

ALL ABOUT NORTHFIELD

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A. P. FITT



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January 6 - 1671.

As it known to all men (Some it may concerne)
 Masmemet and Concoskoha and a squaw called
 Wowalementa for ever selues jointly and severally for
 ever have jointly advised of Joseph Parsons
 doe make over as a Morgage to Joseph Parsons
 over Right in the Land of Wasquagege that
 lay over Land there called by the Indians name
 Wowalementa River and one the West Side of the River
 bounded a gainst Natubijets Land westerly one
 side of Conneticott River and the wide Land also an
 Masmemet all his Land one the east side and one the
 side of Conneticott River at Wasquagege Comonly
 called by the Indians Pichake both one the
 side of the Great River and for one West side his
 Land is bounded on Natubijets Land southerly one
 side of the Great River Comonly called by the
 Coyatke and Concoskoha his Indian Name
 his Land Joyns to Masmets Land southerly and
 goeth up the Great River up for as the
 one both sides one the east & west side of the
 River up for far as the next foot that the Mo
 right way as the Indians say all this tract
 Land one both sides of Conneticott River was the
 doe bind over for ever selues ~~ever~~ heirs and
 heirs to Joseph Parsons heirs to him his
 admynistrators assignees for ever to have & to hold
 out Notistation from any one of us or other their
 our means was three jointly and severally do
 make over to the said Joseph Parsons for Good
 and from him by us three Indians and to the
 set to our hands

Witness Joseph Parsons, junr Masmets & his Ma
 John Parsons - Concoskoha A. his Ma
 Wowalementa X 100 Squas

This Right what ever it be of Joseph Pa
 sons made over to m^r William Janes for
 172 Compency intending it for a Plantat
 with leave from the Generall Court of Say
 Right what so ever shaw by vertue of
 Beighting & deed make over

February 16 - 71
 Witness John Parsons
 Nicah Mideg

Joseph Parsons

THE EARLIEST DEED WITH THE INDIANS.

Made January 6, 1671, between Joseph Parsons, Sr., and Masmemet, Concossekowha and Wowalementa (a squaw); the rights being transferred on February 16, 1671, to William Janes for the "Wasquagege Company."

ALL ABOUT NORTHFIELD

A BRIEF HISTORY AND GUIDE

BY

ARTHUR PERCY FITT

Author of "The Shorter Life of D. L. Moody," etc.

Northfield Press
Northfield, Massachusetts

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1910

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PREFACE

NORTHFIELD has a future, but it also has a past. Its past is fuller of adventure and romance than that of most towns in America, since Northfield was for a century an outpost of civilization and the northerly base of operations against the Indians and the French. Once, twice, the hardy pioneers pushed their way up the Connecticut valley and staked out their homesteads, only to be driven back by the sweep of savage war. Not until the third attempt was a permanent but long precarious settlement effected. The early pages of its history were frequently stained with the blood of the pioneers.

To keep alive the memory of those stirring days in the minds of the rising generation and the more recent residents, and to place information about Northfield as it is today in the hands of the increasing numbers of annual visitors, is the object of this history and guide.

A detailed record of its history and biography, and of the gradual growth of the town, has been given, once for all, in a volume that was issued in 1875, entitled: "History of the Town of Northfield, Massachusetts, for 150 Years, with an Account of the prior occupation of the territory of the Squakheags, and with Family Genealogies: by J. H. Temple and George Sheldon." With well-directed skill and painstaking care the authors of that volume extracted the treasures they desired from town, church and county records, state archives, family Bibles and papers, historical narratives, inscriptions on gravestones, statements by aged people, tradition—every available source of reliable information as to facts, dates, names and descriptions. Published by subscription over a generation ago, copies are now very rare. I have drawn freely upon

that "History" for information up to its date of publication. Old-time matter that is printed within quotation marks is usually derived from that interesting and valuable book.

As a guide, this volume aims to set forth objects of beauty and interest in and around Northfield of today, locating matters of historic information where they belong and directing attention to such traces as still remain of early events.

Some observations by the author are postponed to the "Afterword."

The blank pages at the end will serve for making notes or pasting in clippings and illustrations relating to the subject of this volume.

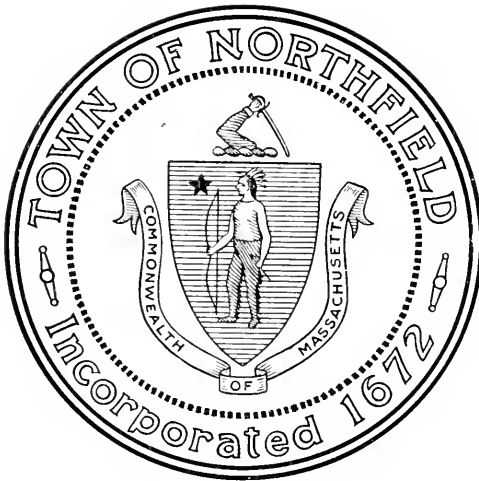
Thanks are due to many for kindly assistance in different ways in the preparation of this book, and especially to Mr. Henry W. Rankin, for encouragement and suggestion in the face of considerable diffidence about undertaking the task; to Mr. Charles H. Webster for permission to photograph the original deed made with the Indians (reproduced as the frontispiece), and for a list of minerals he has traced in Northfield; to Miss Ellen C. Wood for a corresponding list of birds; and to Mr. Charles C. Stearns for reading and supplying many details in the manuscript.

A. P. F.

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TOPOGRAPHY

IN describing the topography of Northfield, the boundaries, dimensions and divisions of the present township are first given in the following sections. The rivers and streams are then described, as being most easily recognizable. The mountains and hills, meadows and plains follow. While the names in most cases have come down from the early times, no attempt is here made to indicate the changes that have occurred in regard to these physical features since the town was started.

BOUNDARIES AND DIMENSIONS.

(See map, page 120.)

On the north by the state line, five and one third miles long, in an almost straight line running east and west. The northwest corner of the town is designated by a rough granite monument marked "B & N, MASS., 1896" situated on the northwesterly slope of Pond Mountain, about 800 feet from the summit. Thence the state and town line separating Northfield from Vernon, Vermont, runs 15,100 feet south $87^{\circ} 48'$ east to a large, dark granite monument situated on the top of the westerly bank of the Connecticut River, about 400 feet east of the railroad tracks; thence 582 feet further east in the same direction to the true corner, a copper bolt in the apex of a block of granite of a pyramidal shape marked "MASS. VT. 1895 N. H.," situated at the foot of the west bank of the river, at or near ordinary low-water line. From this point the line separating Northfield from Hinsdale, New Hampshire, runs 1915 feet south $87^{\circ} 22'$ east to a dressed granite monument marked "N. MASS. 1894" "N. & H. N. H. 1894," situated in the open field 92 feet west

of the Hinsdale road. From here the townships of Northfield and Winchester, New Hampshire, are separated by a line running 1441 feet south $87^{\circ} 19'$ east to a granite monument marked "w. N. H. 1894" "N. MASS. 1894," situated at the corner of a cultivated field on the easterly side of the highway opposite F. H. Doolittle's house; and thence 9128 feet south $87^{\circ} 18'$ east to a dark, rough hammered stone monument marked "N. & W. M.S. 1894" "W. M.N.H.W. 1894," situated on the easterly slope of Louisiana Mountain, about 300 feet east of a large spike in the ledge near the summit.

On the east by Warwick. Beginning at the corner of Northfield, Winchester and Warwick, just described, the line runs 32,746 feet south $16^{\circ} 40'$ east to the corner of Northfield, Warwick and Erving, a stone slab marked "E. N. W.," situated at the corner of a wall south of Mr. Moore's house, about 150 feet west of the Wendell road.

On the south by Erving. Beginning at the stone slab just mentioned, the line separating Northfield from Erving runs 24,262 feet south $73^{\circ} 10'$ west to a rough split granite monument marked "E. N.," situated at a junction of wire fences a little south of Four-Mile Brook; thence 4935 feet south $5^{\circ} 30'$ east to a granite monument marked "E.," situated in the woods on the northwesterly slope of a hill at a point about 550 feet north of a cart path; thence 7615 feet south $85^{\circ} 25'$ west to the witness mark to the corner of Erving, Gill and Northfield, a rough split granite slab marked "E. N." situated on the east bank of the Connecticut River about one half mile north of the mouth of Millers River; thence about 390 feet in the same direction to the true corner, an unmarked spot in the middle of the river near French King rock.

On the west by Gill and Bernardston. The line follows the middle of the Connecticut from near French King rock north to the old mouth of Bennett's Brook, about six miles; thence in a zigzag line to the

corner of Gill, Bernardston and Northfield, a granite monument, unlettered but bearing various dates, situated at a junction of fences, about 300 feet north of Mr. Bailey's house. From this corner the line between Northfield and Bernardston runs 19,039 feet north $16^{\circ} 53'$ west to the northwest corner of the town, from which this description started.

Extremes of Latitude— $42^{\circ} 36'$ to $43'$ north.

Extremes of Longitude— $72^{\circ} 23'$ to $31'$ west.

Extreme length, north and south— $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Average width, east and west—5 miles.

Area—19,691 $\frac{7}{8}$ acres.

DIVISIONS.

For local and postal convenience it is customary to speak of the different sections of the township as follows:

Northfield Centre—The original town, from Miller's Brook on the south to Mill Brook on the north, east of the Connecticut River; post-office; railroad station; express office; telegraph office; telephone exchange; Unitarian and Roman Catholic Churches; Town Hall; public library; graded and high schools; Masonic Hall; hotel and boarding houses; mills; stores; livery stables and garages; two cemeteries; creamery; highway bridge over the Connecticut; railway bridge.

Northfield Farms—South of Northfield Centre, east of the Connecticut; post-office; two railroad stations; library; district schools; cemetery; two ferries; store. Northfield Farms is about six miles long north and south, and is sometimes further subdivided into the Upper and Lower Farms. The origin of its name is explained in a later chapter. A rich agricultural district, with one pickle factory.

East Northfield—North of Northfield Centre, east of the Connecticut; post-office; telegraph office;

Congregational Church; graded schools; hotels and boarding houses; stores; livery stables and garage; bridge over the Connecticut. Formerly a thickly settled farming community, and owing its character and growth since 1879 to the Moody schools and conferences.

West Northfield—West of the Connecticut, from the state line to (say) Bennett's Meadow Bridge; post-office; railroad station; express office; telegraph office; cemetery; hall; district schools; stores; bridge over the Connecticut. This section is hilly, with rich farms. Just over the state line, in the township of Vernon, Vermont, there are a hotel and livery stable; mill; Advent Christian Church—the village and railroad station hence being also known as **South Vernon, Vt.**

Mount Hermon.—The school buildings are in Gill township, but give their name to the southwest section of Northfield, below Bennett's Meadow Bridge; post-office; railroad station; express office; cemetery; mill. Mount Hermon grounds are in territory that was set off from Northfield to Gill in 1795.

Northfield Mountain—The hilly section in the southeast corner of the township, whose population has been depleted by death and removal. Two district schools; two cemeteries.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

(See map, page 120.)

Northfield is well watered. The broad Connecticut flows the whole length of the township and is fed by several tributaries which rise on the hill-sides east and west. Some of these are ideal trout streams, while bass, pike and other fish reward the knowing angler in the river. The streams contribute much to the delightful combination of wood



THE CONNECTICUT VALLEY, LOOKING NORTH FROM REVELL HALL.

and water for which Northfield hills are famous. There are several dry beds of brooks that once carried a full stream.

Connecticut River.—The Connecticut is the longest river in New England—about 400 miles long. It rises in the north of New Hampshire, near the Canadian border, and has a southerly course throughout its whole length. Its west bank is the boundary between New Hampshire and Vermont. Crossing midway the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut, it empties into Long Island Sound at Saybrook. Few rivers have so many educational centres upon its banks.

Its name is derived from the Indian name *Quinnch-tuk*=long river with waves; or more exactly, by a misapplication, *Quinnch-tuk-ut*=at the long river with waves; that is, land bordering on the river.

Within the township of Northfield the Connecticut follows a winding southerly course of about ten miles. Average width, 650 feet. The fall is slight. Altitude above sea level, 200 feet. Its current is treacherous, making swimming and boating rather dangerous. The river is subject to sudden rises following heavy rains. In the spring the melting snows up north often swell the river until the lower meadows on both sides are flooded. It is con-

tinually wearing away its banks at some points, and filling in at others. It is not here used for commercial purposes, except for floating logs to lumber and paper mills lower down the river.

Before the coming of the railway and the building of dams considerable traffic was done on the Connecticut from Hartford as far north as Bellows Falls. The boats were flat-bottomed scows, 40 x 16 feet in size, with a cabin at the stern for the four or six men who, with a "captain," constituted the crew. Progress was by sailing or poling. The up cargoes consisted of groceries, molasses, rum, salt and other household commodities, while the boats carried farm produce and lumber on the return voyages. Lumber used also to be sent down the river in rafts. The tolls at the Turners Falls canal amounted to \$10,500 in 1844!

In the older days also, before the migration of fish was obstructed by the Holyoke dam, shad and salmon were wonderfully plentiful in these parts. At rapids now flooded by the Turners Falls dam, it is said that 5000 shad have been taken in a day by dipping nets when the run of the fish was hindered and delayed by the rapids.

Pauchaug Brook rises on the east of Staddle Hill, in Winchester township, and follows a southwesterly course. It crosses the line into Northfield about three fourths of a mile from the Connecticut, and runs a mile before emptying into this river at the south end of Pauchaug Meadow. Its course is wooded and picturesque. In 1885 Mr. John Wanamaker of Philadelphia bought property for the Seminary and gave money for damming the brook where it crosses the highway to Hinsdale, forming a beautiful little lake, which D. L. Moody named **Wanamaker Lake** in his honor. The falls at the easterly end are called **Minnehaha Falls**. This lake affords boating in summer and skating and ice harvesting in winter.

"Pauchaug" is a name that will recur frequently in the following pages. According to Roger Williams it means, "They are dancing," or "They are playing." Football was one of the favorite sports of the Indians, and it is thought that the low, level meadow-land to the north was the scene of annual games. Apparently the locality was an important resort in Indian days.

Second Brook is the brook that flows past Dr. Mabie's residence and through Bonar Glen. It rises on the north slope of Notch Mountain, and after a westerly course of about one and one half miles unites with Pauchaug Brook. Property adjoining this brook up the hillside was recently bought by Northfield Seminary, and a reservoir for the East Northfield Water Company was built in 1904, which is apt to exhaust the brook in summer.

Mill Brook.—This is the brook that crosses Main Street near the Congregational Church, and must not be confused with Miller's Brook or Sawmill Brook (see later paragraphs). Mill Brook and Miller's Brook marked the north and south limits of the early settlement, and their names will be mentioned frequently in what follows.

Mill Brook rises on the west slope of Mount Grace, in Warwick township. It enters Northfield and flows between Notch and Hemlock Mountains in a southwesterly course for over two miles, then turns northwest for one and one half miles before it empties into the Connecticut near the railroad bridge. A feeder flows down between Round and Little Hemlock Mountains.

It received its name because a gristmill was erected on the falls just west of Main Street in 1685, to be followed from time to time by saw, carding and other mills near that point or up stream: of which only one or two sawmills now remain. The artificial lakes east of Main Street, which add much to the scenic charm, were excavated and

dammed up by Francis R. Schell on his estate in 1906-08. The Northfield Water Company has its reservoir on this brook and its feeders out on Warwick Avenue.

Mill Brook was in the old days the dividing line between the territories of the Indian chiefs Massemet on the south and Nawelet on the north. Its native appellation was *Coassock* or *Coocas*=pine trees' place.

Miller's Brook was equally famous and busy with Mill Brook in the stirring days of early settlement. Its head waters rise on the sides of Stratton and Brush Mountains, whence it cuts its westerly way down into the valley, traverses Dry Swamp, crossing Main Street in the ravine south of River Street, and so across Great Meadow to the river. It has furnished power in past years for saw, bark, oil and gristmills, and factories of different kinds.

Its name appears as early as 1686, and may have been given in honor of William Miller, a prominent member of the first and second settlements. Its

Indian name was *Squenatock* or *Quantock* = the pouring out place, referring to the place where the water pours over the rocky bed.



SHEEP FALLS, ON SAWMILL BROOK.

Sawmill Brook joins Miller's Brook shortly after the latter crosses the highway to Northfield Farms. It comes from the southeast, rising on the west side of Brush Mountain. There were formerly saw, grist

and clothing mills on this stream. In some maps it is called Sheep Falls Brook.

Merriman Brook is the brook that empties into the Connecticut near Gill ferry. It got its name because it originates in a spring on Bear Mountain near where Captain Samuel Merriman first built.

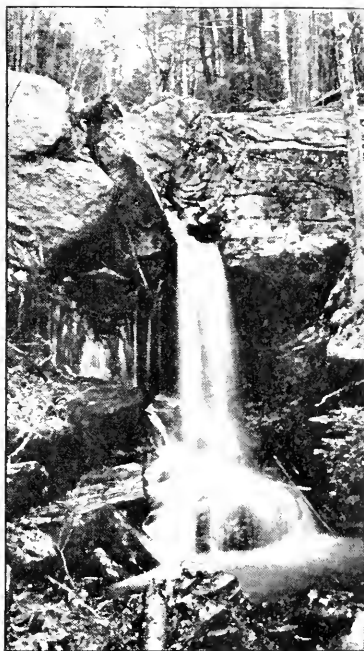
Pine Meadow Brook, as its name indicates, flows across Pine Meadow from its source on South Mountain.

Four-Mile Brook, often called Little Stoney Brook in the older records, rises west of Crag Mountain at an elevation of 1200 feet, and pursues a southwesterly course to the Connecticut River, which it joins near Northfield Farms railroad station.

Roaring Brook is one of its feeders on the hillside which has a full flow of water in the spring, and at one place has a conspicuous waterfall.

Pembroke Grant Brook joins the Connecticut about half a mile below Four-Mile Brook. It derives its name from Pembroke grant, which was added to Northfield township by act dated June 23, 1773.

Belding's Brook, formerly known as Little Meadow Brook, is the stream that crosses the state line from Vernon, Vt., and empties into the Connecticut on the west side near the West Northfield railroad station. The present name was given in honor of an early settler on its banks.



ROARING BROOK FALLS.

Bennett's Brook, also on the west side of the Connecticut, rises in the uplands near the state line in the northwest part of the town. After a southeasterly course of about four miles, during which it crosses the highway to Mount Hermon at the Allen farmstead, then traverses the length of Bennett's Meadow, it joins the Connecticut at the Gill township line. A feeder from the west joins it after flowing down through the ravine just north of the Mount Hermon grounds.

Bennett's Brook received its name from James Bennett, an explorer and settler of 1675.

MOUNTAINS AND HILLS.

(See map, page 120.)

Here again nature has treated Northfield bounteously, for the combination of hill and valley makes a general landscape of varied beauty seldom to be seen. An observer in the valley might suppose the hills formed an unbroken range on either side of the river, whereas a bird's-eye view shows parallel ranges with wooded or cultivated valleys between. The woodland roads on the hillsides furnish never-tiring drives, while the ravines reward walking parties bent on pleasure or the study of birds and flowers.

The elevations run from 200 feet above mean sea level at the Connecticut River to 1600 feet, Crag Mountain, the chief points being as follows, beginning at the north town line, east of the Connecticut.

Louisiana or Pine Mountain, on the state line at the northeast corner, south of Pauchaug Brook and Lovers' Retreat—1100 feet.

Notch Mountain, south of Pine Mountain, easily distinguished by its greater height and notched outline—1300 feet.



NORTHFIELD STREET AND EASTERLY HILLS.

Viewed from West Northfield. Photo by Levering.

Strowbridge Hill, west of Notch Mountain, named after a family of that name—940 feet.

Hemlock Mountain, south of Notch Mountain, with Mill Brook flowing between—1260 feet.

Round Hill, southeast of Hemlock Mountain and directly east of the centre of the town—1100 feet.

Alexander Hill, behind or east of Round Hill—1340 feet.

Bear Mountain rises back of Beers' Plain—1040 feet. It has a lower eminence on its northwest, called Beers' Hill. This was named after Captain Beers, who was killed here by Indians in 1675, and buried on the hill. The story is told in a later chapter. In some maps this mountain is called **Beers' Mountain**.

Brush Mountain, east of Bear Mountain, and separated from Round Hill on the north by Miller's Brook—1580 feet.

Crag Mountain is south of Brush Mountain, and rises a little higher—1600 feet.

Stratton Mountain, the **Bald Hills**, **Shuttle Hill** and other eminences are found still further east and south.

West of the Connecticut the only height within the Northfield limits is **Pond Mountain**, in the northwest corner—1190 feet. A lily pond, 100 acres in area, lies at its base in Vernon township.

MEADOWS AND PLAINS.

(See map, page 120.)

The topography of Northfield exhibits well-defined levels, of which the lower, lying along the Connecticut banks, were called "meadows" at the time of settlement, and the higher, running back to the hills, were called "plains."

The meadows were what first attracted settlers, since they had been cleared by the Indians and put under cultivation. They were purchased from the native owners, and in the divisions of land among the early settlers it was usual to give each a slice of the meadows proportionate to the amount subscribed to the common stock, in addition to his home-lot on Main Street. The lot lines ran east and west, and are in many instances perpetuated to the present day.

The plains were likewise cleared levels ready for pasturing or cultivation by the early settlers.

Great Meadow is the name that was given to the lowlands between the centre of the town and the river. It was part of the original grant, and was then rated as 385 acres. It extends from the railroad bridge on the north to Miller's Brook on the south, and is reached from Main Street by three highways—Meadow Street, Parker Avenue and River Street. A highway runs north and south in the meadow, crossing all the lots.

Little Meadows lie south of Great Meadow, and were also part of the original grant, their southern end marking the southern limit of the original town. They were originally called "Three Little Meadows," because the tract was divided into three parts by the gullies of two small brooks that traversed it.

Pine Meadow is further south, lying between Merriman and Four-Mile Brooks. This tract was formerly covered by a growth of yellow pines, and was therefore not ready for occupation by the first settlers. It was incorporated in Northfield township in 1685. Area, about 400 acres.

Pauchaug Meadow was the second meadow tract acquired by the early settlers and allotted in 1673, containing 130 acres. Pauchaug Brook crosses it near its southerly limit. It is thought that this was the scene of annual gatherings of nearby Indian tribes for games and competition in athletic feats.

On the west side of the river is **Bennett's Meadow**, extending from Bennett's Meadow Bridge to the mouth of Bennett's Brook. Being so easily accessible from the original settlement it was early taken up and allotted in 1686. The first list of proprietors contains sixteen names. The south bound of this tract was the southern limit of the original grant, as it is of the town today, west of the Connecticut. The Indian name of this section was *Nallahamcongou* or *Natanis*.

Beers' Plain lies south of Sawmill Brook, between Beers' Hill on the east and Little Meadows on the west. The tract was "common lands" until 1731, when it was allotted to the inhabitants.

Pauchaug Plain is the upland lying east of Pauchaug Meadow, north of Pauchaug Brook. It was divided among settlers early in the third settlement.

ELEVATIONS.

	FEET		FEET
Northfield Township:		Warwick Street	950
Connecticut River	200	Mount Grace	1628
Main Street	300	Bernardston	400
Birnam Road	400	Huckle Hill	700
Northfield Farms	300	Greenfield	480
Louisiana Mountain	1100	Winchester, N. H.	450
Notch Mountain	1300	Forest Lake	446
Stowbridge Hill	940	Hinsdale	300
Hemlock Mountain	1260	Ashuelot	400
Round Hill	1100	Chesterfield	861
Alexander Hill	1340	Spofford Lake	724
Bear Mountain	1040	Vernon	300
Brush Mountain	1580	Brattleboro	350
Crag Mountain	1600	Mt. Wantastiquet	1364
Pond Mountain	1190		
Gill	300		
Bernard Hill	460		
Mount Hermon School	440		

HISTORY RETOLD

INDIAN OCCUPATION.

BEFORE the exploration by white men and the settlement of the town of Northfield, the territory was occupied by a tribe of river Indians called the Squakheags.

The name is spelled in no less than nine different ways in early deeds and documents, the confusion being doubtless due to the difficulty of reducing to writing the Indian pronunciation. It is thought to be a contracted form of native words meaning "A spearing place for salmon," for in those times there were well-known places for salmon and shad fishing at the rapids and the mouths of the streams from Turners Falls to the great bend at Hinsdale (which was part of Northfield until 1740). The broad river, fertile lowlands and wooded hills furnished abundance of fish, corn, game and furs for the few hundred Indians in their scattered villages.

"The signs relied upon to determine the site of an Indian village are: (1) the presence of large quantities of domestic utensils, such as stone pestles, kettles, knives and hoes; (2) heaps of roundish stones bearing evidence of the alternate action of fire and water, which were used, before the introduction of metal kettles, to heat water by being thrown red-hot into their wooden troughs; (3) the remains of granaries or underground barns, circular excavations about five feet deep and five to sixteen feet in diameter, commonly dug in the sloping sides of a knoll or bank so as to secure dryness for storing corn (on the ear), dried fish or nuts; (4) a burial place; (5) a pile of stone chips, where their arrow and spear heads were fashioned; (6) a place for a planting field and a fort. These indications are wholly independent of tradition, and more reliable."

Judged by such signs, nearly every bluff along the river with an adjacent brook was the site of a cluster of wigwams. A village of considerable size undoubtedly stood at the south end of the town, at the falls on Four-Mile Brook. As late as 1856 a heap of arrow heads and chips was plowed up here, also two stone hoes with the withe handles still on, some pieces of kettles and other stone implements. Across the river there was another Indian village, called Natanis, on the plateau west of Bennett's Meadow. When the grade of the road just north of J. P. Holton's was lowered some years ago, "a skeleton was discovered, buried in a sitting posture; and on digging to the bottom of the grave there were found a pipe, some wampum, a copper tomahawk and a rude copper spoon." King Philip used the bluff west of Bennett's Meadow Bridge as a camp from February to April, 1676. Another village was located at the falls, called Squenatock or Quanatock, on Miller's Brook, with planting fields on the level lands north and south. Whole and broken skeletons were plowed up on Beers' Plain within a hundred years, while the rise where the Elmer house now stands has also yielded evidence of being an Indian burying place. The falls on Mill Brook, Pauchaug Brook and Belding's Brook at South Vernon afforded the requirements for other villages. A skeleton, supposed to be that of an Indian, was dug up in Glen Street a few years ago.

Little is known of the antecedent history of the Squakheags. In 1663 their villages were raided by the Mohawks of New York State, who were the inveterate enemies of the Massachusetts Indians. These latter combined in 1669 to seek revenge, but their expedition was defeated.

At this juncture white men came on the scene. The Squakheags sold them the land, partly because they thought the white men would be an added protection against their Mohawk enemies, but apparently largely because they did not appreciate the

full significance of the sale. They remained at their old village sites, undisturbed by the settlers, who indeed found them easy marks in barter, since "a knife, or a kettle, or a gun, or a pint of rum—though forbidden by law to be sold to the natives—would command a most valuable consideration in furs and skins." In 1675 trouble arose and the Indians became hostile. When the settlers deserted Northfield they resumed possession of the territory. On the resettlement in 1686 the two races lived in friendly relations again until another war between the English and French. And so through the 18th century: in times of peace straggling parties of Indians would appear during the summer, the men being hired by the farmers for certain kinds of work, while the women peddled baskets and brooms by sale or barter. The last of the Squakheag tribe, as he was supposed to be, made regular visits to Northfield until 1828 or '29. Within the memory of some now living, occasional small parties of Indians who came down the river in canoes spent the summer in their tepees near Pauchaug Hill or at other locations.

EARLIEST EXPLORATIONS BY THE ENGLISH.

The earliest record of explorations by the English in the Connecticut valley in this vicinity occurs in May, 1669, when a committee of four men was empowered "to lay out a new plantation near Quinsigamond Pond" (Worcester). Their report says that they discovered two other places to the westward suitable for town sites, one of them "Suckquahege upon the Connecticut River"; and upon their recommendation the Provincial Court ordered that the lands mentioned be reserved for public use for towns.

By being suitable for town sites is meant that the tracts had been cleared and settled by the Indians. It was the custom of the natives to burn over the level and fertile lands every fall so as to

keep them free from underbrush, where the squaws might cultivate the fields of corn and pumpkins. Of course the topographical and other features that made a locality desirable for Indian settlement also made it desirable for the whites.

This occurred forty-nine years after the landing of the Mayflower.

FIRST SETTLEMENT OF SQUAKHEAG, 1672.

The next year, 1670, "a party from Northampton, including Joseph Parsons, senior, William Janes, George Alexander and Micah Mudge, went upon discovery of the place, examined the location with care, and ascertained that the natives were ready and anxious to sell the tract." As the best lands up the valley beyond Hadley and Northampton had been already occupied in the westward march of the Pilgrim settlers, need was felt that the frontier should be pushed further north, and "early in the spring of 1671 the persons above mentioned, with Caleb Pomeroy and perhaps others, went up and consummated the purchase."

The tract to be conveyed extended from Mill Brook to Miller's Brook, six miles wide each side from "the Great River"—about 10,560 acres. The sum to be paid is not known, but after the resettlement of the territory in 1686 some dissatisfaction as to the price was expressed, and so a new deed was executed between the Indians and the settlers, dated May 24, 1686, giving a clear and satisfactory title on the further payment of twelve pounds (English money). A second purchase, comprising about 3000 acres on the west bank of the Connecticut, was made by deed dated September 9, 1673, the consideration being two hundred fathoms of wampunpek. These two tracts comprised the township during the first settlement.

Having bargained for the land, thirty-three petitioners, of whom thirty appear to have been residents of Northampton and three of Hadley, sent

in a petition to the General Court, the terms of which are such as to be worth reprinting here on account of their archaic and historic character:

“To the Right Honourable and much Honoured Generall Court of Massachusetts held at Boston 31st of the 3 month 1671

“Right Honourable and much Honoured in the Lord

“Your humble Petitioners being by the good providence of God under your care, government and protection, and having by the good hand of God in a singular manner enjoyed the same for a long time in peace (to the praise of His rich grace), the consideration of such signal mercy should be a forcible spurr and strong motive to quicken us to sincere obedience and hearty thankfulness to the God of Peace, whose free love and good pleasure in Jesus Christ is the fountain of all our good and comfort.

“Right Honourable and Much Honoured

“Your humble petitioners are unfeignedly desirous (if it may please the Lord to incline your spirits to look toward us with a favorable aspect) to continue under your government. We conceive there is a great duty incumbent upon all that fear God, to consider, project and endeavor how they may promote Christ's Kingdom in order to posterity; but finding ourselves in a great measure straightened, and not in a capacity to attend that great work and duty unless we remove to some other place, which doth occasion us to make our humble address to this Honourable Assembly for help and supply. The places that our eyes are upon (though it be uncoth remote and we conceive attended with many difficulties) yet seeing God in His providence has caused the Indians Squawquegue and Wisoquawquegue: And it is reported that they are resolved to sell the same either to the English or French; we conceive it would be uncomfortable if that such a people

should have any interest there: And those that went upon discovery affirmed that the want of inhabitants to burn the meadows and woods, whereupon the underwoods increase, which will be very prejudicial to those that shall come to inhabit, and the longer the worse.

"Right Honourable and much honoured: We are loath to be tedious in multiplying arguments, but desire to be as compendious as may be to signify our humble desires to your Worships, that we may have liberty and encouragement to purchase a Plantation. And if it shall please the Lord to incline this Honourable Court to grant our humble request, and appoint a Committee to transact and order the same, we shall acknowledge ourselves much obliged to your Worships; and shall as is our bounden duty (with the help and assistance of God) lift up our hearts to the Lord Jesus the mighty Councillor, that he would be present with you to fill you with a spirit of wisdom courage and the fear of the Lord, and that he would guide you in all your weighty occasions, consultations, administrations and conclusions, soe that his great Name may be glorified, and that truth righteousness tranquility and peace may flow down as a mighty stream throughout the Colony."

The right honorable and much honored Court referred the petition to a committee, who reported favorably on June 8, 1671, "provided twenty families be settled on the place within four years time, and that they procure them a godly and orthodox minister. And that one square mile within said tract be laid out for the General Court or Country use." However, the "magistrates" refused their consent, for reasons that do not appear unless they hoped to secure grants in the rich meadows for themselves, as had previously happened at Hatfield, and subsequently happened at Northfield.

The next spring the petition was renewed, and granted on conditions somewhat similar to the

above (May 15, 1672). A committee was appointed on October 11, 1672, to lay out the plantation and fulfil the conditions of settlement. They set the bounds on the east side of the Connecticut, from the lower end of the Three Little Meadows up the river eight miles, and three and three quarter miles wide to the east; on the west side of the Connecticut, eight miles north from Bennett's Brook, and three quarters of a mile wide. It will be noted that this carried the north limits of the original township to Broad Brook (now in Vernon, Vt.) on the west bank of the Connecticut, and to Ash-swamp Brook (now in Hinsdale, N. H.) on the east bank.

The main street of the new town was laid out at the south end of the present Main Street. Sixteen home-lots, each twenty rods in width and intended to contain seven and a half acres, were laid out on the west side of this street, and four on the east side. Great and Pauchaug Meadows were also divided among the settlers according to the amount each put into the common treasury, while the "swamps" (not marshes, but flat lands which were wet in certain seasons and so escaped the annual burning over by the Indians, thereby being covered by timber and brush) and "common lands" were free to all for wood and pasturage.

Settlers arrived in the spring of 1673 and commenced to build log houses—not all, however, on their scattered home-lots, but within a stockade or picket-fence for mutual protection and defense. Elder William Janes, one of the settlers, was employed as preacher, and a house of worship was built. Flax, Indian corn and wheat were



OAK TREE MEMORIAL,
MAIN STREET.

the early crops, while cattle and sheep were raised for food and wool. It is reckoned that there were between eighty and ninety persons in the sixteen families that first settled here.

The locations of the stockade, and of an oak tree under which the first religious services were held, are now marked by memorials on Main Street.

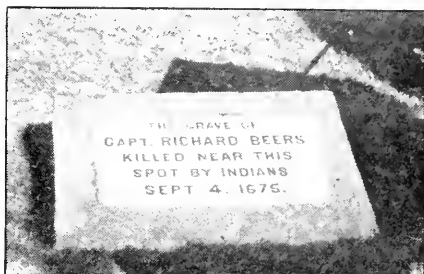
PEACE DISTURBED, 1675.

Friendly relations existed between the Indians and the whites throughout the valley until the spring of 1675, when the natives became uneasy. Brookfield was destroyed on August 2, the leading Indian chief behind the operations being Metacom, son of Massasoit, better known as "King Philip." Troops were hurried to the valley by the Massachusetts authorities, twenty soldiers being garrisoned at Northfield. Joseph Dickinson went to Hadley about August 19 to urge the sending of more soldiers or the removal of the settlers from their imminent danger. Deerfield was attacked on September 1. Next day a large band of hostile Indians fell upon the unready town of Northfield. Eight whites were killed at their houses or in the meadows before they could get to the fort, and everything outside the stockade was laid waste.

On September 3 Captain Beers and thirty-six mounted men, with an ox-team, set out from Hadley (thirty miles distant) for the relief of Northfield, knowing nothing of the attack the day before.

"It was a long day's work, especially for the oxen; and he halted and camped for the night three miles below the town. Leaving the horses here with a guard, the captain with his main body and the team with stores, started on Saturday morning, September 4, for the village. He appears to have kept on the high plain till he came in sight of Sawmill Brook. The ravine through which the stream ran was now covered with a rank growth of grass and ferns, and leaves were thick on the young trees.

Here he fell into an ambuscade. Captain Beers was taken completely at unawares, and his men were thrown into confusion. A part of them quickly rallied, and with their commander fought bravely till their powder and shot were spent. But the odds were too great against them." Twenty-one were killed, including Joseph Dickinson, who was returning home with the relief party. Captain Beers fell and was buried on what has since been called Beers' Hill. A memorial stone near the Samuel Merriman house marks the traditional site of his grave.



BEERS' GRAVE MEMORIAL,
BEERS' HILL.

Some survivors of the disaster reached Hadley next day, and a force of 100 men was hurried to Northfield at once, reaching here the day after (Monday, September 6). The Indians were still on the attack, so a council was held and it was decided to desert the town. The soldiers and settlers left that night for Hadley and Northampton. The Indians then burnt the fort and remaining houses, and so Northfield's career was ended for the time.

INDIAN OCCUPATION RESUMED.

The Squakheags took part in the massacre of Captain Beers' party and the destruction of the town, their intimate knowledge of the locality as well as of the habits and personal characteristics of the settlers no doubt contributing largely to the success of the affair.

They now resumed possession of their old home. Indians waylaid and attacked the English as favorable opportunities offered throughout New England. The English were at length aroused, and the de-

struction of the Narragansett fort in Rhode Island by a combined army of Massachusetts, Plymouth and Connecticut troops on December 19 led the Indians to see that union was their best policy to



KING PHILIP'S TREE. PHOTO TAKEN IN 1896.

prevent extermination. A great gathering of tribes was therefore held at Northfield—the first “Northfield Conference” on record! The Squakheags were already here, making their winter quarters at Coasset, a belt of pine woods on the west bank of the Connecticut a little above the present state line. Narragansetts, Nashaways, Nipmucks, and other tribes, comprising in all not less than 2000, moved north and reached the rendezvous on March 7 (1676). King Philip had made his winter quarters over near Albany, but came east in February and encamped for a few weeks on “King Philip’s Hill,” then joined the other Indians at Coasset.

“The gathering of the Indians here was a notable event of the war, and memorable in the annals of

Squakheag. The head chief of two of the leading New England tribes, the Wampanoags and Narragansetts, here joined hands and hearts for the struggle which both of them knew was for life or death. All the personal adherents of King Philip and his kinsman, Quinnapin, appear to have been in attendance with their chiefs. Canonchet, son of the renowned Miantonimoh, and hereditary sachem of the Narragansetts, was attended by the flower of that once terrible clan. His uncle, Pessacus, now just past the prime of life, was with him in the capacity of chief counselor. Sancumachu, a Nonotuck sachem, and now the acknowledged leader of the Pacomptocks and Agawams, was here with a considerable part of the united tribes. Mautamp and his Quaboags, now firm supporters of Philip, were here. Some of the Nashaways, Hassanamesetts, Naticks and stragglers from other clans were here, making with the Squakheags an immense multitude. From reliable data it is believed that from the 9th to the 25th of March (1676) there were not less than 2500 Indians, including women and children, at Nawelet's old village sites about the mouth of the Ashuelot and on the opposite side of the Connecticut. At a council of chiefs it was decided to hold this part of the valley as a common rendezvous and abiding place for the old men, squaws and children." The river would yield its fish for food, and the meadows should be planted with corn and pumpkins for the next winter's supplies, while the warriors were off on the war path.

They remained at Coasset until about July 1. The death of King Philip on August 12 was the signal for a general dispersion.

SECOND SETTLEMENT, 1682-90.

Seven years passed away after the evacuation and destruction of Squakheag (Northfield) before steps were taken for its resettlement. During this time some of the settlers had been killed, others had sur-

rendered their rights and settled elsewhere, but most of them (or their heirs) still retained their grants. In the spring of 1682 the proprietors petitioned the General Court, who appointed a new committee to oversee the resettlement. Next year rules for the settlers were agreed upon. In 1684 highways ten rods wide (165 feet) were laid out to serve as a main street and roadways to Great Meadow, and perhaps some crops were put in.

In the spring of 1685 about twenty families came to Northfield and built on their home-lots. A fort was also built, and a gristmill on Mill Brook. On petition to the General Court the original township was increased by the extension of the southern boundary two and a half miles further south, to Four-Mile Brook. The home-lots on Main Street were equal in size, twenty rods front (330 feet) and running sixty rods to the brow of Meadow Hill on the west, and the meadows and other lands on both banks of the river to the northern limits of the town beyond the Ashuelot River were apportioned according to the amount "subscribed in advance by each engager." A home-lot of seven and a half acres and forty-six acres of other land were reserved for a minister. Meadow land was also reserved for a smith. A piece of land on Meadow Hill was reserved for a burying ground (now the centre burying ground), the location being traditionally selected because Sergeant Samuel Wright was killed here by the Indians on September 2, 1675, and his bones when found buried where he fell. All the land not divided and apportioned was called Common or Town land, and was open for pasturage to all settlers.

The first town meeting was held March 18, 1686. Two supervisors, one constable, two fence viewers and two measurers of land were the officials appointed. A second fort was built just south of Mill Brook for the protection of families at the north end of the street. Its location is now marked by a

boulder at Dr. Pentecost's northeast fence corner. The old fort well was recently uncovered on Dr. Pentecost's north lawn.

In 1687 about 65,000 more acres of land were purchased from the Indians, "in consideration of the sum of forty-five pounds in trade." The tract ran north from Mill Brook to Wanascatok Brook, six miles wide from the Connecticut on either side. This was Nawelet's land.

In 1688 the settlers began to improve their circumstances and voted a levy to build a meeting house and a bridge over Mill Brook. But their plans were not to be carried out. Instigated and hired by the French authorities in Canada to kill and scalp whites and Indians in English and Dutch territory, a band of eleven northern Indians passed down the valley through Northfield in July. On July 27 they murdered five friendly Indians near Springfield, and disappeared. On August 16 six persons in Northfield were murdered, presumably by the same band—three men, two women and a girl. Despatches were hurried to Springfield, and a garrison of soldiers was sent to Northfield. Fear seized upon the settlers once again, and half of the families left town.

The condition of the remnant was now hard. Few in numbers, they were unable to make the most of their lands and were burdened by the support of the garrison. The men had also to do their share in watching against the enemy. Others could not be induced to come and fill the depleted ranks of the settlers. At length war was declared between England and France. The revolution of 1688 had driven James II. from the throne of England, and William and Mary of Orange accepted the crown. King William's war against the French began in 1690 and lasted until 1697. The struggle between these nations was transferred to their possessions on this continent, although there were no immediate local reasons to break the friendship with the In-

dians. Northfield being the northernmost town in the valley once more faced the dangers of attack. An order of the County Court dated June 25, 1690, therefore directed the inhabitants to transport their corn and live stock down to Springfield within six to eight days.

Thus ended the second settlement.

INTERIM OF TWENTY-FOUR YEARS, 1690-1714.

In earlier years the Indians had been moved to hostility and revenge by the constant encroachment of the whites upon territory which they had hitherto held as their own. They probably did not understand the sale of their lands, even though they were on the whole treated honorably and were still allowed to hunt and fish as of yore. The sense of being crowded out and of losing their rights headed up in King Philip's wars and the later struggles of a vanishing race.

A second cause that now came into operation to incite the Indians to hostility was the political and religious jealousy of the French against the growing power of the English, and their struggle for supremacy in North America. French adventurers, soldiers of fortune, priests and trappers had come first to the northern points, "dotting the banks of the rivers and lakes with trading posts and mission stations." All the principal attacks upon the New England settlements from now on were due to this second cause.

War continued between England and France until the Treaty of Ryswick, in 1697, during which time the French governor of Canada was tireless in his efforts to instigate the Indians to harass the English. And when peace was declared, it was to be for only a brief time. "The struggle for supremacy in the new world was a vital one, and now was the time to decide it." In May, 1702, war was again declared, and continued until the Treaty of Utrecht, March 30, 1713—Queen Anne's War.

THIRD AND PERMANENT SETTLEMENT, 1714.

By the terms of the Treaty of Utrecht France ceded Newfoundland and Nova Scotia to England, and relinquished all claim to the allegiance of the Indian tribes known as the Five Nations. This relieved the situation, so the survivors of the Northfield settlers, hoping for permanent peace, petitioned the General Court in the fall of 1713 to revive the former grants and appoint a committee to take charge. The petition was granted under date February 22, 1714, "provided that forty families be settled there within three years next coming: and that they procure and encourage a learned orthodox minister to settle with them. The town to be named Northfield. The town to lie in the county of Hampshire." Hampshire county embraced the entire western part of the Province of Massachusetts at that time; Franklin county, in which Northfield now stands, not being established until June 24, 1811.

About twenty men came forward in their own or their fathers' rights, or by purchase of other men's rights, to constitute the party of settlement, but of these not more than eight took possession the first season. Some of the others followed later, some died, the remainder sold their rights.

In the next few years the old lot lines were re-established, the highways marked out again, and various improvements initiated. On October 3, 1716, the town committee called the Rev. James Whitmore, fresh from Yale College, "to carry on the work of the ministry for the space of half a year, and for his encouragement have agreed to give him twenty-five pounds and subsist him and his horse," in addition to a house. On December 17, 1716, the town committee induced Stephen Belden (or Belding) of Swampfield to build and maintain a gristmill on Mill Brook by the grant of fifteen acres of land and other considerations.

On March 4, 1717, the settlers were for the first

time permitted to elect the town officers, subject to the approval and confirmation of the committee. Hitherto the committee had themselves appointed the town officers annually. On the same date the town voted a grant of twelve acres to Jonathan, a brother of Stephen Belding, to build a sawmill on Mill Brook. Rev. James Whitmore's engagement expired in April, 1717, and that fall the Rev. Benjamin Doolittle, of Wallingford, Conn., was engaged to supply for the winter. The town owned and kept a canoe on the river, and a scow or large boat for ferrying teams across to Bennett's Meadow and for bringing home the crops. Brickmaking was now commenced, the clay being found at the south end of Main Street.

A meeting house was built in 1718, Sabbath meetings having previously been held in private houses. Mr. Doolittle accepted a call to a settled pastorate in August of this year, the town agreeing to give him, "for his encouragement," a convenient house-lot, fifty acres of meadow and swamp land, ten acres of pasture land, a dwelling house, one hundred pounds in money payable within three years, fifty-five pounds a year for the first six years of service and seventy-five pounds a year afterwards (increasing this in case his family needed more), and a yearly supply of wood. The ten acres of pasture land referred to were laid out where Revell Hall now stands. Mr. Doolittle was also a regularly educated physician, and his medical practice became so large and lucrative during the wars of the period as to interfere with his ministerial duties.

On February 23, 1720, the town committee granted the right to certain parties to establish a sawmill on Bennett's Brook. On April 11 of that year the townspeople voted farms of equal size, about 700 acres in all, to the three members of the committee as compensation for their services in settling the town: which grants constituted the section since called "Northfield Farms." A new sur-

vey of the township was made by Timothy Dwight. The length of the town was now nearly twelve miles on the east side of the Connecticut, north from Four-Mile Brook; and eight miles on the west side of the river, northward from Bennett's Brook. This located the north bounds at Broad Brook on the west side (near the north line of the present Vernon township) and at Ash-swamp Brook on the east side (now in Hinsdale township). It gave an area of 31,296 acres, or a quarter more than the original grant of six square miles. The General Court for a time refused to authorize the survey, but on June 21, 1733, the governor and legislature granted the town what was claimed, and confirmed Dwight's survey.

On June 15, 1723, the General Assembly for the Province of Massachusetts Bay, held at Boston, granted a petition of the proprietors and inhabitants of Northfield for the incorporation of the town, on the ground that the number of inhabitants had so far increased that they judged themselves capable of managing the prudential affairs of the place. The committee which had hitherto managed the plantation by appointment of the General Court was therefore discontinued.

FATHER RALLE'S WAR, 1722-25.

The counter purposes of the French and English were quieted in 1713 by the Treaty of Utrecht, and for upwards of nine years peace reigned. During this time the Massachusetts colony pushed forward their forts and settlements in the Province of Maine in territory which they claimed to have acquired by purchase and treaty from the eastern Indians. The latter denied this, however, and resented the northward progress of the English. Trouble therefore gathered once more. The Indians were secretly urged on and supported by the French governor-general of Canada, who repre-

sented to the king of France the necessity of maintaining the Indians in possession of the territory as a buffer between New England and New France.

The war that ensued received its name from Father Sebastian Ralle, or Râle, a French Jesuit missionary among the Indians on the Kennebec River, who took a leading public and political part in the principal events of the struggle in the interest of the French.

Peace was broken by Indian outrages in Maine on June 13, 1722, and following days. The governor and council of Massachusetts declared war. Northfield, still the most northerly township in the Connecticut valley, took fright, petitioned the General Court for aid, and rebuilt the forts, as the dates on the memorial stones on Main Street indicate.

It was not until the next year, however, that Northfield blood was shed. On August 13, 1723, two of the leading citizens were waylaid and killed by a party of Indians under Gray Lock, chief of the Waranokes, whose headquarters at this time were at the north end of Lake Champlain and who took the warpath upon the instigation of the French. Next day they killed two and captured two at Rutland, and then returned to Canada with their captives and booty. Flushed with success, Gray Lock soon returned on another raid, and in spite of such military precautions as had been taken, surprised Northfield on October 9, killing one, wounding others, and taking one prisoner.

In order to throw up a defense for the Connecticut valley settlements and establish a post for scouting further north, the House of Representatives voted in December following to build a block-house above Northfield. This was erected in February, 1724, in what is now the southern part of Brattleboro township, and named Fort Dummer in honor of William Dummer, then acting governor of Massachusetts. It was built of pine logs, about 180 feet square. "A row of houses was built against the wall

around on the inside, and fronting on the hollow square, which served as a parade ground." The new command was given to Captain Timothy Dwight.

Northfield was now relieved from direct attack: the scene of bloodshed and pillage was moved north. But the burden of war weighed heavily upon those who had to do scouting and garrison duty, and the interests of the town were stunted. War dragged on summer after summer until the Indians became tired of the conflict, realizing that they were only the tools of the French—losing their numbers as well as being kept from hunting and trapping, while all the benefits of the war accrued to the French. Peace was finally brought about by a treaty at Boston on December 15, 1725.

PEACE AND PROGRESS, 1726-44.

With the advent of peace the garrison at Northfield was discharged, and frontier life resumed its normal channels. The Indians once more traded with the whites, exchanging furs for ammunition, liquor and other articles of a superior civilization. A truck-house or trading post was established by the provincial government at Fort Dummer in 1728.

In 1731-32 the common lands were divided by lot, each man having a choice of so many acres for poll and a further number of acres according to his valuation. It was at this time that William Holton chose his share of eighty-one acres "at the north end of Bennett's Hill, which eventually led to the location of the Holton family in that vicinity": part of which estate has remained in the family ever since without ever having been deeded. The shares coming to the more substantial settlers ran upwards of a thousand acres. Many of those who had no great stake in the town sold their shares to land speculators. "Ezekiel Kellogg, trader of Hadley, bought up 2124 acres, which he sold in 1734 for twenty-two cents per acre to James Brown of New-

port, R. I." Land in town has sold for \$2000 an acre of recent years!

There was an article in the town warrant for the annual meeting in 1731 to see if the town would build a schoolhouse: but apparently it failed of adoption. Five years later the County Court called the town to time for not having a school, as required by law. A meeting or two were therefore held, and it was voted that a schoolhouse should be erected. It was also in 1731 that "the town voted to send a representative to the General Court, but for some reason failed of making an election, as they did for the succeeding five years." The first representative was chosen in 1737.

"At this date Massachusetts held by undisputed right the territory as far north as the present south line of Westmoreland, N. H., and claimed a good title to the country about thirty miles further north, and to the east as far as the Merrimack River. On petition of divers parties living in different sections of the Province who were desirous of securing the rich meadow lands in that region, the General Court on January 15, 1736, voted that it is expedient to lay out four townships on the east side of the Connecticut River above Northfield, said townships to be of the contents of six square miles, and not to extend more than six miles from the river. The south bound of township No. 1 was placed at a point on the river near the present dividing line between Hinsdale and Chesterfield, N. H. The north bound of No. 4 was in the upper part of the present town of Charlestown, N. H. No. 2 would about correspond with Westmoreland, N. H., and No. 3 with Walpole, N. H. Two townships were also laid out on the west side of the Connecticut, one corresponding to Westminster, Vt., the other to Putney, Vt. The laying out of these new plantations, and the simultaneous beginning (in 1736) of settlements at Upper Ashuelot (now Keene, N. H.) and Arlington (now Winchester, N. H.)" relieved Northfield

of its exposed condition and naturally gave its people an impulse to improve their holdings lying on and above the Ashuelot River. "As early as 1723 a highway two rods wide was laid from Pauchaug to the Ashuelot, and in 1736 this highway was extended through Merry's Meadow. Indeed, the travel and transportation between Northfield and Fort Dummer, all of which went on the east side of the river and over this highway to the fordway above the mouth of Broad Brook, had made a well-worn road. The existence of this established pathway was one of the reasons why men located on the east earlier than on the west side of the river." While all this territory was then Northfield, it is outside the scope of the present volume to go into historic details concerning its development. It was detached from the town by a decree of King George II. of England, dated August 5, 1740. The dispute between the provinces of Massachusetts and New Hampshire as to the exact location of the boundary line, depending upon the interpretation of the Massachusetts charter of 1692, was referred to the king as the last resort. He located it forty miles further south than the line claimed by Massachusetts, fourteen miles further south than the line claimed by New Hampshire. A tract about four and one-half miles wide was thus cut off Northfield, "but as late as 1753 the common lands lying north of the Ashuelot were divided to the old grantees, and the titles thus acquired held good." Till the incorporation of Hinsdale in 1753 the people living in the severed territory were styled, in deeds and official documents, "of the northerly part of Northfield township above the line of the Massachusetts government."

OLD FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, 1744-49.

France and England declared war against each other once again in 1744. This of course meant

renewed hostilities between New England and the French and Indians.

The French received news of the outbreak of war a month before the intelligence reached Boston, and proceeded to strike the northern frontiers at once. New Hampshire refused to protect its lately acquired territory in the upper Connecticut valley, but left it to Massachusetts, in whose interest Dummer, Hinsdell's and other forts had been erected. Northfield took immediate action as a town, and voted to erect four "mounts"—square towers each nineteen feet high, boarded up twelve feet and lined with planks the rest of their height, with the upper story fitted up for a sentry, and all surrounded by a stockade. Some soldiers were sent here by the government. This town was the base of supplies and men for the forts north and west, though the military headquarters were at Northampton and Hatfield.

Indian attacks began in the upper valley in July, 1745. The next summer their bands were all along the northwest frontier. On August 11, 1746, a small party in the hills east of Northfield shot and killed a citizen, Benjamin Wright. The spring of 1747 saw renewed and more determined attacks by the French and Indians.

On April 15 of this year Nathaniel Dickinson and Asahel Burt were waylaid, killed and scalped a little after sunset as they were bringing cows home from Pauchaug Meadow. They were ascending Pauchaug Hill, near where the memorial shaft now stands, when Dickinson's horse was shot and fell, the Indians then springing upon Dickinson and tomahawking him. Burt's horse was also killed, but he tried to escape by going back to the meadow. He was, however, overtaken at the foot of the hill and killed. The monument was erected by Dickinson's great-grandchildren at the time of the bicentennial of Northfield in 1872.

On July 23, 1748, Aaron Belding started a little



DICKINSON MONUMENT, PAUCHAUG HILL.

before sunrise from Alexander's fort at the north end of Main Street (now East Northfield), intending to go to his mother's house below Mill Brook and then to Dickinson fort (near the present memorial library building). A party of Indians that was skulking in the vicinity saw him start, followed and shot him as he was passing the ledge of rock on which the Congregational Church now stands. "The shot brought him down, and one of the savages instantly sprang upon him. Mr. Belding recognized the Indian as an old acquaintance, and begged him to spare his life. But with a curse the Indian drew his knife, cut around his crown, and placing one foot on his neck and clenching the hair with both hands, jerked off the scalp entire; then striking a hatchet into his head he left him. The people

were generally in bed, but on hearing the report of the Indian's gun the watch gave an alarm, and the inhabitants, most of whom lodged in the forts, got out as soon as possible. Belding was alive when his brother and others reached him, and was sufficiently conscious to give some of the particulars, but died soon after being carried to the fort." An inscription is cut in the face of the rock near where he fell.

These were the only Northfield losses during the war, the immediate scenes of conflict having been moved to the forts and settlements farther north; yet the shadow of the tomahawk and scalping knife still hovered over the people, and the whole region endured the dangers and hardships of the struggle. Northfield was on the highway for sending soldiers and supplies to the exposed points, and as before had a garrison of soldiers for her defense, while the inhabitants were also called on more or less for military service. Several Northfield men grew rich supplying the military with grain, hay and other supplies, while the local merchants, blacksmiths and other citizens were also benefited.

Peace between France and England was signed at Aix-la-Chapelle on October 7, 1748, although peace was not proclaimed in Boston till May 10, 1749. And even then the Indians were not bound by the peace, so that the Connecticut valley frontier was still in danger of their depredations. The town forts were finally sold in 1753.

LAST FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, 1754-63.

The peace following the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle proved to be shortlived. War was renewed between England and France in 1754.

The English government now realized that there could be no permanent peace in America as long as France had a stronghold in the north, so the plan of campaign included the conquest of Canada.

The Connecticut valley frontiers were to become the scene of further battle and bloodshed for a period of nine years.

Northfield, in a false sense of security, had just disposed of its forts as no longer needed, but on the report of the first Indian attack up the valley, August 30, 1754, it was voted to rebuild them. The families that had settled on outlying farms gathered in under the protection of the forts. A garrison of twenty soldiers was stationed here, and the local militia waked up. The Province of New Hampshire again refused to defend the Connecticut River towns, so the Massachusetts authorities had to undertake this burden in self-defense.

During the opening years of this war success lay, as a rule, with the enemy. The northerly forts were ambushed, soldiers and settlers slain and captured, etc. The English fort at Oswego, N. Y., on Lake Ontario was besieged and captured by Montcalm in August, 1756. Fort William Henry at Ticonderoga was lost in August, 1757. But in 1759 the tide of battle turned. Niagara, Ticonderoga and Crown Point were taken by the English, and the French were driven back into Canada. General Wolfe broke the French power further by his brilliant victory on the Heights of Abraham and the capture of Quebec on September 13. The same month an expedition destroyed the Indian headquarters at St. Francis. Montreal was captured on September 7, 1760, and the whole Province of Quebec and its dependencies surrendered to the British arms, thus bringing to a climax the international drama on the stage of North America.

When the French power in Canada was thus broken the Indian peril waned. Peace was at length restored by the Treaty of Paris, February 10, 1763.

Northfield furnished her full quota of soldiers throughout the war, including several well skilled in Indian warfare, and bore her full share of financial burden and loss.

WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

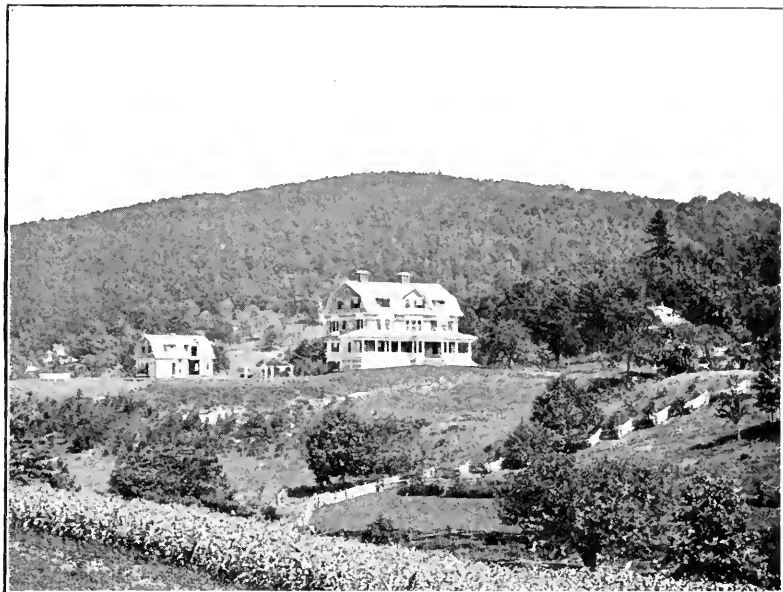
Ten years of reconstruction and growth followed at this point. The meeting and schoolhouses were built, several new industries sprang up, and new stores were opened.

Then the struggle with the mother country broke out. Northfield lined up with the rest of the colonies, resented the Revenue act, gave up the use of tea and English dress goods, and sent a representative to the Provincial Congress, which first convened at Salem on October 5, 1774. A company of "minute men" consisting of twenty-six Northfield and twenty-five Warwick men was organized and trained, and when news of the battle of Lexington (fought April 19, 1775) reached town the day after, the company immediately responded and marched to Cambridge under Captain Wright. A "Committee of Safety and Correspondence" was chosen, to keep in touch with similar committees throughout the provinces for the distribution of news, the interchange of opinions, and the execution of plans. In February, 1776, a company was raised at Northfield which was ordered the month following to join the expedition against Canada. Throughout the war Northfield furnished her full draft of soldiers, who took part in the different encounters with the British, until the surrender of Cornwallis on October 19, 1781, at Yorktown, Va., virtually ended the war.

The first election in Northfield under the new state constitution was held on September 4, 1780, when the voting was as follows: For governor, John Hancock 27, James Bowdoin 3; for lieutenant governor, James Warren 28, James Bowdoin 1.

INDEPENDENCE AND RECONSTRUCTION.

The years following the securing of independence from the mother country brought troubles usual to such circumstances. The resources of individuals,



SUMMER RESIDENCE OF COL. J. J. JANEWAY ON WINCHESTER ROAD.

towns and states were exhausted. Everybody was in debt. The financial system was in chaos, paper money having no assured value. Real estate was unsalable. Confidence in the new government was not yet established. As early as May 22, 1780, the town of Northfield had rejected the proposed new state constitution by forty-two to two. Universal anxiety and distrust prevailed.

However, the good sense and sturdy self-reliance of the people gradually wrought order and prosperity out of the confusion. The beginning of the nineteenth century found Northfield with her industries reorganized, her people busily employed, many of the square, colonial houses built, and elms and maples planted. The foundations were laid for the comfort and plenty which Northfield has enjoyed ever since.

The story of the town throughout the century may be read further in the descriptions given in.

the chapters that follow. The small industries of a hundred years ago, when Northfield had mills and factories of different kinds, tanneries, forges, etc., went down one by one before the invention of labor-saving machinery and the corporate consolidations of capital and labor. The coming of the railroad in 1850 gave better facilities and a larger market for agricultural products, and stock-raising became the main reliance of many farmers. The Civil War brought a period of good prices, but with the invention of reaping and other machines for farming on a large scale the West was opened up, and Northfield could not stand the competition. The migration of the young men to the cities and to the West depleted the town of much choice blood. The present new era of growth and progress began with the return of D. L. Moody to his home town in 1875, leading to the foundation of the schools and summer conferences. Thousands of students and visitors now come to Northfield every year, and the hill-sides are speedily being taken up for summer residences. Every section of the township feels the impulse and invigoration of these streams of new life, with the revival of the building trade, increased demands for farm produce, and enlarged social, religious and educational facilities.

POPULATION.

1765	415	1860	1712
1790	868	1870	1720
1800	1047	1880	1603
1810	1218	1890	1869
1820	1584	1900	1966
1830	1757	1905	2017
1840	1673	1910	
1850	1772		

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1908-09.

	1908	1909
Births	33	36
Marriages	16	17
Deaths	31	16

*

MASSACHUSETTS DECENNIAL CENSUS OF 1905.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
NORTHFIELD.			
Native born,	773	1,244	2,017
Foreign born,	685	1,118	1,803
	88	126	214
COLOR AND RACE.			
White,	773	1,244	2,017
Colored,	771	1,244	2,015
Chinese,	1	—	1
	1	—	1
CONJUGAL CONDITION.			
Single,	773	1,244	2,017
Married,	399	777	1,176
Widowed,	332	338	670
Divorced,	34	123	157
Unknown,	6	6	12
	2	—	2
FAMILIES.			
Private families,	—	—	454
Hotels,	—	—	450
Institutions, etc.,	—	—	2
Average size,	—	—	4.44
Private families,	—	—	3.60
Hotels,	—	—	12.00
Institutions, etc.,	—	—	187.50
RELATION TO HEAD OF FAMILY.			
Heads,	773	1,244	2,017
Wives,	359	103	462
Fathers or mothers,	—	304	304
Fathers or mothers-in-law,	10	24	34
Grandmothers,	1	8	9
Brothers or sisters,	—	2	2
Brothers or sisters-in-law,	11	29	40
Sons or daughters,	1	10	11
Adopted daughters,	238	250	488
Sons or daughters-in-law,	—	5	5
Stepsons or daughters,	1	3	4
Grandsons or daughters,	1	2	3
Uncles or aunts,	10	9	19
Nephews or nieces,	2	2	4
Cousins,	4	10	14
Boarders and lodgers,	—	1	1
Guests,	84	42	126
Pupils,	6	—	6
Students,	—	318	318
Domestic servants,	—	21	21
Personal servants,	6	58	64
Housekeepers,	—	3	3
Assistants,	—	8	8
Matrons,	1	24	25
Hired men and boys,	—	3	3
Visitors,	38	—	38
Other relationships,	—	1	1
	—	4	4
PLACE OF BIRTH.			
Native born,	773	1,244	2,017
Foreign born,	685	1,118	1,803
	88	126	214

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
PARENT NATIVITY.			
	773	1,244	2,017
Native born,	615	993	1,608
Foreign born,	158	251	409
POLITICAL CONDITION.			
Ratable polls,	528	—	528
Legal voters,	411	—	411
Naturalized voters,	26	—	26
Aliens,	49	—	49
Males 20 years of age and over,	529	—	529
ILLITERACY.			
	15	7	22
<i>Native Born,</i>			
Cannot write,	1	1	2
Neither read nor write,	—	—	1
<i>Foreign born,</i>			
Cannot write,	14	6	20
Neither read nor write,	1	3	4
	13	3	16
OCCUPATION.			
	773	1,244	2,017
Government,	7	4	11
Professional,	14	46	60
Domestic service,	14	503	517
Personal service,	18	52	70
Trade,	42	15	57
Transportation,	47	—	47
Agriculture,	178	—	178
Manufactures,	97	16	113
Laborers,	27	—	27
Laborers (farm),	80	—	80
Apprentices,	1	—	1
Children at work (10 to 15),	6	2	8
Scholars,	125	163	288
Students,	23	331	354
Retired,	29	21	50
Unemployed twelve months,	—	1	1
Dependents,	3	3	6
At home,	59	73	132
Not stated,	3	14	17
VETERANS AND MILITIA.			
	32	—	32
Civil war veterans,	27	—	27
Spanish war veterans,	5	—	5

NORTHFIELD'S GREATEST SON— D. L. MOODY



D. L. MOODY IN 1894.

NONE of his neighbors will dispute the title of this chapter. In an estimate of D. L. Moody as a citizen and neighbor, published in the *Greenfield Gazette and Courier* at the time of his death, the correspondent said:

"The old proverb, 'A prophet is not without honor save in his own country,' cannot be said of D. L. Moody, for surely no person could be more sincerely loved and honored by his

townsmen than was he. Expressions of sorrow are heard from all classes. His townsmen have been proud of him as a citizen, as a man, and as a religious worker. Although not all of them have endorsed his religious beliefs they have thoroughly believed in his honesty of purpose and sincerity, and are convinced that the results of his life work will be lasting and of inestimable value to future generations. They know that Northfield has been changed from a quiet farming town, with corresponding disadvantages, to a thrifty village with a steady growth; and that here and at Mount Hermon have been established two of the best fitting schools in the state, all through the energy and perseverance of this man. Every effort has been made by him to bring these schools within the reach of the boys and girls of the town, and many ambitious fathers and mothers have been able to educate their children through his efforts. He was instantly alert

and ready with money and work to forward any plans to benefit the town. He was a kind neighbor, sickness and trouble finding him ready with sympathy and material help. . . . "

The ten years that have elapsed since his home-call have endorsed the friendly sentiments and discriminating judgments expressed above.

D. L. Moody is not only Northfield's greatest son, but he made the town famous. The place of his birth and later home has been raised to a commanding position as a religious and educational centre of world-wide influence.

He was a genuine product of Northfield and New England. The earliest record of the Moody family in America dates back to John Moody in 1633. He settled first in Roxbury, Mass., and later became one of the original proprietors of Hartford, Conn. Later yet he moved to Hadley, Mass., at a time when this was still the frontier of white man's civilization in the Connecticut valley. The first Moody to come to Northfield was Isaiah, who first appears as a landholder on April 13, 1797, when he bought four acres north of the Winchester Road, near Main Street. The eldest of his seven sons was Edwin, father of D. L.

On his mother's side Mr. Moody belonged to the Holtons, whose ancestors landed in America in 1630. For over 200 years the Holtons have been identified with Northfield. His mother, Betsy Holton, was born in the Holton homestead on Bennett's Hill.

His parents were married on January 3, 1828, and lived on the home-lot on Moody Street, now usually called "D. L. Moody's Birthplace." They owned an acre or two of land, and his father, like his grandfather, was a mason. Nine children were born in the family, of whom Dwight Lyman Ryther was the sixth, born on February 5, 1837.

The father died on May 28, 1841, leaving his widow and young ones in very trying circumstances. The memories of his mother's bravery in keeping

Family Record.	
BIRTHS	BIRTHS
<p>Edwice Ismael Moody Has been Oct 20 1828 Cornelia Maria Moody Has been February 27 1830</p>	<p>Warren S. Moody Has been Oct 15 1830 Sunday Elizabeth Moody Born 21 Jan 1831 Thursday</p>
<p>George J. Moody Has been June 2nd 1832</p>	
<p>Edwice Moody Jr Has been June 1834 Thursday</p>	
<p>Sulzer H. Moody Has been August 27 1835 Thursday</p>	
<p>Dwight S. Kythron Moody Has been Feb 5 1837 Sunday</p>	

A PAGE FROM THE MOODY FAMILY BIBLE.

the family together, of the kindness of Mr. Everett, then pastor of the Unitarian Church (to which the Moodys belonged at that time), and of the help of certain relatives and neighbors in their privations were powerful in their formative influence upon Mr. Moody's character, making him a good neighbor, always ready to assist the poor, the needy, the sick.

His early life differed in no wise from that of the boys who grew up with him. During winter he attended the district school, then located on Main Street directly across from his late home. In the summer he "hired out." He earned his first money by turning the neighbors' cows out to pasture on the hillsides, receiving a cent a day as wages.

In one of the rooms in his birthplace there still exist the old family Bible and a book of devotions, comprising contemplations and prayers, which, with a catechism, were the Widow Moody's only books.

Nothing that has been recalled of his boyhood gives reason to anticipate the large things that followed in his life spiritually. But his leadership of boy comrades, his love of harmless fun, his fondness for practical jokes, his kindheartedness, and other elements of character constituted material for the making of a great and good man.

In 1854, aged seventeen, he left Northfield in quest of larger opportunities. His elder brother, Isaiah, was at work in Clinton, Mass., and Dwight went there and got a job in a bookstore and printing shop. Later he went to Boston, where his uncle, Samuel Holton, employed him in his shoe store. He was led to accept Jesus Christ as his Saviour and Lord in 1856, through the personal efforts of his Sunday school teacher, Edward Kimball; and here began the abiding usefulness of D. L. Moody. He went to Chicago in September, 1856, ambitious to make a fortune in the great West. And he was achieving his purpose, when God gave him a taste for soul-winning in 1860 in connection with the Sunday school work he was voluntarily engaged in. He relinquished business and thereafter devoted all his time to Christian work.

The years that followed were crowded with missionary labors in Chicago, first in his Sunday school, then in the Y. M. C. A., then in the independent church which grew out of these; finally in enlarging spheres of evangelistic and Bible teaching work in

this country and England, until the wonderful British campaigns of 1873-75 made the names of Moody and Sankey household words around the world.

Returning to this country his first desire was to see his aged mother and folks. His Chicago home had been burned in the great fire of 1871.

With the change in his work, which now took him from city to city during the winter months holding meetings, what more natural in such a man than that he should decide to make his permanent home and spend his summers here near his mother, studying and preparing for his winter campaigns? The Elisha Alexander place, a rather barren tract of twelve acres stretching from Main Street to Winchester Road and adjoining his mother's lot, happened to be for sale at a moderate price: so he bought it. It was his only home until his death.

Looking around today on the Seminary property, with its increasing foliage and well-kept grounds, studded with a score of halls and dormitories, one can hardly believe that thirty years ago this was nothing but sand hills! But many are yet living who would say that the place "wouldn't raise white beans" in those days. The desert has blossomed as the rose. And what a happy setting the Northfield work of Mr. Moody acquired in the providence of God, fronting on the rich valley of the Connecticut, backed by the wooded hills, and with the foothills of the Green Mountains piled one behind another on the western horizon!

Northfield Seminary for young women was formally opened on November 3, 1879.

Mount Hermon School for young men was projected the same year, and opened for instruction on May 4, 1881.

The first General Conference for Christian Workers was held in 1880.

The first World's Student Conference was held in 1886 at Mount Hermon.

The Northfield Training School for women (now a department of the Seminary) was opened in 1890.

The first Women's Conference was organized in 1893.

The General Eastern Depot of the Bible Institute Colportage Association of Chicago was opened in 1895, and the Bookstore building erected.

Camp Northfield, for men, was organized in 1896.

Mr. Moody left Northfield on November 8, 1899, for his last evangelistic campaign in Kansas City, Mo. Neither he nor his friends realized the weakened condition of his heart, which had been irregular for years and which broke under the strain on Thursday, November 16. He reached home on the 19th, and was confined to the house until the end came on December 22. The funeral and interment were on December 26. His mortal remains were laid to rest on Round Top. The simple headstone bears the inscription :

DWIGHT LYMAN MOODY

February 5, 1837

December 22, 1899

"He that doeth the will of God
abideth for ever." (1 John 2:17.)

The story of D. L. Moody's life is not complete unless mention is made of his wife. He married Emma Charlotte Revell of Chicago in 1862. As a girl she displayed that sweet, saintly character which ripened and richened as the years went by. No man ever had a truer helpmeet. Equally loyal to her Lord as he, she complemented the impulsiveness and brusqueness of her husband, and was his most trusted companion and adviser. They had three children: Emma Reynolds, William Revell, and Paul Dwight. Her home was Mrs. Moody's first care; and the children loved home best of all, while a wide circle of friends also enjoyed its cordial Christian hospitality. But Mrs. Moody had a level head and an extensive experience which made

her judgment of great value in her husband's religious and educational work. The neighbors saw more of her than of him perhaps, and in many a cottage she is lovingly remembered as the dispenser of their joint bounty.

Mrs. Moody joined her husband on October 10, 1903, and by her request was buried beside him on Round Top. The headstone of her grave says:

EMMA C. REVELL

Wife of Dwight Lyman Moody

July 5, 1843

October 10, 1903

"His servants shall serve Him,
and they shall see His face."

(Revelation 22:3, 4.)

THE NORTHFIELD SCHOOLS

IF your driver is well enough informed he can point out a lonely house on the Gulf Road which is the birthplace of Mr. Moody's final resolution to start his school work. He was driving past here one day in 1875 with a friend, and noticed the mother and two daughters braiding straw hats for their support. The father was a helpless paralytic. But he was an educated man, and his daughters had ambitions that reached beyond their present narrow horizon. The sense of privation and isolation they were compelled to endure touched Mr. Moody's heart, gave direction to several influences and yearnings in his soul, and soon led to the fulfilment of his purpose to found a school.

NORTHFIELD SEMINARY.

Sixteen acres in front of Mr. Moody's home were purchased in the fall of 1878 as a site for the school, and in the course of a year three or four other lots were acquired, until a hundred acres were on hand. In the spring of 1879 the erection of a brick recitation hall intended for a hundred students was begun on the site of Revell Hall. With characteristic haste Mr. Moody could not wait for a dormitory to be built, but made over the upper story of the rear ell of his own house, dividing it into ten small rooms. Instead of eight pupils expected, twenty-five appeared; among them one of the girls who had been braiding straw hats on the hillside four years before, and who won a place in the first class of twelve students that was graduated in 1884. With these twenty-five Northfield Seminary was formally opened on November 3, 1879. Classes were held in Mr. Moody's dining room until the recitation

hall was completed a month later. Ground was broken for East Hall in April, 1880. From these beginnings the school has grown until the enrollment of students each year is about 475, with a staff of fifty teachers and matrons, and the property includes over 500 acres with the following buildings:

Stone Hall, used for recitations. The first floor is given up to classrooms. An assembly hall occupies the centre of the second floor, with botanical laboratory and study rooms in the wings, separated by drop doors. The summer conferences met in this hall after outgrowing the old Congregational Church down the street, until the Auditorium was built; and here Drummond's "Greatest Thing in the World" and other famous addresses were first delivered. Its tower holds the Seminary clock. Built of native feldspathic granite in 1884-85, at a cost of \$40,000. The clock was added in 1888.

Russell Sage Chapel, the gift of Mrs. Russell Sage; stated cost, \$100,000. Dedicated in June, 1909. Built of Rockport granite, with nave and transepts. Seating capacity, 1000. This beautiful building not only serves the Seminary for daily chapel and Sunday evening meetings, but is also used as an alternative hall during the summer conferences. The view from the tower is worth while.

Home Science Hall, the gift of the Misses Mary and Elizabeth Billings of New York. Dedicated in June, 1908. This hall contains sewing rooms, cooking laboratories and other facilities for the Household Science and Household Art departments; also chemical and physical laboratories, recitation rooms and the offices of the principal.

Talcott Library, the gift of James Talcott of New York. Built in 1887 of granite, with brownstone trimmings; cost \$20,000. The library contains over 7000 volumes. The reading room is supplied with the leading magazines and periodicals. Thomas

Newberry's model of Solomon's Temple, worth \$3500, presented to Mr. Moody in 1884, is kept upstairs with other objects of interest and instruction.

Skinner Gymnasium, the gift of William Skinner of Holyoke in 1895. The floor space is 100 x 50 feet. A running track suspended from the roof forms a gallery encircling the hall. The most approved Swedish, German and American gymnastic appliances have been installed, while the lower floor contains a bowling alley, swimming tank, dressing rooms, lockers and baths. The instructor's office is on the main floor, and overhead is a room used by the Young Women's Christian Association.

Margaret Olivia Music Hall, also the gift of Mrs. Russell Sage, and dedicated in June, 1909. Cost, \$50,000. It contains a hall for chorus classes and musicals, studios for the music teachers, and practice rooms.

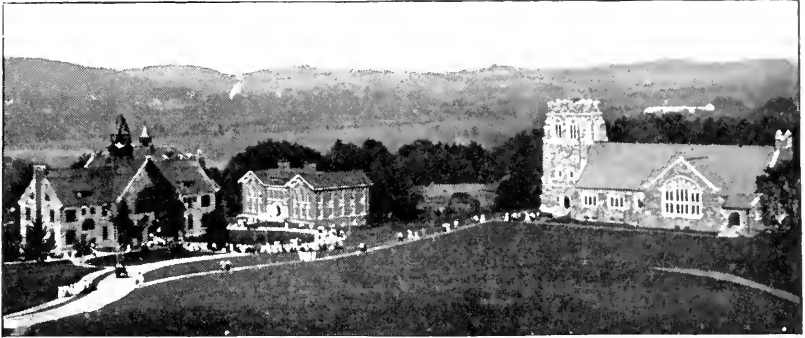
The Auditorium, erected in 1894, primarily for the summer conferences, but used also by the Seminary for large gatherings, concerts and commencement exercises. Seating capacity, 2500. A splendid view in all directions is obtained from the towers. The building is often crowded in August, and overflow meetings held.

Marquand Hall, named in memory of Frederick Marquand of New York, the gift of D. W. McWilliams. Accommodates ninety students. Erected in 1884. Cost, \$67,000.

East Hall, the first dormitory, erected in 1880. Paid for out of hymn-book royalties at a cost of \$36,000. Accommodates over sixty students.

Betsey Moody Cottage, named after Mr. Moody's mother. Partially equipped as a hospital.

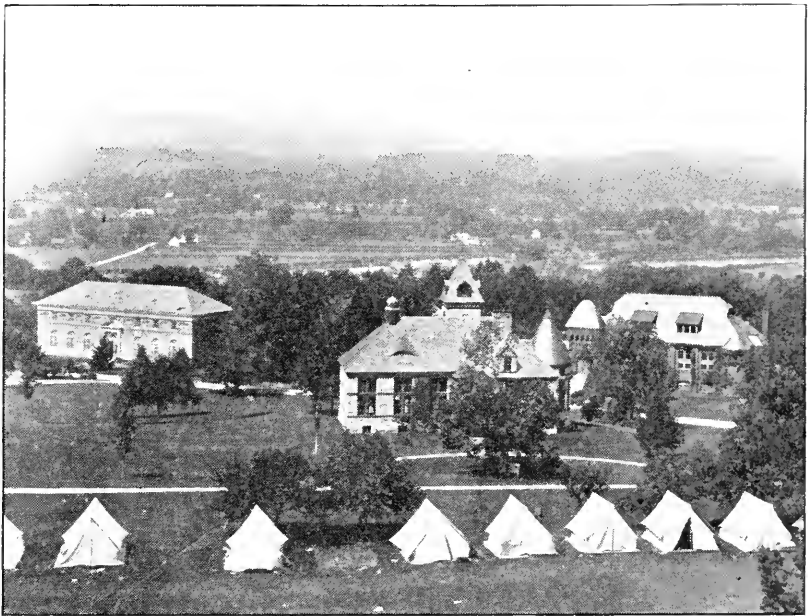
Weston Hall, the gift of David M. Weston of Boston in 1886, at that time president of the board



Stone
Hall.

Home Science
Hall.

Russell Sage
Chapel.



Music
Hall.

Talcott
Library.

Skinner
Gymnasium.

NORTHFIELD SEMINARY BUILDINGS, WITH TENTS ERECTED FOR
CONFERENCE VISITORS.

of trustees. Accommodates over forty students. Cost, \$25,000.

Moore Hall, on the corner of Moody Street and Highland Avenue, the gift of Mrs. Frederick Billings of New York in 1902, and named in honor of Henry M. Moore of Boston, long president of the board of trustees. Accommodates over thirty students.

Revell Hall, on Main Street, named in honor of Mrs. D. L. Moody's mother. Originally the first recitation hall, but sold for a private residence, and afterward repurchased and remodeled at different times. It is the residence of the principal, and also accommodates twenty-five students.

Holton Hall, directly west of Revell Hall, named in honor of Miss Fanny C. Holton of West Northfield, one of the early teachers. Accommodates twenty students.

Hillside Cottage, east of the Auditorium. Accommodates twenty students. Acquired in 1886.

Bonar Hall, on Main Street, at the top of Paunchaug Hill, was named in honor of Rev. Andrew Bonar, D. D., of Glasgow.

The value of these buildings, with the central lighting and heating plant, steam laundry, farm and other buildings comprised in the Seminary real estate and property, amounts to over \$600,000.

Four thousand, five hundred and forty-one students have been enrolled in all, up to 1910.

The Seminary motto, selected by Mr. Moody himself, is Isaiah 27:3—"I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment; lest any hurt it I will keep it night and day."

The school is in session from September to June. Three courses are offered: College Preparatory, which enables a student to enter any of the leading colleges on certificate; General, which affords more



MISS EVELYN SARAH HALL, PRINCIPAL OF
NORTHFIELD SEMINARY.

scope for electives; and English, which omits languages and gives opportunity for more extended work in science, history and literature.

Candidates for admission to the school buildings must be at least fifteen years of age. Preference is given to young women of good character and ability, of limited means and limited opportunities of education at home. For two years past "The Northfield" hotel has been used to accommodate girls who can afford to pay the full cost of board and tuition.

There have been only three principals since the Seminary opened: Harriet W. Tuttle, 1879-82; Emma Frances Angell, 1882-83; and Evelyn S. Hall, who entered upon the office in 1883, and whose brilliant administration, now lasting twenty-seven years, has witnessed the growth and progress of the school to its present useful position.

MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL.

Boys were about as numerous and needy in Northfield and elsewhere as girls, and it was not like Mr. Moody to overlook them. He remembered too well his own meagre training in the district school, with the limitations it involved in certain ways all his life. No sooner, therefore, was the Seminary under way than he began on a corresponding school for boys. A farm of 175 acres across the river was secured in November, 1879. A year later, when Hiram Camp of New Haven, Conn., promised a contribution of \$25,000 to carry on the project, an adjoining farm of a hundred acres was bought. These two original purchases amounted to \$13,385. The two farmhouses were changed over somewhat, and the school opened on the arrival of the first boys on May 4, 1881. At Mr. Camp's suggestion the name "Mount Hermon" was adopted, "for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore" (Psalm 133:3). The Indian name of the locality was "Massapetot's land," he being the Pa-comptock sachem and warrior from whom it was purchased at the time of the first settlement of Northfield.

The beauty of its setting rivals that of its sister school.

Additional tracts of land have increased the school holdings to over 1036 acres. The buildings include:

Recitation Hall, a brick building, 80 x 50 feet, three stories and basement, opened on May 20, 1885. Contains recitation rooms, the library and reading

room. Before the erection of the chapel the upper floor had an assembly hall. It was in that hall that the sessions of the first Student Conference were held in 1886, and in another room will be found a bronze tablet with this inscription:

"In this room, in the month of July, 1886, during the First International Student Conference, the Student Volunteer Movement had its origin, and 100 young men signified their willingness and desire, God permitting, to become foreign missionaries."

An oil painting of modern Jerusalem, "Sunset on Jerusalem," is in the library, where other pictures showing the growth of the school will interest the visitor.

Silliman Laboratory, the gift of Horace B. Silliman of Cohoes, N. Y.; dimensions 102 x 52 feet. It contains laboratories for physics, chemistry, biology, and agriculture, recitation rooms, and a lecture hall seating 234. The museum, a large mechanical drawing room, scientific reference library and reading room, and the office of the vice principal, are also in this building. In the basement are the workshop, storeroom, electrical testing room and an electric light plant. No iron was used in the structure, so as not to interfere with fine magnetic experiments.

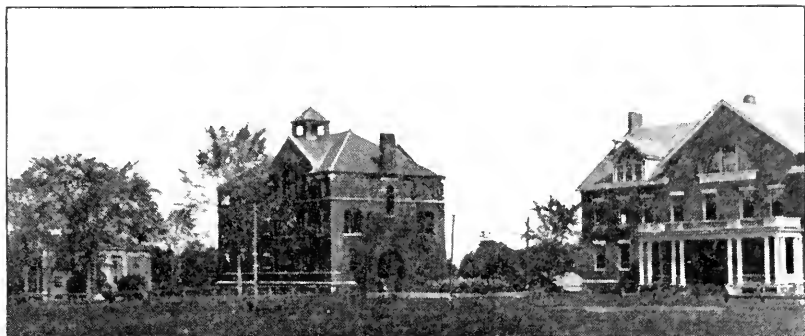
Holbrook Hall, the administration building, erected in memory of George E. Holbrook of Keene, N. H., was the gift of Mrs. George E. Holbrook and her two sons, William and Edward, both graduates of the school. The building is of brick, with gray stone trimmings, and contains the offices of the principal, secretary, cashier and buyer. On the second floor is the trustee and faculty room, the office of the Alumni Association secretary, and several other offices. In this building also is the school post-office.

Memorial Chapel, a conspicuous object for miles up and down the valley, is built on an eminence that Mr. Moody playfully called "Temptation Hill," in the hope that some friend of the school might some day be tempted to give money for the erection of a chapel. But as the hint was not taken, the sixtieth anniversary of his birthday (1897) was made the occasion of raising funds among his friends in this country and England who wished to share in this tribute of love and confidence. Built of native granite, Gothic style, the chapel is 110 x 65 feet in dimensions, with 50-foot dome, and spacious vestibule at the east front. Seating capacity, 1000. A magnificent view of the school campus, the Connecticut valley and surrounding hills as far as Mount Monadnock, is obtained from the clock and bell tower. Though erected expressly as a memorial of his sixtieth birthday anniversary Mr. Moody would not allow this fact to be mentioned on the bronze tablet in the eastern vestibule, which therefore reads as follows:

"This chapel was erected by the united contributions of Christian friends in Great Britain and the United States, for the glory of God and to be a perpetual witness to their unity in the service of Christ."

Bronze mural tablets near the platform record the names of students who have died on the foreign field. The drinking fountain on the north approach was erected by former students and friends in memory of Harriet Ford (Mrs. Henry F.) Cutler, long and usefully identified with the school's progress.

The Mount Hermon Church organization, formed in 1899, is evangelical and Scriptural in its articles of faith, and unsectarian in spirit. Students are invited to join on confession of faith and by letter while here. The pastor of the Congregational Church of Northfield is regarded as its pastor, and



Holbrook
Hall.

Recitation
Hall.

Silliman
Laboratory



Memorial Chapel.

MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

preaches one Sunday in every month. On other occasions the pulpit is supplied by visiting ministers and Christian workers. The nucleus of this church was formed by the withdrawal of Mount Hermon members from the Northfield church.

West Hall, the new dining hall, dedicated on February 5, 1909. A commodious hall, built in Ionic style, with seating capacity of 1000, and equipped with modern facilities for good service. The gift of Mrs. William E. Dodge of New York.

The Gymnasium, on the east side of the athletic field, 124 x 54 feet, with white marble trimmings and Doric order of architecture. The main floor is 120 x 50 feet, and there is a continuous running track upstairs, and a smaller exercise room over the entrance and offices. The basement contains bathing facilities, a swimming pool, 64 x 20 feet, and capacity for 1000 lockers. Dedicated in 1910.

Crossley Hall, erected in 1885 and named in memory of the son of Frank W. Crossley of Manchester, England, a liberal supporter of the school in its early days. Four stories, with dormitory accommodations for about 175 students, and parlors.

Overtoun Hall, named in honor of Lord Overtoun of Scotland, a true friend and supporter of Mr. Moody. Erected in 1898. Accommodates about 116 students.

Dwight's Home, the school hospital, originally built by W. R. Moody for his home, and named in memory of his son, Dwight Lyman II., on its acquisition by the school in 1899. Contains sixteen rooms, of which several have been fitted up by different friends as memorial wards.

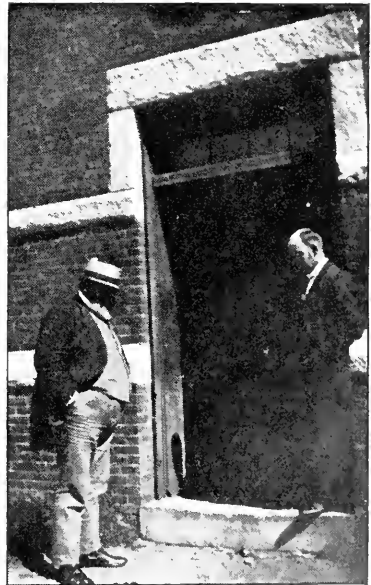
The Brick Cottages were among the first buildings erected (1882-83), and recall the early days when the ages of the boys ran from eight to twelve years, and when the cottage plan of smaller families

of a dozen boys in charge of matrons and teachers was in operation. The north cottage is the principal's residence, while the lady teachers and a few students occupy the others. Cottage I., next to Memorial Chapel, is called **London House**, having been originally occupied by boys from London, England; Cottage II., **Monadnock House**, because Mount Monadnock is plainly visible; Cottage III., **Music House**; Cottage IV., **Hubbard House**, in honor of the first principal of the school; Cottage V., **Manchester House**, having been originally occupied by a dozen boys from Manchester, England.

Old Dining Hall, opened in 1886. It has not yet been assigned to other uses than for assemblies, etc.

In addition to the foregoing, the Hermon plant includes an athletic field, farmhouses, teachers' cottages, central lighting and heating plant, steam laundry, canning factory, pumping station and reservoir, and other industrial and farm buildings, a total of fifty-seven. Total estimated present worth, \$790,000. Present endowment and invested fund, \$847,000.

Mount Hermon School is open all the year around, the plan of three terms of four months each having been initiated in 1900. The instruction given is of the highest efficiency, and the principal's certificate admits without examination to colleges accepting secondary school certificates.



D. L. MOODY AND PRINCIPAL
HENRY FRANKLIN CUTLER.

Applicants for admission must be at least sixteen years old. Only those who have good character, earnest purpose and small means are considered.

The annual enrollment is now about 800, with a staff of thirty teachers and other officials. The total number of students enrolled up to 1910 is 6204.

The first class was graduated on June 28, 1887. It consisted of five members, among whom was D. L. Moody's elder son, W. R. Moody.

Three principals have been in charge of the school since its inception: E. A. Hubbard, 1883-84; Henry E. Sawyer, 1884-90; Henry F. Cutler, 1890, the present incumbent, whose tenure of the position has witnessed the maturing of Mr. Moody's plans and the wonderful growth and progress of the school.

CHARACTER AND ADVANTAGES OF THESE SCHOOLS.

There are certain principles and practices not found in all schools which have stood the test of over thirty years here, and which embody Mr. Moody's special aims and intentions. They may be briefly stated thus:

(1) **The English Bible** is foundational, the paramount instrument of character building and culture. Denominational interpretations are not emphasized, however.

(2) **Industrial and domestic work** is obligatory upon all students daily, on the farm or in the buildings, under the supervision of the officials, not for economy of administration alone, but so as to inculcate right views of manual labor, to form habits of industry and cultivate a spirit of mutual helpfulness.

(3) **The school fees** for board and tuition are fixed at fifty dollars a term, with a few extras. This low rate brings the advantages within reach of many who can not raise or earn more, but it is less than

half the actual cost. The balance is raised through the contributions of friends of the work.

(4) The schools are **decidedly Christian in purpose**, though not sectarian. The religious privileges are the highest and best. The personal influence of consecrated teachers counts for much. A sincere effort is made to induce all the students to recognize Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord, although there is no compulsion in this.

The product of such principles and practices, added to the refining and ennobling effect of beautiful natural surroundings and the high quality of the educational, literary and athletic advantages offered, will be seen at a glance by anyone who visits the schools or follows up the record of former students. Probably few schools as large as these contain so few undesirable characters, and so many fine ones—earnest, industrious, capable and purposeful young men and women.

These, with the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago (for training lay Christian workers), are evidence of their founder's constructive genius, and are writing his posthumous history in so far as they continue to represent him.

Each institution is incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, and is governed by a board of trustees elected annually. Mr. Moody's elder son, W. R. Moody, is recognized as executive head of the Northfield schools and conferences, with his cousin, A. G. Moody, as business manager. A comparative statement regarding the schools today and when Mr. Moody went home in 1899 would show marked increase and progress in enrollment and assets.

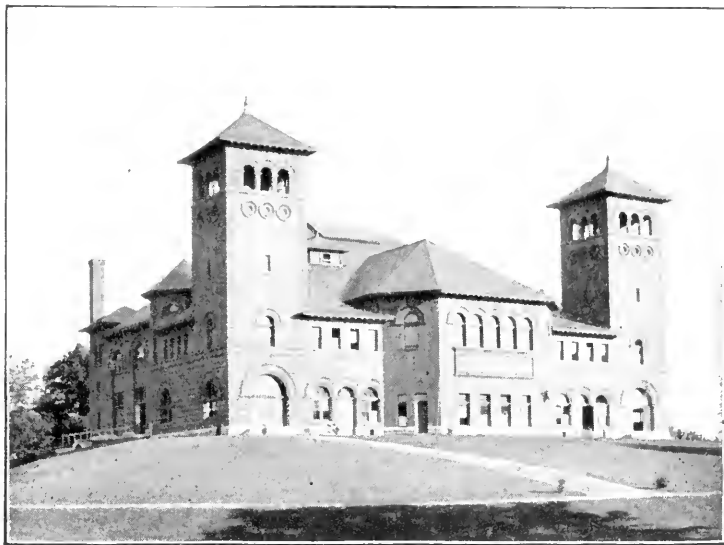
THE NORTHFIELD CONFER- ENCES

SINCE 1880 Northfield has been the home of religious conventions that bring thousands of visitors here from all parts of this and other lands every year, while a summer colony of "conference people" is rapidly dotting the slopes of Strowbridge Hill and Notch Mountain with rustic cottages.

Mr. Moody himself was undoubtedly the great attraction, as he was the central figure, at the conventions while he was alive. Yet the natural surroundings add much to the pleasure of visitors. The close proximity of river and wood, valley and hill, far from the madding crowd, makes Northfield an ideal place for gatherings that attain their best results in quiet and meditation. In this environment attendance at meetings, even during the heat of July and August, is not wearisome.

Other factors that give Northfield the confidence of the Christian world and attract the best people here for religious instruction are catholicity of teaching, based upon loyalty to the Bible as God's Word; the ability, learning and high character of the speakers; the earnestness and spirituality of the Christian fellowship; its practical character, never tending to cant or formalism, but issuing in genuine consecration and unselfish service.

In Mr. Moody's lifetime the two regular gatherings were the General Conference for Christian Workers in August, and the Student Conference in June-July. The summer program now includes a Young Women's Conference, a Women's Home Missionary Conference, a Summer School for Sunday School Workers, a Summer School for Women's Foreign Missionary Societies, all in July, more or less concurrent in dates; while Post Con-



THE AUDITORIUM.

ference addresses and Bible lectures extend the season into September. Camp Northfield also offers distinctive attractions during July and August.

GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS.

This conference begins on the Friday before the first Sunday in August, and closes on the third Sunday. It is the most distinctive as well as the largest of all.

It was Mr. Moody's custom to invite neighbors and visitors on Sunday and certain week nights to Bible readings in his home, just as he had previously done in his Chicago home. The attendance often crowded the house, and chairs were required on the porches. As soon as the Seminary buildings began to rise he decided to get a second dividend by using them during vacation to house conference visitors. Indeed, before East Hall was finished he used it for the parent conference during the first ten days

of September, 1880. About 300 attended that conference, including a delegation from Great Britain and individuals from other lands. Some camped out in tents, others sought accommodations in the village homes. Unused garrets were called into requisition. The dawn of a new era had arrived for the town!

The great meetings in the Auditorium are the most prominent features of these conferences, being usually held forenoon, afternoon and evening. Less formal, but not less profitable, gatherings are held on Round Top in the afternoons and at sundown, or in Sage Chapel. Distinguished preachers, Bible teachers and Christian workers from all lands afford a wide variety of interest to the daily programs.

The attendance now averages 2500 daily. W. R. Moody has issued the call and presided at the platform meetings since his father's death.

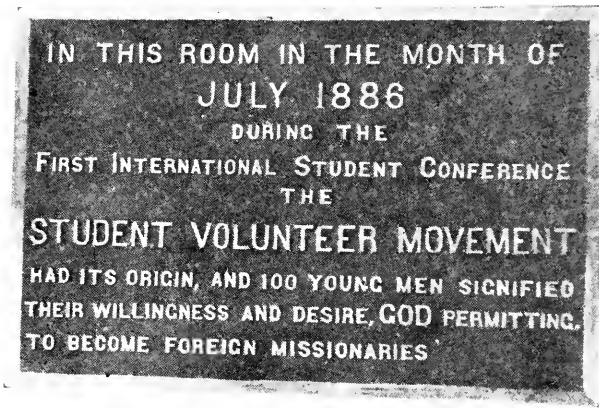
STUDENT CONFERENCES FOR MEN.

Richard C. Morse, C. K. Ober and Luther D. Wishard, three leaders in the work of the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations, were in Northfield for study and retirement during the summer of 1885, when Mr. Moody drove them over to Mount Hermon, showed them the school buildings, then new, and suggested these as a convenient place for a Young Men's Christian Association conference every year. The suggestion took final shape in plans for a conference of college students which Mr. Wishard worked out during the ensuing winter. Beginning on July 7, 1886, the conference was held, lasting twenty-six days, with 251 delegates representing eighty-nine institutions in the United States and Canada.

Since 1887 the conference has met in Northfield, where the facilities and accommodations are better than at Mount Hermon. It is timed to convene at the close of the collegiate year in June, and lasts

ten days. Mornings are devoted to Bible and mission study classes, culminating in a platform meeting in the Auditorium; afternoons to recreation; evenings to meetings on Round Top at sunset and later in the Auditorium.

These gatherings have given birth to twin movements among college men and women, whose influences in the cause of Christ are continually increasing. On one hand, the conference idea has spread through this and other lands under the leadership of John R. Mott, who has presided at



STUDENT VOLUNTEER TABLET, RECITATION HALL,
MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL.

the Northfield Student Conference since Mr. Moody died, giving new impulse and direction to Christian work among college students and leading to the formation of the **World's Student Christian Federation**. On the other hand, we have the **Student Volunteer Movement**, which had its genesis at the first convention in 1886, when the enthusiasm for foreign missions culminated before it closed in a hundred men signifying that they were willing and desirous (God permitting) to become foreign missionaries—one of the greatest missionary revivals in history! In 1888 this movement was organized independently, but its representatives are at Northfield



D. L. MOODY ADDRESSING THE CAMPERS.

during the Student Conference and promote the missionary interests.

The attendance of delegates the past few years has reached as high as 922, representing 138 institutions. The success of the conference idea has led the International Committee to start conferences at other convenient points so as to cover the college field more thoroughly.

CAMP NORTHFIELD.

Not satisfied with all the other streams he had set in motion, Mr. Moody projected this camp amidst the pines on the slopes of Strowbridge Hill, where young men from the cities might come for a week or two in the summer and get outdoor life at moderate expense. It was opened on July 9, 1895.

The season now runs through July and August, with total attendance of about 700. The campers take in all the meetings they wish, and spend the rest of the time in tramps among the woods, in games or whatever their fancy pleases.

UP MAIN STREET

THE easiest way to locate the historic associations referred to in preceding chapters as well as existing objects of interest is to take a trip up Main Street with eyes open.

Let us begin at the lower (or south) end, where River Street bends off to the west. But before facing northward let us look around.

Miller's Brook, the southern limit of the original settlement and formerly the scene of many milling activities, is just below us in the ravine. Beyond lie **Three Meadows** on the river bank, with **Beers' Plain** running back to the hills on the left. **Mount Hermon School** buildings stand out clearly visible on the hillside two miles as the crow flies to the southwest—at night the lights give a very pretty effect across the valley. **Bennett's Meadow** is across the river to the right, rising to **Bennett's Hill**, formerly the site of the Indian village of Natanis. All around us the place is also full of Indian history and legend. Along the high ground where we stand the wigwams of Quanatock once clustered.

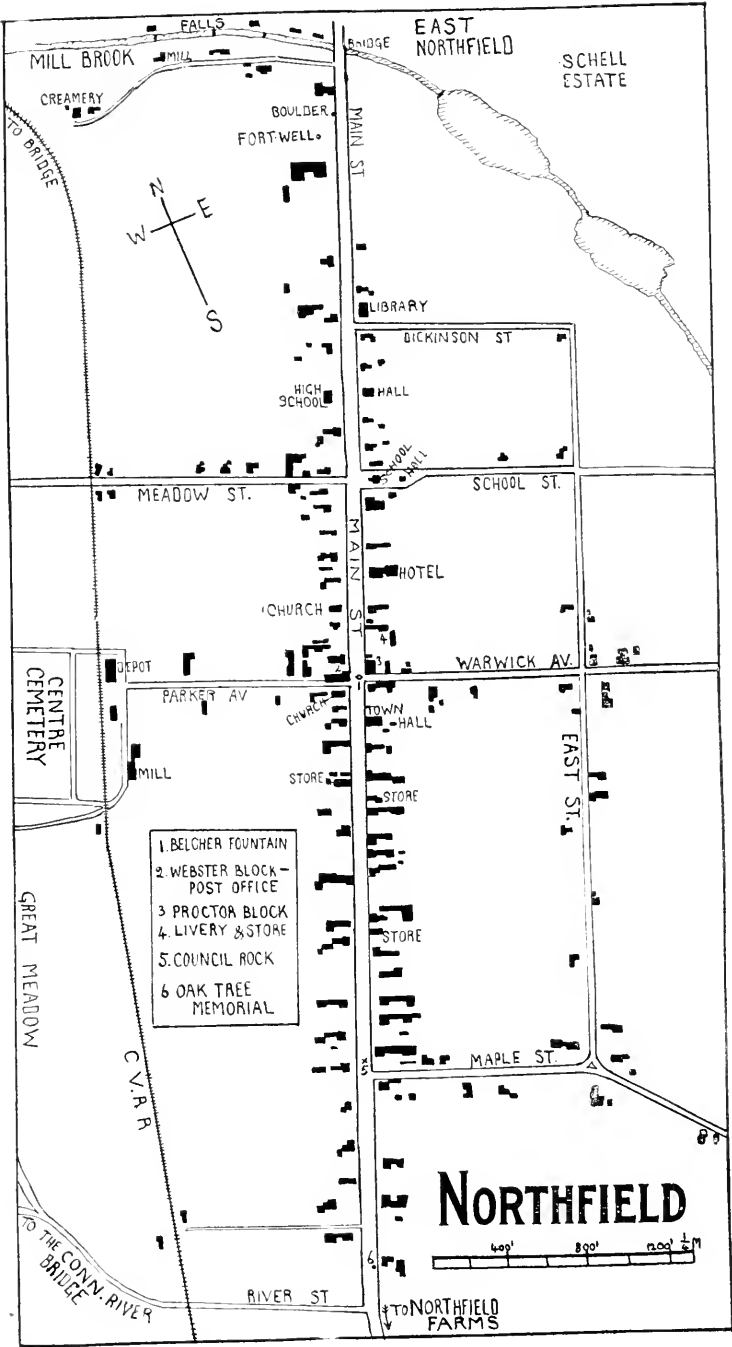
The highway runs south to Northfield Farms and Millers Falls.

River Street leads under the Central Vermont tracks, across **Great Meadow**, and over **Bennett's Meadow Bridge** to Mount Hermon, Bernardston, Gill, Turners Falls and Greenfield.

On the right, as we begin to move north, stands a large **granite boulder** whose inscription takes us back 237 years:

“Here under a large oak, standing until 1869, the first public religious services in this town were held in 1673.”

The ancient oak in question was burnt as a result of Fourth of July pranks.



FALLS BRIDGE EAST NORTHFIELD SCHELL ESTATE

MILL BROOK MILL CREAMERY BOULDER FORT WELL



MAIN ST

LIBRARY

BICKINSON ST

HALL

HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL HALL

MEADOW ST.

SCHOOL ST.

MAIN ST

HOTEL

CHURCH

WARWICK AV.

CENTRE CEMETERY

DEPOT

PARKER AV

CHURCH

TOWN HALL

MILL

STORE

STORE

- 1 BELCHER FOUNTAIN
- 2 WEBSTER BLOCK - POST OFFICE
- 3 PROCTOR BLOCK
- 4 LIVERY & STORE
- 5. COUNCIL ROCK
- 6 OAK TREE MEMORIAL

STORE

STORE

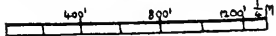
GREAT MEADOW

C.V.A.R.

MAPLE ST.

MAIN ST

NORTHFIELD



TO THE CONN. RIVER BRIDGE

RIVER ST

TO NORTHFIELD FARMS



A GLIMPSE OF MAIN STREET.

Reaching the top of the rise we see the splendid stretch of **Main Street**, macadamized as far as Mill Brook with the coöperation of the State Highway Commission in 1902—a distance of 6109 feet, costing about \$10,000. The four rows of maples and elms afford continuous shade nearly all the way, and constitute a broad avenue seldom equaled for such a length. The oldest of them are a useful standing monument to the memory of Thomas Power of Boston, who practiced law in Northfield in 1812-15, and interested himself in setting out these trees.

Main Street is about two miles long to its upper end in East Northfield. This southerly end is ten rods (165 feet) wide, and about coincides with the highway that constituted the original settlement, and affords a splendid specimen of the New England

BEAUTIFUL NORTHFIELD

A SUMMER HOME NOW

A PERMANENT HOME LATER

¶ FARMS, houses, apartments, summer cottages in Northfield and surrounding villages for sale and rent. Several good business opportunities. Send for bulletin containing descriptions.

¶ Exclusive sale of lots in MOUNTAIN PARK and NORTHFIELD HIGHLANDS. Cottages built on these fine lots overlooking the mountains, the river and the Seminary buildings. Prices reasonable, and absolute deeds given.

¶ Special representative Rustic Ridge Association. RUSTIC RIDGE cottages, like the bungalows in Mountain Park and on Northfield Highlands, have broad verandas, are comfortably furnished, and have purest mountain spring water in kitchen and bath room. Some are entirely surrounded by pines, and some have a fine outlook on the mountains. Rent from \$60 to \$250 for the season.

ELLIOTT W. BROWN

TELEPHONES 4-5 and 37-3

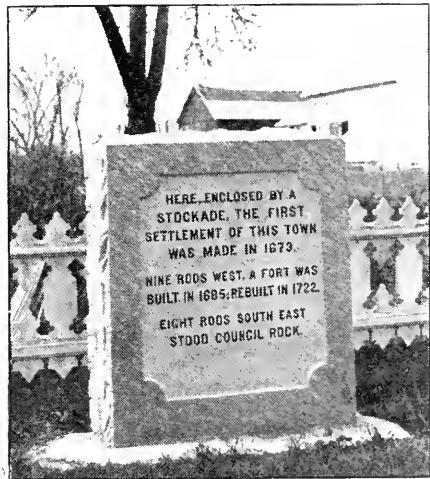
PROCTOR BLOCK : : NORTHFIELD, MASS.

village type. Here the home lots were laid out in generous slices, and the settlers lived. Changes have come so fast of recent years that it would be hard to disentangle the ancient landmarks, while even the names of the earlier holders would be known only to the older residents. Many of the lot lines might perhaps be traced by the help of deeds, but the original lots have been divided and subdivided, and the ownership has changed many times.

Among the residences that line the street on either side, well separated from each other, set back beyond their lawns and with few fences to deprive the passerby of the sight of the green-sward and shrubs and flowers, we shall observe the square, substantial buildings of colonial days, also some pillared porticoes that recall a striking style of classic architecture now gone by. Every old house has an interesting story. The Janes house on the left was built by Deacon Ebenezer Janes at the close of the last French War (about 1760). The land in the vicinity has been in the family since the first grants.

Soon we notice on the left a **granite monument** with this inscription of triple interest:

"Here, enclosed by a stockade, the first settlement of the town was made in 1673. Nine rods west a fort was built in 1685, rebuilt in 1722. Eight rods south east stood Council Rock."



STOCKADE MEMORIAL, MAIN STREET.

Council Rock was a huge lump of pudding stone that cropped out in the middle of the street, three feet above the general level of the ground, thirty

JUST AROUND THE CORNER IN WEBSTER BLOCK

You will find a complete line of Men's Suits and Furnishings; the "Douglas" and "American Gentleman" Shoes for Men; the "Queen Quality," "Boston Favorite" and "American Lady" Shoes for Women. Guaranteed Hose for Men, Ladies and Children. The very best goods at reasonable prices. No trouble to show goods. Money back if not suited.

CHARLES C. STEARNS

CEMENT BLOCK GARAGE

Livery Work, Storage, Supplies and Repairs at reasonable prices. Baseball and Tennis Goods, Bicycles and Supplies, Fishing Tackle. Pocket Electric Lights and Batteries. Lock and Gunsmith Work. Lawn Mowers, Lawn Mower Grinding and Repairing of all kinds. : : : : : :

TELEPHONE 4-2

N. W. KEET, Northfield, Massachusetts

feet long and twenty feet wide, with a flat top. "Here the old men used to gather on summer evenings to hear the news, discuss politics and tell stories; and the boys were on hand to listen or play." The traveled way formerly ran on the east side of the rock, which was blasted away in 1821, and still more when the state road was built: but the bare rock ledge is still visible in the highway.

Maple Street, formerly known as the south road to Warwick, turns east at this point. It was laid out ten rods wide in 1728, like all the other highways, but about 1797 six rods in width on the north side were disposed of by the town.

The **Town Hall** is soon at our right, a typical building, which serves the town not only for town meetings but also for public meetings for any purpose, lectures, concerts, fairs, and what not.

To the left is the **Unitarian Church**, of which a description will be found on page 147.

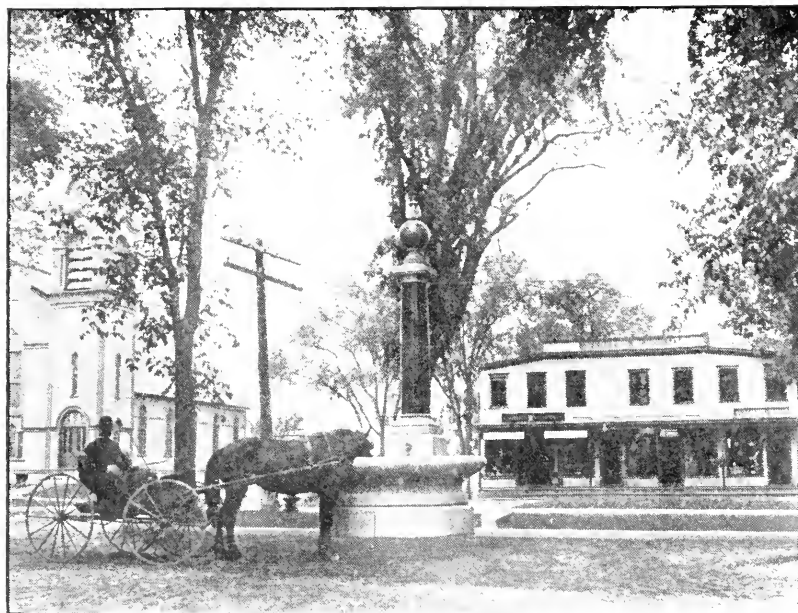
We are now at cross-roads which mark the commercial centre of the town. **Webster Block** and **Proctor Block** on opposite corners furnish homes for the Northfield post office, telephone exchange, *Northfield Press* and several stores, while other stores are within a short distance in each direction.

Parker Avenue leads west to the Northfield station of the Central Vermont Railroad, the centre cemetery and Great Meadow. The road to the cemetery was laid out two rods wide in 1685.

The road that runs east is **Warwick Avenue**. It was laid out in 1799, when a corporation by the name of the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation was established by the legislature, consisting of a few citizens of each of the townships traversed, "for the purpose of laying out and making a turnpike road from Northfield through Warwick, Orange, Athol, Gerry, Templeton, Gardner, Westminster and Leominster; also from Greenfield through Montague and up Millers River to intersect the aforesaid road at Athol. Said road to be four



DEDICATORY EXERCISES, BELCHER MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN, SEPTEMBER 11, 1900. REV. DANIEL M. WILSON SPEAKING.



UNITARIAN CHURCH, BELCHER MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN AND WEBSTER BLOCK.

rods (sixty-six feet) wide, and the traveled path to be eighteen feet wide; with authority to erect five turnpike gates for collecting toll," one each at Warwick, Athol, beyond Gardner, and at Leominster, and one between Greenfield and Athol. Previous to this the stage route had been from the schoolhouse corner at Main and School Streets through Warwick, Orange, Athol, Petersham, Barre, Holden, Worcester and Shrewsbury. The old sign gave these distances by the old stage: Warwick, six miles; Worcester, fifty miles; Boston, eighty-three miles.

The **Belcher Memorial Fountain** which graces the highway here was erected in 1909 under the bequest of the Misses Mary A. and Eliza Belcher. These ladies were the last local representatives of a family whose ancestor came to Northfield before 1775. Their public spirit and generosity were also witnessed by bequests to the Unitarian Church, the public and high schools, the centre cemetery, the Village Improvement Society, and the Franklin County Hospital. The fountain is over sixteen feet tall, and weighs 55,000 pounds. The chief basin is nine feet across, with a drinking fountain, and two lower receptacles for water for dogs. The entire structure above the foundation is of the best Quincy granite. It is surmounted by a gaslight. The fountain was dedicated and unveiled with appropriate public ceremonies on September 14, 1909.

The **Roman Catholic Church** is presently passed on the left, and **Perham's Inn** on the right.

At the next cross-roads notice the **Centre School** located in the middle of **School Street** (to the right), with **Masonic Hall** further east. This highway was originally staked out ten rods wide like the rest, so that there was plenty of room for the first schoolhouse that was erected on this site in 1764, twenty-one by twenty feet, with seven-foot studs. That building stood until 1798, when a new structure was erected, in which the Masonic Order occupied the

CROCKER INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

TURNERS FALLS, MASS.

J. F. BARTLETT, President

J. A. GUNN, Vice-President

N. P. FARWELL, Treasurer

Deposits received daily and placed on interest quarterly, the first of January, April, July and October.

Northfield Press

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second floor. In 1880 enlarging needs resulted in this building being given over to the Masons and moved a little to the east, while a new schoolhouse was erected on the original site. The school system of the town is described later.

The large building at the southwest corner, now a tenement, is one of the oldest houses on the street. School Street was formerly the north road to Warwick and the east. As early as 1789 a stage ran from Boston over this road, and in 1790 the route was extended north to Brattleboro, Marlboro and Bennington, Vermont. Captain Samuel Hunt kept a noted tavern here as early as 1765, which was continued by Captain Elisha Hunt as late as 1802, when the new turnpike we passed down the street had diverted the traffic from this road. Captain Hunt erected the present building about 1798, at first two stories, but later three, to keep even with Lawyer Barrett further up street. On June 11, 1829, the "Proprietors of the Northfield Academy of Useful Knowledge, in the town of Northfield," were incorporated, including in their number Samuel C. Allen, William Pomeroy, Jabez Parsons, Daniel L. Callender, Timothy Dutton and Thomas L. Doak. The trustees purchased Hunt's Hotel, refitted it, added piazzas and other conveniences, and opened school in October of that year with Owen S. Keith as principal and Charles Osgood, assistant. It was held by this corporation until the franchise was sold to Phineas Allen in 1835-36. Mr. Allen continued the school until 1843, when the premises were occupied as a temperance hotel for a time. Another select school was also conducted in this building later, and was attended by some of the older residents still living.

The road to the left is **Meadow Street**. It is one of the original highways laid out to connect Main Street with Great Meadow. The drive by team across the river can be varied by taking this road through the Meadow, instead of Main Street.



MAIN STREET AT DICKINSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

The brick house soon reached on the left is town property, having been bequeathed by Mrs. Adaline M. Dutton Alexander. This lady was a life-long resident of Northfield, a descendant of Timothy Dutton, who came to Northfield in 1796 and whose name figures honorably ever since in town and church affairs. Her husband, Elisha Alexander, was also descended in a direct line from one who settled here in 1673. Her local pride and public spirit moved her in 1897 to contribute to the erection of the memorial stones that mark the sites of the early settlements, forts, and certain historic events, under the auspices of the Village Improvement Society. On her death without heirs the town was further benefited by the gift of this home lot and money for a memorial hall. The property to the north was bought by the town in 1909 to serve as site for a combined **high school and memorial hall and public park**. Few high schools are so generously provided for as this, with the spacious grounds in front and an athletic field in the rear—over eight acres in all. The building cost \$20,000, two stories and basement.

Across the street will be noted the location of the old Congregational Church. This handsome

and typical building was erected in 1829, vacated in 1889 when the new and larger church was erected up street, sold to the Sons of Veterans in 1898, and burned to the ground on January 12, 1910. The new building contains a banquet hall on the first floor and a larger hall for meetings on the second floor.

Dickinson Memorial Library is just beyond, on the right. Its story is told on a bronze memorial tablet within:

"Nathaniel Dickinson built a house in 1728 near this spot, which was soon changed into a fort for protection against the Indians. He lived here nineteen years, and was killed and scalped by the Indians April 15, 1747, aged 48. A monument at Pochaug (Pauchaug) Hill marks the spot where he fell. Benoni Dickinson, his son, was born here, where he lived fifty years. He was a soldier of the Revolution, and died in 1839, aged 92. Captain Job M. Dickinson, his son, was born here. He was justice of the peace and selectman many years, and state representative in 1835. He died in 1870, aged 87. Elijah M. Dickinson, his son, of Fitchburg, was born in West Northfield, August 1, 1816. He erected this building in memory of the above, and presented it to the town for a public library."

A free public library had existed in town since 1878, succeeding a social library which was organized by Thomas Power on February 18, 1813; but it had no home of its own until Mr. Dickinson provided for this handsome granite edifice in 1897. The deed, dated April 1, 1898, conveying the land and building to the town, says: "It is my wish that said land and building shall be used forever for a free public library, reading and antiquarian rooms, and for educational and scientific uses, but for no other purpose." It is therefore more than a library and reading room, since its second floor contains a spacious hall suitable for use by literary and musical



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societies; also smaller rooms for museum purposes. Relics and articles of historic interest have been loaned by citizens and are on view here, although some of the most precious Northfield antiquarian relics were deposited in the Memorial Hall at Deerfield before this library was erected. It is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, afternoon and evening.

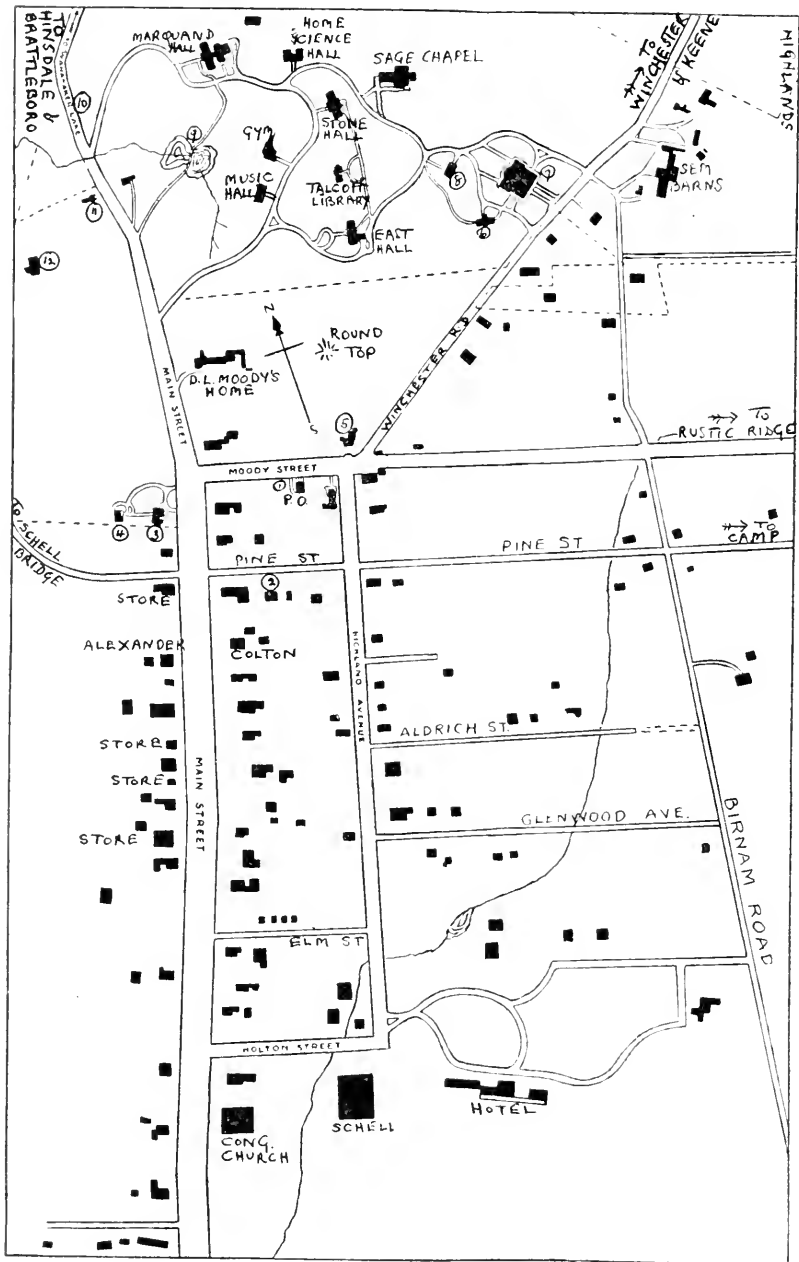
The story of "The Maples," the large three-story house on the left, a little north, reveals the humanness of those whom time is apt to gird with a supernatural halo of reverence. It was built two stories high about 1795 by Lawyer John Barrett, a leading citizen. Shortly afterwards Captain Hunt built the hotel on the corner of School Street, which folks regarded as a better house than Barrett's. This touched the lawyer's pride, so he added a third story to his home, only to provoke his rival to add a third story also.

The premises are now the property of Dr. George F. Pentecost, who discovered and cleaned the well on the north lawn, which proved to be the well of the fort regarding which the **memorial boulder** at the lot corner says:

"On this lot a fort was built
in 1686, rebuilt in 1722."

The magnificent stone mansion set conspicuously upon the rise to the right, and surrounded by an extensive estate with artificial lakes and landscape gardening effects, is **Birnam House**, the summer residence of Francis R. Schell of New York, who came to Northfield in the nineties, and becoming enamored of the lovely view in all directions of hill and valley, forest and river, bought land and built this mansion.

Mill Brook is just ahead, and we find ourselves once more on ground historic in its Indian and pioneer associations, as told at length in previous chapters.



EAST NORTHFIELD.

Scale

1/4 Mile.

1, Post Office; 2, School; 3, Revell Hall; 4, Holton Hall; 5, D. L. Moody's Birthplace; 6, Betsey Moody Cottage; 7, Auditorium; 8, Weston Hall; 9, Perry Pond; 10, Chaug Hill; 11, Bonar Hall; 12, Laundry.

Glen Street, to the left, south of the brook, leads to Reed's sawmill and Northfield Creamery. Formerly this connected with a roadway across the Connecticut, under the tracks of the railroad bridge. **Meko Falls**, on Mill Brook, are picturesque.

Mill Street, to the left across the bridge, leads to the old gristmill.

We are now in **East Northfield**—"New Northfield" it might almost be called, since in this section we find grouped the activities started by D. L. Moody in 1879, which have turned wasted cow pastures into desirable building sites, sent real estate soaring in value, led to the erection of scores of private homes and school buildings, the making of new roads, and the other improvements of a growing community.

The **Congregational Church** is in full view as we cross the bridge, with its Parish House on the north lawn (see further, page 148). Notice the square about 24 x 16 inches, cut in the face of **Belding Rock**, on the roadside, with this inscription:

"Here July 23, 1748, Aaron Belding was killed and scalped by the Indians."

Read of the tragedy this tells, on page 46.

Holton Street, on the right, leads to Highland Avenue, which parallels Main Street north to Moody Street.

Proceeding north over the rise in the road, we come to a couple of old and historic houses. The **Alexander homestead** on the left, built in 1776, has been owned and occupied continuously by four generations of a family which traces its descent back to one of the original settlers of Northfield and has always been prominent in local affairs. Across the street, on the right, is the **Colton house**. Some years ago when this was being made over, it was discovered that the wood house was brick lined. The first house in this immediate vicinity was built here

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REVELL HALL, MAIN STREET.

by Deacon Ebenezer Alexander in 1733—a period when a projecting upper story with port-holes was still necessary in such an outlying house for protection against Indians. In the Old French War the house was transformed into a fort, and a mount erected. The fort well is still in use in the yard on the south.

Pine Street crosses Main Street just beyond. To the west it leads across **Schell Bridge** to West Northfield and South Vernon, so that visitors coming by rail from the south, west, and north approach Main Street by this street. To the right it leads past the East Northfield graded district school, across Highland Avenue, and up to Camp Northfield on the hillside.

The brick building just north, on the left, is **Revell Hall**, with **Holton Hall** to the west. These mark the beginning of Northfield Seminary prop-

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erty. A description of the Seminary buildings occurs in another chapter, but here we note that this locality has a history. Rev. Benjamin Doolittle was given ten acres of pasture land here as a town grant in 1718 on his settlement as local minister, to which he added six and a half acres by purchase in 1726. His son Lucius kept a noted stage tavern here for many years, until the opening of the turnpike (now Warwick Avenue) down street, with its toll gates, led travel from Southern Vermont to Boston to use a more northerly route. The swinging tavern sign is still preserved in Deerfield museum. It is painted and inscribed on both sides alike: a rabbit, with a tall elm on either side of it, the words "Doolittle's Tavern" clearly cut below, and the date "1784" at the top.

The river view opens on our vision at this point—a view of surpassing, quiet beauty. Standing by **Sentinel Tree** one can drink in a scene that combines woods and water, hills and valley in a harmonious whole that is almost unequaled anywhere else—a rare New England landscape. The smoke of trains rising above the trees across the Connecticut to the northwest locates the **West Northfield junction** of the Boston & Maine and Central Vermont railroads. The state line runs east and west through the station yard, with Vernon township to the north on the Vermont side, and Hinsdale on the New Hampshire side. The foreground of the picture is Seminary property, with the laundry among the trees, and **Pauchaug Meadow** beyond. The **railroad bridge** adds a not displeasing touch to the scene, and reminds of man's triumphs over natural difficulties in the new civilization that has possession of these fertile acres, once held by the Indians. The bridge is used by the Ashuelot branch of the Boston & Maine Railroad between West Northfield and Keene, N. H. Beyond, on the valley's horizon, **Mount Wantastiquet** rises to a height of 1364 feet, with Brattleboro at its western base.



HOME OF D. L. MOODY, MAIN STREET.



Left row, beginning at top: Stone Hall, Holton Hall, Betsey Moody Cottage, Reveil Hall. Centre row: Moore Hall, Marquand Hall, East Hall. Right row: Talcott Library, Skinner Gymnasium, Weston Hall, Hillside Cottage.

The road that runs east is the highway to Winchester, N. H. We will return to this presently.

The second house beyond, on the right, fronted by a spacious lawn and shaded by maples, was **D. L. Moody's home** from 1875 until his death here on December 22, 1899. On the death of Mrs. Moody (October 10, 1903), also in this house, the premises passed to their younger son, Paul Dwight, the present owner. **Round Top**, the well-known knoll where Mr. and Mrs. Moody were interred, is in this property, directly east of the house—approached better from Winchester Road.

The **Seminary buildings and campus** come into full view beyond Mr. Moody's. The grounds are open to the public, who are also welcome to inspect the buildings at any season of the year.

Main Street continues on past **Bonar Cottage** (on the left) to **Pauchaug Hill**, where the granite shaft on the right, commonly called the **Dickinson monument**, commemorates the tragedy told on page 46. On one face we read:

"Nathaniel Dickinson was killed and scalped by the Indians at this place April 15, 1747, aged 48."

On the other:

"Asahel, son of Joseph Burt, companion of Dickinson and sharer of his fate, aged about 40."

At the foot of "Chaug Hill," as it is often called for short, we pass the entrance to **Bonar Glen**, a shady ravine named in honor of Rev. Andrew Bonar, D. D., of Scotland, who took a leading part in the convention of 1881. The Seminary formerly derived its water supply from the brook in this glen, but it is now used only as a reserve supply when needed.

A stone's throw further **Wanamaker Lake** nestles under high bluffs, with **Minnehaha Falls** setting off the picture at the eastern end. This is **Pauchaug Brook**.

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The road to the right leads around "**the Long Square**" (so called), passing the summer residences of Dr. D. J. Fuller, Rev. A. T. Pierson, D. L. Pierson, Dr. Clyde E. Barton and others, as well as several fine farms, until it joins Winchester Road a short distance south of Lovers' Retreat. A new road which cuts east at Dr. Pierson's makes a shorter "Square."

The main highway divides at the top of the rise beyond Wanamaker Lake. The right fork crosses **Pauchaug Plain**, with its comfortable homesteads, and leads straight up the mountain and over to Ashuelot, N. H. The left fork is the main road for automobiling and driving to Hinsdale (seven miles) and Brattleboro (thirteen miles). It keeps along by the river, passing **Pauchaug Meadow** on the left, over the state line, where it is soon to be improved by the state of New Hampshire as the easterly state trunk road to the White Mountains. It crosses the Ashuelot branch of the Boston & Maine Railroad at **Doolittle's Crossing**.

Retracing our steps to Revell Hall corner, we turn up **Moody Street**. This leads to the **Bookstore Building** (property of the Mount Hermon School), in which are located the East Northfield post-office, Western Union telegraph office, the *Record of Christian Work* office, as also the Seminary bookstore and the offices of W. R. Moody, A. G. Moody, and other school officials.

On the north side of the street is **D. L. Moody's Birthplace**. Here, in humble circumstances, Dwight Lyman Ryther Moody was born on February 5, 1837, the sixth child of Edwin and Betsey Holton Moody. Here he lived until he struck out in the world in 1854. Hither he returned from time to time to visit his mother, and in 1875 bought the adjacent homestead in order to be near her. Here he built the sun parlor on the west side for her comfort, with its commanding view of the river and the western hills. Here "Grandma Moody," as she was

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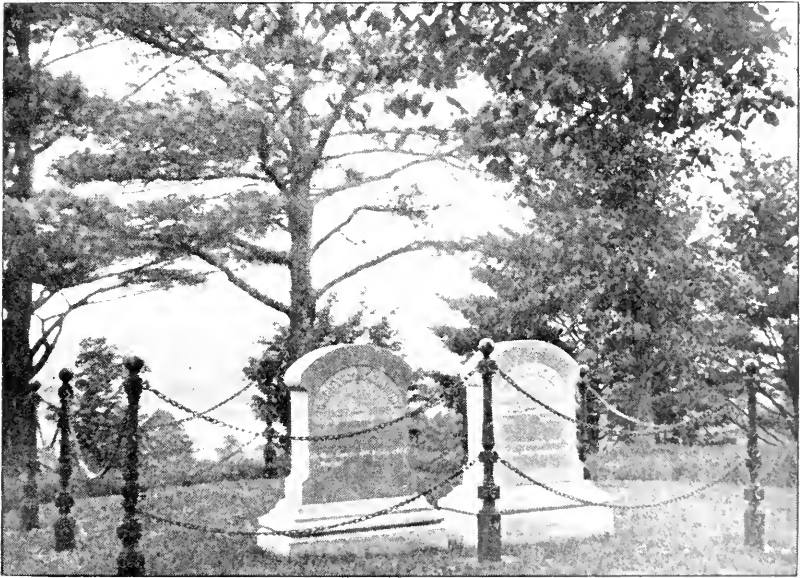
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The road that leads north at this corner, called **Winchester Road**, continues past the Seminary campus and farm buildings. The graves of **Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Moody on Round Top** can be seen at the left. The hillsides at the right have been divided into lots of recent years, and are now dotted with upwards of a hundred rustic summer cottages, the tracts being called **Rustic Ridge** (controlled by the Seminary) and **Mountain Park**. Further on, as the highway skirts the base of Notch Mountain, are the summer residences of Col. J. J. Janeway of New Brunswick, N. J.; Rev. H. W. Mabie, D. D., of Boston; Rev. James A. O'Connor of New York, and Quinneh Tuk Camp and others. The East Northfield Water Company's reservoir is on the hill behind Dr. Mabie's. A new road from the left gives a short-cut to Dr. A. T. Pierson's, and a quarter mile beyond the shaft that marks the state line the Winchester Road is joined by the old cross-road from Wanamaker Lake; and just beyond is the entrance to **Lovers' Retreat** and **Pauchaug Brook**. Turn up Lovers' Retreat to get to Winchester, N. H.—a hilly but picturesque road.

Coming back again to D. L. Moody's birthplace, Moody Street continues east to Rustic Ridge and Stowbridge Hill.

The road south from the same corner is **Highland Avenue**. It was laid out in 1889, after the hotel was built, so that the trees and houses in this section are of recent date. It is crossed or joined successively by **Pine Street**, **Aldrich Street** and **Glenwood Avenue** before we reach **The Northfield** hotel and Francis R. Schell's estate. Holton Street runs west to connect with Main Street.

Birnam Road runs parallel to Highland Avenue, a short way up the hillside. Its northern terminus is at the Seminary barn, where it joins Winchester Road; its south end is at Warwick Avenue.

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If Northfield is beautiful in summer it is not less, though differently, beautiful at other seasons. In the spring the orchards are fragrant with blossoms, the foliage and verdure are new, and the brooks are full of water. There are a score of babbling brooks on the hillsides every spring, when the snows have melted, where summer visitors see only their dry beds. Autumn sets the woods on fire. When frost cuts off the leaves the view is more extensive. The aspect of the trees when the limbs and twigs are covered with a feathery mantle of



SLEIGHING AND SKIING IN THE WOODS.

snow is exquisitely beautiful. Nothing could exceed the exhilaration of crisp winter days when skating and sleighing are good.

Meko Falls on Mill Brook, a stone's throw west of Main Street. In spite of the dams there is a lovely bit of waterway here, where the stream tumbles down the rocky gorge to the river level.

Bonar Glen, just north of Marquand Hall.

Wanamaker Lake and **Minnehaha Falls** on the road to Hinsdale, where it is crossed by Pauchaug Brook. Follow the brook upstream for a pleasant walk.

Stowbridge Hill, up Moody Street, past Rustic Ridge. A charming woodland road leaves Birnam Road directly east of the "The Northfield" and leads to the summit of Stowbridge. The gaping cellars of houses and the neglected apple trees re-

call the time when this deserted hilltop was occupied by several well-to-do farms and orchards.

Stone Chair, on Strowbridge Hill.

Cathedral Pines, just east of Camp Northfield, up Pine Street.

Burnt Patch, on the hilltop beyond Cathedral Pines. A splendid view of the valley north and south is obtained from this open spot. The rock at the summit is full of garnets.

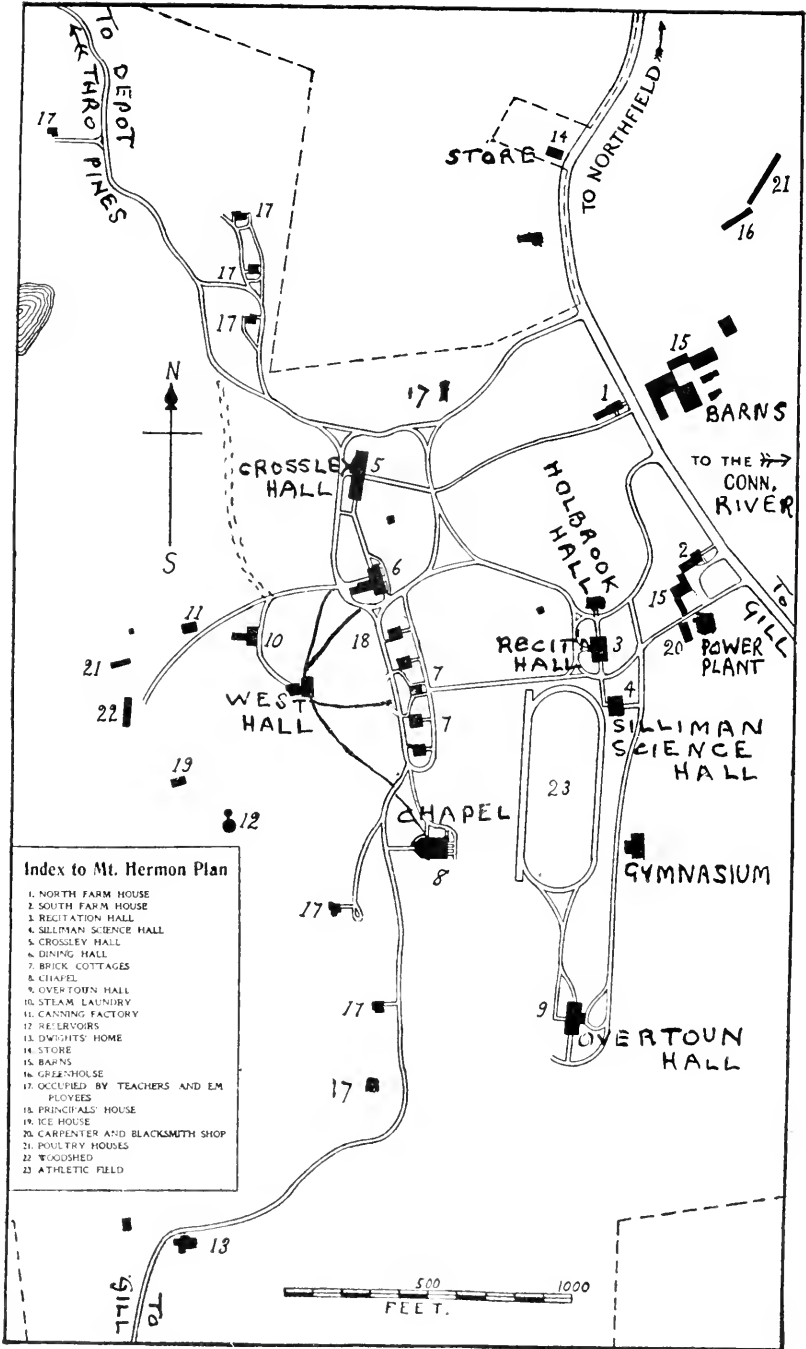
King Philip's Hill, on the west bank of the Connecticut, just across Bennett's Meadow Bridge (one and a half miles).* To get from Main Street, take Meadow Street, or Parker Avenue (past the Northfield depot of the Central Vermont Railroad, and the centre cemetery with many quaint old inscriptions), or River Street, across Great Meadow. A deep trench can still be traced on the top of the bluff at its southerly angle beyond the bridge, which is thought to have been dug as an intrenchment when King Philip camped here in February-April, 1676. The decayed stump of a large tree, once used by the Indians as a look-out and partially destroyed in 1869, is also to be seen here.

Directly to the north of the bridge (west side) the bluff affords a lovely view of the river bend, with Northfield Street behind Great Meadow. The



CATHEDRAL PINES.

*The DISTANCES are given from Belcher Fountain, on Main Street, which is at the heart of the township. From East Northfield add or subtract (as the case may be) $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles as the distance between Belcher Fountain and East Northfield post-office.



MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL GROUND PLAN.

ravine to the west of this bluff is aflame with swamp pinks in season.

To **Mount Hermon School via Bennett's Meadow Bridge.** Leave Main Street by River Street, where the school buildings are clearly visible two miles away to the southwest across the valley. River Street passes down grade under the Central Vermont tracks, across Great Meadow and Bennett's Meadow Bridge (one and a half miles), skirting the base of King Philip's Hill, with Bennett's Meadow to the left, over Bennett's Brook and up the rise of Bennett's Hill (two miles). Keeping to the left, the road forks. The **right fork** swings around past the Holton homestead, the birthplace of Betsey Holton, mother of D. L. Moody. This farm has been held by successive generations under grant from King George II. This road leads to Mount Hermon depot, but the first turn to the left is school property (two and a half miles), leading through a fine belt of pines, past St. Patrick's Pond, to the rear of the campus. The **left fork** at the top of Bennett's Hill traverses the location of the Indian village of



MOUNT HERMON PINES.

Natanis, past Mount Hermon Cemetery. School property begins on the left at J. P. Holton's homestead (two and a half miles). This is the river road to Gill and Greenfield. The school is described elsewhere, but in addition to what is there noted visitors will be repaid by an inspection of the livestock and farm, which are maintained at a high standard under the direction of the agricultural department of the school.

To **Mount Hermon School via Schell Bridge.** A little longer and less frequented route (the difference is slight from East Northfield).

Leave Main Street by Pine Street, winding down grade to the river. After crossing Schell Bridge (one and three quarter miles) and reaching the end of the road, keep square to the left down the river. The road runs under the Central Vermont tracks at the railroad bridge, later under the Boston & Maine tracks. At Nelson's sawmill (three miles) and **Pickett's Pond**, a picturesque little lake that yields water lilies, the road crosses Bennett's Brook. (The road to the right here leads to another lily pond, and to Hell's Back Kitchen.) The **right fork**, just beyond Pickett's Pond, leads past Mount Hermon station on the Boston & Maine Railroad, and the first turn to the left, then to the right, leads into school property (four and a half miles) through the pines. The **left fork** at Pickett's Pond joins the highway across Bennett's Meadow Bridge at the top of Bennett's Hill (three and three quarters miles—see above).

To **Mount Hermon via Munn's Ferry.** This route is about three miles longer than the direct route, but it gives a full view of the school buildings and campus, while an old-fashioned wire ferry is something of a curiosity.

Keep south on Main Street, over Miller's Brook, crossing and recrossing the Central Vermont tracks, over Beers' Plain. The first turn to the right (three

and one quarter miles) leads to Munn's Ferry, whose sign is usually hung at the corner if the ferry is running. West of the river the first turn to the right (four and a half miles) leads into Mount Hermon grounds (five and a half miles). To the left this highway leads to Gill (six miles) and to Greenfield (thirteen miles).

An alternate road leads past Beers' Memorial (see below), and joins the main highway running south before the ferry road is reached.

The return drive by Bennett's Meadow Bridge makes a round trip of about eight miles.

Beers' Massacre Memorial. A granite shaft with this inscription:

"On this plain Captain Richard Beers and his men were surprised by Indians September 4, 1675."

will be found (one and a half miles) by taking Maple Street, then the first turn to the right. The full story of the massacre is told in an earlier chapter. This plain is full of arrow heads and other Indian remains, the wilderness having formerly been a fertile tract occupied by the aborigines.



BEERS' MASSACRE MEMORIAL,
BEERS' PLAIN.

River Drive and French King. Follow "To Mount Hermon via Munn's Ferry" as directed above (either road), past the turn to the ferry (three and

one quarter miles) to Northfield Farms depot (five and a half miles), where our road keeps to the Connecticut. **French King** is the stretch of river that now comes into view (six and a half to seven miles), the narrowing of the channel forming dangerous rapids; or perhaps it is the name of the large rock in the middle of the river at the top of the rapids—no one seems to know definitely the origin or meaning of the name. The rock practically marks the junction of the townships of Northfield, Erving (to the south) and Gill (to the west).

From here down to the junction of Miller's River with the Connecticut at seven and a half miles the race of water through the gorge makes a very pretty river view, with the roadway at the water's edge. Further on still the river forms the "Horse Race" and "Narrows" before reaching still water at Turners Falls dam.

The Indian name of Miller's River was Pequoiaq.

To Millers Falls. Take the "River Drive" (see above) to Northfield Farms depot (five and one half miles), but there take the left fork, straight into Millers Falls (eight and one half miles). This town is the junction point of the Central Vermont Railroad and the Fitchburg division of the Boston & Maine Railroad. In the old days of stage coaches it was called Grout's Corner, the hotel kept by Martin Grout being a stopping place on the route from Boston to Albany. The erection of a shop in 1869 by what is now the Millers Falls Company promoted its recent development. The manufacture of mechanical tools and implements, and household hardware, is one of the leading industries in the county. Millers Falls is in Montague township.

Autoists will find this the more level route to Boston and eastern cities.

To Hermit Rock and Erving. Take the route "To Millers Falls" (eight and one half miles) and turn to

the left before crossing Miller's River. The road skirts along this rocky stream, with the Boston & Maine tracks on the south side and forest-clad hills rising abruptly on either hand.

Farley is passed at eleven miles. This village grew up around the plant which was started here in 1883 by J. B. and D. E. Farley, and which now includes a paper and pulp mill and knitting works.

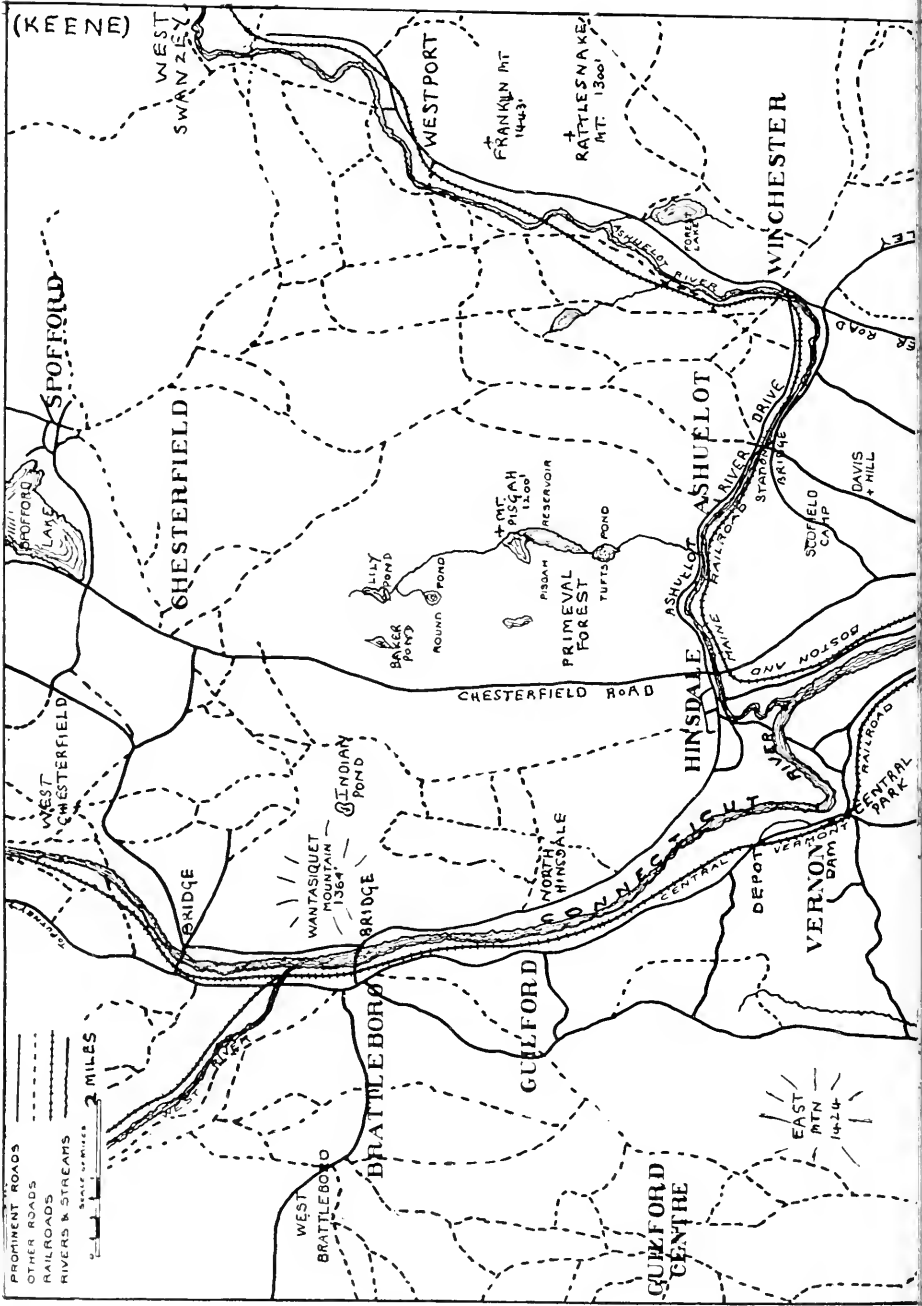
Hermit Rock is three fourths of a mile further east, so called because a hermit had a cottage on the mountain side here. The granite rock formation in this vicinity makes a rugged landscape.

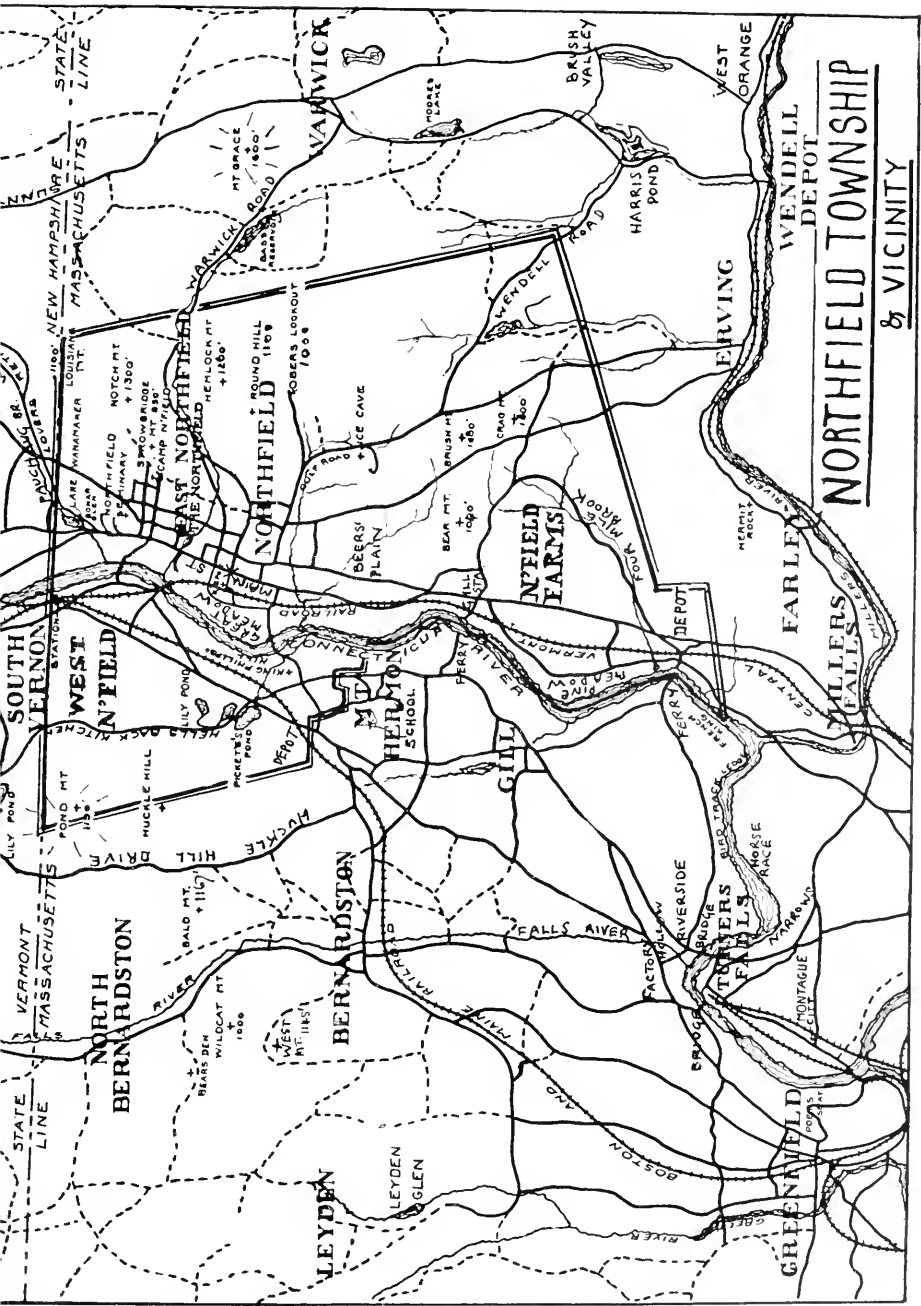
Erving is at fourteen miles. The original name was Erving's Grant, after John Erving, a Boston merchant who purchased several parcels of land in the vicinity of the present town in 1750-54. The shorter name was adopted when the town was incorporated in 1838. Several factories are located here.

The return to Northfield can be made by an almost straight road among the hills, rising in places to an altitude of 1200 feet, past Crag and Brush Mountains—eight miles to Belcher Fountain. Round trip, twenty-one to twenty-two miles.

To Greenfield, Mass., via Bennett's Meadow Bridge. See above, "To Mount Hermon via Bennett's Meadow Bridge." The **right fork** (two miles) at the top of Bennett's Hill leads, beyond the turn into Mount Hermon grounds, to a square turn to the left at the end of the road. Follow the main highway into Bernardston (six miles).

Bernardston was originally called Falls' Town, and owes its settlement to the grant in 1734 of six square miles to the participants (or their descendants) in the fight between colonists and Indians at falls on the Connecticut River at Turners Falls in 1676. The name was changed in honor of Governor Bernard when the town was incorporated in 1762.





NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP

& VICINITY



MUNN'S FERRY.

Turn square left at the hotel in Bernardston. This gives a trifle longer route to Greenfield (thirteen miles), but a more level and a better road.

The **left fork** at Bennett's Hill gives a front view of Mount Hermon campus and buildings. At four miles a road runs directly east to Munn's Ferry. **Gill Centre** is reached at five and one half miles, named for Moses Gill, who was lieutenant governor when the township was set off from Greenfield and incorporated in 1793.

Factory Hollow and **Falls River** are at eight and one half miles, beyond which a road from Bernardston joins the highway on the right (nine miles). The road on the left leads to Turners Falls. So by state road into Greenfield (twelve miles).

Greenfield dates back to 1686, when the first settlers in that part of Deerfield township, which afterward developed into Greenfield, were given grants of twenty acres each along Green River. The town

was incorporated in 1753. It is now the county seat of Franklin County, an important junction on the Fitchburg and Connecticut & Passumpsic divisions of the Boston & Maine Railroad, the seat of several factories, etc. The Indian name of Green River was Picomegan—the boring river.

Greenfield can also be reached **via Schell Bridge and Bernardston or Gill**, or **via Munn's Ferry and Gill**, by following the directions for reaching Mount Hermon by these routes, then taking the routes indicated above.

Stoughton's Bird Track Quarry is east from Factory Hollow (eight and one half miles—see above). The impressions of prehistoric bird tracks in the rocks are pointed out.

Poet's Seat is two miles from Greenfield, and might be visited on the return drive. A little off the direct road, but the extensive view in all directions will repay the detour. "A steep ridge of forest-crowned rock which overlooks all the valley region round about. Swing around by Cheapside over the little hills there, following down to the Connecticut, then turning again up the long hillside road, along the mountain side. Here are beautiful views across pastures and fields, with a shining ribbon of water in the middle of the landscape, and beyond more trees and dim blue hills.

"After a brisk trot through the woods on the upland you come out in an open space where a sheer precipice of rock breaks away to the westerly valley, and a most charming sweep of country spreads itself before the eyes. Leagues on leagues of rolling hill and valley, now open fields, now groves or stretches of woodland, spread away to the big hills along the west. In the midst lies Greenfield. On the rock here is a stout watch-tower from whose top a wider view is possible."

Turners Falls can be reached by turning to the left at Factory Hollow (see above), past Riverside

on the Gill side. The unrivaled water power due to the building of a dam at this point in 1886-87 has led to the erection of several paper, lumber, cotton and cutlery mills. The dam is about 1000 feet in length, with an extreme fall of 41 feet, and development of 30,000 horse power.

The town is named after Captain Turner, who, on May 18, 1676, surprised and slew a large band of Indians who had gathered at the falls (flooded since the dam was built) for shad and salmon fishing. It is in Montague township.

Deerfield, whose pioneer and colonial history is interwoven with Northfield's, is about three miles south of Greenfield. It is the oldest of the twenty-six towns in the county, dating from 1663, and is the historical centre. Its Indian name was Pocumtuck. In 1870 the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, of which the venerable George M. Sheldon is president, was chartered for historical research and the preservation of relics. Memorial Hall was dedicated in 1880, and contains memorial tablets in addition to a large and valuable collection of documents, records, relics and other articles. The old burying ground, Bloody Brook and other scenes nearby recall the days of murder and massacre by Indians and French.

A party that drives to Greenfield can leave horses there and go to Deerfield by trolley. Deerfield street is second only to Northfield for its beautiful trees.

Huckle Hill and Vernon. The usual route is by Bennett's Meadow Bridge, past Mount Hermon School grounds, toward Bernardston. The road turns north from the main highway before reaching Bernardston village, skirts along Huckle Hill and Pond Mountain, with views of westerly valleys and hills not seen from Northfield valley. As the road descends into Vernon township a panoramic view is obtained of Vernon dam and the broad Connecticut

behind it. Home through South Vernon and West Northfield via Schell Bridge. Round trip, eighteen miles.

Bear's Den and Wild Cat Mountain. Take the road into Bernardston village, where there is a square turn to the north at the hotel. A very picturesque drive through a narrow, rugged ravine. Round trip, twenty miles.

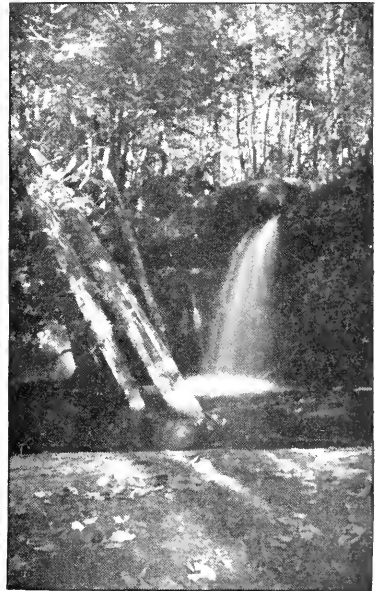
Hell's Back Kitchen. The road turns west at Pickett's Pond on the way to Mount Hermon via Schell Bridge (see above), then north, and back through South Vernon. Round trip, twelve miles.

The origin of the name is uncertain, although the high level traversed by the upper road from South Vernon village to Pickett's Pond has gone by the name "Satan's Kingdom."

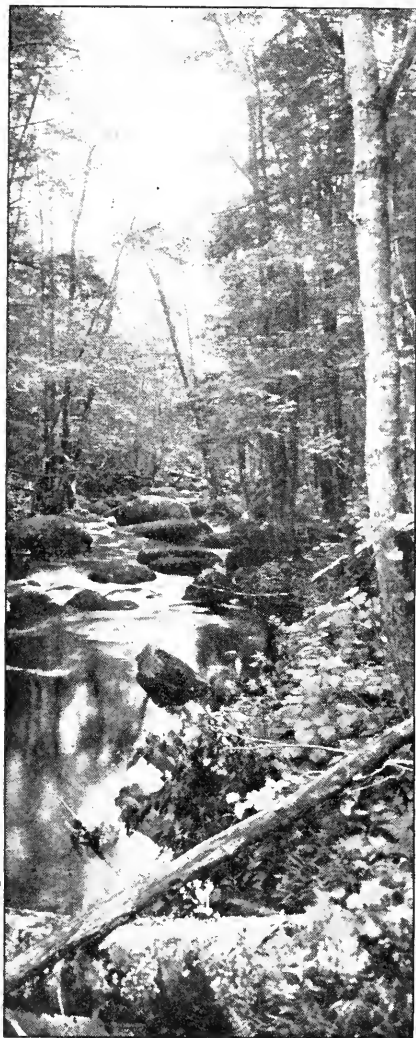
Louisiana Mountain.

Turn up the woodland road south of the entrance to Chalet Roeburn, Dr. Mabie's residence, and ascend the hill past the East Northfield Water Company's reservoir (three miles).

Hog Back (four miles) is an open, rocky knoll near the summit, from which an expansive view to the east and north is obtained, bounded by Mount Grace, Mount Monadnock and Winchester Mountain. Another nearby object of interest is **Pivot Rock**, a boulder eight feet high and larger in diameter, which is so balanced naturally that it can be moved a little without overmuch effort, as if on a pivot.



PAUCHAUG FALL.



PAUCHAUG BROOK.

Hog Back is just over the line in Warwick township. The state line runs east and west over the summit of Louisiana. A dark, rough hammered stone monument about 300 feet down its easterly slope marks the corner of the townships of Northfield, Warwick (to the east) and Winchester, N. H. (to the north).

Louisiana is called **Pine Mountain** in some maps. It is 1100 feet high. Notch Mountain to the south is 1300 feet high.

Lovers' Retreat, formerly called the Hollow Road to Winchester, is the most picturesque bit of roadway near Northfield. A quarter mile north of the state line the highway to Winchester turns to the right and runs for a mile alongside Pau-

chaug Brook, where it courses down the wooded ravine between Louisiana and Winchester mountains. From the Auditorium to the entrance of Lovers' Retreat is one and a half miles.

Pulpit Rock is an immense boulder, as high as a two-story house almost, in the bed of Pauchaug

Brook upstream beyond Lovers' Retreat. It can be reached by walking over the brow of Louisiana Mountain (see above) and down into the ravine below; or up Winchester Road, through Lovers' Retreat (see above), up the rise beyond, until a logging road is reached which leads through the pasture at the right down to Pauchaug Brook. A further tramp upstream leads to the remarkable rocky formation under quest, apparently dating from the glacial period. **Pauchaug Fall** is adjacent.

To **Winchester, N. H.** Follow Winchester Road through Lovers' Retreat (see above) and up the rise beyond. The right fork at the top is a little longer than the left fork, but an easier grade and better view. The road swings off north along the side of Winchester Mountain, with a grand view of Sunny Valley and the hills to the east. On the approach to Winchester the road runs alongside Ashuelot River, with a number of hoary pines on its banks. Distance to the centre of the town, seven and a half miles.

Forest Lake. A pretty lake just to the right of the highway from Winchester to West Swanzey and Keene, N. H., two miles north of Winchester (see above). A favorite resort for summer cottages and picnics.

Hinsdale, N. H. Follow Main Street north, past Wanamaker Lake, always keeping to the left at forks, past Pauchaug Meadow, crossing the Boston & Maine tracks at **Doolittle's Crossing** (three and a half miles). Distance to Ashuelot River Bridge in Hinsdale, seven miles. The east end of Vernon dam is in this town.

Ashuelot River Drive via Hinsdale and Winchester, N. H. Take the road to Hinsdale, N. H. (see above), and turn square to the right after crossing the bridge over the Ashuelot River (seven miles). The route passes up the main street of Hinsdale, and



ASHUELOT RIVER.

eastward along the river side. **Ashuelot village** is reached at ten miles, with iron bridge and railroad depot at eleven miles. For these four miles the road is level and very picturesque. Winchester is reached at thirteen miles.

The return to Northfield is by the road "To Winchester, N. H." (see above). Round trip, twenty miles.

Ashuelot River and Davis Mountain Drive. Follow the "Ashuelot River Drive via Hinsdale" to Ashuelot depot (see above—eleven miles). Instead of continuing to Winchester, cross the bridge. The road now climbs over Gun Mountain, usually called Davis Mountain because of the Davis farm on its south slope, visible from Northfield Street. As you descend, the view of Northfield and the Connecticut valley for miles to the south is grand. Round trip, seventeen miles.

Chesterfield and Spofford Lake, N. H. Take the road "To Hinsdale, N. H." (see above—seven miles). The Chesterfield road runs north from the centre of Main Street, and affords another picturesque mountain drive. **Chesterfield** is at fourteen and a half miles, and **Lake Spofford** at sixteen miles. This is the largest lake in this section, six to seven miles in circumference, elevation 724 feet. A highway skirts the water's edge most of the way. There are about seventy-five summer residences, two or three hotels, several boys' camps, and a yacht club that holds regattas bi-weekly, golf links, bathing beaches, a public steam launch, and other boating facilities in season. Lake Spofford is without an inlet, being fed entirely by internal springs. It is of great depth, with a rocky and sandy bottom.

Spofford village is a mile further along the south shore (seventeen miles).

Keene, N. H., is ten miles east from Spofford, by a winding road with easy grades of descent, and **Brattleboro, Vt.**, is about the same distance west, by a winding road through the woods, down grade to the Connecticut River suspension bridge, then south down the river. The return trip by either of these routes lengthens the distance but affords a pleasing drive through the pine belt of Southern New Hampshire.

Pisgah Primeval Forest. Comparatively few people in the surrounding neighborhood know about the existence of an immense tract of timberland, much of it primeval forest, in the town of Winchester, N. H., and extending into Hinsdale, Chesterfield, and perhaps Swanzey. Here is to be found the finest and largest growth of pines in the east, and the forest is fairly accessible. A competent guide, however, is a necessity.

The forest is approached from Hinsdale by the Chesterfield road (see above), where the team will be left about two and a half miles north of the town, and the tramp through the thicket begun. A de-

scription culled from the *Vermont Phoenix* tells what every visitor will want to know:

"Some of the big trees are found within less than two miles of Kilburn Pond, but the finest tract, where all the trees are large and trim, veritable forest giants, cannot be reached without a walk of several miles through the woods. In addition to the pines there are many gigantic spruces, some of the handsomest chestnuts that ever grew in a forest, and occasional maples, beeches, birches and oaks are found; but the grandeur of the forest is in the pines. In passing from one section of virgin forest to another it is necessary to tramp at times through second growth timber, and on the way two or three abandoned lumber camps which were used twenty years ago and upwards are found.

"Our visitors measured many trees which showed at the butts a circumference of twelve feet and upwards, and one leviathan of the forest had a waist measure lacking but a single inch of fifteen feet. These trees are to a large extent straight, sound and clean. They rise majestically in the air upwards of 100 feet and are bare of limbs to a height of fifty to sixty feet.

"The great age of the maple trees is shown by the fact that the bark is old and worn, resembling the exterior of the shag-bark walnut, while the surface of the birches is divided by vertical seams, making the trunks look like the ordinary hemlocks. Two clusters of Norway pines are pointed out by the guide. How old are the ancient trees of the virgin forest? Foresters are of the opinion that the big coniferous trees—pines and spruces—are over 300 years old, and some of them were probably growing when the white man first landed on our shores. Some of the small trees which appear to be but little more than underbrush are estimated to be seventy-five years old. Growing in the shade beneath the big trees the little fellows have been stunted and have had no chance to become lusty.

Cutting down one of the small trees and examining its rings they will be found so fine that a microscope is needed to count them accurately.

"In the forest seven ponds are found, connected by a small stream. These ponds abound in pickerel and hornpout. It was a surprise to find the shores of these ponds solid granite formations. In the fall



IN PISGAH PRIMEVAL FOREST IN WINTER.

the ponds are low and the granite rocks on all sides of the water tower into the air impressively. This stone evidently contains a much larger percentage of mineral matter than the granite usually found on the Vermont side of the river. In the spring and early summer, when the water is high, a row boat may be used in traveling from one pond to another

through the connecting channel, and a trip of several miles by water enjoyed, with wooded banks on all sides. In general contour the country is broken and rugged.

“Twelve thousand acres in the forest are owned by Ansel Dickinson’s Sons of Ashuelot. A large portion of the tract has been in the Dickinson family from fifty to seventy-five years. About 1000 acres owned by the Dickinsons today are virgin forest. A large amount of timber was cut off between 1850 and 1870 by the late Capt. Ansel Dickinson, and the lumber from the big trees was used in the construction of the paper mills at Holyoke. Previous to 1845 a large part of Pisgah Forest was owned by the Spencers of Hinsdale, who cut off millions of feet of old growth timber, sawed it into lumber in Hinsdale, and floated the lumber down the Connecticut on rafts to Hartford. There has been no increase by growth in the big pines in years, and in some cases there has naturally been a deterioration in the quality of the timber. The attitude of the town and state in recent years in increasing the taxes on the property has made a large expense account for the owners, and purely from a business standpoint it would be only natural for the Dickinsons to cut off the timber. The tract has been examined by a number of experienced foresters in recent years, and they have expressed a wish that it might be made a perpetual preserve, but even in this case it would undoubtedly be advisable to cut out much of the old growth.

“For a novel and delightful day’s outing we commend a trip to the big pines of Pisgah. Pedometer measurements showed twelve miles covered on the recent trip. The undergrowth is not particularly bothersome, and for a person in fair physical condition the tramp is not fatiguing. A pleasant half-hour is experienced at luncheon, eaten in the recess of the forest close to a cold spring, and the guide considerably makes several stops for rest, so that

those with flaccid muscles may not become weary. The fall is the best time of the year for the excursion, as there are no pestering flies or insects in evidence, and the marshes which earlier in the season are filled with water may now be crossed without even wetting the feet. One who loves the open, and particularly the woods, feels richly repaid for the expenditure of physical energy by a sight of the big trees, the ponds resting in great saucers of granite, and the fauna and flora which he has plenty of time to inspect in the eight hours in which he is in the woods."

Three-States Point. There is a polished granite shaft on the west side of the Connecticut, a stone's throw east of the railroad tracks at South Vernon, which was erected by the states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont in 1897, under the agreement made by their commissioners in 1894, defining the boundary line between these states established by the royal decree in 1740. It contains this inscription:

"The S W corner of New Hampshire and the S E corner of Vermont is a point on the west bank of the Connecticut River in said (boundary) line now marked by a copper bolt in the apex of a granite monument N Lat $42^{\circ} 43' 37.2''$ W Long $72^{\circ} 27' 32.1''$ S $87^{\circ} 46' 45''$ E 582 feet from the centre of this marker."

To Vernon Dam. Cross the Connecticut by Schell Bridge (one and three quarter miles), and turn square north at the end of the road. The route crosses over the Boston & Maine tracks by the new iron bridge at West Northfield depot, then turns north to the right, past the state line granite shaft (on the left) and South Vernon House (on the right) and the Advent Christian Church and parsonage (on the left) in South Vernon village, parallel and under the rail-



ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, SOUTH VERNON, VT.

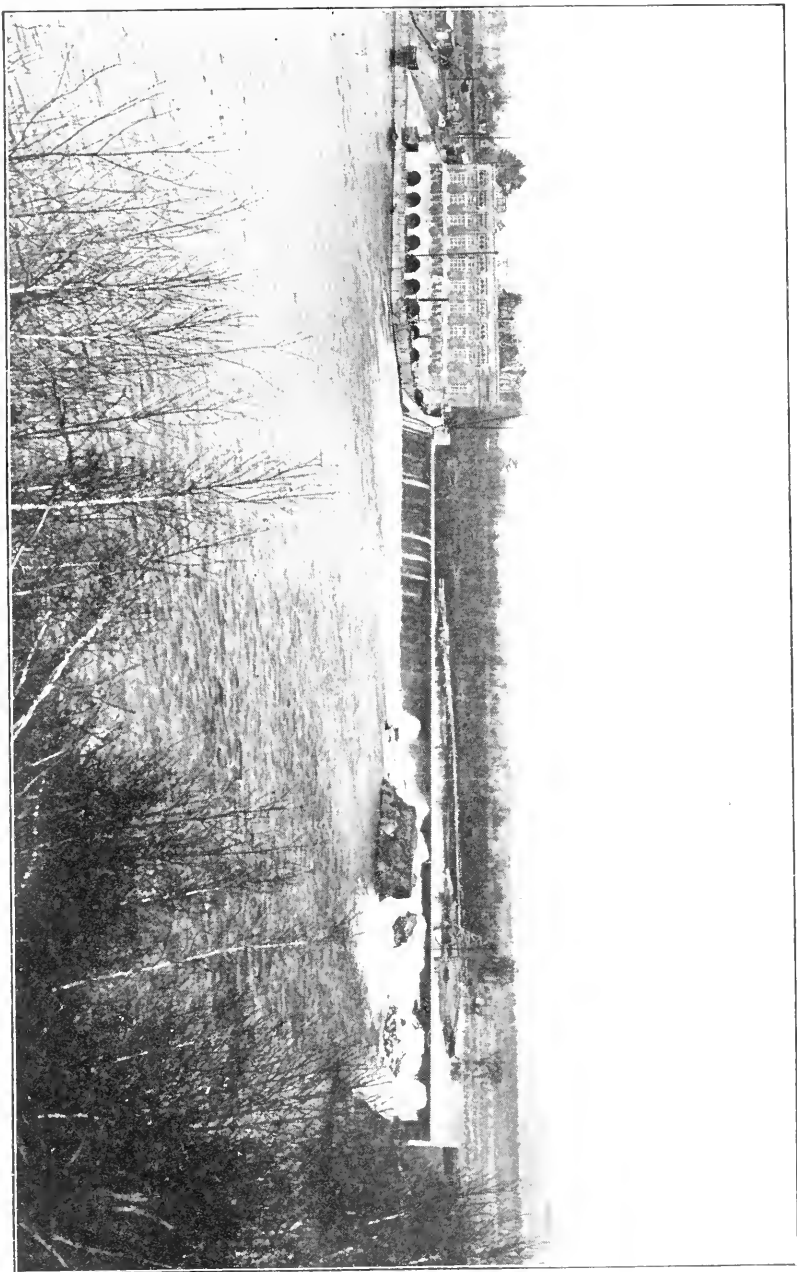
road tracks, past Central Park and station. The dam is this side of Vernon depot and post-office (seven miles).

The dam was built by the Connecticut River Power Company at a cost of over \$3,000,000, in 1907-09. The power house is 250 feet long, logway fifty feet and spillway 600 feet; total length, 900 feet. Height, thirty-four feet above average low water. The power house contains eight vertical water wheel units for the development of electricity. Ten large flood gates regulate the level of the backwater. Over a million bricks and 4200 square yards of cement were used in construction.

The dam makes a pond that runs back twenty-two miles. The river level was raised fifteen feet at Brattleboro.

The largest hydro-electric horse power east of Niagara Falls is produced—25,000 horse power. It is transmitted as far as Worcester, Mass., sixty-six miles, by wires run in cables supported by steel towers sixty feet high and about 400 feet apart.

Since the state line follows the line of vegetation on the west bank of the Connecticut, the dam and power house are located wholly within the State of



VERNON DAM.

New Hampshire and township of Hinsdale. Hence the name "Vernon" dam is a misnomer.

To Brattleboro, Vt. The road on the **east side** of the Connecticut leads through Hinsdale, N. H. (seven miles—see above). Turn sharp to the left up hill after crossing Ashuelot River bridge. Keep to the left along the river, which spreads out wide when the waters are held back by the Vernon dam. Four miles north, at North Hinsdale, a monument at the junction of roads recalls Indian and French days:

"In memory of 14 men who were way-laid by Indians near this place June 16, 1748.

"In memory of Sergeant Thomas Taylor, who with a party of 16 men was here overpowered by 100 French and Indians after heroic and bloody resistance, July 14, 1748."

Before Brattleboro is reached the road skirts the base of **Mount Wantastiquet**, which stands like a sentinel over the valley, 1300 feet high (the ascent of this mountain is worth while, though difficult), then to the left across a new iron bridge, into the town. Brattleboro is thirteen and a half miles from Belcher Fountain.

On the **west side** of the river the road leads through Vernon, Vt., past the dam (seven miles—see above), past Vernon station, and along the foothills up the valley. Before reaching Brattleboro (fourteen miles) the site of Fort Dummer is passed at the Brooks Farm. Beyond is the Cascade, and Cemetery Hill.

Visitors usually take the east side road in going to Brattleboro, and return by the west side.

Beyond Brattleboro the scenery on both sides of the river is imposing, the mountains gradually gaining in height.

Ice Cave and Rattlesnake Den via Gulf Road. Turn east on Maple Street. Beyond one and a half

miles the Erving road forks to the right. The ascent is steep, but the road is a picture as it climbs the easterly side of Brush Mountain. This bit is called the **Gulf Road** because a cloud-burst occurred here in 1866 which completely wiped out a large section of the road, leaving the rock bare. At three miles a road turns to the right and leads to the summit of the hill. **Ice Cave** is reached by walking down into the ravine, where the rocky formation at the bottom fills solid with ice in the winter. Being shaded by the thick foliage ice can be found in the crevices in July and August. **Rattlesnake Den** is near by, deriving its name from nests of rattlesnakes which infested this spot until they were cleared out some years ago. **Brush Mountain** was called Mish-om-assek by the Indians because of these rattlesnakes, and was held in superstitious veneration as the abode of Hobamok, the Evil Spirit.

Ober's Lookout. The left fork where the Erving road turns off at one and a half miles (see last paragraph) leads a mile further up the side of Round Hill to Ober's Lookout (two and one half miles), where C. K. Ober of the Y. M. C. A. International Committee secured a summer residence twenty years ago. A new landscape meets the eye at this commanding elevation—1000 feet.

Crag Mountain. Crag is the highest eminence in Northfield township—1600 feet. The view extends far in every direction. Fourteen towns are visible on a clear day—with favorable weather conditions the sea can be seen.

Take the Gulf Road (see above), beyond Ice Cave. Keep to the right at the schoolhouse fork (three and three quarter miles). A mile further the vehicle must be left and the rest of the journey to the summit performed on foot.

To Warwick, Mass. Warwick is reached by Warwick Avenue and Happy Hollow, or by School Street, these routes uniting at two miles. The road

now follows the course of Mill Brook between Notch Mountain (on the north) and Hemlock Mountain (on the south), and skirts Bolster and Flower Hills, and Mount Grace, at an elevation of 600 to 900 feet. Distance, eight miles to the centre of the town.

Warwick, whose Indian name was Sheamet, was originally called Gardner's Canada, or Roxbury, by the English, having been granted to descendants of the officers and soldiers who served in the expedition to Canada during King William's War in 1690. The present name was adopted at its incorporation in 1763.

Tradition has it that **Mount Grace** was so called after a child named Grace who was killed at its base by Indians who had captured her mother and were carrying her off. Its height is 1628 feet. "On its apex is a nearly round granite boulder some fifteen feet in diameter, evidently left there in the glacial period."

Warwick and Winchester Drive. The drive to Warwick (eight miles) is described above. The road north, with Mount Grace at the left and Sunny Valley at the right further on, changes in scenery all the way until Winchester, N. H., is reached (sixteen miles). The return trip to Northfield through Lovers' Retreat (see above) gives a round trip of about twenty-three miles.

SUMMARY OF DISTANCES

FROM BELCHER MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN.

	MILES
East Northfield Post Office	1½
Seminary Reservoir	3
Hog Back	4
Pivot Rock	4
Entrance Lovers' Retreat	3
Pulpit Rock	5
Winchester	7½
Forest Lake	9½

	MILES
Doolittle's Crossing	3½
Hinsdale	7
Ashuelot Depot via Davis Hill	6
Ashuelot Depot via Hinsdale	11
Chesterfield	14½
Lake Spofford	16
Schell Bridge	1¾
Vernon Dam	7
Brattleboro	13½
Ober's Lookout	2½
Ice Cave	3½
Crag Mountain	5
Warwick	8
Bennett's Meadow Bridge	1½
King Philip's Hill	1½
Mount Hermon School Buildings	3
Pickett's Pond via Bennett's Meadow Bridge	2½
Bernardston	6
Gill	5½
Factory Hollow	8½
Turners Falls	9
Greenfield	12
Beers' Memorial	1½
Mum's Ferry	3½
Northfield Farms Depot	5½
French King	6½
Miller's River mouth	7½
Millers Falls	8½
Farley	11
Hermit Rock	12
Erving via Millers Falls	13½
Erving via Maple Street	8
Huckle Hill and Vernon, round trip	18
Bear's Den and Wild Cat Mountain, round trip	20
Hell's Back Kitchen, round trip	12
Warwick and Winchester Drive, round trip	23
Ashuelot River Drive and Davis Mountain, round trip	17
Ashuelot River Drive and Winchester, round trip	20



BIRDS OF NORTHFIELD

THE following birds have been observed in Northfield by Miss Ellen C. Wood:

ORDER: Coccoyges (cuckoos and kingfishers). Family—Cuculidæ: yellow-billed cuckoo, black-billed cuckoo. Family—Alcedinidæ: belted kingfisher.

ORDER: Pici (woodpeckers). Family—Picidæ: hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, yellow-bellied woodpecker, flicker.

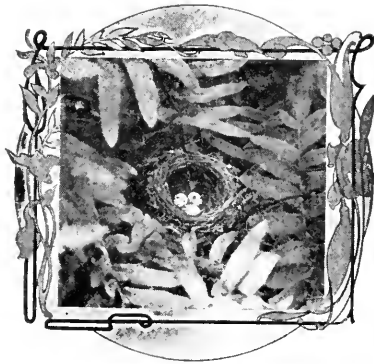
ORDER: Macrochires (goatsuckers, swifts, humming birds). Family—Caprimulgidæ: nighthawk, whip-poor-will. Family—Micropodidæ: chimney swift. Family—Trochilidæ: humming bird.

ORDER: Columbæ (pigeons). Family—Columbidæ: Carolina dove.

ORDER: Passeres (perching birds). Family—Fringillidæ or finches: English sparrow, field sparrow, song sparrow, white-crowned sparrow, tree sparrow, white-throated sparrow, chipping sparrow, fox sparrow, gold finch, junco, chewink, rose-breasted grosbeak, pine grosbeak, red poll linnet. Family—Tyrannidæ: Kingbird, phœbe, pewee, olive-sided flycatcher, least flycatcher. Family—Corvidæ: crow, blue jay. Family—Icteridæ: red-winged

blackbird, bronzed grackle, purple grackle, meadow lark, bobolink, cowbird, Baltimore oriole, orchard oriole. Family—Tanagridæ: summer tanager, scarlet tanager. Family—Hirundinidæ: barn swallow, bank swallow, purple martin. Family—Ampe-
 lidæ: cedar bird. Family—Laniidæ: northern shrike. Family—Vireonidæ: white-eyed vireo, blue-headed and red-eyed vireo. Family—Mniotil-
 tidæ: warblers—blackburnian, black-poll, black-
 throated green, black and white creeping, chestnut-
 sided, yellow, hooded, golden-winged, myrtle, par-
 ula, blue-winged yellow, magnolia, ovenbird, Mary-
 land yellow-throat, yellow-breasted chat. Family—
 Troglodytidæ: thrasher, catbird, house wren, short-billed marsh wren. Family—Paridæ: chicka-
 dee, white-breasted nuthatch, red-breasted nuthatch.
 Family—Turdidæ: bluebird, robin, hermit thrush, wood thrush, veery or Wilson's thrush.

GAME AND OTHER BIRDS: Spotted sandpiper, little green heron, big blue heron, big white heron, grouse, quail, turkey buzzard, sparrow hawk, chicken hawk, owl.



MINERALS OF NORTHFIELD

THE following list of minerals observed in Northfield has been furnished by Mr. Charles H. Webster:

ADULARIA, in minute crystals, associated with cleavelandite. On Devonian quartzose mica-schist, near an old wood road in West Northfield.

AMPHIBOLE. See Hornblende.

ASTROPHYLLITE. At the graphite locality near Erving road, Northfield Mountain.

ARSENOPYRITE, in granular form, near the Swamp road, Northfield Mountain.

BERYL. Crystals of pale greenish-white color have been found on Strowbridge Hill, and also near the Gulf road, some crystals being nearly ten inches in diameter.

BIOTITE (iron mica), in several localities, in imperfect crystals showing only perhaps two or three perfect faces.

BLACK LEAD. See graphite.

CHABAZITE. Broad thin squares about one half inch across, striated, buff color from decomposition, have been found near a wood road west from the Gill to Vernon highway, in fissures of Devonian mica-schist.

CLEAVELANDITE. White, lamellar formation, on Strowbridge Hill.

COLUMBITE. A very rare mineral formerly found on Strowbridge Hill, but now exhausted.

CONCRETIONS, or "clay stones." Found at low water on the bank of the Connecticut River at the lower end of Great Meadow, known as River Point.

CYANITE. Rich blue in single crystals, also in fibrous gray. At the top of the Gulf road, toward Erving.

EPIDOTE. Found as yet only in traces on the mountains about Northfield.

FELDSPAR. See orthoclase.

FIBROLITE has been found in boulders but never otherwise; and these boulders were undoubtedly deposited during the glacial period, as they are all worn and rounded.

FLUORITE. Purple fluorite has been found on Switzer Mountain, east of Main Street; in fissures in quartzite at Ross's lead mine, near the state line, in Winchester, N. H.

GARNET. Fine specimens, almost suitable for cutting, are found on the old Chapin farm, about five minutes' walk east from the "black lead mine," Northfield Mountain. Also fine specimens on Dickinson Hill, in partially disintegrated granitic rock. Some specimens measure an inch in diameter.

GRAPHITE occurs about one half mile south from the schoolhouse at the top of the mountain, near the Gulf Road, in Conway schist.

HEMATITE, in massive form, mechanically combined with quartz, is found in boulders throughout the town.

HORNBLLENDE usually occurs in massive form, though crystals are found occasionally. No particular locality. So far as located, specimens have been in boulders.

JASPER, a variety of quartz, occasionally found on the river bank, where good specimens of water-worn jasper in green, red and brown have been obtained.

KYANITE. See cyanite.

MENACCANITE (sometimes called "Titanic iron"). Found on land formerly Calvin Swan's home place. Broad, thin plates in transparent quartz.

MICA. See Biotite, "iron mica"; Muscovite, "potash mica."

MUSCOVITE. The most plentiful of the family of micas. It is one of the constituents of granite, gneiss, mica-schist and other related rocks. Good specimens have been found in many localities in the town.

ORTHOCLASE. On Dickinson Hill, southeast from Main Street, and in many other localities. Fine white cleavages, seldom in crystalline form.

PETRIFIED WOOD. Only one specimen has ever been found. This was obtained from the river bed, and was the stump of a tree that had become impregnated with silica.

PROCHLORITE, in small, green crystals, is found associated with adularia in West Northfield.

PYRITE occurs associated with mica, beryl, tourmaline and other minerals in several parts of the town.

QUARTZ. This most common mineral is seldom found in Northfield in crystalline form. When crystals are discovered, they are of small size, and very opaque.

STAUROLITE, sometimes in cruciform crystals, occurs in mica slate on the old Boston Turnpike and on Field's Hill, about two miles east from Main Street, associated with garnet.

SULPHUR, in minute crystals, has been found with decomposing pyrite in hornblende gneiss on the east slope of Strowbridge Hill.

TOURMALINE, black only, of great beauty both of structure and color. A locality on Brush Mountain affords fine crystals with perfect terminations in snow white quartz, but this locality is now exhausted. Fine specimens have also been obtained in a locality about one half mile from the Swamp road on Northfield Mountain, in quartz matrix slightly colored by oxide of iron.

DIRECTORY OF GENERAL INFORMATION

GOVERNMENT.

The government of the town is vested in three **selectmen**, elected annually, with other officers as follows: Clerk, treasurer, three assessors, tax collector, auditor, three constables, tree warden, fence viewers, field drivers, pound keeper, surveyor of wood and lumber, sealer of weights and measures, fire wardens, registrars of voters, inspectors of provisions, inspector of animals; also school and library committees and cemetery commissioners.

Elections occur at a town meeting held the first Monday in March. This system of government was transplanted from the mother country, with a few modifications to suit the more democratic conditions here.

Number of registered voters, 372.

TOWN OFFICERS, 1910-11.

Selectmen, Osgood L. Leach, Charles L. Robbins, Arthur W. Proctor.

Town Clerk and Treasurer, Warren J. Wright.

Assessors, Samuel C. Holton, F. Leslie Tyler, Clinton A. Ware.

School Committee, Leonard R. Smith, Osgood L. Leach, Nellie M. Wood.

Library Committee, Benjamin F. Field, Norman P. Wood, S. Catherine Richardson, N. Fay Smith, H. W. Montague, Arthur E. Wilson.

Librarian, Mrs. C. A. Randall.

Cemetery Commissioners, R. E. Dickinson, George N. Kidder, Freeman A. Hilliard.

Constables, Fred W. Doane, Fred H. Watson, Dwight L. Proctor.

Auditor, Walter H. Waite.

Tree Warden, Fred W. Doane.

Fence Viewers, E. E. Russell, A. A. Newton, Fred W. Doane.

Field Drivers, J. W. Field, W. J. Wright.

Pound Keeper, James Wall.

Surveyors of Wood and Lumber, C. R. Nelson, F. W. Williams, S. G. Titus, Lewis Fowler, H. H. Chamberlain, C. E. Leach.

Tax Collector, Merrill T. Moore.

Scaler of Weights and Measures, Joseph R. Colton.

Fire Wardens, F. W. Doane, C. H. Webster, H. C. Holton, Charles Gilbert, A. A. Newton.

Registrars of Voters, Francis J. Stockbridge, John T. Callaghan, Ralph O. Leach.

Inspectors of Provisions, Frank E. Heald, Freeman A. Hilliard, J. E. Ross, C. W. Stratton, J. J. Fisher.

Inspector of Animals, Frank E. Heald.

POST-OFFICES.

Northfield. Established 1797, when the mails were brought by stage from Worcester once (and later twice) a week, containing not more than half a dozen letters and three or four Boston papers. To-day Northfield is a third-class post-office, the centre of two rural free delivery routes. Six incoming and six outgoing mails daily except Sunday. Postmaster, C. H. Webster. Location, Webster Block, Main Street.

East Northfield. Established 1891. Second-class post-office. Seven incoming and six outgoing mails daily except Sunday. Postmaster, L. R. Smith. Location, Bookstore Building, Moody Street.

West Northfield. Established 1887. Fourth-class post-office. Twelve incoming and twelve outgoing mails daily except Sunday. Postmaster, E. B. Buffum. Location, Buffum's store.

Northfield Farms. Established . . . Fourth-class post-office. Four incoming and four outgoing mails daily except Sunday. Postmistress, Mrs. H. A. Wood. Location, near depot.

Mount Hermon. Established 1887. Third-class post-office. Six incoming and five outgoing mails daily except Sunday. Postmaster, Charles D. Streeter. Location, Mount Hermon depot.

CHURCHES.

In the early settlements, following the custom of those times, the affairs of the church were arranged by the town. Provision was made in town meeting for the "encouragement" and living comforts of the minister, while the singers and organist and care-taker were also paid out of the town treasury.

The first public religious exercises in town were held by Elder Janes under a large oak which stood at the south end of Main Street, at the location marked by the memorial boulder. Successive meeting houses were built as the years went by, until divisions into denominations arose. The history of the present churches is as follows:

Unitarian Church. Main Street and Parker Avenue. Erected in 1871; cost, \$15,000. Seating capacity of auditorium, 300.

It was during the ministry of Rev. Thomas Mason, who had been called to the parish in 1799 while it still embraced the whole town, that the controversy broke out in New England between orthodoxy and unitarianism. Mr. Mason was liberal in thought and joined the Unitarian denomination when it was organized independently. He carried most of the townspeople with him. On February 24, 1826, the first parish was organized as distinct from the town. In 1827, apparently for personal reasons, fifty-six members of the first parish withdrew and founded the "Unitarian Society of Northfield," calling the Rev. Samuel Presbury as minister in February, 1828. After his retirement in September, 1829, and the dismissal of Rev. Thomas Mason in February, 1830, these dissenters returned to the first parish, which may be regarded as the Unitarian Society after this reunion. Successive ministers have been: Rev. George W. Hosmer, 1830-36; Rev. Oliver Capen Everett, 1837-48; Rev. William C. Tenney, 1849-58; Rev. John Murray, 1859-64; Rev. Charles Noyes, 1865-72; Rev. Jabez T. Sunderland, 1872-76;

Rev. Samuel P. Putnam, 1876-79; Rev. John Lewis Marsh, 1879-84; Rev. George Charles Wright, 1884-86; Rev. Alfred E. Mullett, 1887-88; Rev. Samuel R. Free, 1889-92; Rev. George F. Piper, 1892-1903; Rev. Daniel M. Wilson, 1904-09; Rev. Arthur Edward Wilson, 1910.

Services are held Sundays at 10.45 a.m., Sunday school at 12.

Congregational Church. Main Street, near Mill Brook. Erected in 1888-89; cost, \$28,000. Seating capacity of auditorium, 1200; perhaps the largest in the county.

The second parish of Northfield was organized on November 15, 1825, by thirty men and women who could not accept the new theology and so withdrew from the old church. Their names are inscribed on a marble tablet in the southwest vestibule. On February 28, 1829, they incorporated as the "Trinitarian Society of Northfield," and erected a typical New England meeting house on Main Street. This was outgrown by the increasing audiences due to the return of D. L. Moody and the crowds of conference visitors and students he attracted: hence the new and larger building.

The old parish system was relinquished in 1899, and a regular church organization effected. The corporate name is "The Trinitarian Congregational Church of Northfield, Mass."

Successive pastors have been: Rev. Eli Moody, 1826-30; Rev. Bancroft Fowler, 1831-36; Rev. Horatio J. Lombard, 1836-40; Rev. Nathaniel Richardson, 1840-42; Rev. Luther Farnham, 1844-45; Rev. Willard Jones, 1859-61; Rev. Isaac Perry, 1862-65; Rev. Theodore J. Clark, 1865-80; Rev. Ellis R. Drake, 1880-87; Rev. Silas P. Cook, 1889-94; Rev. Cyrus Ingerson Scofield, 1896-1903; Rev. Nelson Fay Smith, 1903.

Stated services are held on Sundays at 10.45 a.m., 12, 6.45 and 7.30 p.m.; Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Roman Catholic Church, Main Street. The Northfield church is a mission of the Millers Falls parish. The building was erected in 1886 under the guidance of Rev. P. I. Quaille, who was then pastor of the Roman Catholic families in town. The Roman Catholic cemetery had already been purchased in 1880, and services were held in the Town Hall. Present pastor, Rev. J. S. Neligan.

Services every alternate Sunday at 8.30 a.m.

Russell Sage Chapel, Northfield Seminary, is open to the public at daily chapel and Sunday evening services. The building is described in another chapter.

Mount Hermon Chapel, Mount Hermon School. As at Sage Chapel, services are open to the public, and nearby neighbors worship here. See further description in another chapter.

Advent Christian Church, South Vernon. Though not actually within the township of Northfield, this church serves West Northfield, and a description will not be out of place here.

The society is the largest religious body in Vernon, and has held meetings for over fifty years. On March 5, 1860, a meeting was held to consider the erection of a chapel, which was decided upon favorably. A chapel was built about two miles back, and dedicated on July 7, 1860. The society was incorporated in 1874.

At a meeting held on January 19, 1909, it was voted to build a new church in a more central location, and the solicitation of funds met with a hearty response from all classes. The present edifice was dedicated on December 29, 1909, free of debt; cost, \$6500. Seating capacity of auditorium, 175. Pastor, Rev. A. E. Phelps.

Services are held Sundays at 10.45 a.m., 12, 6.30 and 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

At the present time (1910) a high school, two graded schools and four district schools are maintained in Northfield township, located as follows:

High school and centre graded school, on Main Street; East Northfield graded school, on Pine Street; District schools, at West Northfield (Dickinson Hall), No. 3 (Upper Farms), Northfield Farms and Northfield Mountain.

A search of the records shows that it was the policy in early years to establish a school in any section of the township as soon as there was adequate local need. The policy in recent years, however, has been to centralize. Northfield forms, with Warwick, Gill and Leyden, a school union under the supervision of one superintendent. Instead of keeping a number of district schools open the town transports children to central schools where grading insures better instruction. The high school was established in 1891, and last year served residents of Warwick, Gill, Winchester, N. H., Vernon and Londonderry, Vt., as well as Northfield.

A high school building is in process of erection on the west side of Main Street, north of Meadow Street.

School superintendent, E. F. Howard.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1909.

Number of pupils enrolled	322
Number of teachers	14
Number of weeks open	36-40
Taxation for support of schools (per thousand dollars)	\$ 3.78
Average cost per pupil	29.76

PATRIOTIC AND FRATERNAL ORDERS.

Harmony Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. Instituted in 1796 with fifteen charter members, its charter being signed by Paul Revere, Most Eminent Grand Master of Massachusetts.

Communications have been held regularly since its inception, except for twenty years during the anti-Masonic excitement of 1830-50. Meets Wednesday evenings on or before full moon, in Masonic Hall, School Street.

Order of the Eastern Star, Northfield Chapter, No. 82. Meets in Masonic Hall Wednesday evenings after full moon.

Grand Army of the Republic, Henry H. Johnson Post. Named for an honored citizen-soldier of this town, a member of Co. C, 27th Massachusetts Infantry. Instituted August 15, 1884, with twenty-seven charter members. Meets third Friday of each month except July and August, in Proctor Block. Deaths and removals have thinned the roll to nineteen; complete roster, fifty-seven.

Henry H. Johnson Woman's Relief Corps, No. 164. Organized in December, 1894, with twenty-two charter members. Meets the first and third Fridays of each month except July and August, in Proctor Block.

Sons of Veterans, No. 121, Rollin C. Ward Camp. Installed July 24, 1896, and named in honor of Dr. Rollin C. Ward, then a resident physician and a veteran of the Civil War. Membership open to sons and grandsons of veterans. Object, to perpetuate the principles and institutions for which their fathers fought. The Camp purchased the old Congregational Church building on Main Street in 1898; this was burnt to the ground on January 12, 1910. Meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month, in Proctor Block.

Sons of Veterans Auxiliary. Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, in Proctor Block.

Northfield Grange, No. 3, Patrons of Husbandry. Meets at Floral Cottage, Maple Street, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Squakheag Tribe, No. 149, Independent Order of Red Men. Meets first and third Thursdays of each month in Floral Cottage, Maple Street.

The Fortnightly. Meets alternate Mondays from September to May, in Dickinson Library Hall, for study and social affairs.

THE NORTHFIELD VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

A Village Improvement Society was organized in Northfield in 1895, and was incorporated under the above title in 1909. Its stated object is "to establish a body of recognized authority to deal with all matters tending to the improvement and beautifying of the town." Its operations have included the planting of shrubs and trees in street plots, in front of the Town Hall and Library, etc.; flower shows and the encouragement of children in raising flowers; arousing public sentiment as to the keeping of lawns; sprinkling and lighting the streets; placing of street signs, and so on. This society was also entrusted by Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander in 1897 with placing the memorial stones at historic spots. In 1909 it was the recipient of a bequest of \$2000 under the will of the Misses Mary A. and Eliza Belcher, the income of which is to be "used yearly, particularly in caring for the trees."

President, 1910, Dr. N. P. Wood.

WATER COMPANIES.

Northfield Water Company. Incorporated, \$10,000 capital. Originally there were two water companies at the centre, both drawing upon the same sources on the easterly hills about two miles out Warwick Avenue. On March 9, 1797, the first of these was organized by nine citizens who incorporated as "Proprietors of the Aqueduct in Northfield,"

for the purpose of conveying water by subterranean pipes. One company ran up Main Street to B. F. Field's, the other south to C. H. Green's. When the log pipes gave out the two companies got together and formed the Northfield Water Company. A reservoir was built with a capacity of 350,000 gallons, and new pipes were laid in Main Street as far as Dr. Pentecost's on the north and James Wall's on the south. Pressure, eighty to ninety pounds. President, C. H. Webster; treasurer, B. F. Field.

Dry Swamp Aqueduct Corporation. This has operated for a hundred years, but was incorporated in November, 1864. There are eleven proprietors who are the users of the system, which draws its supply from springs and Miller's Brook, out Maple Street, in the section called the Dry Swamp in the early days of settlement. The corporation is managed by three directors elected annually. Clerk and treasurer, F. J. Stockbridge.

East Northfield Water Company. Owned by Northfield Seminary. Reservoir built on the hillside behind Dr. Mabie's in 1904. The pipes connect with all the Seminary buildings, the Northfield Hotel, and a limited number of private residences. The old system is in Bonar Glen, and connection is sometimes made to meet the extra summer demand. There is a pressure of about 150 pounds, sufficient to throw a stream of water over the Auditorium towers. Manager, A. G. Moody.

Mountain Park Water Supply, with Crystal Spring reservoir, is owned by Mrs. Alice L. Woodbury, and serves cottages in the Mountain Park tract in East Northfield.

The water supply in town is quite inadequate for present demands. The town ought to take over this public utility from the private companies and make far-sighted, generous provision for future increase in household and commercial needs.

NORTHFIELD CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY ASSOCIATION.

On Glen Street, east of Main Street. Organized as a coöperative creamery in 1885, the stock being taken mostly by patrons. The purpose of the Association is to carry on the manufacture and sale of milk products in such manner as shall conduce to the greatest convenience and profit of the producers. The plant and machinery is valued at \$4400. Output: 400 pounds of butter daily, requiring the milk of 600 or more cows, on five routes, covering a radius of ten miles. The net monthly payments for milk amount to \$2500. The net profits are divided pro rata among the patrons according to the amount of cream furnished by each. Treasurer and superintendent, Charles C. Stearns.

DICKINSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 3, 1910.

Volumes in library last report	6,787
Purchased last year	335
Given past year	48
Books dropped or worn out	30
Magazines bound (vol.)	14
Books bound	20
Total in library	7,174
Number of families patrons of library	224
Individuals patrons of library	67
Number of books taken by families	9,449
Number of books taken by public schools	371
Number of books taken by visitors	397
Magazines circulated	2,453
Publications subscribed for in reading room	22
Publications given regularly	10
Number of readers using reading room	2,540

CEMETERIES.

Centre Cemetery. Located on Meadow Hill, directly west of the Northfield railroad station, with a magnificent view of the river valley and western hills. A piece of land was reserved here for a burying place in 1685, the location being traditionally selected because Sergeant Samuel Wright had been killed here by Indians ten years before, and his bones when found buried where he fell. Here lie the remains of Northfield's heroic and sainted dead since the earliest days, the founders and ancestors of the older families of today. The inscriptions on the older tombstones will interest the antiquarian: some quaint in their conceits, others expressive of tenderest love and disappointed hopes, still others direct in their religious warning and appeal. These inscriptions were copied and quoted in Temple and Sheldon's "History." The graves of some widely known figures in Northfield's more recent history will also be found here, including Major D. W. Whittle, Mrs. Lucy Guinness Kumm, and others.

Mount Hermon Cemetery, on Bennett's Hill, on the highway to Mount Hermon School. On March 19, 1781, the town voted to lay out this burying ground, about one acre in extent.

West Northfield Cemetery, near Dickinson Hall.

Farms Cemetery. One quarter acre bought on May 11, 1811; several additions since then. Near the depot.

Swamp Cemetery, in the southeast section of the town. Land purchased in 1814.

Mountain Cemetery, also in the southeast corner of the town.

St. Mary's Cemetery, belonging to the Roman Catholic Church, purchased in 1880. Located on St. Mary Street.

BRIDGES.

Bennett's Meadow Bridge, joining Great Meadow and Bennett's Meadow, on the highway to Mount Hermon School, Gill, Bernardston and Greenfield. Built in 1898-99 by the Franklin County Commissioners, at a cost of about \$40,000. Reversed cantilever style, the support of the iron superstructure being wholly on the two masonry piers, thus leaving the river unobstructed. Total length, 612 feet; river span, 360 feet; two shore spans, each 108 feet; height of under side at the centre above the ordinary summer level of the river, forty feet; height of top of iron work, eighty-six feet. The steel superstructure weighs 304 tons, and is supported upon two granite piers, the westerly of which is founded upon a ledge of rock which juts out into the river, while the easterly pier is built upon a concrete and pile foundation.

Schell Memorial Bridge, connecting East Northfield and West Northfield. Erected by Francis Robert Schell in 1902-03 in memory of his father and mother, and presented to the town. River span, 352 feet; two shore spans, eighty feet each; total length between abutments, 512 feet. Its under side, at the centre of the span, is forty-eight feet above the ordinary summer level of the Connecticut, and its top ninety-five feet. The steel superstructure, which weighs 265 tons, is supported upon two granite piers which are built upon concrete and pile foundations. The abutments are of concrete, reinforced with steel beams and bars, and faced with granite ashlar. Upon each abutment, at the right side, is a bronze tablet bearing this memorial inscription:

"This bridge is erected in memory of Robert and Mary Schell of New York, by their son, Francis Robert Schell. 1903."

The cost of the bridge was over \$42,000. The designer and chief engineer was Edward S. Shaw of Boston, who also designed the Bennett's Meadow Bridge, of which the Schell Bridge is almost a twin.

Railway Bridge. In 1849 a double-deck wooden bridge was built over the Connecticut at this point. The upper deck was used by the Vermont & Massachusetts Railway, the lower being the only highway across the river in the township. This plan was relinquished when the other bridges were built for traffic, and the railway built the present steel structure in 1904-05. The distance from shore to shore at the face of the masonry is 750 feet, and the height from the base of rails to the river is seventy-two feet. Weight of steel in the structure, 1,504,400 pounds.

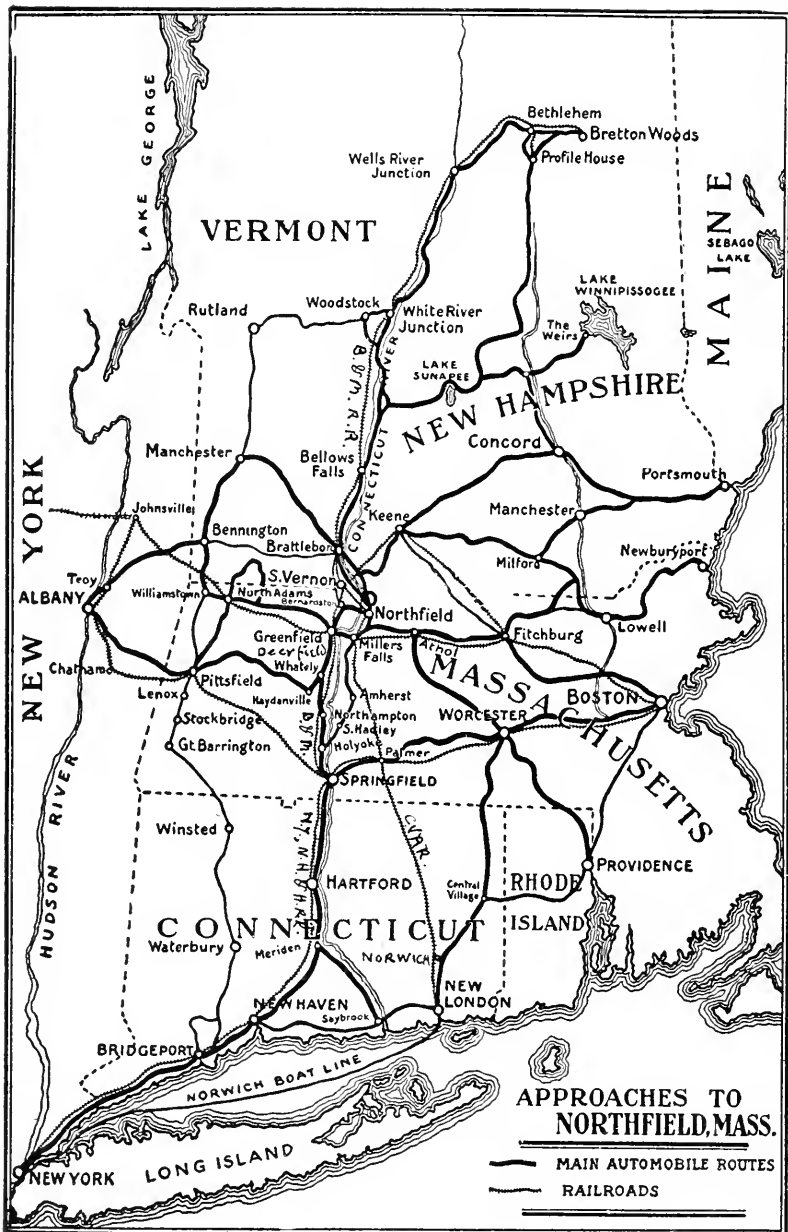
FERRIES.

Two ferries are still supported by the towns of Northfield and Gill—**Munn's Ferry** and **Gill Ferry**. These are not only conveniences in crossing the river during the summer, but also picturesque relics of an old-time necessity fast disappearing before the advance in bridge building.

The flat-bottomed ferry boat is pulled back and forth by the ferryman by means of a heavy half-inch wire stretched from bank to bank. His compensation is in part derived from the small tolls collected of passengers.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Northfield Hose Company meets twice a month for practice and drill. Equipment: Hose cart and 3000 feet of hose, and hand ladder truck. The equipment is kept in a building at the rear of the Town Hall. Members are paid for their services by the town. The water pressure is eighty to ninety pounds. Fire chief, Albert W. Meade.



RAILROAD STATIONS.

Northfield. The Vermont & Massachusetts Railroad built its road throughout Northfield and opened the depot at the foot of Parker Avenue in 1850. In 1887 the depot was changed to a freight house and a new depot was built. The latter was burnt in 1902 and the present building was then erected. The road was leased later to the Central Vermont Railroad, and is now controlled by the Grand Trunk. The usual schedule gives three passenger trains each way daily, with an unlimited number of freight trains between Canada and the Atlantic seaboard. Incoming freight for Northfield is chiefly coal and merchandise; outgoing freight, lumber and farm produce. Station agent, G. W. Ellison.

West Northfield and South Vernon, on the west bank of the Connecticut River, just south of the state line. Used jointly by the Central Vermont Railroad and the Boston & Maine Railroad for its Connecticut & Passumpsic Division, and the Ashuelot Branch. About thirty passenger trains daily use this junction, and scores of freight trains. This depot is used largely by passengers from the north, west and south for the East Northfield schools and conferences. Station agent, F. A. Adams.

Mount Hermon. This depot on the Boston & Maine Railroad (Connecticut & Passumpsic Division) was opened in 1885, chiefly for the convenience of the school. Five trains daily make regular stops here. It is the home of Mount Hermon post-office and the American Express office. Station agent, Charles D. Streeter.

Gill. Flag station on the Central Vermont Railroad, three miles south of Northfield. The proximity of Munn's Ferry enables this station to serve the convenience of residents of Gill.

Northfield Farms. On the Central Vermont Railroad, six miles south of Northfield. Station agent, Don Sprague.

RAILROAD DISTANCES.

	MILES		MILES
Northfield to		Fabyan's (White	
West Northfield	2	Mountains)	156
Gill	3	Montreal	264
Northfield Farms	6	Mount Hermon	3
Millers Falls	9	Greenfield	13
Amherst	24	Northampton	32
Palmer	44	Holyoke	42
Norwich	96	Springfield	50
New London	109	Hartford	76
Boston via Mil-		New Haven	112
lers Falls	107	New York	185
		Keene	24
West Northfield or		Troy via Green-	
South Vernon to		field	98
Brattleboro	10	Rochester via	
Bellows Falls	34	Greenfield	319
White River Jct.	74	Buffalo via	
Wells River Jct.	115	Greenfield	388

AMERICAN EXPRESS OFFICES.

At **Northfield** depot. Dwight L. Proctor, agent. Wagon makes one trip daily through Northfield and East Northfield; more if necessary.

At **West Northfield and South Vernon** depot. Fred Barrows, agent.

At **Mount Hermon** depot. Charles D. Streeter, agent.

At **Northfield Farms** depot. Don Sprague, agent.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

The Western Union Telegraph Company has offices at Northfield, East Northfield and West Northfield. The rate to points in Massachusetts, Con-

necticut, Rhode Island and nearby towns in Vermont and New Hampshire is twenty-five cents. New York, thirty cents. Buffalo, forty cents.

TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The Northfield Exchange covers Northfield, East Northfield, West Northfield, Northfield Farms and Mount Hermon, and South Vernon.

“Long distance” connections can be made according to the following schedule:

Ten cent toll—Millers Falls, Turners Falls, Hinsdale, Ashuelot, Winchester, Warwick, Erving.

Fifteen cent toll—Greenfield, Bernardston, Gill, Brattleboro, Athol, Orange, Farley.

Twenty cent toll—South Deerfield, Keene.

Twenty-five cent toll—Northampton, Williamstown, Amherst.

Springfield, Mass.	\$.30	Fitchburg	\$.30
Hartford, Conn.	.50	Worcester	.30
New Haven, Conn.	.75	Palmer	.30
New York City	1.25	Boston	.50

TOWN ASSETS, 1910.

Schoolhouses	\$14,000 00
Public library	20,000 00
Other public buildings	11,000 00
Other real estate	3,000 00
Cemeteries	500 00
Fire apparatus	800 00
Trust funds	8,470 00
A. M. D. Alexander fund and interest	6,520 50
Town tools	100 00
Town Hall furnishings	1,000 00
Schoolhouse furnishings	1,500 00
Hearse	600 00
Schoolhouse lot	3,800 00
Memorial fountain	1,900 00
Total	<u>\$73,190 50</u>

ASSESSMENTS FOR 1910-11.

TOWN APPROPRIATIONS.

Bennett's Meadow Bridge debt	\$ 1,410 00
Town Hall debt	600 00
East Northfield schoolhouse debt	400 00
Sidewalks debt	400 00
Field lot debt	300 00
Schools in general	3,600 00
School books	450 00
School repairs	300 00
School conveyance	700 00
Superintendent of schools	300 00
Contingent and poor	3,500 00
Highways	3,000 00
Library	700 00
Tax collector	200 00
Tree warden	150 00
School physician	50 00
High school building	1,000 00
Memorial Day	50 00
Cemeteries	150 00
Graveling West Northfield highway	300 00
Building new Pierson Road	300 00
Plowing snow	50 00
Tables for Town Hall	25 00
Unitarian Church sheds	100 00
Glenwood Avenue extension	100 00
Enforcing State motor laws and erecting signs	25 00
New boat, Munn's Ferry	300 00
State tax for 1909-10	1,620 00
State highway tax for 1909-10	57 85
County tax for 1909-10	2,445 70

BONDED DEBT, 1910.

Bennett's Meadow Bridge bonds payable \$500 annually with interest at 3½%	\$25,500 00
East Northfield schoolhouse, payable \$400 an- nually	1,200 00
Town Hall, payable \$600 annually	2,400 00
Sidewalks, payable \$400 annually	800 00
Total	<hr/> \$29,900 00

SUMMARY OF VALUATION AND TAXES, 1909-10.

Residents assessed on property—individuals	416
All others	43
	<hr/>
	459
Non-residents assessed on property—individuals	193
All others	14
	<hr/>
	207
Persons assessed on property	666
Polls only	147
	<hr/>
	813
Male polls assessed	427
Male polls exempt	15
Horses assessed	440
Cows assessed	660
Neat cattle assessed	249
Sheep assessed	131
Swine assessed	106
Dwelling houses assessed	535
Acres of land assessed	19,691 $\frac{7}{8}$
Value of assessed personal estate	\$ 223,725 00
Value of assessed real estate—buildings	714,404 00
Value of assessed real estate—land	415,184 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,129,588 00
Total	\$1,353,313 00
Rate of total tax per \$1,000	\$ 16 00
Tax on each male poll	2 00
Tax for state, county and town purposes, including overlay—on personal estate	\$ 3,579 60
Real estate	18,073 40
Polls	824 00
	<hr/>
	\$22,477 00

AFTERWORD

THE compilation of this volume has led the writer to feel increasingly that there is both need and room for a more detailed record than this of the life and times in Northfield since 1875.

Northfield would undoubtedly prove to be an illuminative example of the typical New England town of the nineteenth century if the stories about its people and their doings were collected. Doubtless the elderly members of the community have memories rich in anecdote, which ought to be recorded before it is too late. Old title deeds and documents would repay another search. There must be papers and pictures of historic value in the possession of the older families. An interesting and valuable chapter might be written upon public buildings (such as the old Trinitarian Church) that have meant much in the life of the town and are passing away all too rapidly. The migration of the young people to the cities and to the West, the rigid observance of Sunday before the Civil War, the political strifes over the abolition of slavery, stories of occult happenings, the deserted farms on the hills, traceable now by the foundations of the houses and the orchards run wild, the eccentric characters and striking personalities, stories of love and disappointment and romance—there is plentiful material for a more detailed and ambitious history than this aims to be.

A Mary Wilkins may yet arise who will find both inspiration and subjects in Northfield, while the colonial times afford an attractive setting for historical novels based on real life.

Northfield's future welfare is in a peculiar sense in the hands of the townspeople of today. True, the physical beauty of its setting is, in the larger

outlines, independent of man. The river and the hills do not change. But what special attractiveness would the hills have if stripped of their woods? What would Main Street be without its rows of stately trees? In absence of manufacturing facilities these are Northfield's great natural attractions, and should be generously preserved, extended, perpetuated. The existence of a healthy, far-sighted public sentiment regarding them is a promising sign. The townspeople should be so imbued with a sense of their value that new residents and even passing visitors must catch the enthusiasm and appreciation.

Every passing year also adds to the value of Northfield's historic associations. Why not familiarize ourselves more thoroughly with them? Why not revive the picturesque Indian names, whose meanings are so distinctive? Why not add to the antiquarian documents and articles in Dickinson Library? Northfield surely has the possibility of building up a valuable historical museum. Many precious relics that were deposited in the Deerfield museum some years ago should now more rightly be on exhibit here. No move has yet been made by the town to gather and preserve articles connected with D. L. Moody. Another generation will look with veneration on his trundle bed, and on the old family Bible and book of devotions used daily by his mother at the family altar. Every year that such articles are neglected increases the risk of their loss.

In its larger relations the future of Northfield is of course wrapped up in the future of New England rural life. And what of that? Let ex-Governor John D. Long reply:

"There is no fear for the future of New England rural life. It will be a different life from that of a generation or two ago. It will be not a unique but a conglomerate population. It will not be a Puritan New England, but it will be the New England of the twentieth century, with a seaboard rich in

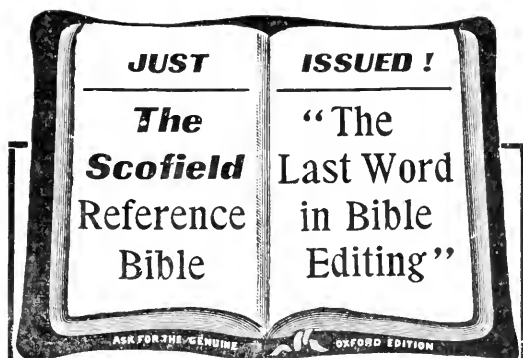
foreign commerce, with great cities, with factories and all sorts of skilled industry dotting its inland, with the most improved means of locomotion everywhere from hamlet to centre, and with its fields and farms cultured and productive, furnishing the living and the profit of the farmer who depends on the soil, or representing the wealth and leisure of those who retire or turn to country life and expend upon it the surplus of their profits gained in commerce or manufacture."

Meanwhile, local intelligence and pride ought to make local history and geography and biography a part of the earliest instruction of every child in the schools and in the home.

A. P. F.



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