaged in the drug business about four years. Since that time he has been a farmer. He lived on the old Fenn homestead 19 years after he was married; and in 1887 he came to the farm he now occupies, just north of Middlebury Center, known as the Julius Bronson farm.

Edmund B. Hoyt was born in Bethel, Conn., in 1831, and came to Middlebury in 1868. He married, in 1855, Betsey L., daughter of John Fenn, who was a native of Middlebury, and lived to be over 80 years old. The father of Edmund B. Hoyt, now 89 years old, is still living in Bethel. Edmund B. and Betsey L. Hoyt have two sons: Edmund F. and Starr B. Edmund F. lives on the farm with his father. They have a dairy farm, and are successful in this line, which is butter making, having made over 3,500 pounds in 1889, from 16 cows. Mr. Hoyt has been selectman of the town, and was in the legislature of 1885 and 1886.

Silas Tuttle, born in Middlebury June 26th, 1812, was the youngest but one of 11 children, all deceased, of Aaron and Rebecca Tuttle. The father of Aaron was Ezekiel, son of Ephraim, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of William, who came from England in the ship "Planter," and settled in Hartford in 1636. Ephraim came first to Woodbury, Conn., from New Haven. His son, Ezekiel, came to Middlebury, and was among the earliest settlers of the town. Aaron Tuttle was born in 1760. Silas was educated in the district schools of the town, and married Susan Allen, of Woodbury, in 1833. They had four children; Henry A., born in 1834 (Killed by oxen in 1836. He was buried the same day as his grandfather, Aaron Tuttle. This is spoken of as the largest funeral ever held in Middlebury); Julia, born in 1838; Emily A., born in 1841, has been an invalid for the past 22 years; and Mary E., born in 1851. Silas Tuttle was appointed by the governor of the state to a lieutenancy in the 12th Regiment of Connecticut Militia, and acted as captain of the company until the militia system was abolished. He served as justice of the peace 25 years, served in the legislature in 1875, and was first selectman of the town at the time of his death, which occurred May 10th, 1890.

William Tyler, born in Middlebury in 1823, is a son of Daniel,

whose father, Daniel, was a son of Daniel, who came from Branford to Middlebury, and settled near Quassepaug lake. He was one of the first settlers of the town. Daniel Tyler's family were all born in the Tyler district. He had five sons and two daughters. Three sons and one daughter are now living. William is the only member of the family now living in Middlebury. He moved to the place where he now resides in 1860. He has served as selectman and town treasurer. He married Mary A. Hine, of Middlebury, in 1859. They have four children: Alvin H., William P., James A. and Mary L.

George W. Wallace, born in Bridgeport, Conn., in 1861, is a son of Hiram J. Wallace, who came to this town, and was the founder of the present pleasure resort at Quassepaug lake. This resort was started by Hiram J. Wallace in 1874, and has been enlarged until it is one of the finest resorts in the county. Hiram J. came from Thomaston, Conn. He was born in Bennington, Vt. He died in September, 1888. Since this time his only son, George, has carried on the place alone, having previously been in company with his father. Mr. Wallace has a steamboat with a capacity for carrying 36 persons, 22 row and sail boats, billiard room, bowling alley, etc. He is now building a hotel, and will commence the season of 1892 with three times the room of former years.

Roswell B. Wheaton was born in Susquehanna, Pa., January 31st, 1815, came with his father, Calvin Wheaton, to Connecticut in 1821, and settled in Washington. His grandfather, Roswell Wheaton, served seven years and six months in the revolutionary war, and his maternal grandfather, Nathan Phillips, also served in that war as lieutenant. Mr. Wheaton has the sword that Lieutenant Phillips carried through the war. In his younger days, Mr. Wheaton was a brick maker, and he followed the business for 42 years. Brick used in the culverts upon the Erie railroad between Binghamton and Great Bend, N. Y., as well as the Sterucca Valley viaduct, were made at his yard. He is still interested in a large yard near New Britain, Conn. Mr. Wheaton came to Middlebury in 1872. He was elected to the legislature in 1876. Since residing in Middlebury, he has done much in the way of village improvement, laying out and building the fine park there. He married Leve Andrews, of Bristol, Conn. They had five children, only one of whom, Bessie (Mrs. Eli Bronson), is now living.

Frank H. Wheeler, born in August, 1843, in Southbury, is a son of John L. Wheeler, of the same town. Frank came to Middlebury in 1854, and lived with Henry S. Wheeler until he was 22 years old. He was educated in Middlebury common schools and at the Armenia Academy. He was for a time employed in a shop at Waterbury, from which place he came to Middlebury, and has since followed the business of farming. He owns about 200 acres of land. He married Sarah J., daughter of Lyman P. Smith, of Waterbury, formerly from Pros-

pect, in April, 1866. They have two sons: Dwight L., born in 1867, and Arthur E., born in 1876. Frank H. Wheeler was in the legislature in 1877.

Sylvester S. Wooster is a member of one of the oldest families in the town of Middlebury. Edward Wooster came to this country from England in 1650, and settled in Derby. General Wooster was one of his descendants. His grandson, David, came to Middlebury about 1740. He had three sons: David, Daniel and James D. Daniel was a Methodist minister. The farm of David was declared forfeited to the state on account of his friendly feelings toward the mother country during the revolutionary war, but was restored to James and Daniel, his sons, about 1798. The only family of this name now living in the town is that of Ebenezer, who traces his ancestry back to the first Edward. Ebenezer was born in 1816, and married Abby M. Wheeler, of Huntington, January 20th, 1842. They have one son, Sylvester S. Wooster, who was married in 1881, to Mary L. Perkins, of Salisbury, Conn. They now live on a part of the old Wooster place that has been in the family 150 years..

Charles T. Yale, born in Dutchess county, N. Y., in 1836, is a son of Charles Yale, who died when Charles T. was 10 years old. His father had nine children, Charles T. being the youngest son. He was educated at Norfolk and Canaan academies, and came to Middlebury in 1869. He married Harriett M. Curtiss, of Middlebury, and they have three children: Grace, Gertrude and Irving P., all born in Middlebury. Mr. Yale is engaged in farming, and has the contract for carrying the mail from Middlebury to Waterbury. He has been selectman, justice of the peace, assessor and grand juror.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### THE TOWN OF SOUTHBURY.

Location and Description.—The Pootatuck Indians.—The Early Settlers.—Civil Organization.—Business Interests.—South Britain.—Southford and its Various Interests.—Physicians and Lawyers.—Religious Interests.—Cemeteries.—Military Affairs.—Biographical Sketches.

**S**OUTHBURY is the most extreme western town in the county. For many years it was a part of Litchfield county, lying south of Roxbury and Woodbury. On the southwest is the Housatonic river, which separates it from Fairfield county. East and southeast are Middlebury and Oxford, in New Haven county, separated in part by the Eight Mile brook. In extent from east to west Southbury is about eight miles, and about four miles wide. The surface is elevated and broken by hills, locally known as Bullet, Chestnut, Ragland, John Johnson's, George's, Pine, Flat, Tom's, Horse and East hills, nearly all of which are tillable on their summits. The sides usually have thin soil, covered with rocks and trees. The intervalles formed by these hills and streams, of which the chief ones are the Pomperaug and Shepaug, with a number of affluent brooks, have fertile lands of a sandy loam nature. The largest tracts of tillable land are in the valley of the Pomperaug, where are some well cultivated farms. The lands on White Oak plains are especially finely located. Agriculture is the chief pursuit of the town, whose population has in consequence decreased, being attracted to manufacturing centers.

The hills and streams have caused a number of localities, to which specific names have been applied. Along the Housatonic are Union Bridge, Bennett's Bridge and the Indian Pootatuck village. For many generations this has been the property of the Mitchell family, George W. Mitchell being the owner in 1890. Along the Eight Mile brook are Strongtown and Southford, and southwest of the latter is Kettle town. On the Pomperaug are White Oak, Southbury Center and South Britain. North of the latter are Pierce Hollow, Mulberry Corners and Transylvania. Southeast from this is a range of hill lands, called Poverty, whose derivation is not so clear as some of the foregoing.

A little more than a mile southeast from the center is a locality called "Pork Hollow," which received its name from the fact that during the revolution, when Shadrach Osborn, of this town, was a commissary sergeant or quartermaster, he caused several hundred barrels of

pork to be stored there for safety, after the capture of Danbury. The provisions were under the guard of Captain Parsons and 50 men from Derby. About the same distance southwest from Southbury church, along the river, a large quantity of beef was stored until it could be moved elsewhere with safety.

In the town are found traces of minerals, coal being clearly shown in several localities. Along the Pomperaug, west of Southbury Center, a shaft was sunk some time about 1830, to develop that mineral, but after reaching a depth of 100 feet it was abandoned. In 1888 the work of boring for petroleum or natural gas was begun in the same locality by the Southbury Company, and a well, 1,500 feet deep, was sunk without reaching paying results, when work was suspended in 1889, but resumed in 1890. At South Britain a fine quality of red sandstone for building purposes can be quarried.

The original owners of the soil in the present town of Southbury were a clan of Indians, called *Pootatucks* or *Potatucks*. They were a quiet and peaceful people, inclined to cultivate friendship with the whites, whose settlement among them was not attended with any rupture; and it is said that they even looked with favor upon the ways of the whites, permitting some of their children to attend the schools of the early settlers.\* In 1639 Pomperaug was the sachem of the Pootatucks, and from him the principal stream in the town took its name. The main seat or village of his tribe was on the Housatonic river, a short distance above Cockshure, later Hubbell's island. It occupied a plateau of land several hundred feet above the river, which afforded an extended and attractive view of the country south and west. At and near this village the Indians had made improvements of rather a substantial nature, having corn cribs and orchards of apple trees. One of the latter belonged to a chieftain called Tummasute, and was long preserved, a few trees remaining at the present time. At this place was a large burying ground, and some skeletons have been exhumed which were found in a sitting posture.

The Pootatucks had another village, in the present town of Woodbury, at Nonnewaug, and a trail along the Pomperaug creek connected the two places. Along its course in the northern part of Southbury, on Stiles brook, was another burial ground and near this place was located the first cemetery of the whites. Pomperaug himself, it appears, was buried farther north, on a spot on a trail which was marked by a large mound of stones, each Indian in passing depositing one on the grave as a token of love and respect.

On the occupancy by the whites, in 1673, the Pootatucks in this region may have numbered several hundred individuals, but President Stiles, of Yale College, estimated that there were no more than 40 in 1710, and their numbers gradually decreased, by removal or death, until but a few remained. One of these was Manquash, a sachem,

\* Cothren's Woodbury, p. 85.

and probably the last ruler, who died in 1758, and was buried under an old apple tree, a short distance from the Eleazer Mitchell house. In 1761 all the Indians had gone except one old man and a few members of broken families, who lingered as if they would gladly be laid near the graves of their fathers.

While the Pootatucks were willing that the whites should settle among them, they were reluctant to yield all their lands at once. Hence a number of purchases were made, from 1673, through a period of 70 years, several tracts being purchased twice and oftener of different Indians in order to preserve their friendly feeling. A part of Southbury and what is now Oxford was in the "Kettletown" purchase of 1679, paid in "corn and other goods," the second time, the consideration the first time time having been a brass kettle, from which the tract in question took its name. Other Indians claiming it, the tract was passed through the formality of a third purchase in 1705. A year later other lands were purchased in what is now Southbury, but in that tract was the "Pootatuck Reservation," which embraced a large part of what later became the South Britain parish. Three-fourths of the reservation were sold to the whites in 1733 and divided among the proprietors of Woodbury before 1742. The committee charged with this work, Noah Hiuman, Captain Thomas Knowles, Captain Richard Brownson, Knell Mitchell and Cornelius Brownson, at this time decided to lay highways through the tract, "200 rods apart over hill and dale without regard to circumstances."

In May, 1759, the Pootatucks, through Shoran or Tom Sherman, one of their number, sold their last acre of land in the town, including the village site of Pootatuck, and soon after took up their abode elsewhere.

The settlement of Southbury was caused by a dissension in the church at Stratford, consequent upon the settlement of a new minister, the congregation dividing into adherents of Reverends Chansey and Walker. The latter party resolved to found a new plantation and receiving permission, purchased Pootatuck Indian lands along the Housatonic for that purpose. In pursuance of this object, liberty was further granted, May 9th, 1672, to Mr. Samuel Sherman, Lieutenant William Curtiss, Ensign Joseph Judson, John Miner and their associates to erect plantations on the Pomperaug. Early in the spring of the following year, 15 male members of the Walker congregation started for the wilds of the Pomperaug country to locate their new homes. They had been directed to follow up the Pootatuck or Great river (Housatonic), until they should come to a large river flowing into it from the north, which they were to ascend eight miles, when they would find a fertile plain which had been tilled by the Indians, where new farms could readily be made. Through a mistake they passed on to the Shepaug. They followed up this stream and soon were in the hilly lands of Roxbury. Realizing that they were too far west they turned

their faces to the eastward, hoping there to find the desired plain lands. After a wearisome journey, over the rugged lands, they reached a high elevation, from the summit of which the plain in all its beauty can be seen. With grateful hearts they fall on their knees and the summit is ever thereafter "Good Hill" to them. The next day they descended into the valley, which they explored and eagerly found the lands they had sought. The following night they camped under a huge white oak tree, which stood about half a mile west of the present Southbury Main street, and 80 rods east of the Pomperaug river; and from that circumstance and the numerous trees of the same kind, near by, this locality became known as White Oak, which name has since been retained. The old white oak, after standing more than a century after the occupancy of the country by the whites, fell down, but several pieces were preserved as mementoes by the venerable Shadrach Osborn.

In this locality the first settlements in the town were made in April or May, 1673, by Israel and Joshua Curtiss, Samuel Stiles, Titus Hinman, Moses Johnson and a few others. The most of the exploring company of 15 and those who came soon after took up their abode in what is now Woodbury. This term was applied to the Pomperaug section by the general court at Hartford May 14th, 1674; and for more than a century the affairs of Southbury were identified with those of Woodbury. In the first settlement it is said that the design was to live upon the river flats, but that a freshet soon demonstrated that the place was unsuitable and new locations were sought along the Indian trail, on the hillside east, and the brooks in that locality, where some of the land has ever since remained in the families of Stiles and Hinman, who had it direct from the Indians. The trail through Southbury, from the churches north to Woodbury line, was nearly the same as that of the Southbury Main street, whose course was laid out in 1675 by a committee appointed by the general court, consisting of Captain William Curtiss, Captain John Nash and Lieutenant Thomas Munson. The highway extended to Derby and at the latter place a ferry was that year authorized.

Along Southbury Main street the early settlers laid out their home lots with narrow fronts, and consisting of from two to five acres. In the rear were allotments for general farming purposes of four times the area of the home lots with which they were connected. The distinction in rank was thus recognized, but no one was landless and there was a limit to the possessions of the richer class. There were, also, on the same basis, divisions or allotments of meadow lands, uplands, wood lots, etc., in the different purchases until all the land was divided, the last allotment being made in 1782, or more than 100 years after the first selection was made. Besides those who were first assigned lots there were, prior to 1682, among the land owners in Southbury, Matthew Mitchell, John Mitchell, Samuel Hinman, Thomas

Drakely, Joseph Hicock, Benjamin Hicock, Benjamin Stiles, Isaac Curtiss, Edward Hinman, Jonathan Squires, John Pierce, the Strongs, the Smiths and others.

The settlements increased very rapidly, and many changes in the ownership of lands took place, in the course of years, so that it would be extremely difficult to trace the chain of succession of even the oldest homesteads.

The names of many early settlers of the town can be found in the following list of taxables in 1787. Those assessed in Southbury society were: Oliver Barrett, Azariah Bard, Joseph Benham, Thomas Brooks, Charles Baldwin, Hezekiah Baldwin, Park Brown, Anthony Burritt, John Bulford, Elijah Brownson, Abraham Brownson, Ebenezer Brownson, Ebenezer Brownson, 2d, Noah Brownson, Marsh Brownson, Stephen Bateman, Elijah Booth, William Burr, Elias Bates, Nathan Curtiss, Abijah Curtiss, Aaron Curtiss, Reuben Curtiss, Joseph Curtiss, Daniel Curtiss, Wait Curtiss, Israel Curtiss, Israel Curtiss, 2d, Benjamin Curtiss, Stephen Curtiss, Oliver Chatfield, John Chilson, Andrew Coe, Amos Coe, Isaac Demming, John Demming, George Dudley, Samuel Drakely, Daniel Durkee, Bartimas Fabrique, David Fabrique, William French, Jacob Glazier, Jacob Glazier, 2d, Curtiss Graham, Martha Graham, Ebenezer Guthrie, John Garrett, Wait Garrett, Edward Hinman, Benjamin Hinman, Justus Hinman, Silas Hinman, David Hinman, Sherman Hinman, Aaron Hinman, Joel Hinman, Agur Hinman, Jonas Hinman, Jonas Hinman, 2d, Adam Hinman, Truman Hinman, John Hinman, Michael Hann, Benedict Hann, Andrew Hurd, William Hurd, Elijah Hine, Amos Hicock, Benjamin Hicock, Joseph Hicock, Joseph Hicock, Jr., Ithiel Hicock, Silas Hicock, Joseph Holbrook, David Johnson, Asa Johnson, Hiram Johnson, Jeremiah Johnson, Gideon Johnson, Justus Johnson, Timothy Johnson, Solomon Johnson, Abraham Lines, Jesse Lambert, Adam Lum, Abel Leavenworth, Gideon Leavenworth, Jonathan Mitchell, David Mitchell, Matthew Mitchell, Simeon Mitchell, Increase Mosely, Samuel Munn, Jedediah Munn, Asa Munn, Shadrach Osborn, Timothy Osborn, Barnum Osborn, Abijah Peck, Eliphalet Pardee, Stephen Peet, Elijah Perkins, Joseph Richards, Jonah Summers, Benjamin Stiles, Benjamin Stiles, 2d, David Stiles, Ephraim Stiles, Truman Stiles, Nathan Stiles, Samuel Stiles, Sarah Stone, John Stone, Adin Strong, Charles Strong, Benjamin Strong, Ebenezer Strong, Samuel Strong, Selah Strong, Return Strong, Thomas Strong, John Squire, Joseph Sanford, Ebenezer Smith, Ephraim Skeels, Nathaniel Tuttle, Edmund Tompkins, Esther Thompson, Joseph Trowbridge, John Wheeler, Obadiah Wheeler, Obadiah Wheeler, 2d, Adin Wheeler, Asa Wheeler, Bethiah Wheeler, Ebenezer Wheeler, Jesse Wheeler, Adam Wagner, David Wildman, Sylvester Wooster.

The taxables in South Britain parish were: Edward Allen, David Allen, Gideon Allen, Jonah Allen, Phineas Bowers, Jabez Barlow,



Samuel Bottsford, Elijah Baldwin, Joseph Baldwin, Smith Booth, Lemuel Blackman, Abel Bennett, Nathaniel Cary Clark, Samuel Curtiss, Ebenezer Down, Ebenezer Down, 2d, Moses Down, Aaron Down, Benjamin Down, Truman Down, Nathan Down, Samuel Daniels, James Edmond, George Edmond, John Edmond, Abijah Fairchild, John Glover, Oliver Gibbs, Morris Gibbs, Francis Garrett, Daniel Gorham, Daniel Hinman, Jonathan Hinman, Asa Hinman, Francis Hinman, Wait Hinman, Samuel Hinman, Bethuel Hinman, Titus Hinman, Gideon Hawley, Milton Hawley, Richard Hawley, Gideon Hicock, Justus Hicock, Asa Hicock, John Hynes, Amos Johnson, John Johnson, John Johnson, 2d, Reuben Jennings, Thomas Kimberley, Thomas Kimberley, 2d, Eleazer Knowles, Stephen Mix Mitchell, Eleazer Mitchell, Simeon Mitchell, John Mallory, James Masters, Josiah Osborn, Simeon Osborn, Justus Pearce, Titus Pearce, Elijah Pearce, Abraham Pearce, Eunice Pearce, Samuel Pearce, Joseph Pearce, Benjamin Pearce, Joel Pearce, Nathan Pearce, John Parks, John Parks, 2d, James Parks, Stephen Platt, Stephen Platt, 2d, Joseph Post, Josiah Page, Benjamin Russell, Jared Smith, Ambrose Sperry, Abijah Squire, Stephen Squire, David Squire, Jonathan Sanford, Solomon Sanford, Solomon Seward, Daniel Sherman, John Skeels, James Stanclift, Cyrenus Stoddard, Zephaniah Smith, Bethuel Treat, Malock Ward, Zenas Ward, Noadiah Warner, Johnson Wheeler, Agur Wheeler, Asa Wheeler.

In that part which was afterward set off to Middlebury lived, in 1787: Japheth Benham, Miles Mallatt, Eliphalet Pardee, Ebenezer Smith, Ebenezer Smith, Jr., Daniel Smith, John Stone, Ezekiel Stone, Mansfield Stone, Samuel Scott, Ebenezer Scott, Jesse Wheeler.

In the Oxford Part there were at the same time (1787): Eliphalet Bristol, Riggs Bristol, Truman Bristol, Gad Bristol, Justus Bristol, Isaac Brisco, Thomas Bissell, David Candee, Samuel Candee, Timothy Candee, Jehiel Peet, Joseph Towner, Samuel Wheeler, Joanna Wilmot and Isaac Munson.

In the Southbury Society the parish list amounted to £7,373, 14s. and 4d.; in the South Britain Society, £4,211, 14s. and 6d.; in the Middlebury part, £606, 18s. and 6d.; and in the Oxford part, £684, 17s. and 9d. The whole number of resident taxables was more than 280.

Parish privileges were claimed by the inhabitants of the lower part of Woodbury as early as 1718, but by a compromise a division was postponed until 12 years later. A petition was presented to the May, 1730, assembly, by Titus Hinman, Sr., Benjamin Hicock and Andrew Hinman, "in behalf of the Rest" for a division and that the line be the same as that which divides the "Train Bands." The petition was answered the following year, when the Second Ecclesiastical Society in Woodbury was incorporated, May, 1731, as Southbury, the name being suggested by the geographical relation to the old society of the newly formed parish. Against this division by the lines of the "Train

Bands," 33 inhabitants in the north part and 30 in the south part protested and in 1732 a new line, farther south, was selected. The old society paid the new one £300 and its affairs now became, so far as its ecclesiastical interests were concerned, separate and distinct. This original parish of Southbury was sub-divided in May, 1766, when the parish of South Britain was incorporated to embrace all that part of the Southbury parish lying west of the divide formed by the hills along the Pomperaug, in the central part, or north of the great bend of that stream. The inhabitants of the parishes of Southbury and South Britain were incorporated as a town, by the May, 1787, general assembly. The first meeting was held in the Southbury society, June 30th, 1787, Edward Hinman moderating, when the following were chosen: Clerk, Increase Mosely; selectmen, Shadrach Osborn, Edward Hinman, Amos Johnson, Nathan Curtiss, John Edmond; treasurer, Aaron Hinman; collector, Silas Hicock; constables, Simeon Mitchell, Nathan Down, Titus Pearce; listers, Sherman Hinman, John Bulford, Titus Pearce, Moses A. Johnson, Daniel Hinman, Nathan Down, Jonathan Mitchell, Samuel Cande, Ebenezer Strong; grand jurors, Daniel Curtiss, Elijah Booth, Simeon Mitchell, Jr.; tything men, Elijah Hine, Elnathan Strong, Elijah Fairchild; gauger, Shadrach Osborn; sealer of weights and measures, Jonah Summers; key keepers, Abraham Lines, Moses Downs; surveyors of highways, Ephraim Stiles, David Mitchell, Wait Garritt, Elnathan Strong, David Hinman, Jr., Joseph Hicock, Jr., Benjamin Curtiss, Selah Strong, Justus Bristol, John Mallory, Samuel Curtiss, Nathan Down, Johnson Wheeler, Eleazer Mitchell, John Edmond, Asa Hicock, Solomon Seward, Malock Ward, Eleazer Hinman, Adam Lum, Adam Hinman, Jr., Abraham Pearce, Stephen Squire, Samuel Cande, David Squire, Benjamin Hicock.

It was voted that a tax of one penny on the pound be levied, payable February, 1788, in money, or rye at 3 shillings per bushel; Indian-corn at 2 shillings 3 pence; buckwheat at 1 shilling 8 pence per bushel, or flax at 5 pence per pound.

The movement to create a new county, to consist of the towns of Woodbury, Waterbury, Southbury, New Milford, Washington, etc., received the favorable consideration of the electors in 1791, and it was voted to favor such a new county, "provided that the seat be fixed in the first society of Woodbury; and further provided that the courthouse and jail be erected without taxing the inhabitants of the new county." Benjamin Stiles, Jr., Esq., Amos Johnson and Aaron Hinman were appointed agents to the convention in behalf of the new county; but no action leading to the formation of a county was taken, and Southbury became a part of New Haven county.

The town clerks of Woodbury have been: 1787-1804, Colonel Increase Mosely; 1805-33, John Mosely; 1834-6, Charles C. Hinman; 1837-50, Walter Johnson; 1851-62, Titus Pierce; 1863-71, Henry W.

Scott; 1872-3, William T. Gilbert; 1874-7, Oliver Mitchell; 1878-81, Granville T. Pierce; 1882-6, John J. Hinman; 1887, Samuel L. Tuttle; 1888, John J. Hinman.

In early times the means of communication were limited, but the construction of the highways received proper consideration. The smaller streams were usually forded and the larger ones crossed by means of ferries. On the Housatonic, at Cockshure's island, Peter Hubbell was granted the right to operate a ferry May 13th, 1730, and from that time the island was known by his name. Several miles below, the right was granted to Wait Hinman in 1752, and the same privilege was granted to his son, Samuel Hinman, in 1775. At this place General George Washington caused a bridge to be built while on his march, in 1778. It was damaged and repaired in 1779, and more thoroughly rebuilt in 1780 by moneys raised by a lottery.

The principal highway has ever been Southbury Main street. It closely followed the old Pomperaug trail and was laid out by the whites in 1675. When the Woodbury turnpike was located in 1795 this course was selected, when it became a still more popular thoroughfare. In many places it is from eight to fifteen rods wide and has several driveways, along which grow magnificent oaks, elms and maples, among which are studded many comfortable homes. Near the Woodbury line are several fine places. One is known as the Mitchell Mansion House and was built on the site of Reverend Mr. Graham's residence by M. S. Mitchell, about 1835, for a superior place of public entertainment. At that time and for many years it had no equal in size and beauty of finish in this part of the state. It was sold to Sidney B. Whitlock, a retired sea captain, who converted it into a country residence, in which way it was used in 1890 by Henry A. Matthews. Near by, on the hillside, is a substantial brick residence, which became noted as the place where the popular and genial author, Samuel G. Goodrich (Peter Parley), passed the last days of his life, and he now rests in the cemetery near by. The "Peter Parley House" was a pleasant country resort in 1890, kept by Egbert Warner.

On Southbury Main street have been kept the principal stores and public places of this part of the town. At White Oak Colonel Increase Mosely had a store before and during the revolution, and at that place some of Lafayette's troops were encamped while on their march from the east. On the site of the M. E. church Captain Truman Hinman was many years engaged in trade. On the east side of the street Colonel Jedediah Hall, and later Charles H. Hall, merchandised and also kept the post office. Jackson & Hunt were the last in trade at that place, when the building was burned. Farther south the Osborns, Nathan Mitchell and Nathan Stiles also traded. At the lower end of Main street George and Aaron Shelton had a place of business, which was burned in 1847. Farther west, on the site of the present "Oak Tree Inn," Jedediah Hall had a store and shops for the manufacture

of leather and shoes. Heth P. Jones was on the same site later. Higher up the street Henry W. Scott had a public house for many years, after 1840, which has been converted into a private residence. On this end of the street the Southbury post office is kept by Walter Hicock. Other recent postmasters have been Andrew Perry, S. L. Tuttle and Benjamin Hicock. A. A. Stone and others traded here in 1890. Stone also had small mills operated by the waters of Bullet brook, whose power is feeble. Captain Aaron Hicock and the Sheltons were earlier owners. Higher up this brook improvements were made as early as 1712, by one of the Strongs. In 1740 the Knowles, Strong and Hicock families united and put up a saw mill. Later a grist mill was there put up, which was operated by members of the Hicock family, when it was destroyed by fire. The past 20 years the power has been utilized by Charles Wakelee's plow factory. Nearly west of the Southbury railway station, on the Pomperaug, Amos Platt had saw and grist mills, which passed to Joseph Olmstead, and more recently to William W. Olmstead.

The New York & New England railroad enters the town of Southbury from the northeast, on crossing the Eight Mile brook, and leaves it to the west, on crossing the Housatonic river—a distance of about seven miles. The first survey was made by Engineer Broadhead, of Boston, in the fall of 1845. The application to take land was made in July, 1868, under the name of the Boston, Hartford & Erie Railroad Company, and work was commenced the following November and continued till February, 1870, about three quarters of the roadbed being completed. Suspension then became a necessity on account of the failure of the company to provide funds. Work was resumed under the new company in January, 1880; the track was laid in November and December, and the road ballasted the following spring and opened for travel in July, 1881. There are two stations in the town; Pomperaug Valley, for the convenience of Southbury, South Britain and Woodbury, an important station for passengers, freight and mails; and Southford station, which also affords facilities for the western parts of Oxford and Quakers Farm and the southern portions of Middlebury.

At South Britain the Pomperaug affords a good power, which early caused a small village to spring up, at that place. The surroundings are picturesque, there being high ledges of rock along the stream, which made its improvement easy. Saw and grist mills were here operated, before the revolution, by the Hinmans, Knowles and others. At the close of the last century Nathaniel Cary Clark was the mill owner, and in 1798 he sold the privileges to Simeon Mitchell. The Litchfield county road had been laid out through the place the year before, and the surrounding country was being improved. At that time among the inhabitants here were Justus Johnson (who had a small store), Patience Sperry, Moses and Benjamin Downs. Mitchell

was an energetic man and quickened the business of the place. After his death, in 1814, his son-in-law, Burton Canfield, became the owner of the mill interests and greatly extended the business. He put up a large three-story mill for making carpet yarns, for weavers of New Haven, which was carried on until 1845. Canfield also had a tannery, shoe shops, comb shops, and put up many of the buildings in the village. He died in 1849 and much of his property passed to Lemuel M. Canfield and others; but the carpet mill was not steadily used and was burned in 1870. The site has since been used for lumber and grist mills. On the opposite side of the stream, Anson and Ira Bradley had a satinete factory, which burned down at an earlier period, when a new woolen mill was erected farther down the stream, which has long been operated by Bradley, Hoyt & Co. on cloths and yarns, but was idle in 1890. Below this plant was the reservoir of the South Britain Water Power Company, which was constructed in 1853 at a cost of \$17,000. It embraced forty acres, and there was a fall of 20 feet. The estimated power was 300 horse, and the water was supplied by the Pomperaug and Transylvania brook. Unfortunately the reservoir was never utilized, and the waters have been withdrawn, leaving only the ruins of the enterprise.

Among the industries at South Britain were a number of hat shops and other mechanic pursuits, which have passed away, leaving only the ordinary avocations in the mechanic trades, there being several shops.

In mercantile pursuits Samuel and George Smith were active, occupying the store used in 1890 by Charles T. Downs. Deacon Elliott Beardsley had another store and was for many years the postmaster of the South Britain office. There are also in the village Congregational and Methodist churches and about 25 residences. Pomperaug, three miles distant, is the railway station.

The Southford School District\* comprises the third in Southbury and the ninth in Oxford, annexed, and lies to the east of Pomperaug Valley. The hill where the first school house was built is the highest elevation in New Haven county, on the road from New Haven to Litchfield. But this hill is encircled by an inner and outer circle of hills, some of which are of higher elevation. The principal ones are Osborn, Mitchel, Walnut tree, Buck and Horsehill, of the inner circle; of the outer, Bullet, Stiles, Pressen, Woodruff, Jack's, High and Hull's hill. The greater part of the territory lying within this outer circle comprises the Southford postal district, having a diameter on a line north and south of about five miles and on a line east and west of four miles.

The Woodbury and Derby road, which was laid out by order of the general court, 1675, ran through this place on a line running north-west and southeast, crossing the Eight Mile brook where is now a private bridge near the paper mill, running along the southern slope

\*By Jervis Sommers, Esq.

of the hill and through Quaker Farms. Quassepaug was the third purchase made of the Indians by the inhabitants of ancient Woodbury and was obtained October 30th, 1687. It embraced all the territory lying north of the Woodbury and Derby road, east of the Pomperaug purchase to Waterbury line, then east along the line between ancient Woodbury and Waterbury to Towantic, then southward to where the Woodbury and Derby road crossed the Eight Mile brook. A part of the southern portion of the town of Middlebury is within this limit. That part of Southford which lies south of the line of the old Woodbury and Derby road was acquired under the Kettle-town purchase.

"Out East" was the name given by the early settlers to this locality. At the present, its undulating surface, studded with groves of native chestnut, oak, ash, hickory, birch and maple, intermingled with grassy slopes and valleys, presents an appearance pleasing to the eye; and the old homesteads on and under the hills, breezy in the shade of the maple, are inviting. But the aspect was different 217 years ago, when the settlers from the parent settlement, Stratford, passed by this place for the richer lands in the Pomperaug valley. But near the close of the eighteenth century, this locality was selected as the homes for many thriving mechanics and almost every person living here followed some mechanic trade. In the plantation of Pomperaug, the mechanic was the lowest in rank and his allotments the least. Hence, when he had opportunity here to obtain ten acres for a home lot and a proportionate quantity of meadow and woodland, the mechanic at once said it was too good a thing not to be appreciated. Although the soil was shallow and rocky, they made meadows of the lowland, when cleared of its dense growth of underbrush and small wood; the tall oaks, chestnuts and whitewoods growing on the hills furnished lumber for their buildings, while the maple, ash, walnut and birch afforded ample fuel in the shape of back-logs and fore-sticks for their fire-places, seven feet long and four feet high. How long the rule of allotment was in force, or at what time the mechanic made "Out East" his abode from choice is difficult to determine at this late day.

A peculiar feature of the old time shoemaker was that he went to the house of his customer to do his work. This he called "whipping the cat;" and so it was with the tailor, the spinner and the weaver; the nail maker went where his nails were wanted; the carpenter's work included everything about the building, often selecting the timber in the woods and cutting it, hewing the frame, rending the shingles and the clapboards, planing his lumber and painting. The cabinetmaker was called a shop-joiner; the outdoor wood workman of rougher work, like the plane he used for coarse work, was a "jack;" and going, or slapping his jack from place to place, he was a "Slapjack," and the place of his abode was so designated in the phraseology of his time until the building of Union church. From that time to the establishment of the post office the place was called "Union Village." Then,

John Peck, with the assistance of Judge Phelps. of Woodbury, took the first syllable of Southbury and the last of Oxford to make Southford.

The post office was established about 1840 on the line of the New Haven and Litchfield road. The mail was then carried in a four horse coach, making three trips a week, leaving Litchfield Monday morning. On the opening of the Naugatuck railroad the mail was delivered by the Seymour and Hotchkissville line. Since February 24th, 1890, the mail is received from the Boston & Hopewell Junction Railroad post office, delivered by the New York & New England Railroad Company. John Peck was the first postmaster, succeeded by Cyrus Hinman, Enos Foot, H. V. Porter, R. B. Curtis, Horace Oatman, W. J. Oatman and Jervis Sommers. The last named received his commission in January, 1890, and February 8th moved the office from the old store where it had been kept from the first, with the exception of two short intervals, to the store of C. P. Tappan, opposite the railroad station.

Among the prominent settlers of Southford was Adin Wheeler, son of Obadiah Wheeler. He taught school when a young man, but later engaged in milling. He built the house now occupied by his great-grandson, T. F. Wheeler. His sons were Joel Wheeler (whose son Theodore was a carpenter and joiner), Adin and Obadiah. A daughter married Joel F. Benedict, and their four sons became well-known lawyers and business men of New York; and many of the descendants of the Wheelers became distinguished in other localities.

The Candees were among the first settlers in New Haven. Caleb, a son, settled in Oxford, on Christian street. His son, Samuel, lived at Southford, and the mansion he erected is still standing. He was active in public affairs, and his descendants also became prominent. One of them, John D. Candee, graduated from Yale College in 1847, and became well known as an editor in Bridgeport. None remain at Southford.

The descendants of Lieutenant Samuel Wheeler, who settled in the Quassepaug section in 1740, became numerous and prominent and some of them lived in the Southford section, Moses Wheeler living half a mile north, on the Middlebury road, where his son, Elisha, afterward lived, and died at the age of 61 years. A son, Alfred Newton, is an attorney at New Haven.

Samuel Bronson, who married Elizabeth Tanner in 1735, was the father of the Bronsons of this locality, one of whom, Harvey, had a rope walk. Noah Bronson was a cooper and also a rope maker. His son, Aaron, was a cordwainer and button maker. His son, Harvey, manufactured clock cord extensively for the clock makers of Bristol and Waterbury, and was the last Bronson thus here engaged. Abel W. Bronson, the second son of Aaron, became a well known black-

smith and gimlet maker. A grandson of Aaron, C. W. Bradley, became a well known railroad man in New York.

The descendants of Jeremiah Johnson were also among the early settlers and mechanics of Southford, his son, Adin, being here well known. A daughter of Jeremiah married George Boulton, one of the best builders of his time and most skillful as a joiner.

A mile northeast, at a place called Bristol-town, Gad Bristol was a cooper; and two of his sons became tailors. Nearer Southford lived George Chambers, a shoemaker.

Asahel Hurd lived in the southern part of the Southford community; and Aaron Hinman built a stone house on his land, at "Out East," to which he removed from his Main street home. Harry Stiles was here as a shoemaker. Lugrand Sharpe moved from this place to Seymour about 1840. Here also lived Austin Hine, William Hurd, Erastus Burr, the Munns, the Towners and the Curtiss's. Descendants of the latter became school teachers and other professional and business men. A daughter of Israel Curtiss married Stephen Bateman, whose family became well known and married into the leading families of the western part of the county.

Jonah Sommers, who lived on Main street, Southbury, descended from Henry Summers, of Milford, who died in 1717. A son, Jervis, having learned the cabinet maker's trade at White Oak, settled at Southford in 1816, and died there in 1833. His widow (Rachel Ward) survived until 1880. A son, Jervis, is the postmaster of Southford.

The village has had as merchants, from 1800 to 1890, Robert Ferguson, Roswell Sherwood, John Peck, Hinman & Osborne, Daniel Abbott, Enos Foot, H. V. Porter, Horace Oatman, E. Pardee, H. S. Wheeler, W. J. Oatman, and C. P. Tappan.

In the period of time when the turnpike was the great thoroughfare between New Haven and Litchfield, Southford being 20 miles from the former place and 25 miles from the latter, hotels were here kept and were well patronized. The Bartholomew Hotel kept in the old long one story house, about 1800, stood a little to the east of where is now the turnpike bridge over the railroad. The Sherwood House was subsequently the private residence of Harry Hinman. The hotel known as the Oatman House for 35 years, was built by George Thompson in 1806, and first kept by him and then by his brother-in-law, Benjamin S. Hurd, followed by John Peck. Enos Foot was the landlord in 1845.

Manufacturing has been one of the principal occupations of the Southford people. Our forefathers raised their wool and their flax. Our mothers made the wool into rolls by the use of hand-cards, spun the rolls into yarn, walking backward and forward by the side of their wheel, and then wove the yarn into cloth for the winter garments and bed clothing of the household. Summer wear was made of linen, the spinning, weaving and bleaching done by the women. That was



the age when the girl was taught to lay hands to the spindle and foot to the treadle, and, on arriving at maturity, must be the owner of a wheel. In the course of time, carding was done by machinery.

The little stream, the outlet of Quassepaug pond, called the Eight Mile brook—eight miles in length—has been utilized for manufacturing from the seventeenth century, first for lumber and flour. Moses Wheeler had a saw mill to the north of the village, and Adin Wheeler and Doctor Candee to the south, a few feet above Ephraim Skeel's grist mill. Samuel Candee's fulling mill was where now stands the paper mill. A quarter of a mile below was Adam Lumm's trip hammer shop. A little further on was the T. B. Wheeler paper mill, built in 1854, the water taken from the Eight Mile brook, in a canal, uniting with the water of the small stream from the west. There Albert Ambler had a saw mill and foundry in 1845. Ebenezer Booth's cabinet shop and turning works stood on this stream about 1825, subsequently occupied by William Cutts as a knife-shop.

Amos Platt became the successor of Wheeler and Candee in milling; he sold to Daniel Abbott, of Middlebury, who took possession in 1837. Mr. Abbott erected a new flour and feed mill, on the site of the old one, and two large factories used for manufacturing of various kinds. About 1849 he turned his attention to paper making, commencing in the old fulling mill, on a small scale, drying his paper on the ground in the sun. Then he added a building to his mill and advanced to loft and steam drying. After some experimenting he came to the conclusion that loft dried paper was the best, so in 1859 he erected a large and commodious building for loft-drying, the best in the state at that time, and entered largely into the manufacture of straw board. Mr. Abbott died before the mill had run a year. His son, S. A. Abbott, bought the property for \$12,000 and ran the mill for two years and then sold, in the fall of 1864, to R. B. Limburner for \$15,000. That was the time of the civil war, and the clear profits on a ton of straw board were greater than has since been realized. R. B. Limburner ran the mill for five years, selling to White & Wells, of Waterbury, for \$24,500.

Paper making was carried on for twelve years by the Southford Manufacturing Company, F. A. Keeny, foreman. In the fall of 1881 the mill was burned. A new company was formed by the name of the Southford Paper Company, and in the season of 1882 a mill was built of brick, with a slate roof, at a cost of \$200,000, including machinery of the latest and most approved patterns. The mill was run three years, when the company went into bankruptcy.

After the revolution, a soldier of that war, Captain Candee, manufactured scythes where is the Bunnell carriage factory. A generation later Asel Towner was a manufacturer of axes. Noah Shepard made clocks and moved from this place to Waterbury. From 1830 to 1850 women's stock shoes were manufactured extensively; Charles and

Amasa Smith, George and Burton Hinman, Charles Booth and others, were in that line of work. Joseph Benham worked at hatting, where William Johnson lives, for several years and was here in 1828. Lewis Downs moved into Southford in 1847. He was a manufacturer of buttons. The village has now only the ordinary mechanic shops.

The first school house stood on the west side of the old Derby and Woodbury road, about ten rods to the east of the residence of J. Sommers. The second house was built in 1800, and Union church was set about 30 feet from it. The basement of this church was used for school purposes for about 20 years, the district at one time numbering 80 pupils, with a daily attendance of 60. The present school house was erected in 1848.

Buck Hill Seminary was a boarding school for boys, which was very successfully carried on by Deacon R. R. Curtiss for about fifteen years, between 1845 and 1860. The house had a very pleasant location on the east slope of the hill, a mile north of the village, and had accommodations for thirty boys. It was usually filled, and the school had a good reputation.

Since that time select schools have been taught in the town by Miss E. L. Townsend and others.

The Union Church edifice was in process of construction in 1825. It was built for the purpose of having a house of worship that could be used by one and all. The contributors were Moses Wheeler, Aaron Bronson, Austin Hine, Adin Johnson, Samuel Candee, Jervis Sommers, the Joel Wheeler family and others. It was used occasionally by the Episcopalians, Congregationalists and Baptists. From 1830 to 1845, or to the time the Methodist church was built in Southbury, the Methodists had a flourishing society here, holding regular service, supplied by local and circuit preachers. Of the local men there were Wooster and Treat from Middlebury. The celebrated circuit preacher, Fuller, was one time located here. Many dated their conversion from the great revival of the decade of 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Bristol, Joseph Wheeler, Burton Hinman, Daniel Abbott, Lugrand Sharp and Moses Tuttle, were members of that church.

The house was repaired, in 1863, as before in an undenominational way. More recent repairs made at the instance of Episcopal ladies of this locality have made the house fairly comfortable. Church services have been held with considerable regularity since 1880, first in connection with the Church of the Epiphany, of Southbury, and later under the auspices of the parishes of St. Peter and Christ in Oxford.

In 1882 the place became a part of regular church work as the "Mission of the Good Shepherd," and since 1886 the rector of the Oxford parishes has here held a regular Sunday ministration. The removal of many persons, consequent upon the suspension of work at the paper mill in 1888, has left the number of communicants very small.

The old Southford burying ground was the gift of Captain Samuel Candee. The first interment was 1821. The Southford Burying Ground Association was subsequently organized and the ground enlarged and fenced. Samuel Candee, son of the captain, was sexton and treasurer, and Jason Curtiss clerk for a number of years. The ground is kept clean; is on an elevation from the road, and a hedge of evergreens lines the front. While there is nothing ostentatious, it shows the respect of the people for the place of their dead. It is located in the town of Oxford about three hundred feet from the line, and serves as a burial place for the adjacent parts of Oxford and Southbury.

Among the physicians who have practiced in town, one of the first was Doctor Andrew Graham, a son of the first minister. He began about 1750, living in the White Oak section, and continued in town until his death in 1785, aged 57 years. Contemporary with him was Doctor Lemuel Wheeler, who was a surgeon in the revolution, and died in 1782.

Doctor Anthony Burritt, born in 1752, in Newtown, studied with Doctor Perry, of Woodbury, and located in the northern part of Southbury before the revolution, in which he did duty as a surgeon. He was taken prisoner on Long Island, but was released through the efforts of his friend, Jabez Bacon, of Woodbury. In Southbury he had a large and successful practice. He died April 12th, 1839. Before his death his son, Anthony B. Burritt, born June 12th, 1810, and graduated from Yale Medical school in 1832, was here in practice, which was continued more than half a century. He lived on Southbury Main street and was eminent in his profession until his death April 4th, 1886.

In 1866 Doctor A. E. Winchell began a practice which was soon after ended with his removal to New Haven. Earlier by 30 years was the professional life in the town, of Doctor Abraham L. Smith, who died in Southbury soon after.

Doctor Myron Lucius Cooley, the present physician, was born in Cheshire December 23d, 1859, and is a son of George W. Cooley. He graduated from the Buffalo Medical College in February, 1886, after having also studied in Yale Medical School, and the same year located in Southbury, having offices at the Center and at South Britain. His practice is large and growing. At the latter place is also Doctor Rankin.

At South Britain have been, among others, as physicians, Doctors Joseph Tomlinson, who removed to Milford; Joseph Trowbridge, Doctor Northrup and Doctor Nathan C. Baldwin, who died there after many years' practice.

Benjamin Stiles was probably the first attorney in the town, where he was born in 1720. He graduated from Yale in 1740, studied law and was successful in his profession. His son, Benjamin Stiles, Jr., born in Southbury in 1756, also graduated from Yale at the age of 20

and became a lawyer. He had a large practice until his death in 1817.

Edward Hinman, born in 1744, and usually known as "Lawyer Ned," was an attorney at White Oak. He was a plain man, very corpulent, terse in his speech, but successful in his profession. His son, Simeon, commenced to practice in 1793, but discontinued in 1809. He died on the old homestead in 1825. His grandson, Edward Hinman, was also an attorney and became a county judge.

Royal R. Hinman, a native of Southbury, became a prominent lawyer in New York city. Robinson S. Hinman, born at South Britain in 1801, was admitted to practice in 1825. Three years later he located at Naugatuck, where he was postmaster 1830-1, when he removed to New Haven, where he became one of its prominent citizens. Joel Hinman was born at Southbury in 1802 and died in Cheshire in 1870. He was an attorney of note, appointed a judge of the supreme court in 1842 and chief justice in 1861.

Warren W. Guthrie, who was born at South Britain, was admitted to the bar in 1855. In 1856 he removed to Seymour, and a year later to Atchison, Kansas, where he became a leading lawyer. William Edmond, born at the same place in 1755, became a judge in Fairfield county. Others, natives of the town, who became lawyers elsewhere, were: John A. Graham, LL.D., a son of Doctor Andrew Graham, became noted in New York city; Amos M. Johnson; John G. Mitchell, at Salisbury; Harris B. Munson, at Seymour; George R. Shelton, at Seymour; Benjamin Wheeler, at Salisbury; and Ralph D. Smith, at Guilford.

Reverend George E. Pierce, D.D., a native of Southbury, graduate of Yale in 1816, removed to Ohio, where he was elected president of the Western Reserve College, and became quite distinguished as an educator.

For more than half a century the settlers of Southbury worshipped in Woodbury church, and were tributary to the First Ecclesiastical Society of that town. In May, 1731, the Southbury parish was incorporated, and November 29th, 1732, this society voted to build a meeting house, and asked the assembly for a committee to locate a site. In May, 1733, the committee selected a final place, "setting the stake down on the hill between Lt. Andrew Hinman's and the house that was Elnathan Strong's." This site was in the highway nearly in front of the present White Oak school house. The building was a plain frame, 35 by 45 feet, with 23 foot posts, and was not fully completed for 20 years. At the end of two years, October, 1735, the society reported that two doors had been put in, the lower floor laid, and it was reasonably comfortable to attend "ye worship of God in." Three years later there were only 28 families in the parish, as formed by the new line, and in spite of the payment of the £300 by the First or

Woodbury society, the means were so scant that there were no pulpit and proper seats.

In spite of this lack of comforts and conveniences the house had been regularly occupied for worship, and the ministration of a pastor called November 29th, 1732. On that date it was voted to settle Reverend John Graham, and to build a house for him on the orchard land of Captain Titus Hinman, and one acre of Wait Hinman's land adjoining, "to be two stories high, 20 by 40 feet, and to provide the same with a chimney." His salary was fixed at £100 per year, to be paid in money or provisions, at market prices, exclusive of the use of the parsonage and lands. He accepted December 19th, 1732, and soon after entered upon his duties. His house was built on the site of the Mitchell Mansion, where he lived through a long and useful pastorate, terminated by his death, December 11th, 1774, in the 81st year of his age. Mr. Graham was a native of Scotland, and had been educated as a physician, but relinquished that profession to become a clergyman. It is claimed that he was a descendant of the duke of Montrose, and he certainly appears to have been a man of more than ordinary rank.

The organization of the church took place after the call of the minister, on January 17th, 1733, and the following were the original members: Reverend John Graham, Captain Titus Hinman, Deacon Benjamin Hicock, Deacon Noah Hinman, John Pierce, Nathaniel Sanford, Sr., Ephraim Hinman, Ebenezer Squires, Joseph Hinman, Richard Brownson, Lieutenant Andrew Hinman, Titus Hinman, Jr., Solomon Johnson, Stephen Hicock, Timothy Brownson, Thomas Drakely, Roger Carley, Ebenezer Down, Nathaniel Sanford, Jr., Abijah Brownson, Harriet Hicock, Elizabeth Hinman, Abigail Graham, Mary Hinman, Maney Hinman, Sarah Hinman, Hester Hinman, Ann Hinman, Eleanor Squire, Mary Brownson, Bethiah Sanford, Prudence Johnson, Comfort Pierce, Dinah Down, Bethiah Hicock, Maney Johnson, Eunice Drakely, Sarah Porter, Abigail Brownson, Lois Hicock.

In 1734 "Capt. Andrew Hinman or, in his stead, Joseph Hinman was appointed to set the psalms and to lead in the public praise of God, having liberty to use any tune on lecture days."

Enfeebled by old age, Mr. Graham had the service of a colleague pastor eight years before his death, in the person of Reverend Benjamin Wildman, who was appointed August 18th, 1766. He entered upon this office October 22d, 1766, and here served in the pastorate until his death in 1812. He had graduated from Yale in 1753, and was well qualified to succeed Mr. Graham. In disposition he was jovial, but was nevertheless a sincere Christian, and succeeded in keeping up the standard of the church, even through the troublous times of the revolution and the controversy attending the building of a new meeting house. He lived in a residence which is still standing as the home of John J. Hinman.

It was not many years before the first meeting house was too small

to accommodate the congregation, and a new house was demanded. As in the first instance, the question of site proved troublesome, and it was several years before an agreement could be reached. Finally, after four years' effort, a site was selected on Southbury street, south of the old site, on which was begun in 1764 one of the largest and finest meeting houses in this part of the state. It was twelve years before it was fully completed and was a noteworthy object many miles around, with its high spire, in which was a good bell and also a clock. These were purchased by general subscriptions of the citizens of the town, which were secured in December, 1773.

The meeting house stood at the head of the lane leading to the middle cemetery, which it fronted, and was used until the present house was occupied in 1844, when it was taken down and the material removed.

The location of the present meeting house, still further south, on the main street, also disaffected a number of members, some of whom withdrew in consequence and connected themselves with other churches. The site is, however, very central, and no doubt was judiciously selected. The building committee, appointed in February, 1844, consisted of Sherman Tuttle, Ira Strong, Benjamin J. Hinman, Jedediah Hall and Thomas Brown, and the house was fully completed in the fall of 1845, when a new assignment of pews was made. It has since been kept in good condition by repairs and has been renovated, so as to have a very attractive interior. Externally it is a frame of pleasing proportions.

In 1813 Reverend Elijah Wood became the pastor and remained until his death in June, 1815. He was a good man and was much esteemed by his parishioners. Reverend Daniel A. Clark was the pastor from 1816 to 1819, when a vacancy of about seven years occurred, in which the pulpit was supplied by Reverends Smith, Wilcox, Payson and others.

In the fall of 1815 a permanent church fund was established by members contributing from \$10 to \$300 each, and in the spring of 1818 a parsonage fund of \$1,200 was raised in the same manner, the largest contributor being Nathan Curtiss, who gave \$200. A home-like parsonage in the lower part of the street was later secured, which is still the property of the society. To the church fund have been added bequests from time to time until in 1890 it amounted to \$4,480.-95. This included a legacy of \$500 by Miss Eliza Hinman, in 1855, and a bequest of \$1,000 by B. T. Brown, of Columbus, Ohio, in 1872. The Sunday school has also a sustaining fund, \$500 of which was bequeathed by Henry W. Scott, Jr., who died December 6th, 1871, just as he was entering upon a period of great usefulness, for which he had been fitted by a thorough education at home and abroad.

While there was such a commendable interest displayed in providing permanent support for the church from 1815 until 1825, the

same period was characterized by quite a defection of members, a number signing off to free themselves from the society rates.

In 1826 Reverend Thomas L. Shipman became the pastor, and his ministry of ten years is still remembered for its substantial effects. In 1831 especially, the church had a revival of unusual interest, resulting from a four days' meeting, following closely upon the sad drowning of Miss Hinman, whose untimely death caused a serious feeling which led to reflection upon religious matters. Many were added to the church, whose interest in its work has continued unabated until this day.

In November, 1836, Reverend W. H. Whittemore became the pastor and continued until 1850. Since that time the pastors have been: April, 1850, to 1856, Reverend George P. Prudden, stated supply; May, 1856, to July, 1859, Reverend Jason Atwater, stated supply; January, 1860, until the fall of 1871, Reverend A. B. Smith, acting pastor. In October, 1871, Reverend John Hartwell began his labors and a year later he was installed to a pastorate which was terminated by his death December 18th, 1879. From May, 1880, until January, 1882, the stated supply was Reverend Howard Billman, who was followed by Reverend William Miller, acting in the same capacity, until March, 1884. Since that time the pulpit has been supplied by Reverend David F. Pierce.

In recent years the membership of the church has been very small, owing to deaths, removals and changes in population, being at present only 45.

The deacons of the church were elected as follows: 1732, Benjamin Hicoek, Noah Hinman, Benjamin Hicoek and Daniel Curtiss; 1775, Timothy Osborne and Samuel Strong; 1783, Jonathan Mitchell; 1813, Adin Wheeler; 1818, Marcus D. Mallory; 1823, Noah Kelsey; 1830, Nathan Mitchell; 1833, Frederick Perry; 1833, Jason Curtiss; 1847, Ira Strong; 1861, Cyrus G. Bostwick and Sherman Tuttle;\* 1868, David M. Wheeler; 1884, Andrew A. Stone; 1887, Gidney A. Stiles.\*

The clerks of the society for many years were the following: William Hinman, William Mitchell, Edward Hinman, Nathan Mitchell; from 1842 to 1884, Sherman Tuttle, Gidney A. Stiles and Charles A. Stone. The treasurer of the society and fund agent is Charles S. Brown.

The South Britain Congregational church is an offshoot of the First society. The purchase of the Indian reservation in 1734 induced many people to locate in what is now the western part of the town, and these soon longed for church privileges more convenient than Southbury street. Accordingly, in 1761, a request was made for four months winter preaching in each year, at some central place, in the new or south purchase. Three years later 38 persons united in a petition for a separate parish, and prayed for a division line along the

\* Deacons in 1890.

mountains separating the east and west sections. Against this movement was presented a counter petition, signed by 69 persons and the matter was deferred. In May, 1765, the petition was renewed and the matter very effectively presented by the following petitioners: Wait Hinman, James Edmond, Ebenezer Hinman, Samuel Hinman, Ebenezer Squires, John Garrett, Ebenezer Down, Samuel Wheeler, John Pearce, Eleazer Mitchell, Benjamin Allen, Aaron Down, Zebulon Norton, Robert Edmond, Moses Johnson, Gideon Curtiss, Samuel Curtiss, Ichabod Tuttle, Timothy Allen, Matthew Hubbell, Comfort Hubbell, Thomas Tousey, John Hobart, Solomon Johnson, Silas Hubbell, James Stanclift, Joseph Baldwin, Ebenezer Down, David Pearce, John Mallory, Abraham Pearce, Michael Hau, Joseph Darling, John Park, Gideon Booth, Amos Brownson, Samuel Hicock, Moses Down, John Johnson, James Edmonds, Jr., Russell Franklin, Joseph Baldwin, Jr., Elijah Hinman, Bethuel Hinman, Samuel Pearce.

In addition to praying for a separate society, they asked to be relieved from the payment of a tax of 12 pence on the pound, which had been levied to build a meeting house in the old society. This petition availed, and in May, 1766, the South Britain society was incorporated and those within its bounds were released from paying taxes to the old society.

The South Britain society was organized June 5th, 1766, at the house of Moses Downs (used in 1890 as the Methodist parsonage), Wait Hinman moderating and Matthew Hubbell acting as clerk. It was here voted to hold meetings for two months at the house of Moses Downs. In September, 1766, the movement to build a meeting house was begun, but three years elapsed before there was an agreement as to the site, which was in the present village of South Britain and in front of the present church edifice. In December, 1770, the society reported the house enclosed, and a debt of £90 resting upon it. A number of years elapsed before it was fully completed and repairs were soon after necessary. In January, 1825, it was voted to build a new meeting house, a short distance north of the old one, and after some effort, that was accomplished. This house had a high pulpit between the doors, box pews and other features common in that day. In May, 1869, the work of remodeling and modernizing the meeting house was begun, the services now being held in the Methodist church. There was an outlay of \$4,600, and on the 25th of November, 1869, the house was rededicated by Reverend Amos E. Lawrence. In 1890 the house was supplied with new carpets and made attractive in other ways, being now in good condition throughout.

After the incorporation of the parish winter meetings were held several years before the formal organization of the church, which took place at the house of Moses Downs, June 29th, 1769, when 36 persons united in fellowship. John Pearce was chosen deacon; Captain



Downs was appointed to read the psalms; and John Garrett, Andrew Dunning, Captain Bassett and John Skeel were chosen choristers. Reverend Jehu Minor had already been installed (May 24th, 1769, after preaching for the society several months) and was now continued as the first pastor, on a settlement of £200 and an annual salary of £70. He was dismissed June 1st, 1790, after some little difficulty arising from a charge that he had neglected the interests of his parishioners in paying too much attention to his own affairs as a farmer, he having become a large landowner. In his pastorate 109 persons were added to the church.

Reverend Matthias Cazier was the acting pastor from August, 1799, till 1804, and Reverend Thomas Osgood served in the same relation, in parts of 1806 and 1807. In the fall of the latter year Reverend Bennett Tyler preached. He was called to the pastorate in April, 1808, and ordained and installed June 1st, 1808. In his ministry in 1812 there was a notable revival, which resulted in an addition of 50 members. He was dismissed March 6th, 1822, to become the president of Dartmouth College. He was born in Middlebury, near Quassepaug lake, in 1783, and graduated from Yale in 1804. In 1834 he became the president of the Theological Institute of Connecticut, and was one of the most distinguished scholars of his time.

Reverend Noah Smith was installed October, 1822, and died October 10th, 1830. Reverend Darius Mead was the acting pastor from February, 1833, till July, 1834. In his ministry 41 were added to the church. Reverend Oliver B. Butterfield was installed June 27th, 1837, and died November 14th, 1849. The next regular minister was the Reverend Amos E. Lawrence, installed December 10th, 1851, and dismissed August 1st, 1860. Reverend John M. Wolcott supplied the pulpit from August, 1860, until his installation as pastor February 20th, 1861. He was dismissed July 1st, 1865. Reverend Homer S. Newcomb was the acting pastor from July 24th, 1865, until July 1st, 1872. Reverend Charles B. Curtiss was ordained and installed October 29th, 1873, and dismissed November 20th, 1874. On the 14th of December, 1875, Reverend Samuel J. Bryant was called, ordained and installed August 30th, 1876, and dismissed by council July 1st, 1884. Reverend Seneca M. Keeler was called October 3d, 1884, and installed November 19th the same year. He was dismissed as pastor June 3d, 1890, but supplied the pulpit until August the same year.

The deacons of the church were appointed to that office as follows: 1769, John Pearce and Ebenezer Downs; years not given, Eleazer Mitchell, Stephen Platt, Solomon Seward and Joseph Bassett; 1798, Isaac Curtiss; 1801, Warren Mitchell; 1827, Simeon Platt; 1835, Anson Bradley and Elliott Beardsley; 1860, Nelson Warren Mitchell; and 1864, George A. Hoyt, the latter two still serving in 1890.

For a number of years Averill B. Canfield was clerk of the church, but after his death, in April, 1890, George W. Mitchell was appointed

to that office; Henry P. Downes was the treasurer; Alfred Platt, clerk of the society; and the standing committee were E. A. Platt, William E. Mitchell and Sidney S. Platt.

The church has about 150 members, and a Sabbath school of about the same number of members is well supported and ably conducted. William E. Mitchell is the superintendent.

The early history of the Methodist Episcopal churches is somewhat obscure; but it is claimed that Methodist preachers visited the town and held meetings at private houses as early as 1798. Soon after a class was formed on George's hill, which had among its early members Newton Tuttle, Joseph Pierce, Daniel Clark and their wives; Eber Griswold, Anna French and a few others. Its meetings were held in the school house in that locality, which, after 1815, was enlarged and used for religious meetings only about 17 years. A small grave yard was opened near by, which is also disused. The increase of membership caused the society to erect a new house of worship in 1832, at South Britain, which afforded a more central location. This building was much enlarged and improved in 1851, and further transformed into a more beautiful place by more recent repairs, the last being done a few years ago. A comfortable parsonage has also been provided at South Britain.

At Southford\* the Methodists were organized later than at South Britain, and the class at Southbury street was not formed until some time about 1840. Both were weak in numbers, and their efforts were united to hold meetings in the brick school house, which were the means of awakening considerable interest. About this time Reverend Sylvester Smith was the regular minister. A number of members joining after 1844, a neat frame meeting house was built in 1847, which has since been kept in good repair. The house cost about \$3,000. It was completed October, 1847.

The church at South Britain has about 30 members, and there is a Sunday school of 25 members, which has S. L. Tuttle as its superintendent; the Southbury church has about the same number of members, and its Sunday school superintendent is Herman Perry.

The following have been the ministers who have served the circuit since 1847: 1848-9, Reverend S. W. Smith; 1850-1, S. D. Nickerson; 1852-3, C. P. Mallory; 1854-5, I. Sanford; 1856-7, S. J. Stebbins; 1858, Ira Abbott; 1860, S. Husted; 1861-2, W. T. Gilbert; 1863-4, J. W. Simpson; 1865, W. H. Stebbins; 1868, S. Johnson; 1869, W. T. Gilbert; 1870-2, David Osborne; 1873-4, L. S. Stowe; 1875-6, F. F. Jordan; 1877, W. A. Munson; 1878-80, W. H. Barton; 1881, W. J. Robinson; 1882-4, H. Schofield; 1885-6, Otis J. Range; 1887-8, George L. Coburn; 1889-90, James Robinson.

From the town have gone as Methodist ministers Reverends Newton Tuttle, Moses Osborne, Aaron Pierce and Stephen Bray.

\* See account of that place.

The following sketch of the Church of the Epiphany (*Protestant Episcopal*) was contributed by Jervis Sommers:

For many years all the inhabitants held to the established church, when some churchmen settled in the town before or soon after the revolution. Among these were Doctor Anthony Burritt, on Southbury Main street; Jonah Summers, a blacksmith, and Shadrach Osborn, the merchant, in the same locality. "Out East" was Captain Bartholomew, a churchman from France. After 1800 many dissented from the established church, and the number of churchmen increased. At Southford the family of John Peck strengthened the church feeling; and the wife of Amos Candee devised some property to the First Episcopal church of the town about 1840. There being no such body, the churchmen formed themselves into a church estate April 18th, 1843, at a meeting held in the brick school house, on Main street. Reverend Abel Nichols presided, when a constitution was drawn up, which was signed by the following: William Ward, Johnson Camp, A. Wildman, Israel Bradley, Ambrose Ward, John Ward, Jeremiah Johnson, Adin Johnson, Elisha Wheeler, Samuel Candee, William Johnson, Ephraim E. Stiles, Nathan B. Stiles, Charles B. Hicock, Lemuel Ward. Samuel Candee was elected clerk and treasurer; Adin Johnson and William Ward, wardens; Elisha Wheeler, Israel Bradley and Charles B. Hicock, vestrymen. The church was called the "Church of the Resurrection," but subsequently was changed to the "Epiphany." The parish was the town of Southbury. Mr. Candee was clerk for twenty years, and Adin Johnson warden during life.

The corner stone of the church, on the Shadrach Osborn lot, was laid November 5th, 1863, and the church was consecrated by Bishop Williams September 19th, 1867. Reverend Henry Townsend, of New Haven, had charge of the parish in 1866, C. Collard Adams in 1867, Clayton Edy from 1868 to 1870, H. A. Welton from 1871 to 1873. Since that time clerical services have been rendered by divinity students from Berkeley School, Middletown. The church is an attractive stone edifice, in the Gothic style of architecture, and stands on a beautifully located lot. It has been but little used the past few years, owing to the weakness of the parish, which has a few members only.

The Roman Catholic Mission of the Sacred Heart is in the Pomperaug valley, near the north line of the town. Catholic worship was here introduced in 1862, when mass was first said by Father James Bowen, at the house of Francis Grant. At that time about a dozen families attended, coming from all parts of the town. Thereafter mass was quite regularly said, about once per month, by priests coming from New Milford, Waterbury, Watertown and Naugatuck, each year witnessing an increase of membership. In 1884 there were about 40 families dependent upon this means of worship, and Father James O'Brien, who came from New Milford, began the building of a church. Dennis Hallahan donated a lot of land adjoining the White Oak school

house and near where had been built the first meeting house in the town. Upon this a neat frame chapel was completed so that it was used for mass Christmas day, 1884. The following May it was dedicated by Bishop McMahan, and has since been used every fortnight.

After being a mission of the parish of New Milford several years Southbury was connected with Watertown, and the past three years Father James Lancaster of that parish has been the officiating priest. In the spring of 1890 half an acre was added to the church lot for burial purposes, and the mission is steadily growing into a parish.

The town has half a dozen places of interment, embracing several well kept cemeteries. The one at White Oak contains the graves of many pioneers, has a number of fine monuments, and is in a neat condition. A little more than a mile southwest is the second cemetery of the Southbury society, whose location is a little more isolated but it is not unattractive. The Pine Tree Cemetery, west of the present Congregational church, is newer. It is spacious, well enclosed, and is controlled by a cemetery association. The South Britain Cemetery is centrally located, contains about four acres, and appears attractive. More than a mile north, in Pierce Hollow, is a smaller graveyard; and there are fine monuments in both of them. The Catholics have a place of burial in connection with their church; and in other localities are small graveyards, now seldom used. There is also a fine place of burial at Southford.

Among the citizens of the town who participated actively in the wars of the country, in official capacity were Colonel Benjamin Hinman, Colonel Increase Mosely, Shadrach Osborn and Captain Elisha Hinman. The latter removed about 1760, but during the revolution he was in the naval service. Colonel Hinman was born 1720 and died in March, 1810, about 90 years of age. He was in the French and Indian wars in 1755, as a major, and in 1775 was commissioned colonel of the Thirteenth Regiment of Connecticut troops, by Governor Jonathan Trumbull. In the revolution he was colonel of the Fourth Regiment and was at Ticonderoga. Ill health compelled him to retire and return home in January, 1777. He was a leading man in the affairs of the town.

Colonel Increase Mosely moved to Southbury in 1768 and died here in 1810, aged 70 years. He obtained his rank from the colonelcy of the Thirteenth Regiment after Colonel Hinman entered the continental service, but also served the patriot cause. Shadrach Osborn, a son of Timothy, was born in 1747. He also marched to Ticonderoga as a commissary and was soon appointed as quartermaster. While acting in that capacity, he stored provisions in Southbury at "Pork Hollow" and along the Pomperaug, after the burning of Danbury. It is said that in 1778 George Washington paid a visit to the town and was his guest. His home was on the lot now occupied by the Episco-

pal church, on Southbury street, where he lived until his death in August, 1838, in the 91st year of his age.

In the war for the suppression of the rebellion, 1861-5, Southbury was keenly alive to her duty and responded promptly to every demand made upon her. More than forty men were supplied, filling the required quotas, and the total war expenses in money were about \$12,000. For bounties to volunteers and pay for substitutes about \$8,050 was expended.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

William C. Beecher, born in Southbury May 28th, 1828, is a son of Nathaniel and Hannah (Peck) Beecher, and grandson of Nathaniel. Nathaniel and Hannah had two children: Elizabeth and William C. Elizabeth married Horace C. Baldwin. William C. married Mary E. Strong, of Woodbury, April 4th, 1855. They have six children: William S., born 1856, married Harriet Beers; Mary E., 1860; Henry W., 1862; Harriett L., 1866, married Homer A. Jones; Seth N., 1867; and Horace B., born 1870. Mrs. Beecher died July 28th, 1884. One son, William S., died in 1888. Mr. Beecher enlisted in 1862, in Company B, 13th Connecticut Regiment, as second lieutenant, helping to recruit this company, he being the only commissioned officer from Southbury. He served under General Butler, participating in the taking of New Orleans, and afterward under General Banks. He was discharged on account of ill health February 5th, 1863, and returned to Southbury. After regaining his health, he was engaged in superintending railroad construction, his first work being on the Hartford, Providence & Fishkill road. Twelve years later he assisted in the completion of the same line under the name of the New York & New England railroad. He also assisted in building the Connecticut Valley, Providence & Springfield and the D. L. & W. railroads.

Almon B. Downs, born in Southbury in 1824, is a son of Erastus and Betsey (Burr) Downs, grandson of Wait and Phebe (Hinman) Downs, and great-grandson of Moses, a descendant of Deacon Ebenezer Downs, who was one of the first settlers of Southbury. He settled in South Britain, was one of the first deacons of the South Britain Congregational society, organized in 1769, and served as captain in the revolutionary war. He died in 1790. Erastus had five children: Fanny, Celina, Almon B., Julia E. and Henry W. Almon B. Downs was in the legislature in 1858 and 1862.

David M. Mitchell, born in Southbury in 1842, is a son of Elizur, grandson of Benjamin, and great-grandson of Eleazer, who was the first one of the name that settled in Southbury, where he was a large land holder. He came to this town when it was a wilderness, and had no neighbors but the Indians. He was called Deacon Eleazer. He was one of the founders of the South Britain society. He was born November 27th, 1732, and was the youngest of a family of 13 children.

His son, Benjamin, was born in 1777, married Hannah Pierce, and had five children. Elizur, his son, was born in 1804, married Cornelia Mary Ann Merwin, and had eight children. David M. is the only one now living in Southbury. One son, Lawrence Mitchell, lives in Fairfield county, Conn. David M. was educated at the common schools of the town and at Hinman's Academy, of Oxford. He married Hattie I. Lemmons, of Woodbury, in 1869. They have three children: Benjamin M., born 1870; John L., born 1873; and Lottie C., born 1878.

George W. Mitchell, born in South Britain, Conn., 1846, is a son of Amos and grandson of Benjamin Mitchell. His mother was Thalia M. Painter. Amos had three sons and two daughters, George W. being the third child. The Mitchell family is one of the pioneer families of Southbury. George W. married Julia E., daughter of Sidney S. Platt, of Southbury, in 1872. They have three children: Abbie E., born in 1874; Susan W., born in 1877, and Hubert A., born in 1881. Mr. Mitchell is interested in real estate in Kansas, and is president of the Goodrich Cattle Company of Kansas. He is a republican in politics and represented this town in the legislature in 1887 and 1888.

Ezra Pierce was born in 1842. The first of the name to settle in this town was John, who came from England. He had a son, John, who settled in South Britain in Pierce Hollow, and had nine children, of whom Joseph had a son, Benjamin, who had two sons, Sterling and Edwin. Edwin married Nancy Mallory, of Southbury, and had four children: Susan, Lucius, Ezra and Charles B. Susan married John Bryan, of Waterbury; Lucius died in 1889; Ezra married Matilda Gates, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., in 1877. He has always been a farmer. He was elected to the legislature in 1872, and was town treasurer in 1882. Charles B. married Alice Butler and has four children.

Merritt S. Platt, born in Southbury in 1825, is son of Stephen S. and Sally Platt, and grandson of Stephen. Stephen and Sally Platt had seven children, of whom Merritt S. is the only son. He married Maria, daughter of Ebenezer Smith, of Middlebury, in 1853. They have one son, Stephen S., born in 1858, married Edua R. Hine, of Southbury, in 1886, and has two children: Mary E., born 1888, and Irving Smith, born 1889. There seem to have been four brothers of the Platt family that came to this town, and they were among the first settlers in Southbury, locating in the South Britain society. The elder Stephen was a deacon of the Congregational church and helped organize the South Britain society. Merritt has been a member of the Congregational church since 1842. He has been a member of the board of relief of the town six years, and is a republican.

Willis E. Platt is a son of Edward A. Platt, who was born in the house where he now lives, in 1827. He is a son of Simeon, grandson of William and great-grandson of Stephen, who was the first of the

name to settle in Southbury. He came from Milford about 1750, and settled in the Purchase district. Stephen's wife was Hannah Woodruff. They had seven children. William, the youngest, born in 1765, married Mercy Pierce, and had three children: Simeon, born 1792; Currance, 1796; and Olive, 1799. Simeon married Eliza Blackman, and had five children that grew to maturity: Polly B., born 1818; Maria, 1822; Olive, 1823; Eliza A., 1825; Edward A., born January 17th, 1827; and William, 1835. Edward A. settled on the old homestead which has been in this family over 120 years. The house was built in 1806. Edward A. married, in 1853, Ellen, daughter of Edmund Barnes. They have three children; Harriet, born 1855; Willis E., 1857; and Jane E., 1861. Willis married, in 1880, Margaret Burke, of New Haven, and has three children: Eunice E., born 1882; Sarah E., 1885, and Edward A., 1887. Jane E. married William A. Fenn, and has two children. Harriet married Franklin D. Bradley, and has three children.

Samuel W. Post, born in Southbury in 1827, is a son of Henry and grandson of Joseph Post. Henry was born in 1797, and was twice married; first to Lucinda Shelton, by whom he had three children: Phebe, Henry M. and Lucinda. She died April 13th, 1822, and he was married in March, 1823, to Maria Munn, who bore him seven children, five of whom are living: Benjamin, born in 1824; Joseph, 1825; Samuel W., 1827; Henry M., 1829; and Jane A., 1832. Samuel W. was educated in the common schools of Southbury, and has been engaged in various kinds of business—as clerk, speculator and farmer. He has held nearly all the town offices in Southbury, and has been representative and state senator. He married Cythera M. Hollister in 1854. They have two children: George H., born in 1858; and Lillian J., born in 1860. George H. married Belle Lewis, of Naugatuck, and has one daughter, Eloise A. Post.

Elliott Pulford, born in Southbury, April 22d, 1810, was a son of Abel, a native of Newtown, Conn., who settled in this town. Elliott Pulford married in 1834, Maria, daughter of Colonel Joel Hinman and Sarah Curtiss. They had two children, Julia M. and Grace S. Mr. Pulford died in 1887. Miss Grace S. Pulford was educated in Southbury and at West Haven High School, and ranks high as a teacher. She has taught in South Britain, Shelton and Southbury.

Henry B. Russell, born in Southbury, August 16th, 1844, is a son of Bethuel T. and Huldah A. Russell. They were both natives of Southbury and had four children: Henry B., Charles T., Mary C., and George B. Henry B. was educated at the common school, and at Thompson school, Woodbury, and Ocean Port Institute, N. J. He was married March 2d, 1864, to Rachel A. Pierce, of Southbury. They have one daughter, Annie A., born December 26th, 1868. Mr. Russell has held the office of selectman three years, was elected town treasurer in 1883, and has served as such since, and represented the

town in the legislature in 1886. He has been society committee for a number of years, and chairman eight years of the committee of the First Ecclesiastical Society of Southbury. He has settled several estates.

Curtiss H. Smith, born in Southbury, in 1850, is a son of Monroe and Amanda (Hulbert) Smith. The latter was born in Roxbury in 1820. Monroe Smith was born in 1820, in Middlebury, Conn., came to this town in 1846, and died in 1864. He had five children, three of whom are living: Curtiss H., born in 1850; Flora E., born in 1854; and George W., born in 1856, married Miss Ella Allen, of South Britain, in 1884. Flora E. married M. S. Page, of Middlebury, who is now a dentist in Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Curtiss H. was educated at the common school, at Parker's Academy, Woodbury, and at Fort Edward, N. Y. He is a farmer and dealer in cattle. He was elected selectman of Southbury in 1886 and 1887, first selectman in 1888, and second in 1889 and 1890. Mrs. Amanda Smith lives on the homestead with Curtiss H.

Jervis Sommers, born in Southbury in 1833, is a son of Jervis, and a grandson of Jonah Sommers, who came from Newtown, and was a descendant of Henry Sommers, who settled in Stratfield, now Bridgeport, about 1666. The mother of Jervis was Rachel Ward, born in Bethany, Conn., whose grandfather died on board of a British prison ship in the revolutionary war. Mr. Sommers received a commission as postmaster of Southford in 1890, and moved the office to the store opposite the depot February 8th, 1890. He married Antoinette Hawley, of Oxford, in 1877. She died in 1883.

DAVID JUDSON STILES.—Few men of the town of Southbury have been more prominent than David J. Stiles. He was born on the place still owned by his family and which, since the time of the settlement of old Woodbury, had been the property of his ancestors, October 16th, 1795, and died November 17th, 1881, aged a little more than 86 years. His death, the result of pneumonia, occurred at New Haven, while he was on business to that place, but he was interred in the peaceful Southbury Cemetery, near the place of his nativity and where for so many years he had lived. There also lie the remains of many former generations of his family, among the very first settlers of Southbury being the Stiles's, who have, in every generation, been among the most active and influential citizens of the town.

David J. Stiles was the eldest of four children, born to David Stiles and Olive Pierce, married in 1784, the remainder of the family being Patty, who died young; Mary Anna, who married and died within one year afterward; and Benjamin, who removed to Yorkville, South Carolina. The father, David, born September 10th, 1751, was a son of Benjamin Stiles, Esq. (married to Ruth Judson, of Stratford, where also had first lived, in Connecticut, this branch of the Stiles family), who was born in Southbury, February 11th, 1720. After graduating





David J. Stiles



from Yale College he entered the legal profession and was the first lawyer in the then town of Woodbury. He was a son of Lieutenant Francis Stiles, married to Mary Johnson, of Stratford, September 21st, 1709, who settled in Southbury, on the place later the home of his great-grandson, David J., and the house he built at that place was for many years a noted landmark. He died in 1748. His father, also Lieutenant Francis Stiles, lived in Stratford and was a descendant in the second generation of one of the four Stiles brothers, who came from England to America in 1634. The descendants of another brother settled in North Haven, embracing among their members the Reverend Isaac Stiles and the honored president of Yale College, Ezra Stiles. In this part of the county the family was intermarried with the oldest and most respected families—descendants of early prominent settlers.

David J. Stiles was married October 10th, 1821, to Anna, only daughter of Bennett French, a prominent and wealthy citizen of the South Britain Society. She was a beautiful young woman, of lovely disposition, of whom it was eminently true,

"None knew her but to love her  
Nor named her but to praise."

They spent 60 years of life together, she surviving him less than two years. Of the six children born to them, three grew to years of manhood and womanhood and are now living in the town: Bennett F., at South Britain, and Anna F. and Augusta M., on the homestead. The mother died July 3d, 1883, in her 86th year.

The boyhood and almost the entire life of David J. Stiles was spent in Southbury. He received his early education in the schools of this town and Woodbury, but throughout his entire life was a student. Even at the extreme age of 80 years he purchased a set of encyclopedias, which he diligently read, thus constantly storing his mind with knowledge. He had a strong taste for law, inherited, most likely, from his grandfather, Benjamin Stiles, Esq., and was self-instructed in its principles and rules; and having an acute discernment and clear judgment, he was often consulted upon important legal points. His mind was ever active and alert, and few men in this part of the county were more vigorous in that respect or obtained as the result of their study and energy more fruitful results. One of the most remarkable characteristics of his nature was his strong tenacity of purpose. After he had once determined to do anything, he persevered until he had accomplished his object. Whatever he conceived to be his rights he sought to obtain at all hazards of time and means, persisting in his efforts when most men would have yielded to discouragement. This trait was strikingly shown in his connection with the ownership of the Mine Hill tract of about 549 acres of land, in Roxbury, nine miles from his home. From the time he acquired possession, in 1824, for more than 30 years his title was disputed in the

courts, but he successfully defended it, and after a hotly contested trial, lasting nine days, in the May, 1856, court held at New Haven, it was finally decided that he was the rightful owner. In this important legal struggle, some of the most distinguished lawyers of the state were opposed to him, but could not overcome the barriers he had set up in the details of the case, which he had himself arranged, and which old jurists pronounced the clearest brief they had ever seen. His sagacity in acquiring this property and so pluckily holding possession of it were rewarded when, a few years later, he sold it for \$100,000. Besides the cares of this estate, Mr. Stiles had other large business interests which engaged his time and prevented his participation in public matters to a great extent, and he held no public offices. But he was esteemed a good citizen and was especially warm in his support of schools, and other matters which promoted the general good of the town.

Mr. Stiles had, in addition to his thorough knowledge of the law, studied and acquired a clear understanding of the principles of mechanics, and in the latter years of his life, had invented a useful appliance to prevent the explosion of steam boilers. He constructed a neat model and had filed the necessary papers in Washington, but died before he could obtain a patent for it. Until the very end his fertile brain impelled him to activity, and he died in the midst of business cares.

Nathaniel Tuttle settled in Woodbury about 1680, and from him have descended most, if not all, of the name now residing in its vicinity. Captain Nathaniel, his grandson, served in the revolution. His son, Nathaniel, was born in 1785, married May 9th, 1808, Betsey Fabrique. He died May 5th, 1850. Mrs. Tuttle died February 19th, 1868, aged 83 years. She was a member of the Congregational church and was very much loved and respected. Their children were: John H., born February 16th, 1809, a merchant, died August 30th, 1831; Nathaniel, born February 1st, 1811, kept a shoe store on Chapel street, New Haven, about 20 years, and died October 18th, 1854; Sherman and Benjamin N. Sherman, born January 18th, 1813, was formerly a carpenter by trade. He was married June 13th, 1860, to Emeline, daughter of Thomas Blakely, of Roxbury. Both are members of the Congregational church. Mr. Tuttle joined in 1832. He was one of the building committee and helped build the church edifice in 1844. He was clerk of the society 40 years, also one of the society's committee some 48 years. He was elected deacon of the church January 11th, 1861, which office he still holds, and is seldom absent from the church on the Sabbath, unless illness prevents. Benjamin N., born April 11th, 1815, was a carpenter by trade some 30 years in New Haven. He was married January 23d, 1848, to Francis A. Finch. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which they took a lively interest. Mrs. Tuttle died March 5th, 1867, aged 43. Ben-

jamin died March 14th, 1871. The ancient house formerly occupied by Captain Nathaniel Tuttle and his descendants for a century or more, was situated in Southbury on Main street, near the churches. The old one was removed in 1784, and a new one was erected by Sherman Tuttle on the same ground, where he now resides.

ELISHA WHEELER was a lineal descendant of Moses Wheeler, who came from England and settled in New Haven about 1640. Subsequently he removed to Stratford, where his family became very prominent and for many generations ranked among the most influential citizens. Some of its members joined the colonists who left Stratford to form new settlements, north and west of that old town, and carried with them, to these new localities, the characteristics of the founder of the family. They were active, intelligent, progressive, and were soon the recognized leaders of affairs in their respective communities. Lieutenant Samuel Wheeler thus left Stratford, about 1740, and settled in the extreme southeastern section of "Ancient Woodbury," now comprised in the northern part of the town of Oxford, where he reared a large family, among his children being Robert Wheeler, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. One of the latter's sons was Moses Wheeler, born in 1773, who was the pioneer of the family in Southbury. In 1795 he married Betsey Loveland and soon after built and moved into the house where he died in 1827, and which is still standing and is now occupied by the family of one of his sons, Elisha. Like his ancestors he was a man of unusual prominence and possessed many excellent qualities. He was also a Free Mason of high degree and was well known in the county and state.

Of the ten children of Moses and Betsey Wheeler, Elisha was born in 1816 and died in the paternal home, in Southbury, January 1st, 1877. He was educated in the common schools of his native town, and upon reaching manhood engaged in farming, in which occupation he was successful, accumulating a comfortable estate. He was industrious and thrifty, and, investing his savings in real estate, became one of the largest land owners in the town. In all his own affairs he was judicious, and having naturally most excellent judgment, with more than ordinary knowledge of general affairs, he was frequently consulted by his neighbors on business matters, and had the care and settlement of many estates. All these trusts he discharged with care and fidelity, winning by his conscientious life the esteem of the entire community. He was exact and just, but was a warm friend and a good neighbor. The welfare of his native town was ever dear to him, and through his interest in its affairs he was brought into prominence in official capacities. For many years he served as the first selectman, discharging the duties of that office, in the period of the civil war, so as to win the approbation of all parties. In politics he was a democrat, but he was a staunch Unionist and believed in the active prosecution of the war and the liberal care of the families of the

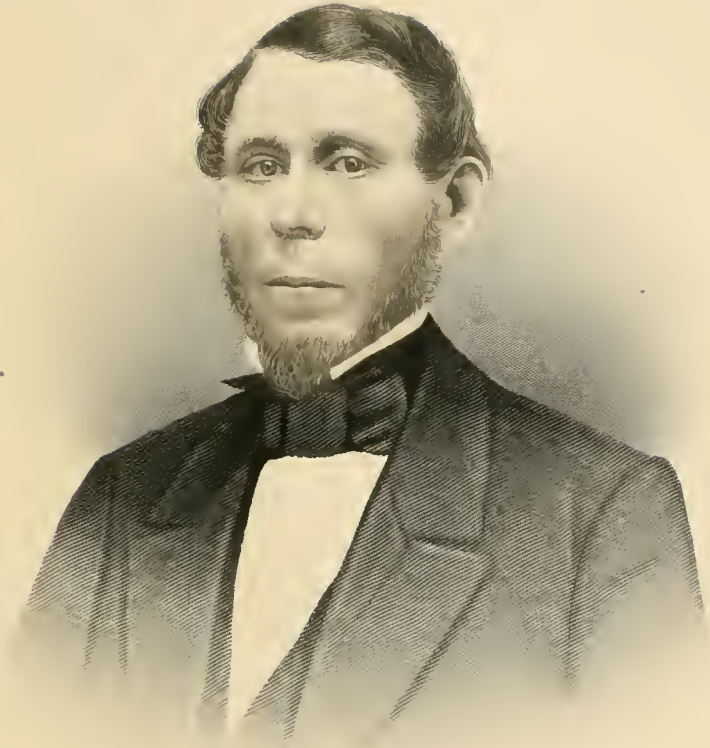
enlisted men. In other matters he was foremost in town enterprises and progress. In the affairs of the state he also earned distinction. He was elected to the general assembly as a representative from Southbury in 1855 and 1861, and was a state senator in 1863, serving with credit in both bodies. On the questions of public issue he had strong convictions, but was not radical or intemperate in his speech or actions. He was regarded a safe and prudent official, and was honored and respected by all who knew him. In his relation to the state, as well as to his own community, he was justly considered a most useful and excellent man.

Elisha Wheeler was twice married. His first wife was Anna M. Johnson, whom he wedded in 1836, and by whom he had one child, James L., who lived in the town of Beacon Falls. He was married to Mary A. Curtis, of Newtown, in 1863, and died in 1875.

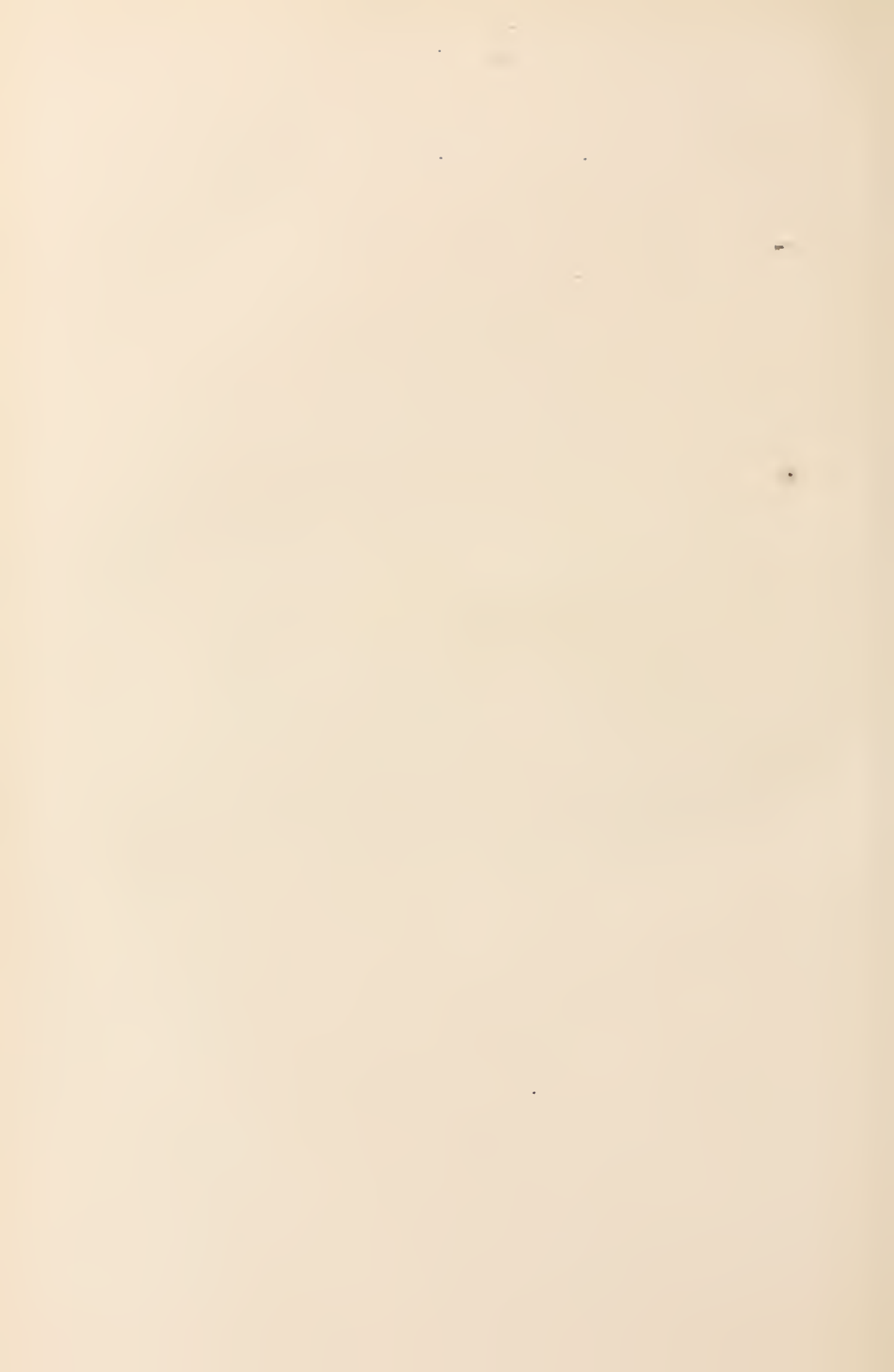
For his second wife Elisha Wheeler married, April 10th, 1838, Eliza A., daughter of Calvin Leavenworth, of Oxford, who survives as his widow. In her early life Mrs. Wheeler was a school teacher, and has retained an active interest in the intellectual and moral life of the community in which she has so long resided. She is a devoted member of the Episcopal church, and has been much engaged in charitable and benevolent work. Her nature is very refined, and having a most amiable disposition, she is living at a ripe old age, beloved by all who know her.

The union of Elisha and Eliza A. Wheeler was blessed with six children: Frances E., born in 1840, married Truman E. Hurd, and died in 1876, leaving three children: Martha E., born in 1842, married, in 1883, Reverend Elihu T. Sanford, of New Haven, and now resides at New Milford, Conn.; Ralph E., born in 1844, died in 1858; Mary S., born in 1846, married Charles E. Webster, of Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, and now resides at South Bethlehem, in that state; Henry S. and Alfred N.

Henry S. was born in 1848, and died in Southbury July 14th, 1889. He was educated at the Bridgeport Business College, and was engaged in business at Rockford, Ill., and in New Haven. Returning to Southbury he filled various offices within the gift of his townsmen, serving as a member of the board of education, justice of the peace and first selectman. He represented the town of Southbury in the legislature for two terms, and was his party's nominee for state senator. He took an active interest in the politics of his party, and as a member of the democratic state central committee he rendered good service. For a number of years he was a member of King Solomon's Lodge, F. & A. M., of Woodbury. His acquaintance in the state was large and he was favorably known. He was married in 1877, to Hannah A., daughter of Frederick A. and Louisa (Tomlinson) Candee, of Oxford, and their only child was a son, Ralph E., born in 1883. Henry S. Wheeler had inherited many of the excellent traits of his father, and was a man of



*Elisha Wheeler*





genial disposition and generous heart, universally beloved, and died deeply lamented.

The youngest son of Elisha and Eliza A. Wheeler is Alfred N., a practicing attorney and public man of the city of New Haven. He was born in 1855 and was educated at General Russell's school, at New Haven, and at Yale College, from which he graduated in 1875. Two years later he graduated from the law school of the same university, and located in New Haven for the practice of his profession. He was elected a councilman of that city in 1881, and has for some years been a member of the city board of health. He married September 30th, 1891, Lillian E., daughter of Elisha and Julia B. Wilson, of New Haven.

Truman B. Wheeler, born in Southbury in 1819, is a son of Truman, grandson of Truman, and great-grandson of Obadiah, who was a son of John, one of the signers of the land contract with the Pomperaug Indians of the original land of Woodbury. He settled on the same farm now owned by Truman B. Wheeler. The latter went to Vicksburg, Miss., and was there until the close of the rebellion, when he returned to the home of his fathers and has since resided here. He married in 1870, Catherine L. Webb, of Woodbury, and has three children: Lucy, Truman and Charles.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### THE TOWN OF WOLCOTT.

Settlement.—Civil Organization.—First Town Meeting.—Town Clerks.—Public Green.  
—Public Highways.—Schools.—Industrial Interests.—Wolcott Center.—Woodtick.  
—Physicians.—Religious Matters.—Cemeteries.—Biographical Sketches.

THE town of Wolcott is in the extreme northern part of the county and on the line separating New Haven county from the towns of Bristol and Southington in Hartford county, and the town of Plymouth, in Litchfield county. South and west is the town of Waterbury. The average length of Wolcott, from north to south, is about six miles; the breadth is a little more than three miles. The general surface is hilly and mountainous. In all the territory there is only one distinct valley—the one extending from Waterbury, on the west, along Mad river. Along that stream and in the northwestern part of the town, is the elevation called Spindle hill, whose highest point is known as Clinton hill. It is claimed that this is one of the highest points of land in this part of the state. From its summit may be seen Long Island, some parts of Massachusetts, and nearly a dozen villages and cities in the surrounding towns. Many other hills in the town approximate Clinton hill in height. Pike's hill in the northeastern part, a point on the Southington mountain, is but a little lower. The Southington mountain extends from the southeastern part of the town along the east line, northward for more than two miles. On the summit the land is comparatively level and some good farms had been opened, but most of them have been abandoned. It takes its name from its location relative to Southington. Some of the other hills were named for those who first lived upon them.

Many of the hill ranges consist of ledges of gray rock, having the nature of granite, the town being contiguous to the granite district in the northwestern part of the state. In some localities these ledges rise above the surface, from five to twenty feet. In other parts the soil is closely filled with smaller stones, rendering its cultivation difficult. In general the soil is a hard, coarse, gravelly loam, and is inclined to be sterile. But there are fertile belts of small areas and much of the land may be used for grazing. A considerable portion is in woodland and this area is increasing, many abandoned farms being allowed to grow up with birch, chestnut, oak or swamp maple trees.

Much of the income of the town has been derived from the sale of wood.

The principal water course is Mad river, forming, with its affluent brooks, a stream which affords several water powers. Hence, the lower part was formerly called Mill river. At its source, in the northern part of the town, it is a mere brook. Its course is southwest to the city of Waterbury, where it empties into the Naugatuck. Roaring and Lily brooks are the other principal streams. There are several swamps, one, Cedar swamp, being in the northern part. This and some of the streams have been utilized by Waterbury manufacturers for water storage purposes. Several large reservoirs have been built.

The land in Wolcott, being originally in the towns of Waterbury and Farmington, was "taken up" or owned by the people of those towns a number of years before any one came here to live as an actual settler. The Waterbury part, by reason of its greater accessibility, the old Farmington path leading through the upper part, was first settled. In 1731 John Alcock or Alcox,\* at that time an energetic young man of 26 years, came from New Haven and settled on a tract of land, consisting of 117½ acres, in the western part of Wolcott. He increased his purchase until he owned more than 1,000 acres, and was for a number of years the principal as well as the first settler of the town. At the time of his removal here he had been married about 15 months to Deborah Blakeslee, of North Haven, who thus became the queen bride of Wolcott. Their eldest son, Captain John Alcox, was born December 28th, 1731, and was the first child born in the limits of the town. Eleven more children came to bless their home, and their descendants became numerous and influential. In direct line of descent were Amos Bronson Alcott and Doctor William A. Alcott, who were honored beyond the measure allotted to most men on account of the useful lives they led. The daughters of Bronson Alcott, Louisa A. and May, have been among the most beloved of American women. John Alcox died January 6th, 1777, nearly 72 years of age, but his wife survived him until January 7th, 1789.

In 1732 Isaac Hopkins settled in the valley east of Chestnut hill, residing on his farm until his death. At Wolcott Center Benjamin Harrison lived as early as 1739, his land adjoining that of Isaac Hopkins. Their neighbors later in the valley southwest of Wolcott Center were: Elijah Frisbie, Howard Pritchard and Eldad Mix, before 1760: Joseph Parker, Joseph Sutliff, Gehulah Grilley and Timothy Scott, before 1770. Thomas Welton, Eliakim Welton and Shadrach Benham settled on Spindle hill some time after 1732. In the neighborhood of Woodtick were as early settlers Judah Frisbie, Amos Seward and the Upsons. Joseph Atkins came to the Mad River valley in 1758; Wait Hotchkiss, Abel Curtiss, Isaac Twitchell and Joseph Beach came to

\*The modern spelling of this name is Alcott.

Wolcott about 1765. David Norton was here before that time. Josiah Rogers came later. "In 1770 there were at the Center Aaron Harrison and the family of his brother, Benjamin Harrison, Abraham Wooster, John Barrett and the family of James Barrett, Joseph Atkins and Josiah Talmage, and soon after were added Daniel Tuttle, Samuel Byington and possibly a few others.\*

In the Farmington part of Wolcott the lands were allotted to the inhabitants of that town, which furnished most of the early settlers of that section, a few families coming from the old town of Wallingford. The land was laid out in three tiers of "long lots," each being a mile long, and some possibly extending through the three tiers. The first tier was on the bound or Waterbury line; the second, east; and the third on Southington mountain. They were numbered from north to south. Lieutenant Heman Hall was one of the first permanent settlers in that locality, living on "long lot" No. 56, and settling there some time after 1750. His house stood on the twenty-rod highway on the mountain, and was built by Joseph Preston, who sold to Lieutenant Hall, March 12th, 1750. Later his son, Captain Heman Hall, built a gambrel roofed house in the same locality, which was quite a landmark many years. Jonathan Mott also lived on the mountain, but sold out to Hall. James Pike and sons, Samuel and David, resided on Pike's hill as early as 1753. Within the next 15 years other settlers in that part of the town were Daniel Mix, Benjamin Barnes, John Bronson, Justus Peck, Nathaniel Lewis, David Frost, the Brocketts, the Beechers and the Hortons.

The military company of Captain John Alcox had the following members in 1775, the list indicating the names of the settlers at that time who were subject to that duty: Ezekiel Upson, Joseph Benham, Amos Hall, James Thomas, David Alcox, Aaron Welton, Elkanah Smith, Eliakim Welton, Jr., John Talmage, Abel Curtiss, Sr., Heman Hall, James Alcox, Johnson Cleaveland, Stephen Miles, Jr., Daniel Alcox, Samuel Atkins, Abraham Tuttle, Joseph Beecher, Wait Hotchkiss, John Bronson, Jacob Carter, Jr., Noah Neal, Abel Collins, Jared Harrison, Charles Upson, Jeremiah Smith, Mark Harrison, Cyrus Norton, Abraham Wooster, Nathan Seward, Samuel Harrison, Dan Tuttle, Aaron Howe, Curtiss Hall, Philip Barrett, John Miles, Nathaniel Suttiff, John Greeley, David Alcox, Jr., Jeremiah Selkrigs, Philemon Bradley, Isaac Newell, Moses Pond.

Like most of the hill towns Wolcott had its most numerous population about the beginning of the present century, and the town had its greatest prosperity between 1790 and 1820. In the year first named there were about 900 inhabitants; in 1800 they numbered 948; in 1810, 952; in 1820, 943. Now began the decline, which has continued until less than 50 per cent. remain. In 1830 the population was only 844; in 1840, 633; in 1850, 603; in 1860, 574; in 1870, 491. Many farms were

\*Reverend Samuel Orcutt.

deserted, and it is claimed that even in 1890, when the population had again increased to 522, there were more ruins of houses in the town than residences. On Southington mountain particularly, where were once many good farms, not a single one remains. All the land has been allowed to return to its primeval condition. In other parts may, however, be seen pleasant, comfortable homes, occupied by an intelligent industrious class of people.

A movement for a town organization was made as early as December 7th, 1787, when the Ecclesiastical society of Farmingbury unanimously voted that "we are willing and desirous to be incorporated into a town." "Voted that it is our mind when made a town to be connected with New Haven county." Committees were now appointed to confer upon the propriety of this step with the towns of Waterbury and Southington, in which the parish was located, and to memorialize the general assembly for such privileges. Some opposition being made, the matter was allowed to rest, but was again taken up in 1792. It was not, however, until May, 1796, that the general assembly passed an act authorizing the incorporation, as per petition presented May 9th that year, which made clear that the towns of Southington and Waterbury had withdrawn all objections against such action. There being a tie vote on the resolutions Lieutenant-Governor Oliver Wolcott cast the deciding vote, when out of compliment for this act, the new town was called Wolcott.

The first town meeting was held June 13th, 1796, Deacon Aaron Harrison being the moderator. It resulted in the choice of the following principal officers: Town clerk, Isaac Bronson; treasurer, Mark Harrison; selectmen, Mark Harrison, Streat Richards, Jacob Carter; tything men, John Frisbie, David Harrison, Solomon Plumb, William Bailey. Samuel Upson, Charles Upson, Streat Richards, Jacob Carter, Mark Harrison, Calvin Cowles, Nathaniel Lewis and Daniel Byington were appointed a committee to adjust affairs between the new and the old towns, and to divide the town poor, if there were any, according to the last list, etc., etc.

Since the first meeting the town clerks were the following: 1796-1814, Isaac Bronson; 1815-1838, Archibald Minor; 1839-40, Levi Moulthrop; 1841, Isaac Hough; 1842, Ezra S. Hough; 1843-4, Joseph N. Sperry; 1845, Elihu Moulthrop; 1846-7, Joseph Sperry; 1848-91, Henry Minor.

The public green in Wolcott is on both sides of the highway, running east and west, in front of the meeting house. The part north of the road was deeded to the Farmingbury ecclesiastical society in 1772, by Joseph Atkins. On the eastern part of it a whipping post was set some time about the beginning of the present century. It appears to have been last used in 1817, when Levi Parker, as the constable, inflicted punishment upon two men charged with stealing a cow. The town had also provided some "stocks," for fastening the feet of evil-

doers. They were kept in the meeting house shed, "but no one remembers to have heard of any use to which they were put, except to look at."\*

That part of the green south of the highway was procured by the town in 1800, 1801 and 1808, the ground being included in three purchases. The green has not received the care it merits, and it could be made an attractive spot.

The first road through Wolcott was the old Waterbury path from Farmington, which passed through the northwest section to the present village of Waterville, thence down the stream to Waterbury. It became and remained for many years the principal thoroughfare between the two towns. In 1750 what became known as the West Farmington road was laid out across Spindle hill, passing the house of John Alcock, who had settled there 19 years before that time. In 1754 another road, east of this, was laid out, between the above two points, and became known as the East Farmington road. It was properly the first road through Wolcott Center. About the same time a road 20 rods wide was laid out on Southington mountain, which was for many years a principal thoroughfare, and was much used while that part was inhabited. In recent years it has been less important.

A turnpike, projected from Farmington to New Haven, was encouraged by the town, but was not built. The turnpike from Waterbury to Marion had among its owners citizens of Wolcott. It is to this day one of the main thoroughfares east and west. A highway on the line between the old towns of Waterbury and Farmington has for a century of years borne the unpoetic name of "Pudding Street." It is said that this name was applied in consequence of the fact that one of the early inhabitants living on it, north of the Center, was so fond of boiled pudding that he had that article for nearly every dinner. Very many of the roads of the town have been well improved and present a creditable appearance for a hilly country.

Since the settlement of the town, agriculture has been the leading pursuit, but formerly small mills and shops gave occupation to some of the inhabitants. The privileges of Mad river were early improved; one of the first mills in the town being put up at the Great Falls by Benjamin Harrison, sometime about 1750. A clothing mill was added to the saw mill before 1787, in which year they became the property of Abraham Norton. Afterward a grist mill was put up in that locality, which had become known as the "Mill Place," and John Norton was for many years the owner. In recent years a small lumber mill only has been kept up.

About 20 rods below that place, on the same stream, was Joseph Atkin's grist mill, put up about 1760 and which was for about a score of years the only one in the society of Farmingbury. Thomas Upson and Streat Richards were later owners, the property passing

\* Orcutt's History, p. 203.

from the latter, in 1800, to Isaac Upson. Still later the mill was removed to Woodtick and its site was occupied by a small carding mill. This was discontinued and the power subsequently was used solely by a saw mill. The Mill Place afforded many natural advantages and, it is said, that had Seth Thomas been properly encouraged in that undertaking sometime about 1800, he would have begun the enterprise which transformed Plymouth Hollow into the thriving village of Thomaston. He lived in Wolcott about that time, as a carpenter, and was noted for his energy and persistence of purpose. He saw clearly the possibility of changing these quiet vales into scenes of manufacturing activity, but could not sufficiently impress the citizens of Wolcott with the idea and the opportunity passed away, not again to offer itself.

On the Mad river, at Woodtick, Judah Frisbie and others had a saw mill as early as 1776, and after 1800 the site became the property of the Upsons, and the power was later used to operate a grist mill, which was widely known as Todd's. Clocks were afterward made in that building by Charles Kirk, but in 1857 it was converted into a paper mill, which was operated by a joint stock company. After a number of years work was suspended and the place was idle. The property now passed to Gustave Cornelis, who, in 1885, improved it for silver plating works. These were successfully carried on until December, 1890, when the buildings were burned, and since that time the town has again been without any manufacturing, other than the operation of a few lumber mills.

Wolcott Center is near the geographical center of the town, on an eminence which commands a view several miles around. There are about a dozen buildings, including a store and post office, a public hall, a school house, a good Congregational meeting house and an Episcopal church, the latter in ruins. The hamlet is six miles from Waterbury, and is less important than formerly, being in 1800 to 1815 a place of considerable business activity. In that period it contained more buildings than at present, and the villagers of Waterbury often traded at its stores, there being two which were well sustained. There were also several taverns. The first public house was that of Samuel Byington, on the west side of the green, where he also carried on his trade as a wheelwright. After 1800 Joseph Twitchell was the landlord. Colonel Moses Pond was a well known tavern keeper at the Center, and the public were also entertained by Pittman Stowe and Daniel Alcox. Both houses have been removed.

Lucius Tuttle merchandised here before 1800. Samuel Benham later became a partner, and the firm of Benham & Tuttle had a large trade. A number of others followed, Jason Hotchkiss being the last occupant of the building, which was taken down by E. Fenn and removed to Terryville after Hotchkiss had lost his life by falling out of a wagon. Another store, put up by Elihu Moulthrop, which was last

used by William Welton, was converted into a public hall about 20 years ago. The upper story was handsomely fitted up for the use of a Lodge of Good Templars, whose meetings have long since been suspended.

Adney Whiting was the first postmaster of the Wolcott office, which had one mail per week. Lucius Tuttle and Jason Hotchkiss followed, all before 1840, when Isaac Hough was the postmaster. William Welton held the office after 1850, and then for many years Erastus W. Warner was the postmaster. In 1886 he sold out to Charles H. Carter, and after the latter's death, William H. French became the postmaster, and now serves. There are three mails per week, the supply being from Waterbury.

Woodtick is another hamlet in the town, near the head of the valley of the Mad river, in the southwestern part of Wolcott. Its location is peculiarly pleasant, and the settlement deserves a more attractive name than the one which it bears, which was given to this section when the country was first occupied, in consequence of the abundance of the insect woodtick. There is a good water power on Mad river. The hamlet contains an attractive chapel, and there are half a dozen comfortable residences.

Doctor John Potter was located in Wolcott as a physician as early as 1780. He married Lydia, daughter of Deacon Aaron Harrison, and one of their sons, Zephna, born in 1785, also became a physician. In 1808 Doctor Ambrose Ives settled in the town as a physician, much against the wishes of Doctor Potter, who claimed there was support for but one practitioner. The latter by his engaging manners soon had a fair practice, and Doctor Potter removed to the West in 1820. Doctor Ives returned to Wallingford in 1827, but subsequently lived in Waterbury as a manufacturer. He died in 1852, quite a wealthy man.

In 1826, William A. Alcott, born in Wolcott August 6th, 1798, received a diploma as a medical practitioner, and followed that profession in Wolcott until 1829. He gave up this work and became a noted educator and author. He published in all 108 volumes. His busy life was ended at Newton, Mass., in 1859, at the age of 61 years.

Doctor Henry Byington was the last regular practitioner in the town, there being no settled physician the past 20 years.

About the time the inhabitants received permission to set up winter preaching provision was made for the support of schools, the records indicating that paid instruction was given in the "winter parish" as early as 1763. These schools were continued until the Farmingbury parish was formed in 1770, when they were placed in charge of a school committee composed of David Norton, Seth Bartholomew, Daniel Alcox, Amos Beecher, Joseph Beecher, Justus Peck, Captain Aaron Harrison and Stephen Barnes. At the same meeting, November 13th, 1770, a committee was appointed to divide the parish into



districts. It appears that nine districts were formed, each of which was placed in charge of a committeeman residing in the district. It was also directed that "Each school committee shall collect their full rate, each one in his district."

Said the Reverend Samuel Orcutt, in regard to these early schools: "Until the town was organized the number of months the schools should be kept was decided by parish vote, and usually was voted to be according to law, but sometimes the vote was to 'keep eleven months' school.' Wages were, for a man, from six to ten dollars a month; for a woman, one dollar a week."

Through the agency of the Addin Lewis Fund of \$8,500, left for the benefit of the public schools of Wolcott (whose income is about \$500 per year), the town deposit fund and the appropriation from the state, it is possible to maintain schools in these districts without making the burden too heavy for the town. Schools are now kept in six districts, and the outlay for their support is about \$1,200 per year.

Addin Lewis was a son of Captain Nathaniel Lewis, who settled on Southington mountain about 1770 and became one of the leading men of the town. He died in 1839, aged 90 years, and on his grave stone are inscribed the words: "He was one of the first settlers of the town. An honest man." Addin became a merchant in the South and was elected mayor of Mobile. Amassing considerable wealth, he returned to New Haven, where he spent the remainder of his days in retired life. At his death he left by bequest the sum of \$8,500 for the support of schools in Wolcott and about \$15,000 for an academy at Southington. In the latter bequest was the provision: "And all pupils from the town of Wolcott, not exceeding ten at any one time, who may wish to receive instruction in said institution, shall receive the same without any charge for tuition."

Some of the foremost men in the town were teachers in the public schools of Wolcott. Deacon Isaac Bronson was a teacher of many years' standing. The Alcotts, A. Bronson and Doctor William A., who afterward became so eminent as instructors, also taught in the public schools of the town.

Several schools of a special or select nature were also taught in the town, chiefly by the Congregational ministers. Those kept by Reverend Israel B. Woodward from 1792 to 1810, and by Reverend John Keys from 1814 until 1822, had a good patronage from outside of town. Many young persons were here prepared for college, and several became quite prominent. Among these may be named Stephen Upson, who became one of the most celebrated lawyers of Georgia; William Maxwell, of Virginia; and J. G. Percival, another "poet of considerable celebrity," all of whom were students under Mr. Woodward.

As early as 1760 an effort was made by the people living in what is now Wolcott to secure the privileges of a distinct society, to enable

them to maintain religious worship in their own locality. They represented to the general assembly that they "occupied a tract of land five miles square, were £2,000 in the list, and lived an inconvenient distance from places of public worship." Owing to the remonstrance of the old societies this petition was rejected, as was also one in 1762, which bore the names of 43 signers. Nevertheless, winter preaching for five months in a year was set up and these settlers were, for these months, exempt from paying rates to the old society. In 1767 the limits of the proposed parish were extended to embrace, also, parts of the town of Farmington, and the petitioners now represented that they numbered 71 families and had a list of £3,872, 8s. But this prayer and another, in 1768, were also denied, and it was not until October, 1770, that the assembly passed an act authorizing the formation of an ecclesiastical society, by the name of Farmingbury\*, of parts of the towns of Farmington and Waterbury.

The first society meeting was held November 15th, 1770; Captain Aaron Harrison moderated; Daniel Byington was chosen clerk; Lieutenant Josiah Rogers, John Alcox, Stephen Barnes, John Bronson and Amos Seward, the society's committee. A rate of two pence was laid on the list of 1770 to defray the expenses of the society.

They now voted to procure preaching for the year ensuing, and secured the privilege of meeting in the house of Joseph Atkins until May, 1771. Jacob Carter, Levi Bronson, Jared Harrison, Stephen Barnes and David Alcox, were chosen choristers; and Captain Aaron Harrison and Amos Seward were appointed to read the psalms.

At this meeting it was voted to build a meeting house, and Captain Enos Brooks, Captain Enos Atwater and Colonel Hall were appointed a committee "to stick the stake of said meeting house."

The Hartford county court confirmed the action of this committee when the members reported to that body, in January, 1771, that they had acted in the matter, in the latter part of last November, and had selected a "Place in said society and erected a stake thereon, with stones about it, viz., on a beautiful eminence on the line dividing between the towns of Waterbury and Farmington, a little northerly of Mr. Abraham Wooster's dwelling house in said society, near where the north and south highways cross each other, etc.

On the 22d of April next the society appointed a meeting house committee, composed of Lieutenant Josiah Rogers, Samuel Upson, Stephen Barnes, Joseph Beecher and Daniel Alcox, but owing to some disagreement in regard to the size of the house, the frame was not raised until April, 1772. Joseph Atkins gave two acres of ground as a site for the meeting house, and as it was not all needed for that purpose, a part of it was devoted to public use. On one corner the town afterward put up a public whipping post. The meeting house stood

\*The name was derived by taking parts of the names of the old societies—*Farming-ton* and *Water-bury*.

on the north side of the green, which it faced and its main entrance was from the south. It was occupied in the latter part of October, 1772. At this time the house was not finished inside and for ten years the furnishing was of the simplest kind. In the fall of 1784, after the house had been supplied with pews, the society "voted to seat the meeting house by age," but afterward concluded to "seat by age and by list." It was also voted to have a pew built over the stairs for the "niggers." In the summer of 1795 this meeting house was repaired and fully completed, and was now appropriately dedicated. In 1815 the house was supplied with stoves. They were set aside in 1829, but new ones were placed in the meeting house in November, 1839, in spite of the opposition of some who contended against this innovation.

In 1831 a cupola was built on the meeting house, in which a bell weighing more than 900 pounds was placed. About \$750 were expended on these objects. The following year the pews were rented to the highest bidders; but in 1837 those who had subscribed for the support of the Gospel were again seated in the meeting house according to age.

In the ministry of the Reverend James D. Chapman, which began in 1837 and ended in 1840, the parish was much agitated by the discussion of the slavery question. And as Mr. Chapman was a pronounced anti-slavery man, he provoked the ill will of some of the citizens of the town to such an extent that they were led to treat his property with indignity. His horse was sheared, mane and tail, to intimidate him or to show how strongly they disapproved of his course; and the property of some of the members of the church, who had warmly commended the course of Mr. Chapman, was also subjected to this barbarous treatment. The contest went on until it culminated in the burning of the meeting house, December 11th, 1839, to prevent, it is supposed, an anti-slavery meeting, which had been announced to be held in it. "The evening before this meeting was to take place, a quantity of powder was placed in the stove with a slow match attached, and a little after nine o'clock in the evening a heavy explosion was felt and heard by the people residing near the meeting house; but the cause they could not discover. About 12 o'clock in the night they were aroused by the cry of fire and found the house all in flames, and it was soon a heap of ashes. The next day the anti-slavery meeting was held and the people gathered around the smouldering ashes to keep warm while they were addressed on the great subject of freedom. It is possible that the intention was not to burn the meeting house but to destroy the stove and thus prevent the meeting. It is also said that there was great opposition to having any stove in the house, and for this reason some wanted it destroyed." Hence "it has been said in charity that the burning of the house was in part accidental."\*

\* Orcutt's History of Wolcott, pages 117 and 118.

Naturally this event created great excitement, and some persons were arrested, charged with the crime. But when the trial came, it was impossible to prove the act, the principal witness having left Wolcott and never afterward returned. In the course of time the bitter feeling was abated, and that stirring incident in the history of the church is now scarcely remembered with any degree of accuracy. An attendant circumstance was the withdrawal from the society, at the annual meeting, April 26th, 1840, of 17 of the anti-slavery members, who, with others, on the 10th of July, 1840, organized themselves as the "Second Congregational Society of Wolcott." Fortunately, through the influence of the Consociation, to which the church belonged, which convened a council in Wolcott, November 9th, 1840, to adjust these matters, the way was thus paved for a union of the two societies, which was effected not long afterward. Mr. Chapman received an honorable dismissal and the parish now applied itself to the work of rebuilding both its temporal and spiritual affairs.

An effort to secure subscriptions for building a meeting house was so successful that on the 20th of June, 1840, a building committee was appointed, composed of Joseph M. Sperry, Marvin Miner, Ira Hough, Ira Frisbie and Levi Moulthrop. It was agreed to put up a house 36 by 46 feet, with posts 20 feet high. Several years were consumed in building, the house being dedicated January 19th, 1843. In 1846 a church bell was procured, the molten metal of the old one being applied to that object. In 1873, the second year of Mr. Orcutt's ministry, the meeting house was improved, the repairs making it much more attractive. Ten years later, in 1883, the interior of the house was modernized, and it is now very attractive and comfortable. In 1857 the house built by Reverend A. C. Beach was purchased for a parsonage and has since been so used.

A few years ago the society aided in building a chapel at Woodtick. It well graces the landscape of that hamlet. Occasional services are held there and a Sunday school is regularly maintained.

Soon after the society was formed arrangements were made for preaching services, and a Mr. Jackson served them stately as the minister. An unsuccessful attempt was made to secure him as the pastor, followed in the spring of 1773 by securing Mr. Alexander Gillet as a preacher. He continued acceptably a number of Sabbaths, and being invited to take pastoral charge of the interests of the society, agreed to do so after a church had been formed. Up to this time most of the inhabitants held their connection as members with the churches in Waterbury, Southington or Farmington.

Accordingly, on the 18th of November, 1773, the Congregational Church in Farmingbury was formally organized of the following 41 members: Aaron Harrison, deacon, and Jerusha, his wife; Josiah Rogers, deacon, and Sarah, his wife; Isaac Hopkins and Mary, his wife; Joseph Atkins and Abigail, his wife; Thomas Upson, Joseph Sutliff,

Amos Seward and Ruth, his wife; David Norton, John Alcox and Mary, his wife; Samuel Upson, Wait Hotchkiss and Lydia, his wife; Nathaniel Butler and Rebecca, his wife; Elizabeth Porter, Daniel Alcox and Elizabeth, his wife; Joseph Hotchkiss and Hannab, his wife; Judah Frisbie, Israel Clark and Mahetable, his wife; Daniel Lane and Jemima, his wife; Stephen Miles, Stephen Barnes and Sarah, his wife; Zadoc Bronson and Eunice, his wife; Lucy Peck, the wife of Justus Peck; Rebecca, wife of Nathaniel Hitchcock; Esther Barrett, Joseph Benham and Elizabeth, his wife; Josiah Barnes.

One month later four more persons united with the church, and seven more were added in January, 1774. Over this church Alexander Gillet was formally ordained December 29th, 1773, as the first pastor. The organization was more fully completed January 29th, 1774, when Captain Aaron Harrison was elected as the first deacon, and Lieutenant Josiah Rogers as the second deacon.

Mr. Gillet had graduated from Yale in September, 1770. In June, 1773, he was licensed to preach and began his ministerial career at Farmingbury. His pastorate lasted 18 years, in which time about a 100 persons were added to the church, most of them by profession. Through his efforts, which were always in the direction of the best welfare of the community, a library was formed November 5th, 1779, which was dissolved about 1830. It was not large, but contained many useful books.

Mr. Gillet's pastoral relations were dissolved November 10th, 1791, and the following year he was settled in Torrington, where he labored as pastor 34 years and until his death. His son, Timothy Phelps, born in Wolcott July 23d, 1780, became the beloved pastor of the Branford church, where he served more than 50 years.

The successor of Mr. Gillet, Reverend Israel B. Woodward, began to preach for the society as a candidate in February, 1792. In May, the same year, he accepted a call to settle, and the following June he was ordained. He found here about 100 church members and a congregation of from 300 to 500 persons. His preaching was interesting and attracted many who did not attend the meetings of Mr. Gillet, and "he was more than ordinarily successful as a preacher, and was highly esteemed as a neighbor and citizen. . . . Probably no minister in the parish was ever loved and confided in as a minister more than he, for to this day the remark of the people as to all they ever heard of him is in the highest tone of Christian love."\*

At this time the town enjoyed the greatest prosperity, its decline beginning with the present century, and the church, to a large extent, partook of this prosperity. An effort was made to improve the singing, and the expenditures for the support of the Gospel were more liberal than in previous years.

In the last ten years of Mr. Woodward's ministry "the meeting

\* Orcutt's History, 1874.

house was so filled with hearers that there were extra committees appointed, from year to year, to seat the people and to provide seats for those who should become regular attendants." His pastorate was suddenly terminated by his death, November 17th, 1810, when he was but 43 years of age. He lies buried in the cemetery at Wolcott Center, and his memory is cherished to this day for his worth as a minister and as a teacher. For many years he here successfully taught a select school, which was attended by students from different parts of the county.

After the death of Mr. Woodward some difficulty was experienced in securing permanent pastors, and since that time the pulpit has been filled by a number of persons. Among these have been: Reverend Lucas Hart, ordained December 4th, 1811, died at East Haven October 16th, 1813; Reverend John Keys, installed September 21st, 1814, dismissed December, 1822. For nearly five years the church was without a pastor, in which period sermons were read by Deacon Isaac Bronson. As is the natural consequence in such cases the interest declined, and for some time the spiritual life of the church was at a low ebb. It was somewhat revived by the labors of Reverend Erastus Scranton, who was the stated supply from June 1st, 1827, to August, 1829. Reverend Mr. Wheelock was stated supply from September, 1829, for one year, Reverend Nathan Shaw, nine months, from July 4th, 1831, and Reverend Seth Sackett for a short time. He was followed by Reverend William F. Vail, who was stated supply one year.

Reverend James D. Chapman was ordained to the pastorate October 25th, 1837, and was dismissed in November, 1840. This was, as has already been stated, one of the most stirring periods of the history of the church. But the troublesome events of his pastorate were not without some use, as from this time on the work of the church was again in a measure revived and placed upon a substantial basis. Reverend Zephaniah Swift was supply for one year. Reverend Aaron C. Beach, ordained June 22d, 1842, served as pastor 15 years, being dismissed June 22d, 1857. He was an acceptable and beloved minister, and was forced to leave by the inability of the parish to properly support him. His salary for a number of years was raised with difficulty, owing to the loss of population by immigration to the Western states or to towns where manufacturing interests invited residence. He was succeeded by Reverend Z. B. Burr, who acted as stated supply a short time, and by Reverend Joseph Smith, who was the stated supply one year. Reverend Stephen Rogers was next installed as the pastor, March 25th, 1859, but owing to ill health was dismissed April 18th, 1863. He died the same year in Woodbury, Conn. Reverend L. S. Hough was the stated supply from May, 1863, to May, 1869. In the same way Reverend W. C. Fiske served the church from May, 1869, till June, 1872.

Reverend Samuel Orcutt was the stated supply from July 1st, 1872, to May 17th, 1874. Through his efforts the first centennial of the formation of the church was properly celebrated September 10th and 11th, 1873. The exercises were varied and interesting. An account of them, together with an exhaustive history of Wolcott and the genealogies of some of its principal families, was prepared and published by Mr. Orcutt, and from it have been gleaned many of the facts contained in this sketch. He was a tireless and persistent toiler in these departments of investigation and research, as well as an able and faithful pastor. Reverend Francis Dyer was installed November 18th, 1874, and was dismissed December 12th, 1877. Reverend Charles E. Upson was the stated supply from April 1st, 1878, to December 1st, 1879. Reverend Frank G. Woodworth was ordained and installed June 23d, 1880, and remained until September 11th, 1887. Then the pulpit was supplied for three years, and the past year Reverend Isaiah P. Smith has been the stated supply.

Considering the meager population of the town, the church is prosperous, having about 100 members.

A Sabbath school was organized in the parish in the summer of 1827, Doctor William A. Alcott being the first superintendent. It consisted of a few classes only, but Doctor Alcott at that early day supplied them with books to read during the week, much as is now done by the Sunday school libraries. This school was not continuously maintained, but much of the time a Sabbath school has been held. It has now about 50 members in regular attendance, and Henry B. Carter and E. M. Upson are the superintendents.

Among the ministers raised up in Wolcott have been: Reverends Timothy P. Gillet, born June 15th, 1780, died at Branford November 5th, 1866; Benoni Upson, D. D., son of Thomas Upson, born February 14th, 1750, died November 13th, 1826; Henry E. L. Upson, born May 21st, 1831, was the chaplain of the 13th Regiment in the civil war; and John W. Beach, son of Reverend A. C. Beach, born January 5th, 1843, graduated from Yale in 1864.

The following have been the deacons of the church as chosen in the years first given: Aaron Harrison, 1774, died 1819; Josiah Rogers, 1774, died 1803; Justus Peck, 1784, resigned 1812, died 1813; Joseph Atkins, Jr., 1786, removed 1805; Isaac Bronson, 1805, died 1845; James Bailey, 1812, died 1834; Irad Bronson, 1825, removed 1834; Harvey Upson, 1832, died 1857; Orrin Hall, 1835; Ansel H. Plumb, 1838, died 1870; Lyman B. Bronson, 1864, died 1866; Miles S. Upson, 1867, died 1885; George W. Carter, 1870, died 1884; Henry B. Carter, 1884 and continues; Evelyn M. Upson, 1884 and continues; Benjamin L. Bronson, 1885 and continues.

Among the first settlers of what is now the town of Wolcott were a few churchmen. In 1779 there were so many families of that faith

in the Farmingbury society that they made an effort to form themselves into an Episcopal parish. But the movement was unsuccessful, and probably nothing more of this nature was done until after the revolution. Some families then withdrew from the Congregational church in favor of an Episcopal one. It was not, however, until November 26th, 1811, that an Episcopal parish was successfully organized. Previous to that time 25 families had "signed off," and about the same number of persons had united in a call, which led to the formation of this society. Erastus Welton was elected clerk, Moses Welton, treasurer; Daniél Langdon and Thomas Welton were chosen as the first wardens. Preaching was now supplied by missionaries, who visited the parish about once per month, and lay services, consisting of prayers and sermons read, were regularly held, among the readers for the next ten years being: Thomas Welton, Moses Welton, Elias Welton, Erastus Welton, Eben Welton, Eliakim Welton, Ambrose Ives, Levi Parker, John J. Kenea, William Alcox, Willard Plumb, Archibald Minor, Orrin Plumb and Levi Hall, all members of the society.

In 1817 the meetings were held at the house of Daniel Byington during the winter, and services in summer were held in school houses. Steps were taken in 1820 to build a church, and some favored an application to the general assembly for permission for a lottery to help raise funds. Nothing resulting from this movement, the matter was now agitated for the next ten years before any decisive action was taken. In the meantime some of the meetings were held in one of the chambers of the public house of Moses Pond, at Wolcott Center. In April, 1830, the town granted permission to the society to build its church on the south side of the green, and in the summer of that year the frame was raised. The building committee were: Levi Hall, Archibald Minor, Thomas H. Welton and Orrin Plumb, who completed their work and were discharged in April, 1833, "from any further services as committee aforesaid, and from all liabilities in said capacity." Although called complete, a stove was not supplied until 1836. The church building well served its purposes until the society became too weak to further occupy it, some twenty years ago, and it has since been allowed to fall into ruins.

On Easter day, 1834, All Saints' church was formally organized, of some of those who had been interested in the society, and for about 40 years its existence was maintained with greatly varying interest, on account of the small membership and their inability to support a rector. From 1850 to 1855 Reverend Collis Ira Potter served with more regularity than those who preceded him, but nearly all of the dozen or more ministers who preached here were supplies or held services at long intervals only. For many years no public services have been held, only a few Episcopalian remaining in the town.



The wardens of the church have been the following: 1811, Daniel Langdon, Thomas Welton; 1812-15, Eliakim Welton, Thomas Welton; 1816, Thomas Welton, Eliakim Welton, Jr.; 1817-18, Eben Welton, Erastus Welton; 1819-20, Thomas Welton, Moses Welton; 1821-2, Erastus Welton, Eben Welton; 1823, Moses Welton, Thomas Welton; 1824, Hezekiah Bradley, Moses Welton; 1829, Levi Hall, Lyman Higgins; 1830-2, Sammy Nichols, Hezekiah Bradley; 1833, Lyman Higgins, Levi Hall; 1835, Sammy Nichols, Heman Hall; 1836-41, Lyman Higgins, Heman Hall; 1842-4, Lyman Higgins, Moses Pond; 1848, Levi Hall, Martin Upson; 1849, Lyman Higgins, Levi Hall; 1850-9, Martin Upson, George G. Alcott; 1860, Martin Upson, Willis Merrill.

The first place of burial in Wolcott was authorized by the town of Waterbury at a meeting held December 10th, 1764. "At the same meeting Captain George Nichols and Captain Stephen Upson, Jr., were chosen a committee to go out eastward near Joseph Atkins' to view and purchase half an acre of land, upon the town cost, in that neighborhood, where they shall think it most convenient for a burial ground." John Barrett was one of the first grave diggers appointed for that cemetery. The oldest stone there is the one which marks the grave of Heman Hall, and bears date 1769. In 1797 the cemetery was claimed as the property of William Stevens, but the town arranged with him to secure proper title, and enlarged the lot to three-fourths of an acre. In 1870 the yard was further enlarged, to include two acres. It contains many graves, and there are a few fine monuments. It has always been the principal place of interment in the town.

In March, 1772, the Farmingbury society appointed a committee "to fix a place or places for burying grounds," and soon after it laid out the Southeast Burying Ground. In 1776 David Frost was appointed the grave digger. The oldest stone in it marks the grave of Archibald Upson, who died of the small-pox January 1st, 1782. The use of the ground is limited to that locality.

In 1774 a burial ground for the northeast section was laid out on the north declivity of Pike's hill. Zadoc Bronson was appointed the grave digger in 1776. On the 28th of May that year Matthew Blakeslee died, and his head-stone is the oldest in that ground. This plot was used until 1805, when a more desirable cemetery was opened east of the hill, on a small gravel knoll. In it have since been interred the dead of that part of the town. A number of the dead in the old ground, on Pike's hill, were also here re-interred.

The fourth burying ground was opened on a vote of the town meeting held November 20th, 1807. It is located in the southwest part of Wolcott, or in the Woodtick section. The committee which selected it was composed of Isaac Bronson, Mark Harrison and Isaac Upson. It is a small yard, but has a pleasant location, and is neatly kept.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Samuel M. Bailey, born in Wolcott, in 1831, is a son of Luther and grandson of James Bailey, who served in the war of the revolution and held a lieutenant's commission. He was twice married, his second wife being Phebe Pomeroy. Their son, Luther, married for his first wife, Henrietta Brockett. They had three children: Samuel M., Sarah and Hobart L., who enlisted in the 7th Connecticut Volunteers and was killed at the battle of the Wilderness. Samuel M. enlisted in the 20th Regiment in 1862 and served until the close of the war. Luther Bailey married for his second wife Mrs. Margaret Blakeslee. Their children were: Sarah M., James B., Minor E. and Abbie. Samuel M. Bailey previous to the war was a resident of Southington several years, and after the close of the war resided in Pennsylvania, returning to Wolcott about 1878. He has been selectman, treasurer of school fund, and representative in 1881 and 1882. He married, in 1864, Martha Elton.

Benjamin L. Bronson, born in Wolcott in 1849, is a son of Stillman, whose father, John, was a son of John (who lived to be 103 years and 4 months old), all of whom were residents of Wolcott, and farmers. John, the second, was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married Hannah Root. Their children were: Jarvis A., Sarah, Stillman and Pitkin. Stillman Bronson was born in 1812 and died June 21st, 1891. He married Charlotte Linsley. Their children living are: Elliott, Lucy, Edith and Benjamin L. Those deceased are: Emmerson, Bruce, Harriett and Esther. Elliott married Margaret Sanford. Lucy married B. C. Lum. Edith married Cornelius Tracy. Benjamin L. Bronson is engaged in farming. He has held the office of selectman, and represented his town in the legislature.

Henry B. Carter, born in Wolcott December 2d, 1839, was the son of George W. and Sarah A. (Bronson) Carter. His father, Deacon George W. Carter, represented the town in the legislature of the state, also the Fifth senatorial district. He was deacon of the Congregational church in this place, and held many offices of trust within the gift of the town. Henry B. was the oldest of a family of six, viz.: Henry B., Mary M., Sarah S., Hannah J., Frederick W. and Walter S., who died in infancy. Early in life the subject of this sketch married Mary R., the only daughter of S. L. Hotchkiss, of Wolcott, who has been for many years a local correspondent for newspapers and is at present editor of the Woman's Department of the *Connecticut Farmer*. Mr. Carter was elected to represent the town in the legislature two consecutive years, has served as chairman of the town committee and chairman of the board of education, assessor and first selectman. He is also president of the Wolcott Agricultural Society and master of Mad River Grange, No. 71. He has served on the committee of the Congregational church, has been superintendent of the Sunday school for a term of years, and was elected deacon after the death of his





*Ransom B. Hall*

father in 1884. His only child, Charles Hotchkiss, died in 1888, at the age of 28 years. Mr. Carter in politics is a staunch republican. His business is farming and heavy and light teaming.

Francis E. Cole was born in Beekman, N. Y., in 1868, and settled in Wolcott in 1884. He was married in 1888, to Martha A. Upson. They have two daughters: Martha E. and Mary A. Mr. Cole is a farmer.

Gustave Cornelis was born in Belgium in 1849, came to America in 1872, and located at Winchester, Conn., going soon after to Goshen, Conn., and later to Waterbury, where he learned the business of silver plating. In 1883 he settled in Wolcott and purchasing the plant of the Wolcott Paper Company, engaged in the business of rolled plating gold and silver, which he continued until the works were destroyed by fire in December of 1890. He then sold out the business to New Jersey parties, and turned his attention to horse breeding. He married in 1875, Julia Bernier. Their children are Laura and Emily.

David L. Frisbie, born in Wolcott in 1841, is a son of David B., he a son of David, he a son of Judah, and he a son of Elijah, who was a son of John and Abigail (Culpepper) Frisbie, who came from Wales and settled in Branford, Conn. Judah Frisbie was a soldier in the revolutionary war. David B. Frisbie married Charlotte Hall, of Cheshire. They had one son, David L. He enlisted in Company C, 14th Connecticut Volunteers, in 1862, and served three years. He married in 1868, Anna C. Downs. They have two sons: Frank D. and Berkeley L.

RANSOM B. HALL.—John Hall, an emigrant, came to America prior to 1660, locating in Boston and afterward removing to New Haven and later to Wallingford. He had a son, John, who had a son, Nathan, a resident of Wallingford. His son, Lieutenant Heman Hall, was the first of the family to settle in Wolcott. He had a son, Captain Heman, whose son, Sergeant Heman Hall, was a prominent man in the town in his time. His son, Deacon Orrin Hall, was born in Wolcott in 1797. He had a son, Heman Willsey Hall, born in 1824, who was the father of the subject of this sketch. He married Betsey Ann, daughter of Joseph and Abigail Sperry, of Wolcott. Ransom B. Hall was born in Wolcott, July 12th, 1852. He received his education in the public school and early engaged in farming, which he followed with much success. He was one of the influential men of the town, always taking an active interest in public affairs. He was an active member of the Congregational church of Wolcott, and was honored with various offices in the town, being first selectman at the time of his death, which occurred October 3d, 1889. He was a consistent Christian, living up to his profession in all his dealings with his fellow men. He married in 1874, Miss Anna E., daughter of Timothy and Mary (Goodwin) Root. There were born to them four children: Nettie J., George R., Daisy M. and Robert R., all of whom are living.

Henry Minor was born in Wolcott, December 17th, 1809. His father, Archibald, was a son of Joseph, whose father, Jedediah, came from Lyme, Conn., and settled in Wolcott, being among its early settlers. Joseph served through the revolutionary war. Archibald Minor was one of the prominent men of the town in his time, holding the offices of town clerk and justice of the peace for many years and also that of representative in the state legislature. He married Betsey Tuttle, of Plymouth, Conn. Their only son was Henry Minor, who has been prominently connected with town affairs for the greater part of his life, being elected town clerk in 1848, which office he has held continuously since that time. He has also represented the town four terms in the general assembly and held many minor offices, being one of the selectmen for upwards of 20 years. He married, in 1837, Sarah J. Clark, of Waterbury. They have one son, Theron Minor.

George W. Seymour was born in Carmel, Putnam county, New York, in 1833, and is a son of Elijah and grandson of Jesse Seymour. Elijah married Amanda Farrington, and their children were: Serena, Phebe, Abbie J., Alexander, James N. and George W. Mr. Seymour came to Connecticut about 1871, and for the last 16 years has lived in Wolcott, where he has been engaged in farming. He married, in 1857, Marguerite J. Leslie.

John R. S. Todd, born in Wolcott in 1846, is a son of Robert C., whose father, Street, was a son of Hezekiah, whose father also bore the same name, and was a descendant of Christopher Todd, who came from England, and was one of the pioneers of New Haven. Robert C. Todd was born in 1820, and in 1843 married Louisa Barnes. Their children were: Ellen E. (deceased), John R. S., Emily J. (deceased), James A. and Edwin A. John R. S. Todd has been selectman several terms and has held other town offices. He was married in 1889, to Edith M. Williams, of New Haven. They have one child, Ruth Irene.

EVELYN M. UPSON.—The earliest knowledge of this family dates back to Thomas Upson, who was one of the early residents of Hartford. He was one of the original proprietors and settlers of Farmington. He married, in 1646, Elizabeth Fuller. Stephen, their son, removed to Waterbury and became a proprietor in 1679. He married, in 1682, Mary Lee. Thomas, their son, had a son, Timothy, who had a son, Selah, whose son, Miles S., was the father of the subject of this biography. He was a deacon in the Congregational church and one of the representative men of the town. He married Mary A., daughter of Ira Hough. Their children were: Emma A., Mary E., Evelyn M., Eugenia L. and Martha A. Evelyn M. Upson, one of Wolcott's most prominent citizens, was born in 1852. He is engaged in farming, and to his enterprise and untiring industry is due his success. His political relations are with the republican party, which has honored him with all of the offices of importance in the gift of the town, including selectman, town treasurer, assessor and justice of the peace. In 1887 he



*E. H. Upson*





was elected to the state legislature, and in 1891 was again elected to the same office. He is secretary of the Wolcott Agricultural Society and a deacon and prominent member of the Wolcott Congregational church. In 1876 he married Elsie S., daughter of Albert N. and Melissa Lane, of Wolcott. They have two children living: Mabel E. and Florence A.

James A. Wakelee, born in Waterbury, Conn., in 1850, is a son of John, who was a son of Almus, he a son of David, and he a son of Ebenezer, who was one of the pioneers of Wolcott. The farm which he owned is still in possession of the family. Almus married Eliza Bement. Their children were John and Hannah. She married Willis Upson. John married Salinda Hickok. Their children were: James A., Bement J., Edward and David. The two latter died young. Bement J. died in early manhood. James A. Wakelee has always been engaged in farming. He has been selectman and has held other town offices. He married in 1875, Ella J. Rose. Their children are: John B., Harold A., Florence H. and Robert A.



















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