



SHIRLEY VILLAGE, MASSACHUSETTS, IN 1863

SHIRLEY UPLANDS AND INTERVALS

ANNALS OF A BORDER TOWN
OF OLD MIDDLESEX, WITH
SOME GENEALOGICAL SKETCHES

By ETHEL STANWOOD BOLTON



GEORGE EMERY LITTLEFIELD
BOSTON, 1914

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TO MY SON
GEOFFREY BOLTON
BORN AT
POUND HILL PLACE

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Pen and ink drawings are by the author

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helped me in many ways, as have Herman S. Hazen, John E. L. Hazen, Jacob P. Hazen, Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Lawton, Alvin Lawton and John R. Holden and Peter Tarbell, of Ayer. Mr. Charles E. Goodspeed has called my attention to much that would have escaped my notice. More than all, my thanks are due to Emerson S. Parker, his sister Pamela, and their cousin James C. C. Parker, who not only lent, but gave me, all their family papers. I would acknowledge here the debt I owe to many more whom I do not name, for their encouragement in this enterprise.

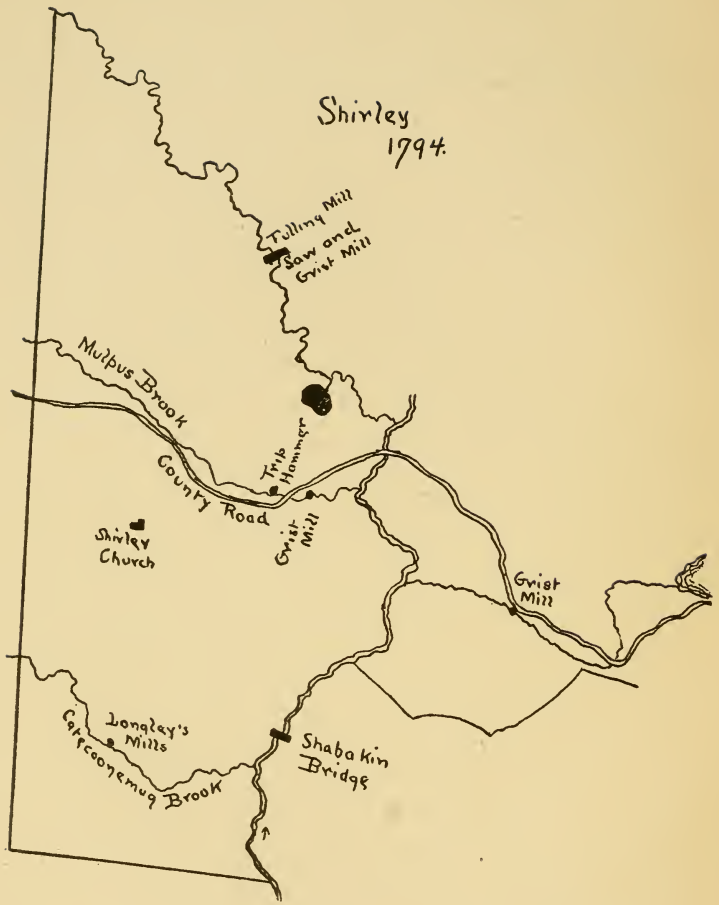
POUND HILL PLACE,
July, 1914.

I

A BORDER TOWN OF OLD MIDDLESEX

IN THESE days it is hard for us to realize that each Massachusetts town in turn was in truth a border town, menaced by the Indians, and struggling with the unbroken forest to push the ploughed fields a little farther west. Think of one's peaceful lawn echoing to the war-whoop, and the house across the road, now marked by an old cellar-hole, burning during the massacre. Yet these things happened, and our ancestors tried with never-failing persistence to conquer their obstacles. Here in Shirley, on the border of old Middlesex, we hear less of pioneer times, since no tragic occurrences marked the early days of settlement; yet all over the town were houses whose wooden walls were lined with brick, or something equally repellent to the arrows of the marauding Indian. This last town of old Middlesex, this nursling of an older town, lies along the Nashua as it flows northward. In shape it resembles a child's awkward attempt to write the letter D. Boldly the downward stroke was made along the western towns of Townsend and Lunenburg, straight east across the Lancaster line, then wavering up along the Nashua and Squannacook, making the D so broken-backed and wavy. Within these bounds lie the uplands and lowlands, marshes, woods and hills of the town. From south to northwest extends an irregular line of hills with narrow gaps between. The southernmost, in Stow Leg, on the Shaker and Hazen farms, bears

Shirley
1794.



no name, except on its southeast end which was once called Round Hill. The next, north of the village, once was Catacoonemug Hill; now, divided by the road, it bears a divided name. The western part is called the Major Hill, the eastern Davis Hill. Northwest along the Lunenburg line lie Robbs Hill, Page Hill, and Chaplin Hill, with Benjamin Hill to the east. Benjamin Hill once had on its eastern slope a bound for farms known as Tin Corner. One deed explains that it was a "white oak with tin in it," but that leaves us almost as mystified as before. The northwest slope of Benjamin Hill has always been known as Pound Hill, because the first pound was there. The hill or plateau on which the Centre is built has no name, nor has the longer plateau where the North School stands, but west of these going north are the Deacon Hill, back of the old poor-farm, Davis's Hunting Hill on the Townsend line, and the Ridge. East of the Townsend Road and north of Mulpus Brook lie Rattlesnake Hill and the Brattle Woods, and farther east still Squannacook Hill, along the river. These hills form part of the eastern barrier of a huge glacial lake which once filled our valleys and lowlands to the west and south. Out of the gaps in the hills, where now flow our peaceful brooks, the Mulpus and the Catacoonemug, flowed torrential glacial streams from melting ice to the west. Even these hills themselves were once ice covered, and were worn to their present rounded contours by the constant, long erosion of the ice. And now nothing is left of that time but our rounded hills and boulders, and the ghosts of the polar bears that once gambolled over our chimney pots.

After the era of ice came the era of man, and the In-

dian occupied the lands. Almost every frontier town has more antiquarian remains than ours to connect it with the Indian and his time, either in the form of kitchen-middens, arrow-heads, shell deposits, or the less tangible one of names. Almost nothing here in Shirley is left of that time. No one ploughs up arrowheads or broken pottery, and Catacoonemug is the only Indian name that remains to us. Dr. Green says that all Shirley was known by that name to the Indian, and that the white man has restricted it to the hill, the brook, and the great sandy plain near the Nashua in the southeastern part of town. There are no traditions here of massacres or troubles, though Groton and Lancaster, north and south of us, suffered extremely, and more than once; so that the dawn of the white man here was tranquil, and somewhat wrapped in obscurity.

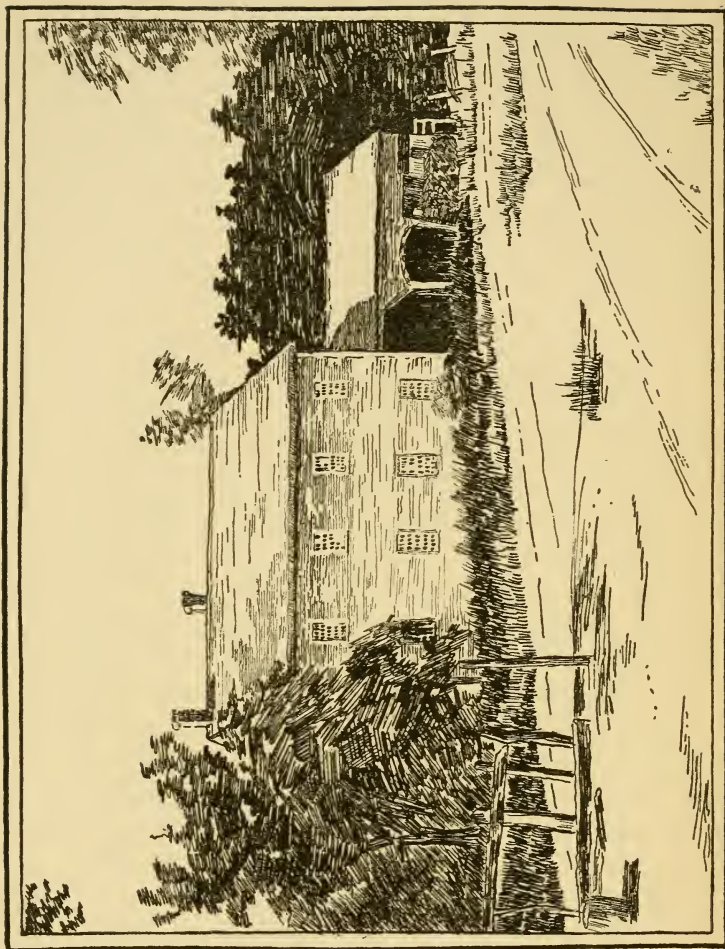
Indians did not entirely disappear from the land for eighty years, though they were rare enough to be a curiosity. In March of the year 1770 James Parker writes in his Diary, "their was 7 or 8 Injons Squaws at Mr. Ivory's. I Bought a Broom & a Basket of them." In 1797, he records meeting "a Company of Injons" at a trooping.

One tale of Indians has come down to us, and one ghost story of those days. Mr. Edwin L. White, who owned the basket-shop on Mulpus some years ago, said that Stewart Phelps, who lived on the Groton Road, told how one of his ancestors came over to Shirley and built a cabin on Sugar Loaf Hill. The hill lay to the east of Mr. White's, and was levelled to allow the eastern wing of his great house to be built. There were just the man and his wife. The Indians became rather hos-

tile, and the little family decided to move to Lancaster. So one morning the man rose early and started to go for help in his moving. The wife saw two Indians come up the river after he had left. They drew up their canoe on the bank and came toward the house, so she pulled in the latch-string, barricaded the door and then hid herself. The Indians came to the house and stayed around for some time. After a while they left and she undid her door. About four o'clock her husband came with some men and they moved to Lancaster.

As early as 1745 there was a house on this same place, for a Page was born there that year. Simon Page was the settler. Page built a small house, with one story, two rooms below, and an open attic. The truth is that this is the type of the first framed houses all over town. Oliver, the twelfth and youngest son, turned the house half round, added two more rooms and a second story. This he crowned with a hip roof so that it looked much as the Joseph Hazen house looks today. Mr. White made the great addition in 1862 when Wood's Village was a thriving place, building army wagons. The oldest Page house can still be seen in the two eastern rooms of the main house. Simon Page married Hannah Gilson, the daughter of our first miller.

The Mulpus was a goodly stream for a mill, and early in the eighteenth century Eleazer Gilson came from Groton to set up a rival to the "old mill" in Harvard. The distance from Groton was almost as great as that to the "old mill," but as that was always taxed to the limit of its capacity, the new one prospered from the first. Eleazer married Hannah, daughter of Joseph and Hannah Farwell, on her eighteenth birthday, and



JAMES WILSON'S CARDING MILL, THE GREAT ROAD

it is probable that it was in that year, 1719, that he settled at the mill. Here on February 19, 1720, Eleazer the younger was born, the first white child that we are absolutely sure was born in our territory. We can hardly realize the isolation of these young people, for when the Groton proprietors granted him three acres "lying near his mill pond" and "bounding east on his own land" every other bound was on "common land," which means unbroken forest and no neighbors. His mill-dam was the one just west of "Kilbourn's Red Mill," so called in later years. You can still see the abutments of heavy stone if you are brave enough to crawl through the bushes. The Gilsons stayed until 1727, and then they sold the mill and its belongings, and all the land to Ebenezer Sprague. The Gilson family started another mill on Stony Brook in Groton, sold that and moved to Pepperell. There Eleazer became one of the "first citizens" as well as the first miller. Just opposite the mill-dam, at the cross-roads, a ghost of an Indian brave was supposed to "walk o'nights." No one has ever seen the ghost to my knowledge except Mr. Edwin White. He saw something white there one night as he was going toward home, but when he had worked his courage up to meet the ghost, he found it was only an old white horse peacefully grazing.

Ebenezer Sprague stayed but three years, just long enough for his son, Ebenezer, to be born, and then he sold all Gilson had sold him, and thirty-seven acres more to Seth Walker. He sold a "farm on both sides of Mulpus Brook containing a dwelling house, barn, saw-mill and corn-mill." I think, as the deeds read, that the mill was on the north side of Mulpus, because the

greater part of the land was on that side. Walker held the mill till 1742, and, being then of Narragansett No. 2, sold it all to Francis Harris of Watertown, our most famous

1798

John Harris

mill on the Mulpus. The land contained fifty-seven acres, with a "highway through"—the Great Road—which Groton had by that time laid out. It was at this mill site, in 1828, when James Wilson owned it, that an incident occurred of which Mr. Herman Hazen used to speak. His grandfather, Stephen Longley, spent all one Sunday morning sawing a log almost in two; the log was used as a foot-bridge across Mulpus Brook near the mill where the water was deep. There he lay in the bushes until Oliver Laughton, who was courting Polly Phelps Jennerson, should come across in his Sunday clothes. Laughton came, and was ducked. Mr. Hazen says that his grandfather would work very hard for a result like this.

Mr. Chandler has told about the later mills so well and so fully that it is unnecessary for anyone else to attempt the task. It is only the inaccessibility of the very early records, that makes this supplement of any avail. All kinds of things have been made in Shirley at one time or another, and one can find dams and mill sites on streams that have now grown so small as to be dry for half the year. One dam can still be found on the small



JOSEPH EDGARTON
BORN 1777



MEHITABLE WHITCOMB
WIFE OF JOSEPH EDGARTON



stream which runs south through the land now owned by Mr. James P. Tolman.

The Longleys, who started the mills on the Catacoone-mug, built their first mill on the north bank, for the "road to the mill" on the north bank of the brook was laid out by the town and accepted very early in its history. I believe that there has been a dispute of late upon this question, but the road has never been discontinued as a public highway.

Mulpus has had four distinct "water privileges," one just south of the poor-farm and three east of the Horse Pond Road. The Catacoonemug has three mill sites, and Bow Brook one. This, with the one upon the Nashua, makes nine, a goodly number for so small a town. Those on the Mulpus are all abandoned but one, the haul to the railroad track being too far. The rest are all still doing their work.



MAP OF LOCAL NAMES IN SHIRLEY

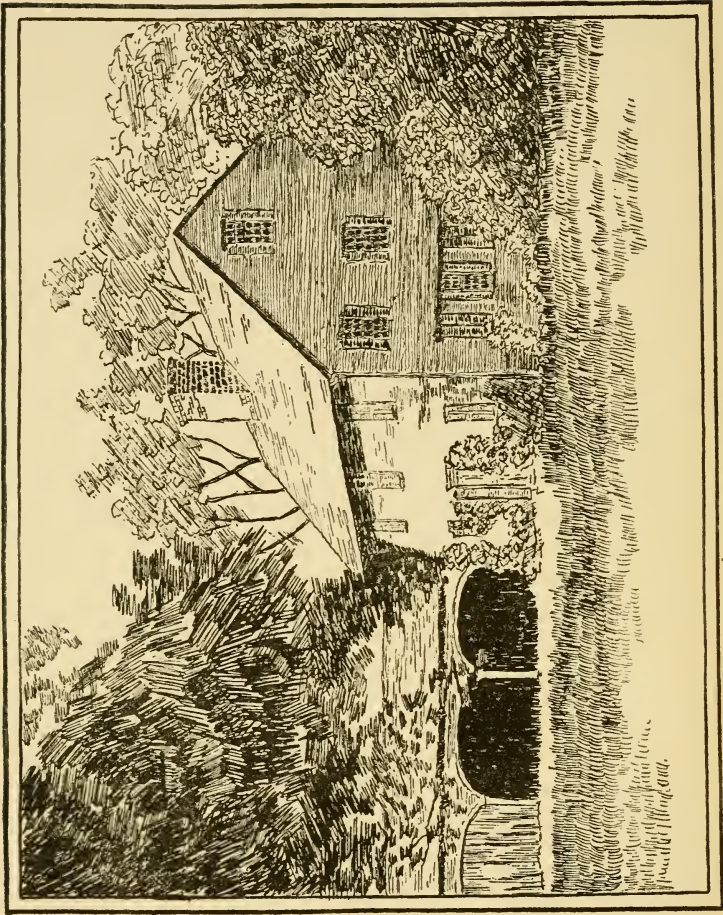
II

THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FARMER

IN THE old days, when methods of work about the house and farm were prized for their hoary antiquity rather than, as now, for their novelty, and all farmers did as their ancestors had done, there was hardly a man in the New England towns who was not engaged in the pleasant occupation of farming. The storekeeper and the miller plowed, harrowed, and cultivated in the intervals of their other work, and the minister himself hung up his gown after the last service on Sunday, and, like the rest of the community, worked his land on Monday morning. A century ago each town owned a farm, the use of which was allowed the minister, rent free, as a part of his salary.

The struggle in modern times is for the money to buy the necessities of life; then there was less to buy, and each man was dependent on his own exertions to get the necessities themselves from the soil or from the stock which he could afford to keep.

In those days, aside from the work which the miller or the itinerant cobbler performed, each farm was a nearly self-supporting entity, both for food and clothing. In modern times the great English artist, printer, and socialist, William Morris, founded a settlement which tried to be independent of the outside world, growing and making all its own necessities and luxuries. The experiment was no more of a success than Mr. Alcott's



SQUIRE JAMES PARKER'S HOUSE, VALLEY ROAD

similar scheme at Fruitlands, in the town of Harvard. In our great-grandfathers' time, however, this was no experiment, curious and interesting, but a fact to be reckoned with from day to day throughout their lives.

The village store sold the few luxuries of life—white and brown sugar, salt, West Indian goods, such as molasses and spices, and, most of all, New England rum.

Nearly every town boasted a foundry, where articles were made by hand, which would be far beyond the ability of our modern blacksmith. Here were made the plows and scythes, if the foundry was equipped with a trip hammer; shovels and hoes for outside work; nails for the carpenter, from the great iron spike to the shingle nail. The tools the carpenter used also came from the hands of the local blacksmith. In many country towns, old garrets will yield great chisels, primitive axes, and wrought iron bitstocks, all made by hand and testifying to the excellence of workmanship by their age and condition. The household utensils, too, were his work, the fire dogs, toasting racks, hobs, iron kettles, skillets, and an endless array of less common things; and all this in addition to the shoeing of horses and oxen.

From 1770 to 1830 almost without a break, a good man of Shirley kept a line-a-day diary, and from that I am going to quote, from the four seasons of the year, to show the dull routine of work in which the lives of our grandfathers and great-grandfathers were passed; how it lacked the diversified interests which we consider necessary to our happiness today, and yet how little the unrest of modern times enters into any of its spirit.

Take these short sketches of the life of James Parker, known as "Squire James," a young and newly married man in 1770:

January 1. I went to Groton as an Evidence against Th^o Little at Colo. Prescott, & from thence to my Mothers, & Lodged there that Night & It Rained that Night & Carried off all the Snow.

Ye 2 Day Moses Dickenson Cut Hogshed Pools on Philemons Holdens Land. Cold weather for Until ye 6, & then warm & Rainy. Ye [6] I was gone from home all this week. Moses was gone 5 Days to old M^r Graves &c.

Ye 8 Day It Cleared of Cold, & their was a Great flood. Ye same day Moses Dickinson Brought 200 of Hogs^d whop poles. Ye Same Day I cleaned up my Oats, 5 Bushels

I worked att Mr Ivorys this 13 Day, & ground, & Boutled 3 Bushel of my own wheat for Doc^t Taylor. It snowed some this Day, & cleared off att Night. Ye snow Came about 8 Inches Deep.

Ye 15 Day I went to Lunenburgh & Carried Doc^t Taylor $\frac{3}{4}$ Q^r 22 lb $\frac{3}{4}$. A Cold Day as Ever you See. Moses Dressed flax for Philemon Holden.

Ye 16 Day Sleded wood for myself.

Ye 17 I Load my Cord of Bark, & sent to Wesford by Fletcher; it was fair & cold.

Later on in April he began the spring house-cleaning that has to be done on every farm, and we find fencing, plowing and kindred occupations taking the place of the barn and indoor work.

April ye 3. Jonas & I went to George Perces, & had a scag, & also we went to Phelps.

Ye 5 Day was ye Fast.

Ye 7 Day I finished keeping school at Dacon Longleys. Their I keep it one week.

Ye 9 I Begun to Lay Loague fence; & Mr Ivorys mill wheal Brook, & I went & sawed some stuff for Another. Moses Cleared Down the Brook. Nabby went to ye forge & my wife ye Same Day. It was a Cold Backward Weather, or Season.

Ye 12 My old Cow Calved. Nabey went to M^r Whitneys. Paul Dickinson Came & Swaped jacoats with Moses. Jonas made me a Cagg; my stear Bill Broak this same Day.

Ye 13 Jonas went to Groton this 13 & 14 Days. Moses & I Layed Up my loag fence. It Rained a little this Day, or Else their was no rain for a Month.

Ye 15 was warm, like spring the most of any.

Ye 16 Moses went and Brought my Plow from Hastings. Jonas Came to my house. It was warm it Rained at Night.

Ye 17 Moses went away to old Graveses.

Ye 18 Jonas & I walked out, & he went with B. L.*

Ye 19 I Plowed at Cattacunemug Farm. Jonas went away this morning. wentworth made my Plow Plates this Day.

The midsummer work is most interesting to us because our modern methods are so very different. In July, with us now, the farmer thinks of nothing but hay and again hay. Here during the first two weeks of July, Parker makes not one allusion to that most necessary product.

July Ye 3 & 4 I Helped M^r Sam^l Walker with my oxen Brake Up. It was very Coul for the season. Moses worked for y^e old Graves, then went to Beamans.

Ye 5 I sot out some tobacco Plants.

Ye 6. I Helped Philemon Holden Brake Up with my Oxen. We went with 16 Oxen.

Ye 7. I Begun to how my Purtatoes at Cattacunemug farm. Moses was at Beamans. It was very Dry weather, & Coul Nights.

Ye 10 Day finished howing this Day at my Purtatoes. Hired Na^l. Chase half ye Day to help me. I swaped hats y^e same.

Ye 11 I went to John Littles for Cherries. I begun to hill my Corn att home ye Same Day. It Still Remained Dry Weather.

Ye 12 Day Jest att Night their was a fine Shower. Fine showers the Day following.

Ye 13 & 14 I was hilling Corn att home.

Ye 16 I finished Brakeing up my great field, father Willard helped me & with his oxen. Elijah Ju^r. Helped me with his father's four, & I had M^r Ivorys, & Joshua Chases. I finished in the four noon.

*Betty Little.

All this shows the constant reiteration of plowing, mowing, raking, hoeing, all done by hand or with the slow-paced oxen. How many lessons in patience the farmer learned in those days, and what a dignified ease there was about it all!

In October preparations for the winter began.

October ye 1 I thrashed my Beans, & Brought home; & Carried 16 Bushell of Ashes to W^m Longleys Potash.

Ye 2 I Brought home a Pigg from S^d Longleys, & I went to fathers Wil^d.

Ye 3 I carried 2 Barriels for Elijah Wilds to fill with syder. Wentworth Griped for my Cart. It was a Cold Storm.

Ye 4. I Begun to Dig my Purtatoes at Cat^g. Fetched two Barrels of syder with my stears from Hazens mill.

Ye 5 I Carried my 5 Barrels to father Wil^d, & got Nine Bushell of Appels for winter. It was warm weather.

Ye 6 I got in my stalks & husked.

Ye 8 I fixed my hovel. It still remained warm.

Ye 9 I begun to Harvest my Corn.

A little later, after frost had set in, more animals were killed—cattle, sheep, and pigs—and frozen. The creatures were hung whole in the attic or in some convenient shed, and represented the winter's supply. Apples were dried or turned into cider, for few were kept in barrels for the winter's use, as we now keep them.

December This 1 Day of December Came In Like a Lion. I was Tending mills at M^r Ivory's.

Ye 3 James Dickenson has 135 feet of Boards. Fine this Day.

Ye 4 M^r Ivory Helped me kill my fat Stear. He weighed 82 $\frac{1}{4}$ Q^r

Ye 5 Jonas Parker, & W^m Wasson was att my house at knight, & got his new Coloaths, & they swaped theirs; & I swaped with Jonas ye same (knight.)

Ye 6 Day, was thanksgiving. Jonas Parker, James Dickerson, Nathan Willard went to supper att my house.

Ye 7 I & my wife went to father Willards. It was warm these Days & but little snow. A Great many wedings this week in several Towns.

Ye 8 I carried 14 Bushels of ashes to Longleys.

Ye 10 I sledged some Coper stuff, & fetched home some Cloath from Deacon Longley.

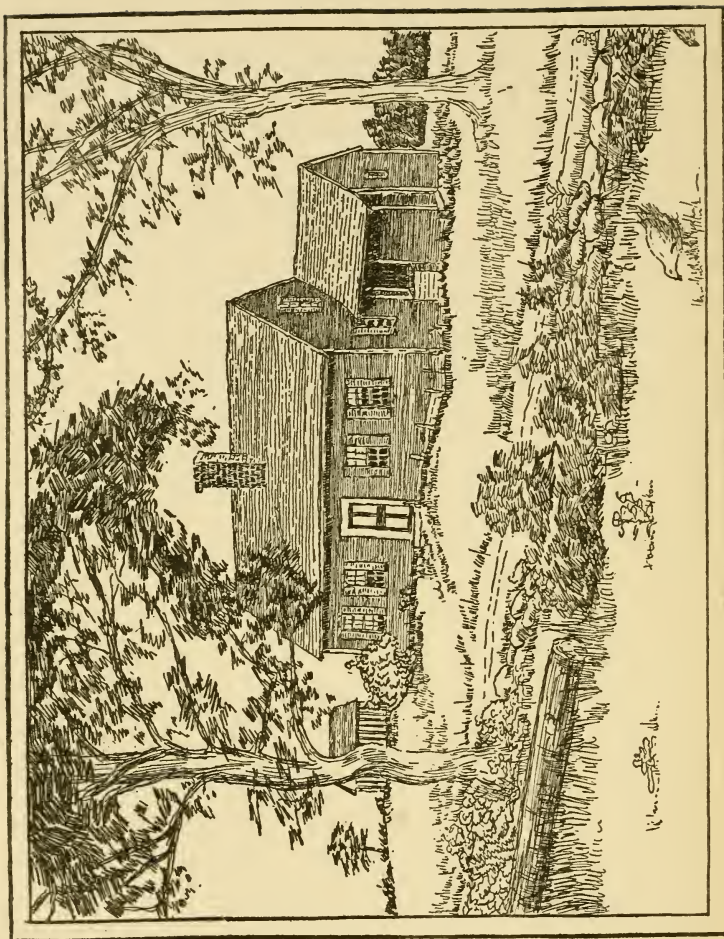
Ye 11 I worked att ye Mills, some Att Longleys.

Ye 12 I carried 6½^{lb} Cotton to Peter Willards. It was warm weather, & very little Snow.

Most towns had cider mills in which the neighbors had rights. The mills were usually stone-walled and sometimes were cut into a hillside, like a cellar open in front. Inside was the great press, which was worked by a horse going round and round, harnessed to a great bar overhead. The size of the press is evidence of the universal use of cider.

There is one note which is dominant throughout the diary, and that is one of mutual helpfulness. When haying time came, it was not each man for himself, but all the men of a small neighborhood worked together, and harvested the hay from each farm until it was all well housed. Even then the harvest was slow in comparison with what our modern machinery will accomplish. If any were in trouble, help was immediate and practical. If a man were sick and the burden fell on the woman alone, the cattle were tended and the work done by the neighbors.

The food of our forefathers has always had a certain enchantment. Who can read of the chicken roasting on the spit before the open fire without wanting a taste; or who can listen to the tales of one's grandmother about the great bakings of these days without a feeling of longing? In hunting over dry deeds in the Court House in Cambridge, I came across one which interested me very



HEZEKIAH PATTERSON'S HOUSE, CLARK ROAD

much, as it gave an enlightening touch to the question which to all housekeepers is a most vivid daily one—the food problem.

In 1823, Hezekiah Patterson, who lived in the eastern part of Shirley, being old and tired of the responsibility of farming, sold his forty-eight acres of land and his house and barn to Thomas Hazen Clark, in exchange for the support of himself and his wife, Jane, for the rest of their lives. They reserved room enough for their horse and its hay in the barn, and room enough in the house for themselves, and then gave an itemized account of what they called “support” for one year.

“6 bushels of rye
 6 bushels of indian Corn
 1 bbl. white flour
 200 lbs. Shoat pork
 100 lbs. beef
 $\frac{1}{2}$ quintal of Cod-fish
 60 lbs of butter
 60 lbs. of cheese
 2 lbs. of Sou Chong tea
 2 lbs. of chocolate
 1 lb. of Coffee
 5 “ loaf Sugar
 30 “ brown sugar.
 10 gals. New England Rum
 1 “ West Indian Rum
 6 “ Molasses
 2 bushels of Salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ of white beans
 15 “ potatoes
 $\frac{1}{2}$ of all the cider and enough wood for the fire.”

This yearly *menu* hardly suggests variety, but it was at least sweet and substantial.

While the men worked in the fields and tended the cattle, the women had their many duties, too. Their

energies were demanded for so many things that a house-keeper in those days need be an expert along many lines. Men in those days ate simple things, and simple cooking, like very plain clothes, must be so much the better intrinsically. The food that is simple must be well seasoned or well cooked to tempt, while a complicated dish disguises its poor cooking by its high seasoning, as a badly cut dress may be made to look well by its many furbelows. Baking in a brick oven was an art. The oven was filled with wood, lighted and burned out, making the bricks of the right degree of heat. Then the oven must be cleaned. At the farthest end were put the beans, followed by the brown bread, Indian pudding, white bread, pies, and cake. These were allowed to stay, and were taken out in the reverse order from that in which I have named them. All other cooking must be done over the coals of a great wood fire, or in a tin kitchen placed on the hearth. As late as the days of your town clerk's mother, Mrs. Ann Longley Hazen, a large turkey was roasted in the tin oven before the fire with the drip pan beneath. We may imagine that the table service in a country farmhouse was not complicated. It was etiquette to eat with the knife, as forks had not come into use. Pewter and old blue iron ware abounded; copper, also, was much used, and must have added color to the kitchen. After the inner man was satisfied, the wife must still clothe her husband, herself, and her children. Cloth could, of course, be bought, but as a rule was far too expensive for anything but a farmer's very best. Homespun was the general wear, and to make homespun the wool had to be taken from their own sheep oftentimes to make their clothes, and

all the process after the shearing and washing fell to the woman's share. I believe that there were itinerant tailoresses later on, but of course only the well-to-do could afford such luxuries. The flax, too, had to be spun and woven. Many houses throughout the country still show the old loom room, where the loom stood for generations. Many parts of old looms can still be found, reeds, shuttles, needles, and heddles.

Stockings had to be knit and many endless tasks performed to keep the family warm and dry. Often the man of the family did part of the cobbling of his children's shoes and his own.

Candles must be made for light, and candle dipping was a hard and dirty task. It took skill to make them round and even. Later molds came in fashion and made the task easier and less dirty. Soap had to be made for the family use. These were tasks in addition to the ordinary sweeping, cooking, and housework which every house demands. Floors were scrubbed with soap and sand until they were white—and they were kept so by the thrifty housekeeper.

Nearly every town had a man whose occupation must have been picturesque—the hatter—who made those enormous beaver hats which looked almost like fur, that men wore years ago. It took him a long time to make a hat, and when it was done the owner wore it proportionately long.

And when all the work was done, they gathered around the great fireplace, in the candlelight. The light, even until kerosene came to be used, was very poor, and in those days one read with the paper or book in one hand and the candle in the other, so that it might be moved

back and forth before the print. The picture that one has is the coziest in the world, but contemporaries tell us that the reality was often far from the ideal. The great chimneys, with their huge fires, created a draught which brought the outer cold into the room, and fires really warmed but a small area. Yet here, around this kitchen fire, centred all the life of the home, all its comfort and its homeliness.

Life was not all a grind to these good people, for they had their social gatherings, and varied ones, too. First and foremost stood the church with its services, the social centre of the town. But when we remember that country towns were nearly isolated from the outer world; that the only travel was by the slow method of stage-coach or private carriage, and was seldom indulged in; it seems natural that the people should have turned to the church, where all were welcome—in fact, where all must go, or be labored with by the minister and deacons. So it came to pass that this was the one thing in which all were interested, in which all had a share. When we remember, too, how large a part religion played in the minds and hearts of our ancestors, it is inevitable that the church should stand as the most important and the unifying factor of their lives.

On Sundays nearly every one went to meeting and stayed all day. No one cooked on Sunday, and all the food for that day was cold. The women were expected to go to church all day, as well as the men, so that the Saturday baking, which tradition still holds many a modern household to regard, was then a matter of urgent need as well as a matter of conscience. The man who had relatives living near the church, or who lived

near by, was indeed lucky, because a warm fire at noon might then be his. Otherwise the dinner was carried and eaten in the church in winter, or outside in summer. How many of us would submit to the discomfort of sitting all day in an unheated building, regaling ourselves at noon with cold food, with the thermometer many times in the neighborhood of zero? Yet duty led them and personal comfort did not enter into their consideration. We may hope that the dish of gossip, taken with their dinner, compensated for much which might otherwise have been unbearable. Perhaps this human companionship softened the denunciations and threats of the two sermons.

The church, aside from its spiritual teachings, furnished a place in which all the town met once a week. It was more or less political in a broader sense, for there matters of national politics, state politics, and even those of local importance were discussed by the minister. As he was the best educated man, his opinion and its expression very often formed that of the majority of the other men in town.

In the church, also, were held the town meetings, with their serious and sometimes humorous debates, which furnished a means of growth and expression to others. It was this training which enabled the colonies to withstand the mother country. Men had learned to think in a logical way, and to express their thoughts. They were keen to find the weak places in an argument and to search out sophistries. When England attempted to cheat their sense of justice, she found a community made up of citizens, not of peasants.

Our great-grandfathers were not without their social

gatherings, though these seem to be strangely limited to the winter time. The men, of course, had muster, and the women too, for one went to drill, and the other to look on. There were also gatherings which Parker speaks of as "artillerys" or a "little artillery." Just what they did at these he does not explain, but Henry Haskell was one who indulged quite often in thus entertaining his neighbors. When the new church was done the townspeople celebrated the next day by having an artillery at the old meeting-house. They had also something which they called a "shooting" which almost always took place at "Landlord Sawtell's."

The women had their quiltings as every one knows, and these being purely feminine in character did not include the men. The greatest social event was a "set down." Perhaps Parker and imagination can supply the picture. "Nov^r y^e 18 Cap^t Ivory & Cap^t Sawtell and fourteen more of us killed in all about 75 squarrels & Patteridges then we had a set down at M^r Ivory's." The "set down" that included a turkey on the bill of fare was worthy, in Parker's mind, of very large letters in his diary, and a feminine italicizing of the words. There are also records of a "Russell" or two; and one day "Abel Chase Drunked a Quart of Molasses at Once," which must have afforded them great amusement and pleasure.

Yearly, after the Revolution, the celebration of July fourth became more and more elaborate. They called it "Independance," and on one occasion when he went to Boston on the fifth, Parker says, "I saw independance all about, Too." Parker and his friends, not content with the celebration at home, rode round to the surround-

ing towns to see the others. In 1801 he writes, "I went to Harvard & round Great Independance Groton Thad Bailey hurt." He also went to hangings when they were near enough, or even to whippings; and he records how he saw a whole roasted ox drawn through the streets of Boston by fourteen horses, to celebrate French independence.

Another domestic amusement was a house or barn raising. To this about every one in the town went, the men to do the actual raising, the women and girls to prepare and serve the feast which followed. Their hospitality was generally lavish. To one who has never partaken of the delights which can be baked in a brick oven, the tales of those so blessed seem more or less like those of the Arabian Nights. A halo, formed of the reminiscences of gay good times and the appetite of youth, is put around these pleasures of a bygone day, making them shine with a preternatural light. And at these raisings, beside the baking and the roast meats, was there not cider and Medford rum to make glad the heart of man?

Funerals and weddings were also legitimate social times, the former to afford the luxury of woe, the latter of unalloyed joy. Two pictures of funerals have come down to us through tradition. In 1816, Mrs. Francis Dwight died, and the mourners were startled at her funeral to have the minister, probably Mr. Tolman, read with great impressiveness from Watts's hymn

"Behold the aged sinner goes
Laden with grief and heavy woes
Down to the region of the dead
With endless curses on her head."

Mr. Tolman was not well liked by his people, and this incident helps us to understand.

It was the custom then and later for the body to be actually borne by the bearers. In 1842, Moses Jenner-son died. He lived in the house on the corner of Parker Road and the Turnpike, and the way was long for those who carried him, as he was a very heavy man. So the men on the right-hand side changed sides with those on the left quite often, and each time they changed they had a drink. The carrying part became shorter and shorter and the bearers more and more incapacitated until the coffin swayed as it went.

Then there were the kitchen dances in the winter, and each man took his turn at entertaining, and showed with pride the good things that *his* wife could make. The good times, as we look back upon them, seem so simple and wholesome, they were entered into with such a spirit of enthusiasm and expectancy, that it makes one wish that one could now have so whole-hearted a good time from so little. It seems almost as if the hard work and drudgery of daily life gave a fine zest to their amusements.

Later on the lyceum came to try the sinews of men in debate, came to prove the literary ability of their wives and daughters. They debated on everything under the sun—huge philosophical subjects jostled trivialities; questions of morals, religion, and politics followed discussions of farming and cattle raising. The records of our lyceum, called the Shirley Institute, lie before me. The members began their work by this debate, "Resolved, that a scolding wife is a greater evil than a smoking house." They decided in the

affirmative, and then passed to this, "Resolved, that the old man in the story in Webster's spelling book was justified in throwing stones at the boy." They next discussed the morality of giving prizes in the schools. Excitement often waxed high, and personalities were dealt in, but the end of the evening brought calm. It was devoted to the literary efforts of the women of the lyceum. These consisted of recitations, readings, and original essays.

So our fathers on the farm varied their hard work with fun in much smaller quantities than we enjoy today. But in those days the actual struggle was less; a man toiled for his daily bread itself with no competitors but the soil, the weather, and his own temperament. Now a man works at his specialty to outdo his competitors, to get his goods to the market quicker and in better condition, to sell that he may buy, not to grow and tend that he may eat and be warm.

Through all their life there is a note of contentment, and I think that deep in the heart of most modern farmers that same note could be struck. For after all is said, the actual ownership of a large piece of mother earth is a continual source of peace; and the freedom from the oversight and commands of others, to be at no man's beck and call, lends a dignity to the farmer, and enhances his self-respect, until he feels himself and is the equal of any in the land.

A rhyme on an old English pitcher shows that this feeling has been through many, many years the underlying one of the Anglo-Saxon farmers:

Let the mighty and great
Roll in splendor and state,

SHIRLEY

I envy them not, I declare it.
I eat my own lamb,
My own chicken and ham,
I shear my own sheep and wear it.

I have lawns, I have bowers,
I have fruits, I have flowers,
The lark is my morning charmer;
So you jolly dogs now,
Here's God bless the plow—
Long life and content to the farmer.

III

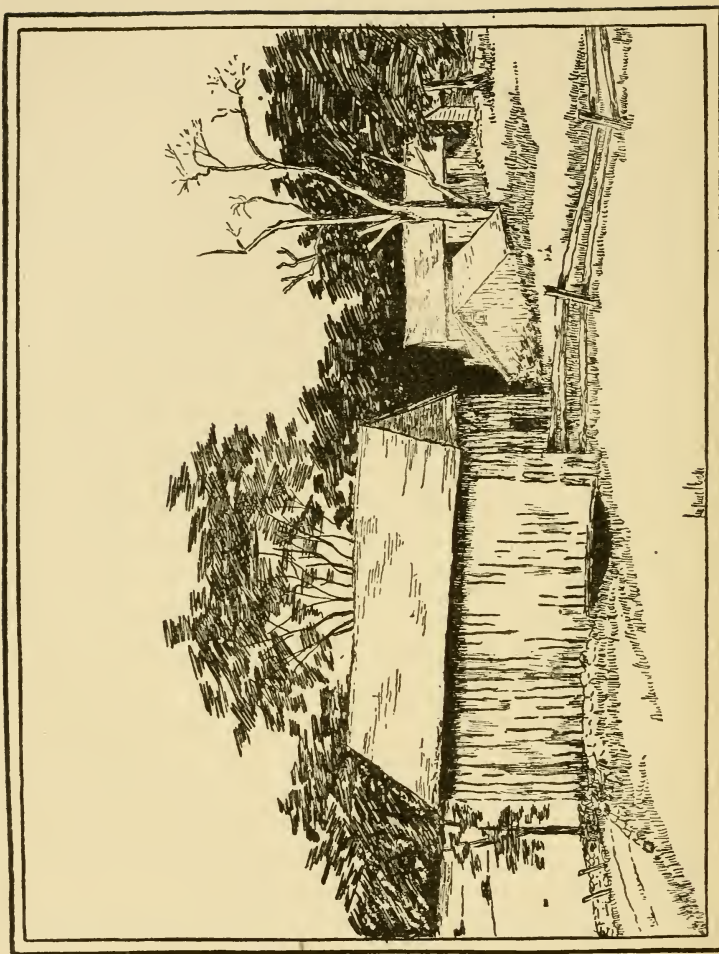
THE BUSINESS OF FARM LIFE

THE modern farmer, in choosing a home, has to consider not only his land, but his market. Almost every crop now grown in New England, except hay and fruit, must be raised upon a farm near a railroad, in a town not too far from a great centre. The earlier pursuits of a farmer in New England dealt, of necessity, in less perishable commodities, since transportation was very slow. Therefore wool, linen, hops, wheat, oats, rye, and kindred products were those grown by the farmer who desired more than to be merely comfortable at home. Hop growing in Shirley was very common in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and was the source of most of the ready money that came into the town. James Parker wrote again and again of his hop crop, and his son, James, carried on the same business. Perhaps a quotation from the oft-quoted dairy of the elder James shows conditions better than words of mine. "September 30, 1802, hops in great demand at six cents pr pound; thousands bought and sold this day; hops the greatest Trafack." Well might he be excited for he had just built his own hop-house and kiln which stands to this day. He tells us all about it:

June 15. Lock helped me. I begun on my hop-house to fraim. 6 worked fraiming.

August 21. At work on my hop-house and Kilns.

23. I raised my hop-house. I had Lock & others. A fine



SQUIRE JAMES PARKER'S HOP KILN AND CIDER MILL

hot day as ever. Boltons Tim & Ned helped me chop coal wood.

24. Boltons sot my pitt. I worked on my hop-house. Boltons went off.

27. Tim Bolton set my Colpitt on fire.

30. I worked on my hop-house. Aaron Lyon helped me shingle, & Jo Robbins $\frac{1}{2}$ day.

September 2. I worked on my hop-house & others. Boltons Ned & I each drew my coal.

6. In ye afternoon Was training. The Musick at dinner at my house.

10. I had 12 in the hop works.

13. I tending hop-kiln, and 14 hands picking. I had Ned & T. Bolton to cut stalks. I sold them a yoke of 3^d cattle.

15. I finished picking hops, sent off all my hands except Janney & her 2 girls.

16. I sent Janey & 2 Girls home by John; in ye afternoon to my Smith farm to Pick hops.

17. To. Smith farm with 5 hands to pick hops. Jonas Adams picked some.

18. I bought 100 hills of Moses Ritter. Wint with 7 hands and picked them. Mills and Joel Kally; it was training day.

A few years later Wallis Little advertised his farm for sale, and the chief inducement that he held out to the purchaser was the fact that it was unusually good land for growing hops, and that the woods on the place would yield hop-poles for years to come, even though the crop that he had been in the habit of raising were doubled.

Hop curing was a lovely and odorous process. The kiln was built like a barn with the sides and floors laid with wide cracks between. The foundation was of heaps of loose rock almost entirely filling the cellar. An opening like a bulk-head was left at one side, leading into a pit in the rocks, under the centre of the building. The hops were packed closely into the barn on cloths

spread upon the floors, and then the pit was filled with glowing charcoal. This gentle even heat cured the hops. James Parker's crop of hops must have been a large one if his contract for charcoal is any measure of its size.

For value rec^d we the subscribers Jointly and severally promise to pay and deliver James Parker or Order, One Hundred Bushels of pine coal, and seventy three Bushels of Good oak coal, delivered in my house in Shirley by the middle of September next.

Witness our hands

DAVID SARNDERSON
JESSE HILDRETH

Shirley, May y^e 17, 1803
SAMUEL HAYES

This contract was fulfilled to the day, for September 15, 1803, has this entry in the diary, "I had 75 bushel of cole from Hildreth. Jam finished drying all his hops all off. He paid the Negros & I sent them home."

Parker's hop-barn is the only one now standing in town, and it is not entirely as it was, since the cracks have been filled to allow it to be used as a corn barn.

In early days much of a farmer's business was carried on by a system of barter. In consequence many very interesting agreements can be found among the papers of a hundred years ago. Sheep, cows and pigs were let out by those who had many, to those who had much pasture land or wished to increase their stock. Cows were most frequently mentioned in leases, and many leases like the following can be found:

We the Subscribers Rec^d of James Parker, Two Cows for the term of One year, which Cows we promise Jointly and severally to return to said Parker, at the expiration of one year, safe and sound and in good flesh; each of said Cows to be New

milks when returned to said Parkers acceptance, but the said Parker shall have a write to take said cows at any time or in any place where they may be found, when called for as witness our hand

TIMOTHY BOLTON
EDWARD BOLTON

Shirley May y^o 25, 1802
LYDIA B. PARKER
LEONARD M. PARKER.

Parker in this case gains in that he does not have to support the cows, and the Boltons thereby got two calves.

In the case of pigs, their desirability as food procluded so long an agreement as that with cows, and the leases are, in consequence, more varied in their terms:

I, the subscriber, have this day taken and received of James Parker, one shote for the term of one year, for which I promise to pay said Parker six score of pork, or divide the said shote equily, on the first day of December next, the subscriber is to keep and fat the shote well.

JACO MITCHELL

Shirley December 29, 1819
JACOB MITCHELL

This is interesting from the fact that Mitchell witnessed his own signature. When a sow was to be leased the terms were much more complicated:

I, John Walker, have this day received and taken one sow of James Parker, to keep for one year from this day, if said sow brings any piggs within the year, they are to be equally divided between said J Parker and John Walker, when they are eight weeks old, them to be taken from the sow, after that said Walker is to keep the said sow antill she is well fatted; after that said Parker & Said Walker will equally Divide, & each one to take half; we each agree to this

JOHN WALKER
JAMES PARKER

Shirley December 22, 1818

The sheep leases are nearly all before the beginning of the nineteenth century. After that time sheep growing seems to have been abandoned in Shirley except for an occasional lonely one here and there:

Rec^d of James Parker five Ewe sheep for One year, for which I promise to return for the Use of said sheep, five pounds of good clean wool yearly; and when said Parker calls for said sheep, I, the subscriber, promise to return five more to said Parker's acceptance.

JONATHAN PEIRCE

Shirley Nov^r ye 16, 1795
At LOVEY PARKER

Very often the paper is further complicated from the fact that the lessee is a tenant of the owner of the animals. John Walker, who was a persistent renter of James Parker's cows, sheep and pigs, lived for a time in one of Parker's houses, and so the terms of the lease take that fact also into consideration:

I, the subscriber, have this day taken into my possession from James Parker two Stears & one heiffer, each two years old for to keep at his barn whare I now live, on his own hay, from this day untill the tenth of May Next; then to return them to said Parker safe and in good flesh; the subscriber to use them to help git his winter wood, with another pair that Thomas Hammond lets go on the same Condition; N. B. if the subscriber fails of haveing fodder enough to keep them through untill that time, said Parker & said hammond will take them away. Each and all agree to this

JOHN WALKER

Shirley November 27, 1817

The terms of John Walker's tenancy in the house are typical of the agreements of the time in Shirley:

This may Certifye that we, the subscribers, have agreed to the following under written, that I, James Parker, Thomas Hammond, & John Walker, hath agreed for John Walker to

live on our frost farm for the term of one year; and to plough, plant, and Sow any kind of grain, corn, potatoes, Rye, wheat oats, barley, Buckwheat, & also to have a good garden; also to set out one acre of hop ruts, and to poul, how, and tend them well to pick, drie, & bag them well and no devisiion untill we are all agreed in the devisiion there of; said Walker to mow, rake, cart the hay and put it into the barn before any division is made. Said Walker is to plough, sow, and harrow in eight or ten acres of winter rye in good season; he to find half the seed, and the other party the other half, and at the close of the season as they become ripe, to divide; said Walker to keep one cow through the Sommer; said Walker to have fire wood that is down if enough, but not to cut one stick down said Walker to pay half the rates. Parker & Hammond the other half, and to leave all things in good repair, as they are now, except the usual ware. And each and all agree to this

JOHN WALKER
THOMAS HAMMOND
JAMES PARKER

Shirley April 6, 1818

This may Certifye that James Parker hath agreed with William Flud for him said Flud to live in said James Parkers house, where Jotham Wright now lives, from the first day of April next, untill the first day of April following, which will be one year; there to leave said House in the same repair that it is at this time; said Flud is to have the Improvement of the Garden in the South End of said House for the same time; said Flud promises to pay said James Parker, or order, twelve dollars for the Use of said house and garden, and to pay him Quarterly. N. B. Said James Parker is to plough Two Acres of land and Harrow the same, for which said Flud promises to furrow out two ways, and plant with corn and potatoes, and plough it three times, and how the same three times; and at Harvest time they are to divide the whole, each one to harvest there own half, they are to find the seed equally betwen them, witness our hand

WILLIAM FLOOD
JAMES PARKER

Shirley March y^e 15, 1806
Attest LYDIA B. PARKER
EDWARD BOLTON

On back:
Parker & Flood
agreement
April 1, 1806

Flood & Parker's
agreement for house
Poor Flood fel back
1806

The most common forms of agreement, aside from the leases of animals, are those that have to do with labor. These agreements range from mowing hay, like the following, to a legal apprenticeship lasting over a long term of years.

This may certifie that Moses Parkins hath agreed with James Parker for to mow six acres of Grass handsomly & manlike, for which said Parker is to pay said Parkins three Dollars, we each agree to this

MOSES PERKINS
JAMES PARKER

Shirley July 19, 1814

These documents may seem somewhat dry and uninteresting, but they cast a light on the labor problem of the time. The actual cash which was paid seems to us very meagre now, but the comforts which were promised to Leonard Sweirs in the next paper make the agreement seem very homelike:

I, the subscriber, have this day agreed with James Parker to live and serve him one hole year from the twelfth day of this present April; for which said J Parker is to pay the signer, Leonard Sweirs, fifty five dollars for his service; said Leonard to have all his washing & mending dun free of charge, and to have training and muster days free; if said Leonard Sweirs leave said J Parker before the year is out, he agrees to pay said J Parker the rent of the oxen that William Sweir has now in keeping, of said Parkers, now in keeping we each agree to this

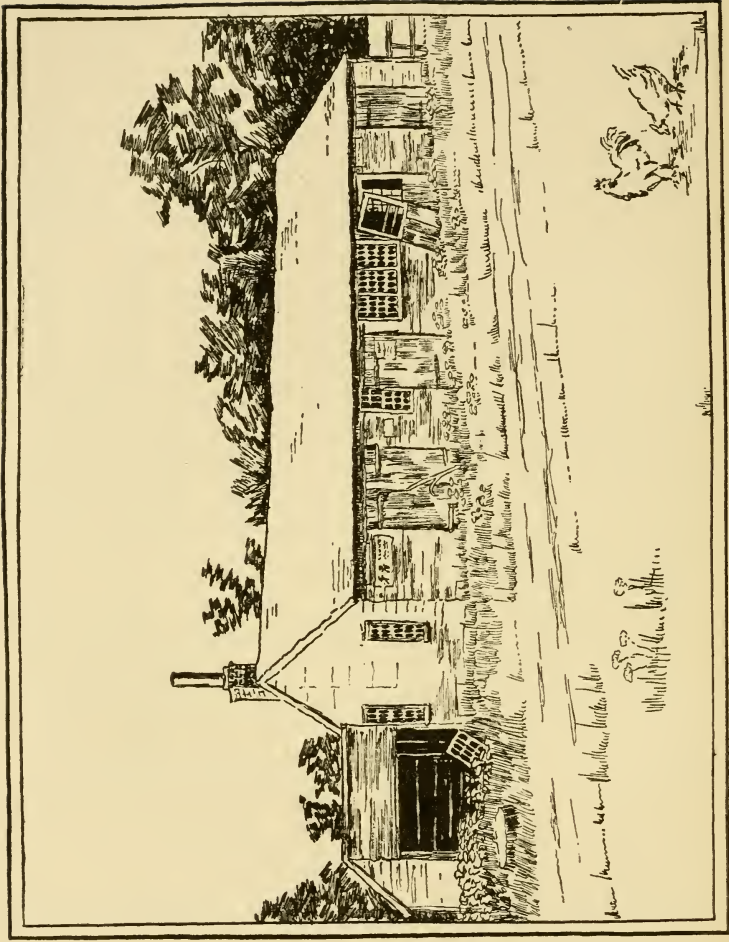
his
WILLIAM + SWEIRS
mark
LEONARD + SWEIRS
his mark
JAMES PARKER

Shirley April 13th 1825
Attest BETSY WOOSTER

Poor James Parker! In his later years these agreements were very frequent; perhaps he became harsh and crabbed or perhaps laborers were restless; anyhow his "help" were always running away, and he was continually trying new men, whose tenure was but short.

I will here insert a real indenture of about a hundred years ago, which shows that at that time the vocation of an husbandman was as truly a trade to be learned as that of cobbler, miller, blacksmith or any other. Young boys were apprenticed to this trade of the soil. The custom, also, in large measure, solved the problem of help for the farmers of that day. The low wages paid the apprentices for their service gives some explanation of the acquisition of a comfortable living by many farmers. This indenture supplies a vivid picture of the duties of the apprentice and his master. The father's caution in demanding education "if the said apprentice is capable to learn," shows how meagre the learning was in those days among the poorer classes:

THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, that David Atherton of Shirley in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Yeoman, hath put and placed and by these presents doth put and bind out his son David Atherton Jun^r— and the said David Atherton Jun^r doth hereby put, place and bind out himself as an Apprentice to James Parker Esq^r of Shirley in the County and Commonwealth aforesaid to learn the art or trade of an husbandman; the said David Atherton Jun^r after the manner of an Apprentice to dwell with and serve the said James Parker Esq^r from the day of the date hereof untill the eight of January one thousand, eight hundred and twenty four, at which time the said apprentice if he should be living will be twenty one years of age—During which time or term the said apprentice his said master well and faithfully shall serve, his secrets keep, and his lawful commands everywhere at all times readily obey, he shall do no



ELISHA DODGE'S BLACKSMITH SHOP, CENTRE ROAD
THE SITE OF TRINITY CHAPEL

damage to his said master, nor wilfully suffer any to be done by others, and if any to his knowledge be intended, he shall give his master seasonable notice thereof. He shall not waste the goods of his said master, nor lend them unlawfully to any; at cards, dice or any unlawful game he shall not play, fornication he shall not commit, nor matrimony contract during the said term; taverns, ale-houses or places of gaming he shall not haunt or frequent; from the service of his said master he shall not absent himself, but in all things and at all times he shall carry himself and behave as a good and faithful Apprentice ought, during the whole time or term aforesaid—and the said James Parker Esq^r on his part doth hereby promise, covenant and agree to teach and instruct the said apprentice or cause him to be instructed in the art or trade of husbandman by the best way and means he can, and also to teach and instruct the said apprentice or cause him to be taught and instructed to read and write and cypher to the Rule of Three if said apprentice is capable to learn and shall faithfully find and provide for the said apprentice good and sufficient, meat, drink, clothing, lodging and other necessaries fit and convenient for such an apprentice during the term aforesaid, and at the Expiration thereof shall give unto the said apprentice two good suits of wearing apparel, one for Lord's Day and the other for working days and also Eighty Dollars in good curant money of this Commonwealth at the end of said term. In testimony whereof the said parties have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals this sixteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

DAVID ATHERTON
JAMES PARKER

In 1804, James Parker had completed most of the work on his house at the Centre and had moved in. The small jobs that remained he hired Aaron Lyon and Samuel Haynes to do. Three of the contracts for building have been saved, and show that even this form of labor was paid for in all kinds of ways. The earliest contract is for the porch:

We the subscribers have agreed for Aaron Lyon to fraim, raise, & finish a porch on the front side of James Parker Dwelling house; s^d porch not to exceed ten feet in length, nor six in breadth; said Lyon to do all the work Handsomely and well workmanlike, and to find all the stuff to said porch, except the timber for the fraim; said Parker to find the glass, nales, & hinges sutable for to do said work, for which said Parker is to pay said Lyon thirty two dollars and fifty Cents at the Close of said work, in neet cattle, or rye, or specrey Notes on demand against other men, that are recoverable; said Parker to board said Lyon one month while doing said work.

AARON LYON
JAMES PARKER

It takes some business acumen to make a man take, as pay, notes which have to be collected against a third party. But any one who reads James Parker's papers will be convinced that such acumen was not lacking in his character. He does not seem to have been unkindly but he did know how to make a bargain:

Memorandon, whereas Samuel Hanes hath Undertaken to build for James Parker his Garrit stairs, and lay said Garrit floor, & the sealing from the floor up to the roof, by the stoods; said floor & partitions to be well plained and Matched; said stairs to be made equal to the chamber stairs, and the partitions to be plained & Matched, and the Doors to be cased; all to be Don workmanlike to said Parkers acceptance by the 25 of March; for which said Parker is to board said Hanes sixteen days; and to pay said Hanes ten Dollars and fifty Cents at or before the first of December next

SAMUEL HAYNES
JAMES PARKER

Att

LEONARD M. PARKER

N. B. S^d Hanes to help Drink $\frac{1}{2}$ mug tod
Every Day

& larth the way
of the chamber
stairs

Shirley Feby ye 10, 1804.

The addendum to this contract leaves one somewhat mystified as to just how Haynes's help was to be applied. The last contract is one in March, 1804, for the finishing of his southwest room in the same manner that his southeast one had been done. For the work Parker was to give Lyon and Haynes each five dollars in cash and a "note he has against Eleazer Pratt for a yearling at their own risk and he, s^d Parker, is to board each of them eight days; s^d Parker is to find a good hand one day & half towards lathing." There is an addendum to this contract also to the effect that if Haynes and Lyon "do not get the pay for the Pratt Note within six months s^d Parker will take it back & pay them three dollars."

The men were not the only ones who lived out as they did their work, going from one house to another. In looking through Parker's diary we find that nearly all the neighboring girls, and some from Groton and Lancaster, came to his house, and entered into the same sort of yearly contracts that the boys did. I suppose that in this fashion girls were taught housekeeping. Parker's eldest daughter, and in fact one or two of the others, went out in the same way. We wonder that they did not stay at home to be taught by their mother, instead of leaving their mother to be assisted by the neighboring girls. Perhaps it was the only way a girl could see the world, and was an outlet for natural restlessness.

Perhaps these contracts are of no great importance, but they show the economic status of labor a hundred years ago. As such they are vital human documents.

IV

COUNTRY ROADS

LOOKING back into the past is like a view of far-off hills on a September afternoon, when the haze hides all the ugliness, and lends romance even to the commonplace. So the drudgery, the inconvenience, and many other hardships in the lives of our forefathers are hidden by time, as we look back.

Many a poet has sung of the open road and the joys of wandering, so true is it that every road always holds a mystery around the next bend for our discovery. It fascinates us by its apparent inconsequence, abruptly going down steep hills which might so easily be avoided; and then we realize that even here the past holds us, and that we are following the time honored and sacred bound of some old farm whose owner in the olden days refused to be "labored with" for the town's good, and persisted in holding his land inviolate.

The mystery of why country roads are as they are can never be solved, for changing conditions have obliterated the thoughts which were in the minds of the men who laid them out. At first, of course, roads were mere bridle-paths through the woods, sometimes following old Indian trails, sometimes merely determined by the convenience of neighbors, but always leading to the mill or fordway.

In the beginnings of an inland town there were two great factors, the mill and the church. I name them in

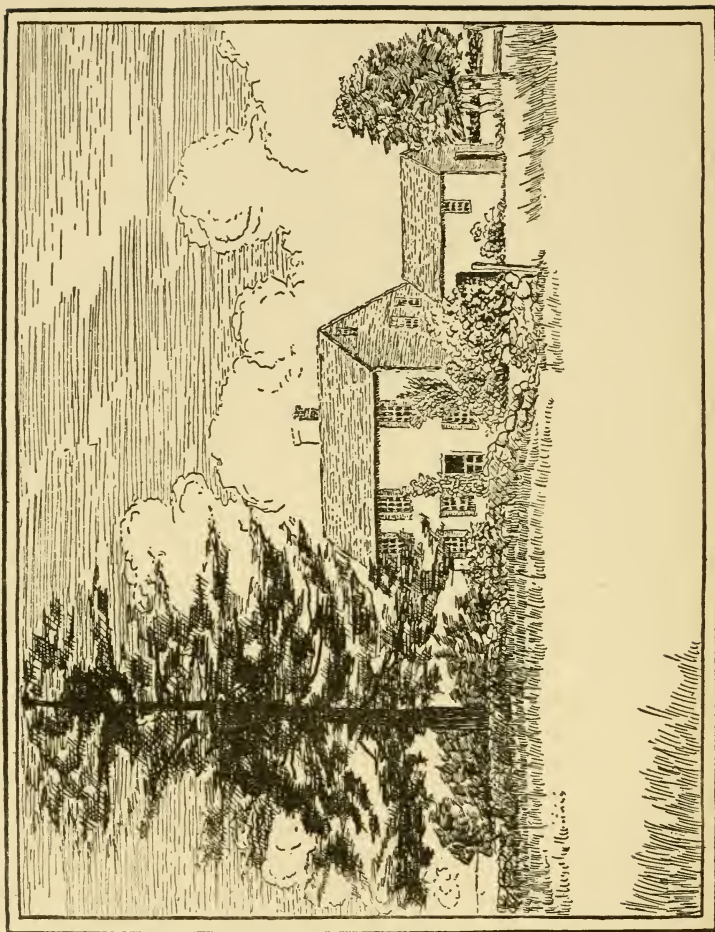
that order, because generally the mill antedated the church, as food temporal was after all more necessary than food spiritual. Therefore the mill and what was brought to the mill were of primary importance in the settlement. The mill was the rendezvous for all; so the first trails and the first roads followed the streams, and the intervalles were seized first for tilling, for they often afforded natural meadows of very fertile land for the corn, wheat and rye. The pioneers had to have hay at once for their cattle, and meadow hay was the quickest to grow. So they felled the trees, and burned them and their stumps where they lay. In very early days, "Spruce Swamp," in Mr. Frank Lawton's pasture, was treated in this way, and Mr. Herman Hazen says that, when he was young, the half-burned logs, some forty feet in length, still lay there three deep.

As the mill must of necessity be set in a valley, so also must the church be set upon a hill-top, so that its steeple might be a reminder to all to live a godly life through the week. This divorce of the centres of activity had its effect upon the roads of a town, and they became like the interlacing spokes of two wheels, with the mill and the church as their hubs.

From the first settlement to the present day there has been no more fruitful source of debate and quarreling than this same subject of roads. In early times the trouble was the laying out of roads, and in the present day the best method of keeping them in order. Every man in a country town knows absolutely the best method, which each of his neighbors, and particularly the road commissioner, consistently ignores for some vastly inferior method of his own.

It is only by a chance vote here and there in the records of town meetings that one learns a little of the early inner history of the country roads. Quite early in the eighteenth century, if not in the latter part of the seventeenth, the various counties laid out through roads. These were almost invariably labelled "the great county road," the "great road" to the nearest large town, or some name equally significant. They were almost invariably three or four rods wide, in distinction from the town roads which never boasted more than two rods and were sometimes only a rod and a half in width. The laying out of these "great roads" was of course soon followed by the building of a tavern upon them, in each town through which they ran. Thus the third social centre of the town was found. These roads were unique in their day, for they alone had bridges over the larger streams in fairly early times, while the brooks had to be forded. The town roads on the other hand seem for a time to have been the responsibility of the land owner. He was expected to do his part toward making the town easy of access. In 1754 Shirley "voted to free those persons from buying &c in the district that gives ways through there Land till Every man hath done there proportion in giving or buying highways."

When the town had grown large enough to have a church, a new era in road-making began. Many towns selected a site for a church in a most arbitrary way. A committee was chosen by the town meeting, consisting of a man from each of the extremes of the town, north, east, south and west, with one from near the geographical centre for a balance wheel. In Shirley on



DAVID BENNETT'S GARRISON HOUSE, GARRISON ROAD

September 20, 1753, it was "voted that Jonathan Gould, Samuel Walker, Jonathan Moors, William Longley and Jerahmeel Powers be a committee for to find a senter of the District and to find a Burying Place." Here we see the principle carried out. Jonathan Gould was living near where the church place was finally located, in the Centre; Samuel Walker on what we now know as the "Dodge place" in the east; Jonathan Moors, near the Lunenburg line; William Longley, at his mill in Shirley village, and Jerahmeel Powers at the north. He, Powers, was the owner of what was afterward the Holden* place for many years. Then these five good men, each with the desire in his heart to make his road to "meeting" as short as possible, endeavored to locate the centre of the town. Whether it was to be the geographical centre, or the centre of the populated district, tradition does not tell. Eventually success crowned their efforts, and after a lively town meeting their report was usually accepted. With the building of the meeting-house came the cry from many that they could not get to service. Then the town meetings show records like this:

"Moses Kezar † made application to have a road layed out for his family to go to meeting. Voted that he have a bridle road from his land south weast of his house across Mr. Asa Holden's land as the path is now trod, to heirs of David Bennett ‡ dec^d, and so on weast as the path is now trod to a road from Asa Holden's to Hugh Smylie's, § one and one half poles wide." In this

* Nathaniel Holden.

† Moses Kezar lived at the end of Garrison Road in house No. 10.

‡ Edgar A. Jenkins, 1910.

§ Old Townsend road.

case it seems to be the legalizing by the town of a "path" already laid out and used. The roads were literally bridle-paths, and though laid out a pole and a half or even two poles wide, they were not cleared to any such width for use. Travel was almost entirely on horse-back, and meal was often carried to the mill by the ox.

Almost no one used a cart in those days, for few owned one. In the early nineteenth century, licenses were granted under the excise law of the United States to those who owned chaises. This tax was to help raise revenue during the war of 1812. The tax lasted only about three years, from 1813 to 1816 approximately. So far as can be ascertained but two of these licenses were granted in Shirley, one to Stephen Longley who owned a wooden spring chaise, and one to James Parker, which is quoted below. Probably the Hazens and Whitneys, and Nathaniel Holden owned them too, but not many could afford them.

No. 1469

January 1st, 1814.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That *James Parker Jr.* of the town of *Shirley* in the County of Middlesex, in the tenth Collection District of Massachusetts, *has* paid the duty of *two* dollars for the year to end on the 31st of December next for and upon a two wheel carriage for the conveyance of persons with wooden springs—called a *Chaise* owned by *him*.

This Certificate will be of no avail any longer than the aforesaid Carriage, shall be owned by the said *James Parker Jr* unless said Certificate shall be produced to the Collector by whom it was granted, and an entry made thereon, specifying the name of the then owner of the said Carriage and the time when he or she became possessed thereof.

GIVEN in conformity with an Act of Congress of the United States, passed on the 24th day of July, 1813.

H. W. GORDON Collector of the Revenue
for the tenth Collection District of
Massachusetts.

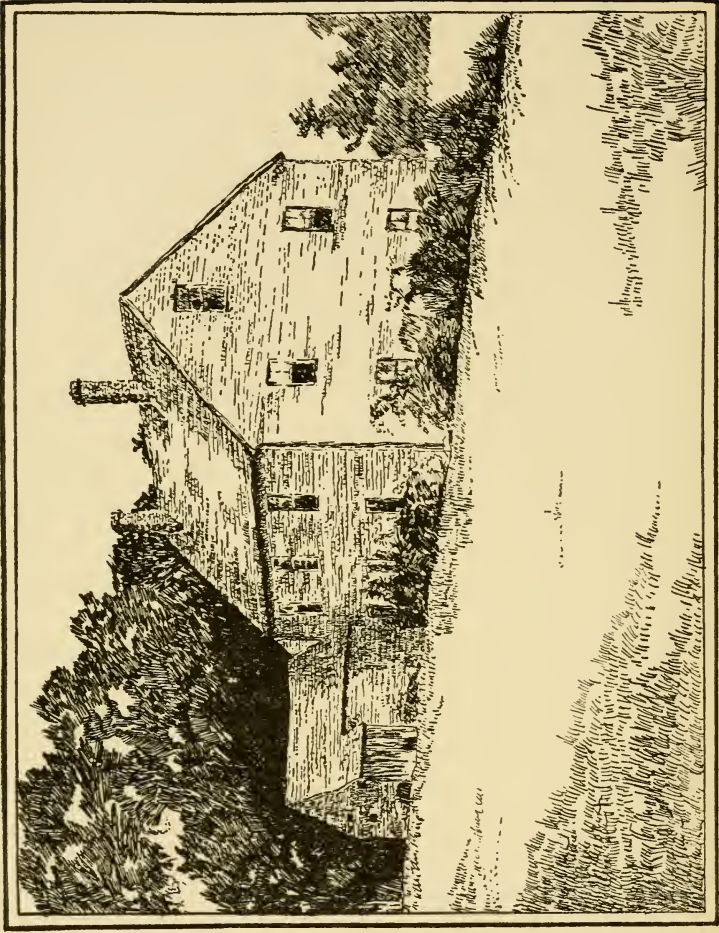
It seems as if this discrimination could have done little to foster a democratic spirit, and a man and his wife must have felt very fine to drive in state to meeting or muster.

The early roads have two tendencies or characteristics: they follow the line of least resistance, and are prone to follow a stream; the latter characteristic is, perhaps, included in the former. Where there was no "path" already trodden to follow, it was often a long and bitter struggle to determine where the road should run and what damages should be paid. A record in 1758 gives us a hint of the method pursued.

Richard Harrington, Stephen Holden, and Francis Harris, a committee, agreed with Amos Holden that 40 shillings was "full satisfaction for the above named rode to which we have jointly agreed and interchangeably set our hands; it is further agreed that said Holden shall cut all trees and lumber on the rode and keep up his Barrs accross said Rode seven months this present yeare." Sometimes the agreement was not arrived at in so peaceable a way. Joseph Longley * and James Parker † had a long fight over a road across Parker's land. By 1780 it had reached the stage where "arbatrators" had been appointed. In June, Parker sent in a bill for £20:16:10 to the "Gentlemen Arbatrators" to settle "the Cost and Dammages that I James Parker have Sustained from Joseph Longley by his Protending to have a Road a Cross said Parker's land." At the end of the long itemized bill he adds: "N. B. Gentle-

* Lived opposite C. K. Bolton's house—the well is still there.

† James Parker lived at the end of Valley Road, occupied by Emerson S. Parker, his great grandson.



JOHN WHITNEY'S HOUSE, TOWN MEETING ROAD

men I have Had many a Fortiaguing Hour and Miles Travel Time and Money spent that you in your wisdom will consider." By August they were sufficiently friendly to agree to the bounds of their land,* but the original difficulty remained unsolved. In May, 1781, the arbitrators made their report. It was decided that the costs of the arbitration, £3:0:5, were to be divided equally, and that Joseph Longley pay Parker 32^s 4^p in silver money and that "the s^d Parker & Longley for Ever here after Drop all Disputes & Controversies Relatin to the Road Laid out by the town through s^d Parker's Land for the benefit of s^d Longley as Well as all Trespasses which the s^d Longley may be Seposed to have made upon s^d Parker's Land." They were to forfeit "one Hundred Paper Dolers of the New Emission" for failure to agree to the terms. Happily for harmony they both signed, but like all cautious New Englanders, Parker added a clause that though he would have no further fight with Longley, he reserved the right to sue any one else. †

After the road bounds had been determined upon with more or less trouble the trees were cut, the stumps were drawn, and its construction went on to the next stage. A plough was run lengthwise all over it to make it as soft and convenient as possible for horses and teams to sink into in wet weather. Afterward it was harrowed to further the good work; as much of the soft

*1780, Aug. 21. "Col Prescott Came to my House to Settle the Line between Joseph Longley & I, we spent all y^o Day on it and made New Bounds &c."

†1780, Oct 20. "I mended fence Between Joseph Longley & myself; said Longley struck me with his fist and Lamed my Bool badly &c."—*James Parker's Diary*

dirt was shovelled toward the middle as possible in the honorable intention of making a watershed. In reality they made the dirt and mud the deeper. Repairs were made by replowing, and by shovelling back to the centre the part washed into the gutters by the rains. Such a road was dust knee-deep in summer, and a quagmire in the spring when the frost was coming out of the ground. Within five years I have seen Centre Road, repaired in the same way for generations, become so dangerous in spots that brush was set up in it by public minded citizens to show the navigable courses. Over marshy places a log-road was used before the era of filling began. Traces of a log-road, they say, are still visible in front of the old house where Joseph Thompson lived for many years, and where the first town meeting was held. The road now called Townsend Road then joined the Great Road farther west, and ran over the dam in front of Thompson's house, and so on up over the hill to Townsend. There is a low place north of the dam where there was a long piece of corduroy road. Over nearly all small streams the mill-dam was used as a roadway instead of a bridge. If ruins are of any value as indications these dams were all very heavily built of field stone.

Another characteristic of the old road can still be seen—the ford. Now it is debased by the bridge alongside into a watering-place. Such watering-places or fords were of great importance in the old days and were the cause of many a neighborhood wrangle. One pauses at times to wonder at the litigiousness of our forefathers, and to ask what under heaven there was that they could not find actionable. In 1756, a quarrel

between two men, John Kelsey and Samuel Walker, who lived near Trout Brook at the east, was settled in town meeting. The town designated just where the road was to run—evidently where Walker wished—and compensated Kelsey by the clause, “provided that Walker leave a convenient watering-place at the old fordway [just abandoned for a bridge] for s^d Kelsey and also free liberty to pass at such times as when the water is so high as to prevent passing over the crossway.”

It was about this time that the fordways over the brooks were given up in most villages. Town meetings became lively again when there were bridges to be built. Here entered in the reactionary spirit of the older townsmen who had used a ford all their lives, and saw no reason in the great outlay for bridges. So many a committee was named in the various towns “to see if it is necessary” that such and such a “bridge be maintained.”

Bridge building seems to have been as quaint in its methods as road making, and the enormous cost of construction makes our modern extravagance dim its ineffectual light. Shirley voted in 1755 for a bridge over Mulpus Brook, a considerable mill-stream in its territory. They “voted to give Hezekiah Sawtell and Seth Walker £6:15:4 for to build said bridge to the [satisfaction of the] committee chosen for that perpose; Jerahmeel Powers, Joseph Longley and Jonathⁿ Moore choosen a committee to oblige them to build said bridge.” The extravagance of thirty-two or thirty-three dollars for a bridge is appalling! A few years later the same town struggled to build a bridge over the Nashua, which makes its eastern boundary, and two bills sent in to the town treasurer show the cost of construction and its method of raising:

To Lt James Parker Treasurer, Pay Abijah Frost one pound ten Shillings for three string peaces for the River Bridge, and his Receipt Shall be your Discharge from the Town for the same.

[Signed by the Selectmen.]

The second is more enlightening still:

To Lt James Parker Treasurer, Pay James Dickinson eleven shillings, it being his Due in Part for Rum that was used Shall be your Discharge for so much.

at the Raising the Bridge by Mr. Abij^a Frost, and his Receipt
[Signed by the Selectmen.]

James Parker, the treasurer, they say was one of the most respected men in town. He was so smart that he could always command a dollar a day for his services.

The maintenance of roads in those days was a serious problem, and as large an item in the expenses of the town as it is now. Every citizen then was liable to a highway tax which he might either pay in money or "work out." There were three or more surveyors of highways in town, but generally three, who had charge of the work of repairs. The surveyors seem in their turn to have been controlled by the assessors, who annually sent to each surveyor a document such as this:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are required to levy and collect of the several persons named in the lists committed unto you, each on his respective proportion therein set down of the sum total of such list it being your part to collect, it being a highway Rate voted by said Town for the present year, to be worked out in manner following for repairing the highways within the same, and you are to keep in Repair, all such ways and Bridges within your district hereafter mentioned.

* * * * *

And you are to warn the several persons named in your list to work out the sums set against there names and to find there

own tools convenient for said work, you are likewise to allow each man so working six pence per hour, and for a pair of Oxen four pence per hour and for a Cart or plough two pence per hour while at work. If any person or persons neglect or refuse to work out the sum set to there name or otherways pay the same your are to Distrain them, by there goods or chattles, or for want thereof, to seize the Body Proceeding therein, as the Law directs in cases of distresses; fail not and make return of this warrent, and your doings thereon, by the last day of October next—.

[Signed by the Assessors.]

This old warrant of 1789 is interesting aside from its disclosure of old methods of taxation, since it tells us what were then thought to be fair wages for a man, his oxen, and his cart. If a man worked the modern eight-hour day, he and his team would have earned \$1.92. He, of course, worked ten hours and made about \$2.40. A man today earns three dollars with a single team or five dollars with a pair of horses. Considering the difference in the actual value of money, labor seems then to have been almost as high priced as it is today.

The ill-defined bounds of roads have been a source of vexation and trial of spirit from days immemorial. They ran from this tree to that perishable stake in an easily removable heap of stones, or from a dead pine, already on its way to decay, to a stake that any ignorant person might use for a cane or a club some dark night. So sometimes the road, being poor travelling in its two-rod width, encroached on the nearby land which happened to be better "going," or the abutter being grasping, encroached upon the road. There is the reminiscence of a picturesque quarrel over a road bound which comes down to us through the old Parker family papers. In 1762 a two-pole road was laid out, known as Green Lane.

For forty years peace reigned and then one hot day in August a man, who had been troubled the winter before, awoke to the duties of his wrath, took his pen and laboriously wrote as follows:

SHIRLEY Agust y^e 10, 1804.

Sir the Road Near Mr. Stephen Hildreth house is so Narrow that it is at sum seasons of the year Very inconvenant, and Bad pasing by the snow Blowing in, and drifting; this is to Request you as one of the sovairs of Highways For the Town of Shirley, to see that the incumbrance are removed, to make the Road a proper width or as wide as it was laid out.
To Lieu^t James Parker

NATHANIEL DAY.

Why should the snows of winter be so vivid to the mind of a man sweltering in the heat of August?

The "incumbrance" spoken of above was a stone wall which according to depositions had been built in the highway itself. One of these tells what happened to

1808

Stephen Hildreth

the wall, for Hildreth brought an action for trespass against the "Sovair" of highways, in 1808, to try to settle the matter:

I, Stephen Longley, of Shirley, of Lawful age Testify and say that sumtime in the sumer or fall of 1805 I saw Jonas Jannerson building a stone wall in said Shirley. I then observed that he was building said wall in the road, and ast him the reason of his building it thair, he said he was ordered to build it by stephen hildreth, and should do it according to his Directions. A few Days after I past that way,

and the wall was almost Thrown Down. * I have frequently past that way, and have Viewed it several Difrent Times, where the wall was built, and whair the old fence formily stood; and as thair is in two places sum part of the foundation or Lower part of said wall, now plain to be seen, which hes not been moved, I am sartain that all the wall was built in the road—.

STEPHEN LONGLEY.

Thomas Whitney, selectman and clerk that year, also testified to the fact that James Parker told him that the wall was being built in the road, and that he and Parker went up with the town-book, containing the record of the laying out of the road, and ordered Jennerson to desist. It was particularly galling, evidently, as Jenner-son was using Parker's own cart to carry the stone. Jennerson kept on and built the wall, and Parker,

*1805 Sept. 16. I worked at the highways removed a stone wall on the road by Jennerson sit'g rec^d Ill treatment by Moses & Jonas &c.

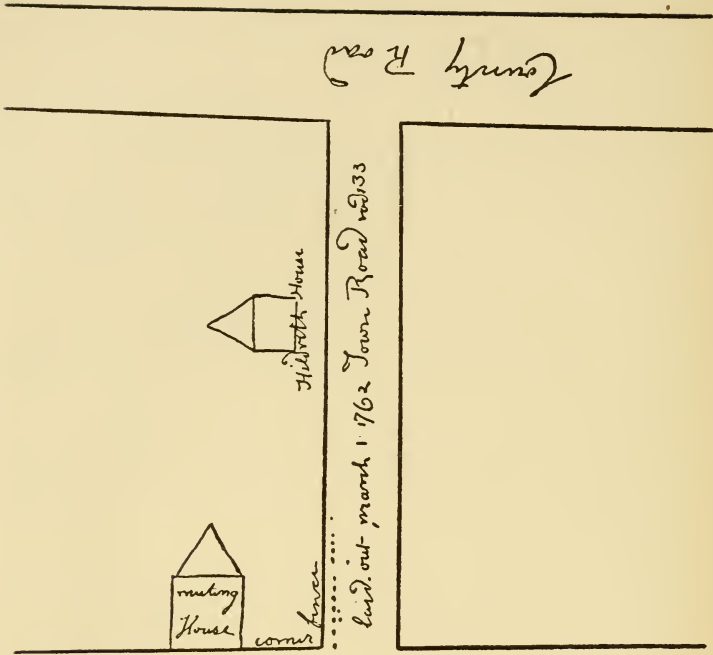
1808. Feb. 20. I at Esq^r Longleys had a number of witnesses viz: Deacon Hale [Heald] Deacon Nathan Willard Ivory Wilds Rev^d Mr Whitney Esq^r Whitney Amos Day Stephen Longley Jam & Moody Parker & John Rockwood took their Depositions &c.

Feb. 23. I at Whitneys attending on Brazers & Luther Lawrence taking a Number of Depositions to the N^o of 15 or Asa Holdin Eben^r Gowing Jonas Page Sam^l Hazen Jonas Livermore Levi Wilds Stephen Barritt Abel Moors John Kalcy Moses Jennerson Benja Hartwell John Davis David Kilburn Oliver Loughton Walis Little ——— Butler Scribe.

Feb. 28. I at meeting, good slaying &c Mr Whitney gave those a good dress that swore false last Satterday.

Feb. 29. I notefied Stephen Hildreth to attend & Hear some Depositions taken next Satterday at Esq^r Longleys somoned D Brown Discorsed Some with s^d Hildreth abot a Settlement.

March 5. I meet Hildreth & L Lawrence at Esq^r Longleys to take some Depositions we begun took John Parkers & Deacon Brown & begun on Jonas Jennersons & to close the whole Law-suit Lawrence Whitney Hazen & Samson Woods Settled the whole matter and closed the suit and Hildreth & I accepted each other and came to Whitneys & took a good Drink.
—James Parker's Diary.



North Town Road laid out February 28. 1761

MAP OF GREEN LANE IN 1808
 Showing site of the First Meeting House, where Robert Treat Paine preached

equally determined, committed the act of trespass for which he was haled to court—that of tearing it down again. The case dragged on until the spring of 1808, when it finally went against Hildreth. Hildreth's one defence as recorded was to ask each witness in turn what relation he was to James Parker. As two, Stephen Longley and Thomas Whitney, were sons-in-law, and another was a near relation, he sat back in triumph, as if he wished to say, "See here! is not the conspiracy against me proved?" Unfortunately for him the judge did not agree with him. The last paper in the series is Hildreth's agreement that when he shall rebuild the wall which Parker threw down, he will do it in the proper spot. He also wrote an apology to his persecutor which is remarkable for its stiff-necked lack of sorrow.

So the world in the country wagged on for years, with the same beautiful, delusive roads winding here and there, and nearly always clothed on either side by trees and bushes, and the hardier wild flowers in their season. All must admit these roads were lovely, if one could ignore the dust or quaking mud beneath. All this beauty, whether seen or unseen by the traveller, was undisturbed until about seventy years ago when the rage for the toll-road loomed large in the minds of the country financier as a method of making money. The lure the toll-road offered was the shortest distance between two points. Turning to geometry we find that the straight line is the only one which fulfils this condition. And so these roads were built straight; no matter where they ran, no matter how steep or impracticable the hill, they held on their immutable way. They were broad like the "highway to destruction," and imposing;

they were flanked by taverns, dealing in good Medford rum. In many ways they were like the highway mentioned above. Many were the accidents on their steep hills; many were the men who were ruined in their taverns, and great, in most cases, was the destruction and ruin of their promoters. Few were really useful or profitable. Drivers preferred the old, easy graded roads that they had been in the habit of using, and the time they gained was no compensation for the toll rates. So gradually these roads became town roads like the rest—four poles wide to be sure, but otherwise indistinguishable. Shirley's turnpike began at the "Great Road" at the foot of Green Lane, and ran straight toward Flat Hill in Lunenburg. It saved a mile or more on the way to Fitchburg, but the grades were very steep, and, the novelty having worn off, the stage drivers went back to the almost level road along the Mulpus. Mr. Little had built a large house on his land to serve as a tavern, for he had in mind to catch the trade which his new road would turn from the old public house at Bull Run. Poor Little was never a popular man, and neither of his schemes was successful.

While our turnpike was still a country road, and its promoter, Wallis Little, was still a lad, the farm was isolated and lonely. The old Little house, small and one storied, stood on the opposite side of the road from the tavern under two oaks. After the autumn work was done, it was the custom of William Little, father of Wallis, to take a trip to Boston or perhaps Charlestown, to shop. Mrs. Little (Elizabeth Wallis), an Irish girl, was an emigrant like her husband. They say that as the time drew near for William Little's return she would



FREDONIAN HOUSES, FREDONIAN STREET



THE "GREAT ROAD" AT "BULL RUN," 1913

go up to the top of the hill and wait. As darkness came on and her terrors of the wild animals grew, she would begin to call, with a true Irish crooning which rose to a wail "Ladle, Ladle, Ladle," until Little appeared. Poor "Ladle" was deaf and never heard her.

Nowadays the country road is shorn of much of its beauty. The state makes highways through, and the road under foot is fine. But alas! the trees along the edge are thinned to an irregular row; the bushes and wild flowers, the beggar-ticks, and burdocks have been covered with a deluge of gravel and have perished. The yeast man and the tea man and all the other itinerant advertisers make good use of the fences and walls, thus disclosed, without permission from the owner. Labels blue, and green, and yellow flaunt where once the aster and the goldenrod, Solomon's seal, and elecampane flourished. The road commissioners and the selectmen are cutting back the bushes and trees beside those roads which the state and county have not touched, because the automobilist, reckless from lack of supervision, makes the country by-roads dangerous to the driver.

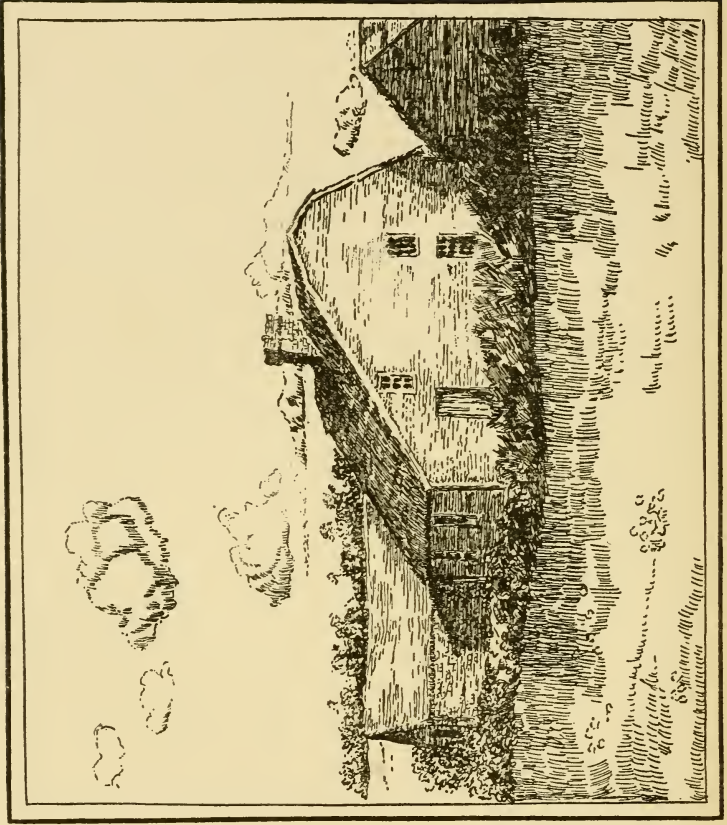
So the march of progress is snatching from us many beauties; substituting wire fences for old weather-worn and picturesque stone walls, straightening and grading, so that gravelly sided cuts take the place of soft woodland shades, and we are peering into the heart of the mystery of the open road, instead of letting the mystery enfold us and set us dreaming of the things that never again can be.

V

CELLAR-HOLES

NEW ENGLAND has few ruins to mark its history and tell the tale of its past. More and more the old houses are yielding to the pressure of growth, and, unless the birth of some eminent man or woman makes it of interest, each old house in turn is doomed. This is more true of the city and its suburbs, where commercialism holds stronger sway; gradually from being a tenement, ill-kept and out of repair, it becomes a sort of tramps' roost; windows become the prey of the small boy with a stone; soon the door swings wide, and the roof shows holes. Sometimes the work is hastened by the relic hunter, and the paneling, front door, and stair rails, door casings, and mantels furnish a touch of the past to some modern dwelling.

Out in the country the destruction goes on nearly as surely. Many houses have already succumbed to fire, to wet and decay, and many more are following toward the same goal. The New Englander, who loved his homestead but who loved change and luxury more, has built anew, and his old house with the accumulated personality of years has passed to the hands of the foreign-born mechanic or mill-hand to whom it tells no tale. The same destruction has been true of the isolated farms of the country, so true that we all know the "abandoned farm." Just now the tide has turned and we of the city are buying back the farms and old houses that belonged to someone else's ancestors.



JONAS PARKER'S HOUSE, GORDON ROAD

New England's ruins are beneath the ground, and are mostly caved-in cellar-holes, more or less picturesquely overgrown. Our ancestors had learned from their ancestors in England to build well and strongly, and with the material they had at hand they erected houses for the future. At first they built log cabins until timbers could be hewn for building. The last log cabin in Shirley was Thomas Peabody's, near the Nashua at Mitchelville. The log cabin saw the birth of nineteen children and sheltered the old man until his death in 1827.

When the houses were framed they used huge wooden pins for nails and they made their studs twice as heavy as we do now. But in a great country like this where opportunities were constantly opening beyond, where horizons were so wide and alluring to the maturing boy, the homestead idea could not prevail against the unrest and wanderlust. So the years have seen one after another of these houses fall a prey to time.

From the old cellar-holes we can still gather much of the aroma of the past. Our forefathers were conventional and usually followed set lines. The chimney around which each house was built was the most important thing of all. The base was always very large and set firmly on the ground. Most often this was of field stone until the first floor was reached, and in some early cases the whole chimney was of stone. Modern architecture has only reverted to the ancient form when it builds today its rubble-stone chimneys and hearths. The base of the old chimneys was on an average twelve feet square as far up as the middle of the second floor; there it tapered somewhat, but came

through the roof fat and rather short and eminently comfortable. Nothing gives the old house such a look of home as its great chimney, like a plump motherly woman with a lap for all the children to cuddle on.

The great size had an object aside from the fact that the fireplaces were enormous to hold great logs. The warmth from the huge chimney pervaded the house and helped to heat it, as did the fires themselves.

The old hearth, I believe, was a curse in some ways, for the heat nearly all went up the chimney and left the family cold beneath. But perhaps, too, in those days it served as a blessing. If our forefathers hated to open their windows, as our country cousins do today, and sealed themselves hermetically when winter came on, it may be that the chimneys had their use in ventilating an otherwise unventilated house.

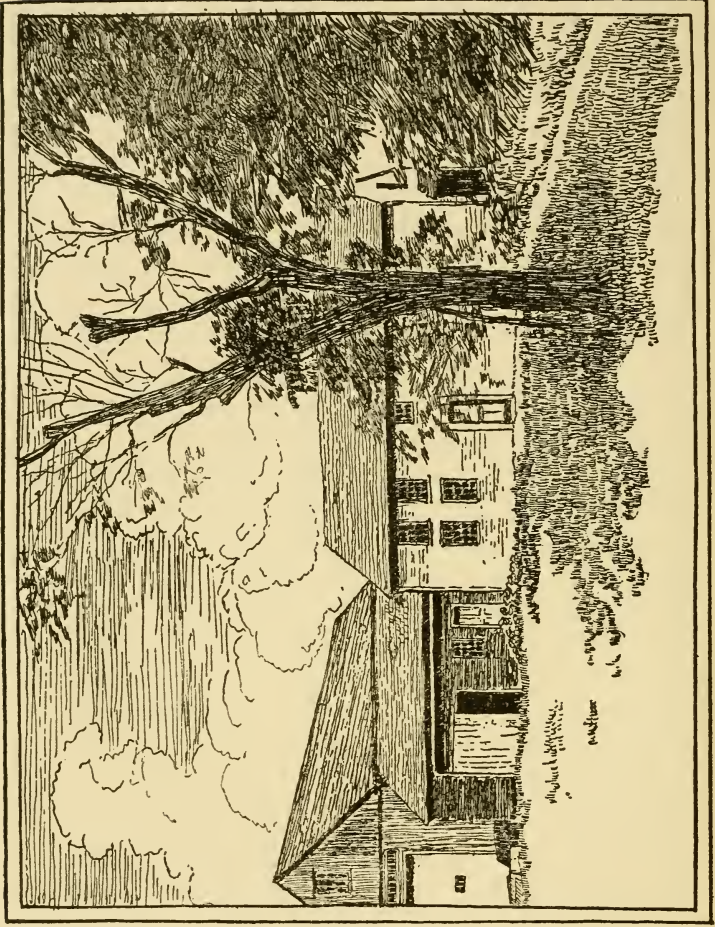
Conventionally, also, the houses always faced the south. The first houses were built upon one pattern. There were two rooms below, one on either side of the chimney. The chimney and its fireplace occupied the middle of the wall in each room. The space between the rooms on the south was utilized by a hall opening by the front door directly upon the great doorstone; and the part toward the chimney by winding and very steep stairs. At the back of the two rooms the more well to do and ambitious built a kitchen usually the whole length of the house, sometimes roofed by a lean-to, or "linter" as the old deeds have it, and in rare cases covered by the main roof. Above—but why pry into our neighbor's business—sometimes there were two rooms finished, but often there was one huge attic around the chimney where most of the family slept, if it were large.

Sometimes the houses were built with only one room above and below on one side of the great chimney, waiting the time and money to build the other two. Mrs. Francis Harris, in the "east," lived in such a house, but she set to work to earn her other rooms. Palm-leaf hats were then much in vogue, and finally this industry built her two rooms, we hope to her undying satisfaction.* This is the house of which the story is told that one winter when a flock of geese were flying over, a goose fell down the chimney. The Harrises kept it several days.

When we look into these old cellar-holes along a road still travelled and still a through highway, we wonder why farm after farm shows houseless. Always we can see the old apple trees run wild; always the great lilac bush covering a greater area year by year, and upholding the homestead feeling bravely; and generally bouncing bet flaunting its ragged pink blossoms and proclaiming widely the old garden long since passed away. Once in awhile a brave magenta phlox will cling near the mouldering sill, or an old pink rose which once climbed the doorway will wander disconsolately through the grass. The meadows will be mowed for their grass and the cellar-holes, alas, are often the chosen dump of the nearer neighbors.

Houses that were burned seem seldom to have been built again—the family found it easier to move than to rebuild—that is the case even now, and the woodlands are growing in on once cultivated fields. Trees gradually fill the old holes, and then the wind and the rain, and the grass and time all band together to obliterate

*Now Mr. George F. Buxton's, but raised.



STEPHEN HOLDEN'S HOUSE, HOLDEN ROAD

the spot where many have lived and died and struggled toward better things.

The town is full of cellar-holes that we have grown so accustomed to see that we hardly notice them as we pass by. Many roads that were once populous are now deserted from end to end, and if the roads did not lead from somewhere to somewhere they would long ago have been discontinued.

Almost as interesting in their history as the cellar-holes are the migrations of the houses which stood upon them, for fire and decay are not entirely responsible for the cellar-holes remaining. One of the houses on our farm, that of the Kelsey family, was moved a mile away to the Village and is now the orthodox parsonage. Nearby in the Village stands the house which was once its nearest neighbor.* A mile farther up the road stood "Priest Whitney's" house which he built for himself in 1762, when the town finally settled a minister. That, about a hundred years later, was taken to pieces, and it also went Villageward. There it stood for many a day, and still stands, the home of our first Catholic priest. Opposite the Suspender Shop is the old "Nat Holden house,"† moved from almost the most northern farm in town, and now a two-tenement house, made useful for years to come. It originally stood opposite the other Holden house on the Townsend Road, where one can still see the steps that led up to it. The fact is that our houses seem to migrate almost as easily as our young men.

Along the Squannacook is a row of deserted cellar-

* Next Odd Fellows' Hall on the west.

† J. Fred Brown's, once the Eaton house.

holes overlooking Heathy Meadow to the north. On the southernmost lived Isaac Hall, the bass-viol player and hatter, who made our grandfathers' tall hats. He was a picturesque character in both capacities. He played his bass viol with such energy in church, that he has remained a very lively recollection to all who heard him. Reuben Hartwell said that his hats were "peculiar, because the fur never came out on 'em until they was two years old." Isaac had eleven children, the youngest of whom was a daughter, Rebecca. She "on becoming a widow, joined the Shakers; and, after a trial of four or five years—during which she abounded in zeal for the new sect, declaring its members the only elect of the earth, and all others heretics against reason—she became enamoured of one of the brethren, William Smith, whom she married April 29, 1861, and returned to what she had deemed 'the beggarly elements of the world.' "* Next beyond Isaac Hall, lived Thomas Benson, near the old artificial Squannacook Pond, which has long since degenerated into marshland. We know little of him except that he married, in 1825, Mrs. Abigail Robbins. No children are recorded as having been born to them in Shirley. In the next house beyond, in 1830, lived Simon Page, oldest son of the Simon who came from Groton to settle on the most eastern mill privilege on Mulpus Brook. The younger Simon bought the house from Simon Holden, who had lived there many years. There are two cellar-holes on this place side by side; the older, the Holden-Page cellar-hole, is of the old fashioned type. The house which stood there was moved away. Simon Page came to a tragic end.

*Rev. Seth Chandler.

Oliver Laughton, a neighbor on the next road, came over to borrow a gun to shoot a hawk. The gun was on the landing at the top of the stairs, and Page reached up and took it. It was loaded; the hammer caught on the stairs, and shot him near the heart, so that he died soon after. Later the place fell into the hands of Porter Kittridge, who was dissatisfied and moved the old house away. Then he bought Benson's or Hall's down the road, built a fine new cellar with granite underpinning and a great granite doorstone, and moved his new purchase upon it. He rebuilt it into a two-story house and lived there in some grandeur.

The Brooks house, near the centre of town, suffered strange happenings. It stood in a corner of two roads and in early times was used as a tavern by James Brooks. It was a two-story house at the time, but later when Asa Longley bought the farm he cut off the upper story and moved the house. Two cellar-holes were dug for it across the road. One was in too marshy land and was abandoned, and the second dug. The house stood for long as a one-story house, but later a second story was added, so that it returned to its former estate.*

The house next west of the Brooks tavern, owned for many years by the Hazens, was once occupied by a very interesting man. In 1729 Benjamin Prescott of Groton sold the farm, afterward bought by Asa Longley, to Nicholas Bartlett of Newtowne, as Cambridge was then called. Nicholas was a settler and built his house just southwest of where Mr. Boutilier now lives, near a corner in the stone wall where a great chestnut tree recently stood. There he lived and died, and there his widow,

*William A. Boutilier.

Elizabeth, also remained for the rest of her life, twelve acres and the house being reserved as her dower. In 1758, two years before her father died, Mary Bartlett married in Boston "James Dogharty." Five years later the pair came to Shirley and bought of John Bartlett, the executor of Nicholas, all except the widow's dower.* They built that year the nucleus of the Hazen house. It was rough, without clapboards, and had a lean-to roof to the west. The road ran north of the house in those days, and Dougherty owned only the land south of the road. The town records and the people all called him "Dehorte" or "Dehorty" but he always in the deeds signed himself as Dougherty. He owned besides the Bartlett land ninety acres on Centre Road, then known as the Solendine Meadows, now owned by C. W. Marshall. Almost immediately Dougherty began to mortgage his property, for what purpose it is hard to say. He was a sea captain, and it may have been for trading purposes. His mortgages were mostly to Boston men, like William Coffin, Martin Gay, Francis Johonnot the Huguenot, and John Lucas. Strangely, one mortgage passed into the hands of Barlow Trecothick, the London banker and financier. In 1769 and 1770 the house and barn were mortgaged, and when seized by the mortgagees for debt Dougherty passed out of our knowledge. Tradition has it that he was a Tory and that, therefore, he fled. Certainly there was a Tory in town, for in 1775 the town chose a committee to see what should be done about a farm that some Tory owned. "Whereas information has been made to the Selectmen of Said Town that the farm in said Town on which Amos

* Henry Ware.

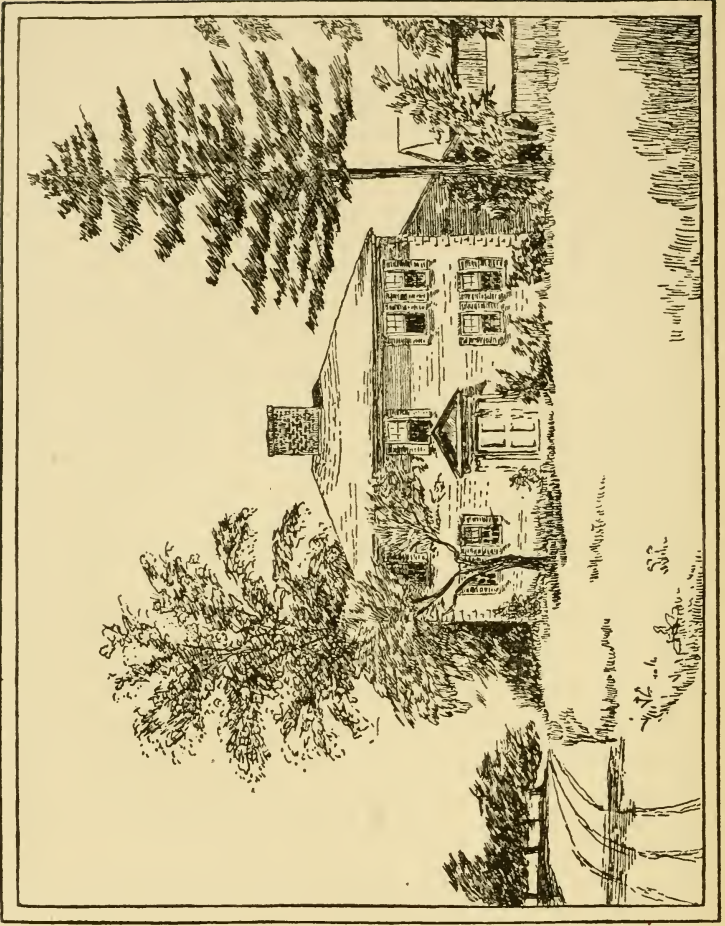
Dole now Dwells Dose not Pay Taxes and that the said Dole Dose not hold the Possession of said farm by any Leagal rite but that said farm belongs to an emeny to this country, &c."* It is also said † that, after the Revolution, "two strangers came to town and dug for treasure said to have been buried by a departing Tory. After digging a certain time they took a sudden departure in such a way as to lead people to suspect that they were successful in their search." The place where they dug was not on the "Dehorte farm" but on the farm where Seth Walker once lived on Centre Road. The hole can still be found in Mr. Frank Lawton's pasture, back of a big upright stone in the wall. Be the Tory story what it may, the town owned the house for many years and there is more than one entry on the town records of its lease to some man or other. About 1800, Captain Samuel Hazen, Jr., moved into the Dehorte house. He had bought in 1777 the Brooks farm, and land from Charles Perrin in 1778, "where John Maddin now lives," which is the land formerly owned by Seth Walker.‡ Captain Hazen clapboarded the house, and they say that all the clapboards came from one tree and have never been changed. The one nearest the roof has a bevel on its edge. The roof was raised to its present form of hip-roof and the ornaments to the front door were added. Up and down each corner of the house is a heavy quoin or border, carved from a slab of pine. This

*1780, March 31. I went to Sawtell's vendue of Dehougherty's farm Wallace Little bid it of for Lemuel Parker.

1783, April 7. The Dougherty farm let.—*James Parker's Diary.*

†Samuel Longley.

‡No. 75.



JAMES DOUGHERTY'S HOUSE, HAZEN ROAD

house passed in 1815 to Samuel's son, Thomas, who never lived in it. Mr. Samuel Longley writes: "My first recollection of the Joseph Hazen house was its being occupied by Abijah Sanderson as a tenant. When there was any work to be done on the farm Uncle Tom Hazen came up with a gang of men and attended to it. One time when they were there at work Ann Longley passed by near them. Uncle Tom, after taking a good look at her, turned to one of his sons and said, 'Joe, ther's a gal for you; if you will marry her I'll give you this farm.' " Joe took the hint, married Ann, and lived on the farm for the rest of his life. Mrs. Holden tells us that Ann Longley was her schoolmate and that she "knew her very well, as a fine, good sensible woman, very energetic and with uncommon judgment."

One of the strangest remains we have is a row of very small cellar-holes along the Great Road. Rather soon after the Revolution, two "persons of color," as Priest Whitney tactfully calls them in his records, came to the northern part of town. These two were Peter Boston and Jacob Mitchel, who lived on the Great Road, and had a very numerous progeny. Just why there was an influx of negroes at that time does not appear, for until then the only one in town had been William Bolton, Jr.'s slave, Violet. Anyhow they came, and were followed by Charles Treadwell, Joseph Moffet, Thomas Ransellar, Daniel Giger* and Thomas Hazard. The baptisms signify that they were religiously inclined, but their births gave good Doctor Hartwell much trouble. He kept records of all the babies that he brought into the world, and scattered through are entries like this: "Son

*Pronounced Jidger.

of a negro gal at Boston's," "son of widow Mofet's daughter," "daughter of a black gent at Gigers," and many more.

Peter Boston's son, Hiram, tried to marry a girl named Almira Travis, and the banns were called in church. It is recorded that his father forbade the banns because he was a minor, and Almira married "another" named Daniel Giger and joined the settlement along the Great Road. The Bostons, they say, were mulatto; the Mitchels, black; but the Gigers were "black as a coal."

Two of our good New England girls married into this black colony: Betsy and Fidelia Kezar married two Messer brothers. Betsy's children married Hazards.

Later the settlement began to be abandoned, and, as each family moved away, the rest burned their house the night after. The last family to leave was so nervous over this interesting custom, that the day before they left they moved out into the open, tore their house down, and spent the night out of doors. This accounts for the fact that not one negro cabin remains to show to a younger generation what they looked like. Peter Hazard came back after many years, and lived to be a hundred and one. Some one of the Bostons also lingered with us; for Mrs. Wyman says that her grandfather tells how Boston was once in her grandfather's house at a meal. The soup was good and Boston consumed great quantities, whereat grandfather exclaimed, "Eat, Boston, eat, there's more in the pot." She remembers Solomon Harris, too, a great black, over six feet tall, who scared her by talking to himself as he walked.

On a back road, just over the border in Lunenburg, is a small cellar-hole where dwelt another Hazard, about



JOSEPH HAZEN
BORN 1804



ANN LONGLEY
WIFE OF JOSEPH HAZEN

1839. He was only a small boy of eight or nine, living with his mother, who was a widow. His father was Emerson Hazard, and his mother, Caira Boston. The small boy's name was Nahum Gardner Hazard, but he was always called Gardner. William Little, then old, and "deaf, and obscene," plotted with two others, one a Virginian, to make money by selling Gardner, his brother, and one of the Mitchel boys into slavery. They deceived the mothers by telling them that the boys were to get good pay, good schooling, and good situations in a hotel in "Little Washington." When Squire Little came to the house to get the boys, the older Hazard, and the Mitchel boy hid in the woods, and could not be found, so Gardner was taken alone. Little conveyed him in a carriage part way, delivered him to his nephew, James Shearer, in Palmer, who in turn delivered him to the Virginian, Wilkins. Finally Hazard arrived in Richmond, and was put in the pen with others to be sold. He played marbles with the other boys for a time, but finally tiring of that asked for a book to read. He says, "I had been put into a pair of pants of coarse cloth, a shirt made of old bagging, a blue swallow-tail coat with brass buttons, several sizes too large for me, and on my head wore an old stovepipe hat." His request for a book caused great astonishment and led, of course, to questions as to his name, and place of residence. He proved that he could read, and persisted in telling the truth as to his home and name, despite the threats of Wilkins, who had rechristened him.

The authorities finally wrote to Mr. George Barrett who kept the store at Shirley Centre. The story so wrought upon the good people at the Centre that they

commissioned Major Brown of Lunenburg, then selling palm-leaf hats in the South, to go to see Gardner Hazard. Poor little Gardner was afraid of everyone, and refused to know a friend in Major Brown, whom he had never seen dressed for his travels. Finally he told Major Brown that he would believe in his identity if the Major had a sore on his leg which had not healed and prevented him from stooping. Gardner knew this sore well, because he had often been hired to pick up the potatoes that the Major hoed. Convinced at length that the Major was to be trusted as a friend, he started for home, and passed the rest of his days in peace. He had had some pitch or wax poured on a shaven place on top of his head; the wax was branded while warm. It took many months to remove this and it was long before the hair grew again. Wilkins was convicted and sentenced, but escaped from jail by the connivance of his brother who was a turnkey. Shearer was sentenced to five days solitary confinement, and seven years hard labor. He afterwards kept an hotel in Springfield. William Little saved himself by money and by pleading that he was so deaf that he had not understood the real nature of the bargain. Gardner Hazard died in Leominster in the summer of 1913, a much respected citizen.

Far in the woods, if your nerve is good and the horse a peaceable beast, you may ride through pine and oak, poplar and chestnut over a ridgy, winding road. This road is banked by laurel and the wood-thrush sings thrillingly, and at last it emerges through a long disused lane onto a grassy knoll. Here on the knoll is a beautifully preserved cellar-hole, with a great elm growing in it. A hundred and fifty years ago it must have been as lovely as it is now.

Hugh Moore came here with his bride and his very aged parents, John and Agnes. They were Scotch-Irish folk, and the transition from the fertile north of Ireland with its fields and hedgerows to the middle of the New England forest must have been severe indeed. The aged couple soon died and rest side by side in our old cemetery. For some years the young people lived in peace, and children were born to them in the rough wilderness. One day the father felled a tree, and saw that in falling it would strike his five-year-old son. He jumped and rescued the child, but was killed himself. Our forefathers showed the same liking for striking incidents that we do today, for he is the only Shirley man for many years before or after 1758 to be mentioned by the Boston papers. The widow stayed and struggled, brought up her five children and then moved away to West Boylston. The Moores have passed from our history—they and their Scotch-Irish neighbor, Nathaniel Gordon—and the cellar-hole is known as that of Jonas Baker who lived there next. Poor Jonas! all we know of him is his cellar-hole and his three wives. He came from Concord, and tradition has it that he wandered much, having great difficulty in living at peace with any of his wives.

The town at last took a hand in trying to solve his difficulties for him. It voted, in 1806, "that the men who have the Deed of Mr. Baker's farm in trust should dispose of the same as they think best." The next year the town voted to have "Mr. Jonas Baker go on his farm." The trustees were to keep the deed. Nothing more is heard of him for seven years, and then the town took drastic measures. It was voted to pay Benjamin

Osgood, Esq. what Baker owed him, and to take a deed of the farm in the name of the town. Baker could redeem it within three years by paying the sum, and its interest yearly. When the three years were up, Baker was as far as ever from owning his farm, and the town granted him another three years in which to try to regain it. History is silent as to the final outcome.

But why go on to enumerate these by-gone homes? It only makes one realize that the old New England country population is on the wane; that there are almost as many cellar-holes as houses, and that more and more our cities are drawing, drawing. The old homes of independence and self-reliance, of work in the better sense, are dying out, to make room, as my neighbor tells me, for summer folk and Poles. Less and less does man go back to communion through labor with old mother earth; less and less do men realize the peace from nerve-racking worry that weeding one's onion-bed yields. Less and less do we try to know nature, her changes, her moods, and her wild things, except through the amateurish curiosity of the nature hunter. We have no time now to watch the nesting bird through all her family cares; to watch the young fawn grow, and be interested in the families of the woodchuck and pheasant which destroy our crops. We look at them through a glass, once, and are gone, and we forget that it is by quiet and watching and loving that we gain peace.

VI

TAVERNS

ROMANCE is a strange enchantress, gilding some things in the past, and leaving others in their unvarnished ugliness. Often as we seek a reason for this discrimination, it is hard to find, but usually it seems as if it were the haunts of men and the movements of men that we think of as romantic. Taverns, for some such psychological reason, seem especially romantic, and appeal to persons whose refinement and culture would inevitably cause them discomfort and worse had they been subjected to the scenes and events which took place within their walls. For some reason the conviviality, the rosy cheeked bar-maid, the hospitality of mine host, the winding passageways, the steps up and the steps down, the life and movement, push to the background the coarseness and disagreeableness which were also component parts of an old inn. The New England inn was so many things to the population of a town, and was so large a factor in its daily life, that almost before there were settlers at all there was a tavern. Some were very small and some were large and imposing, and each town contained more than one. To many of us moderns the tavern or "ordinary" represents the same thing as a modern saloon, for it was licensed in much the same way. But the modern saloon is so different from the early New England ordinary, that we are forced to wonder

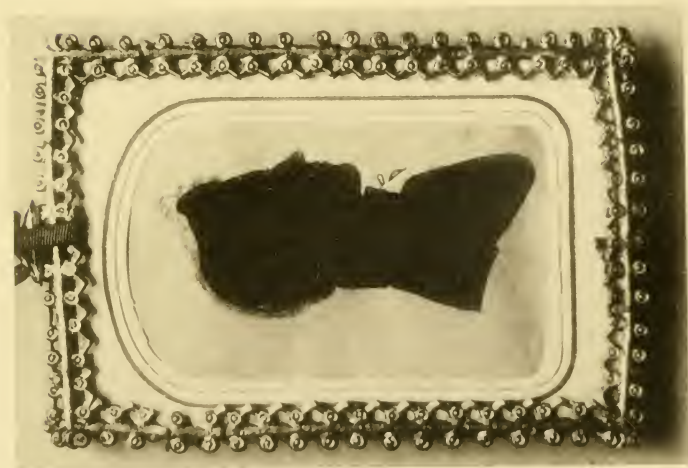
whether we have made our ideals higher or lower as time has gone on.

The tavern keeper, a century and more ago, was one of the most respected citizens—in fact he had to be to have a license granted to him at all. In 1817 Lieutenant Francis Hall writes: "Inn keepers of America are in most villages what we call vulgarly Topping men, field officers of militia, with good farms attached to their taverns. . . . The daughters of the host officiate at tea and breakfast and usually at dinner."

Here in our little town the tale was as true as elsewhere. The tavern keeper was a man of some importance. Our first inn was naturally on our first road, the Great Road along Mulpus Brook, but at its western end near Lunenburg, almost across the town from the mill. Sometime between 1728 and 1739 Jonathan Holden, about whom both history and tradition are rather silent except for the fact that his grandfather was Nathaniel Lawrence of Charlestown, put up a house just south of Mulpus Brook on sixty acres he had inherited from his Grandfather Lawrence. The cellar-hole can still be seen, surrounded now by great pines, north, east and west, and if it indicates anything, it shows that the house was large and substantial. Jonathan Holden lived here until 1739, and then he sold to a rolling stone from Groton, David Gould. Gould in his lifetime lived first in Topsfield; he married in Beverly, and afterward lived in Groton, Shirley, Lunenburg, Hadley, Sunderland and Amherst. There he is lost to view. His stay in Shirley was short, and he sold the house and land to William White of Waltham, our first known inn-keeper. He was licensed retailer in 1752, and his brother, Thomas, from 1753 to



RHODA MARIA LONGLEY
WIFE OF NATHANIEL HOLDEN JR.



NATHANIEL HOLDEN JR.
BORN 1800

1755. White's term was short, but was either prosperous or reckless, for he sold two houses and a barn with the place. Subsequently it passed into the hands of William Bolton, Jr., of Reading and ceased to be an inn. This William Bolton, Jr., was the only Shirley man who was ever recorded as having owned a negro slave. Her name was Violet, and the record of her baptism can still be seen.

The next tavern keepers were James Brooks and Obadiah Sawtell. Which came first no one can now say, but as Brooks was the older we will assume that he did. He was a Concord man, the son of Joseph Brooks and Rebecca Blodgett. He was born in 1723, and his wife was Elizabeth. The Brooks tavern was on no public road, but stood in the corner of the field now owned by Mrs. Grace Winslow on the road from Pound Hill to Ayer. The road was laid out much later. Tradition is very silent about James Brooks and his doings, and we know almost nothing of him. No births or marriages are recorded of his family, and Mr. Chandler does not mention his name. The tavern was sold in 1777 to Samuel Hazen, Jr., and thereafter ceased to be a tavern, but underwent many vicissitudes. Two cellars were dug for it on the other side of the road, one almost opposite and a second farther east, when the oldest Hazen girl, Sarah, married Asa Longley. The house was shorn of its upper story, and was moved to the eastern cellar-hole, where the young couple started housekeeping. Later another story was added, and so it stands today, owned by Mr. Boutilier.

Meanwhile, on the Great Road east of White's Tavern and at the end of the road down the hill from the

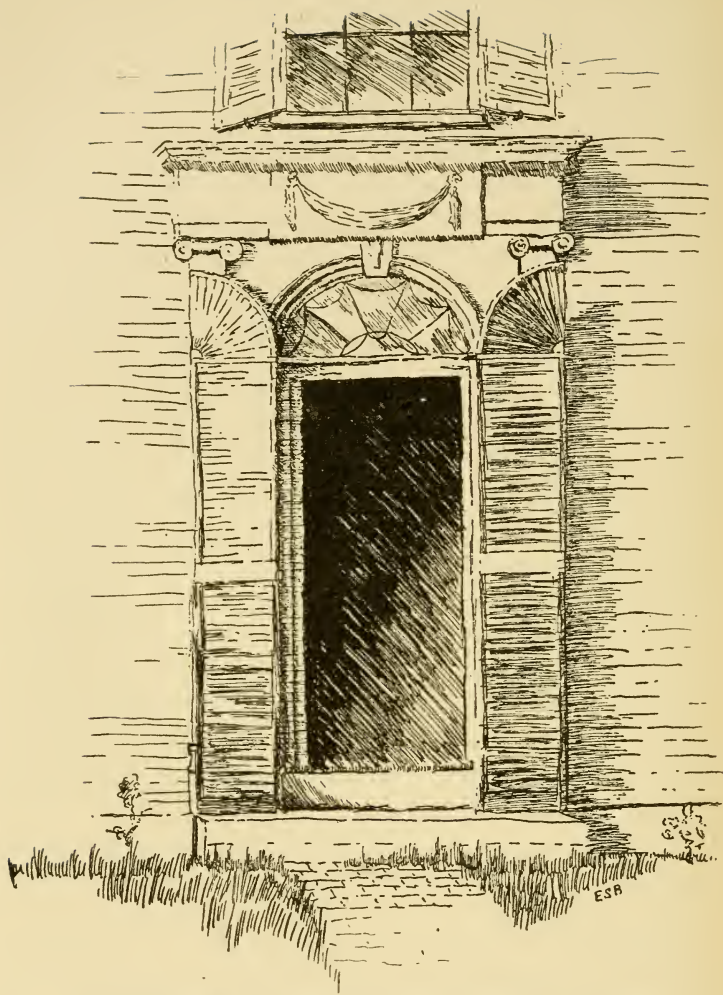
church, Obadiah Sawtell, known as "the old landlord," built his house. His wife was Mary Gould, but not a daughter of David. Sawtell was a great man in his day: selectman, delegate to the Provincial Congress, first representative to the General Court, and holder of many minor offices. Among these latter he was town clerk, but a poor one, for his writing and spelling stand out as extremely bad even for that time. He seems to have been a large and jovial man, a great factor in the social and political life of the times. His tavern was the resort for all the northern end of the town. Here they all gathered after every occasion to discuss and, I am afraid, to drink more than was good for most of them. They say that Timothy Bolton, who lived north across the brook, used to boast that he always got his gun across dry after muster—because he threw it over first, but he left his own condition for the imagination to picture.

The tavern was the great club house of the time, with an unlimited membership. Here the farmer could swap yarns of great pumpkins and other crops; here the veterans of the Indian wars could tell their tales, an opportunity our Civil War veterans have but once a year; here local politics were threshed out and the articles in the warrant debated upon. Here, finally, was the hot-bed of sedition which caused England to lose her colony. Then too, it was a place where outsiders stopped on their way through and one could glean news of what the larger towns were doing to prevent "taxation without representation." So that local opinion, largely moulded by the minister, received a broadening touch from without. Here was an able second to the town meeting, in giving all men the opportunity to discuss and to know.

Shirley, like other towns, voted retaliative measures. On March 21, 1774, the town voted in meeting "that we will neither Buy, sell, drink, nor suffer to be drank in our Families any tea that is subject to an American Duty."

The old tavern still sits comfortably on a green lawn, facing a steep hill, with its back to the brook, at this point rather broad and sedgy. The Great Road, which became the stage road from Boston northwest, runs close in front. It is a great square house with a square front porch of the kind that were added to many houses in the beginning of the nineteenth century. It was clapboarded on three sides and the rear was shingled. Close by is the old fashioned barn, straight boarded up and down. Long ago the Great Road was very populous, but now there are as many cellar-holes as houses, and the newer houses are grouped very close together just east of the old tavern, and around the third house on the Great Road used for that purpose. They say that in one parlor of the old tavern, under the paper, the walls are stencilled in squares with broad wreaths of roses. Very probably when Obadiah Sawtell kept his tavern there, the sides of the house were bare of clapboards and of shingles too. Almost all the houses of the eighteenth century, of which tradition tells us, were double boarded and sheathed within. Plaster was by no means so common and often when outer walls were plastered partitions were but broad pine boards.

Again we must turn to Parker's diary for a true picture of those days. In reality almost everything of a public nature, which was not done in the church, was done at the tavern. All the town committees met there



THE DOORWAY OF HAZEN'S TAVERN, SHIRLEY VILLAGE

to discuss their problems; soldiers were enlisted there for the army all through the Revolution. Captain Nathan Smith, of Shay's Rebellion fame was a near neighbor, and it was at Sawtell's and Dickinson's taverns that this inflammatory soul, filling his hearers with "Dutch courage," fired his followers to take up arms

1783

Obadiah Sawtell

against the state. In Sawtell's tavern the courts, which arbitrated local quarrels, were often held, with the toddy near by to cement newly made friendly feeling. There were other apparently more festive occasions when there was a "shooting" at Sawtell's. This was a contest and not a bloody affray. After Training, the officers always dined at Sawtell's in great state.

The tavern changed hands many times after Sawtell left, before Stephen Barrett, Jr., bought it in 1801. It seems he was something of a swell, and we rather suspect that he added the final touches of plaster and stencil, of clapboard and porch.

The mantle of tavern keeper for a time fell on James Dickinson, a carpenter by trade, who with Francis Harris had a saw-mill at the first mill site in town. He married Harris' daughter when well over thirty and settled down as tavern keeper. His land, of which he had a very large amount, was just out of the Centre and his house* faced south on the Horse Pond Road with two great elms in front. He had an enormous well,

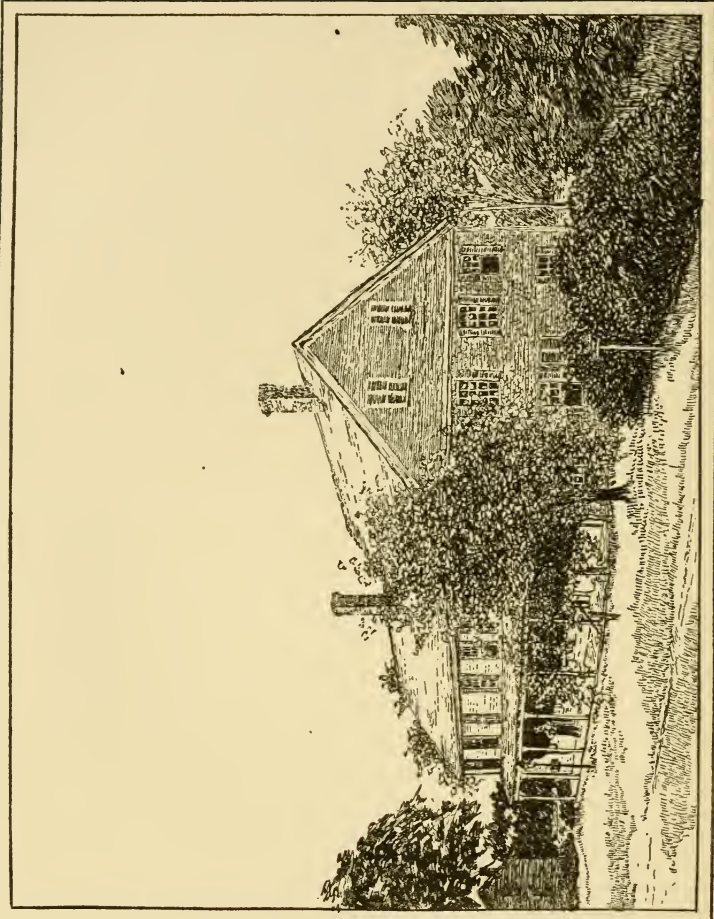
*The land is now owned by Mrs. Hattie P. Holden, 1914.

which is still open, though the house site is nothing now but a grass-grown cellar-hole. The house was like that in which Obadiah Sawtell kept a tavern. No distinct tale of this tavern has come down, and all we know of James Dickinson is that he too took part in town affairs, and was public spirited enough to give part of his land to eke out the Common, which had been much encroached upon by those who lived near by. He had been a minuteman, and in our town is the man of whom the universal tale is told that he was about to feed his pigs when the news came that the British were marching on Concord. He dropped the bucket of food, "and those pigs ain't fed yet," they tell us still.

Just after the Revolution, Joshua Longley built a house a little south of the Common. It was a fine square house with a side door, which in those days led within to the bar. The room is now used as the dining room, and the only remnant of old times is a beautiful, heavy "wine chest," still treasured by the family. The wood of which it is made is quite unusual. Each board has light edges, with a dark mahogany-colored stripe through the middle. Only three of the dark brown high shouldered bottles remain of the dozen it once contained. In connection with the bar, the Longleys ran a cider-mill for many years. Here their own supply of apples was turned into cider, and those of their neighbors, too. Squire James Parker says, in 1823, that Stephen M. Longley made him eleven barrels for his winter's use. An old cider-mill is still an interesting building. It was usually made into a side hill, with high stone walls and a roof. Within was the great vat in which the apples were ground. A heavy beam was at-

tached to the grinder at one end and to a horse at the other; it was worked by the horse as he went round and round the vat. The Longleys kept a store too, if early deeds of land are truthful, in addition to their business as an ordinary; just how long they kept it, no one seems to know, but at the beginning of the new century a rival on the Common appeared.

About 1801 the minister's son built a great square, hip-roofed house on the Common with a long ell for a store, and there sold all sorts of commodities. He was a justice of the peace, and was "Squire Whitney" or "Squire Tom" as the case might be. Here was a rival to the tavern for many years, for a store is also a good place to while away time, and here too one could buy either Medford or West Indian rum. "Squire Tom" nearly lost one thumb because he always inserted that member inside the glass when filling it to save that amount of liquor. The thumb became so rum-soaked that some evil disease set in. But that thumb and the rum and the store made him the rich man of the town, and gave him the nice name of "Thumb Whitney." It came to pass that many a man had to mortgage his farm to the "Squire" and many farms passed into his possession. Among those unfortunate men was one David Atherton, they say "a ne'er-do-well, who yet had a wife and six children. He lived in the northern part of the town, but loved his glass. Whenever he came to the Centre his refreshment was long and deep. One dark night, when he was inside and his horse was tied outside in the dark, some mischievous boys turned his saddle round back side to. Atherton, being "under the influence," mounted and rode home with his head facing



ALMOND MORSE'S TAVERN, THE GREAT ROAD

the horse's tail. When he reached home he put out his hand to catch the horse's mane and dismount, and, finding nothing, tumbled himself to the ground, exclaiming in drunken surprise, "Burn warm the devil! they've cut my horse's head off!" Poor David! drink and shiftlessness prevailed, until his wife sought relief from the town and had a guardian appointed for her husband who was wasting his patrimony and leaving her and her children to starve. The place was all sold to pay his debts, except his house and a little land, and among the family papers in town we find that "David Atherton & wife & 5 Children will be let out till the first monday in April next; the person who takes them may have the use of the house where they are now if they pleas and 7 Cords of wood if they stay there and board and nurse them in health and sickness and keep their Cloths in as good repair as they now are."

It was on David Atherton's farm, tradition says, that the old Indian sat in his wigwam and boasted that in the triangle formed by his tent and two great boulders, was that elusive "gold mine," mentioned in an early deed, but now long since lost. This Indian was the last to know, and the secret died with him.

Whitney's store later found two rivals. On the old Mulpus stage road, east of Sawtell's Tavern, Almond Morse built a long, two-story house with brick ends. In the second story is a dance hall, very largely patronized sixty years ago, and which, they say, is still very fine. Below was the tavern, also well patronized. One man says that he can remember when sixty to seventy teams were tied to the long bars in front, nightly, when the stage came in. After Morse a man named Lawrence kept it; he called it the Mulpus House.

In the south part of the town on the Catacoonemug, a busy village had grown up, and a stage line from Leominster and beyond passed through. Here the Hazens had a tavern for a time, which still stands opposite the Suspender Shop, and boasts the most beautiful doorway in town.

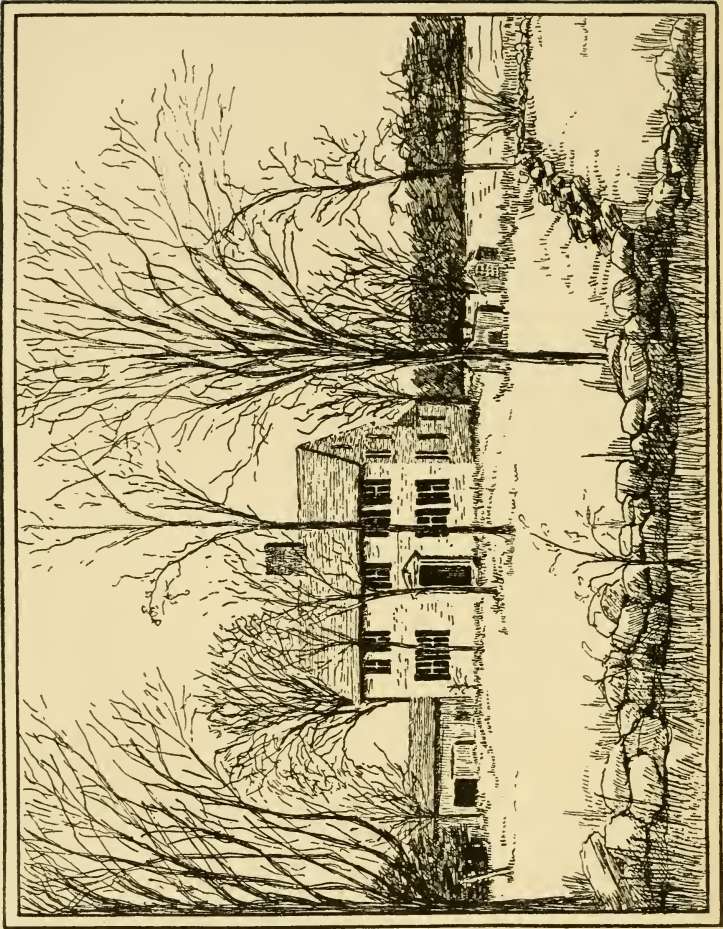
About 1834 Sherman Willard married Mary Henry, and they went to housekeeping west of the Hazen Tavern. The cellar and house were then about one-fourth as large as the tavern later became. The stories connected with this tavern all seem to have to do with silver.

Tradition says that in the land next where the Henrys lived, was a silver mine. In fact it is really more than a tradition, for every transfer of the land for a hundred years and more mentions that seven-eighths of a silver mine goes with the land. I have never found who owned the other eighth, and, though I have hunted diligently, I could never find the silver mine. Tradition affirms, however, that one Jones, who lived "down below"—it is to be hoped that that means nearer Boston, and not in a warmer spot—used to journey up from Boston, on his horse, with his saddlebags, to his silver mine in Shirley. At one time he was ill, and a friend was to take his place. The directions to the substitute were to go to Shirley, go to the fordway near Slab city, "and give the old mare her head." There was also mention of a great boulder. The "old mare" was to do the rest. Jones died shortly after, and the old mare died before spring, so that the silver mine disappeared from the knowledge of men. The ford and the boulder are now swallowed up by the mill pond. Modern sceptics think that this mine was a blind, and that really there was a nest of

counterfeiters in the old Sherman Willard Tavern, since no man could carry ore enough in his saddlebags to make the journey worth while. Even earlier Shirley seems to have been interested in this easy means of acquiring wealth. In 1785, on the second of May, Parker writes: "John Longley taken with a warrant." For once he explains why, for on the eleventh he says, "at night John Longley, Jr., at Cort for making money."

Sherman Willard owned a rod which would turn when there was silver beneath. To test it some doubters buried some spoons and other silver on the hill. But this rod found them out. The story goes that there was a buried treasure under Willard's tap-room, as the rod turned there—which gives a hint of corroborative evidence of my counterfeiter's tale. Tradition also says that he murdered a wandering Indian and buried him in the cellar. The house was partially burned and later pulled down. The silver was dug for in vain, but the bones were there—sheep bones. In my own day here in Shirley, a pot of counterfeit half dollars was dug up by Mike O'Neil. He sold them for fifty cents apiece as curiosities until the authorities took him to task. The coins were very good to look at and were all dated about 1830.

Then the railroad came along the Catacoonemug, and the stage routes languished and died, and with them the taverns as such. Their trade was gone, and with them a phase of life we moderns know little of. What do we really know of the cheerful sociability which these old time taverns meant for those who dwelt in the town? In later years the lyceum made a dignified attempt to be a substitute for one side of the tavern life—discussion. But with wives and daughters present things were too



WALLIS LITTLE'S TAVERN

cut and dried. How could one wax hot and eloquent when one's language could be called to account in a curtain lecture afterward?

And all this while we have forgotten the most elaborate and expensive form of tavern keeping that we had here in town. Wallace Little, having a great house* and great ambition, acquired a strip of land in town four poles wide, which was as a turnpike to shorten greatly the distance through town of the great high road from Boston, west. This he laid straight over hill and marsh and sandy waste, and by his own house. It was to be the great turnpike, a toll-road to the west. He was to collect the tolls and, incidentally, he was to turn the tavern trade from Morse's Tavern to his own inn. It is too late now to tell what the real outcome would have been, for all too early for a decision in the fight the railroad came and travel by stagecoach ceased, and both taverns languished.

With the going out of the tavern we lost many of the ancient forms of drink. No one now burns flip—few know even the receipt. Cider, except as it is made commercially in great mills with preservatives to get around the three-per-cent alcohol law, is little made, and no commercial cider can in any way compare with the country-made cider when it gets a little over the three per cent and has the tang and bite of the October air without.

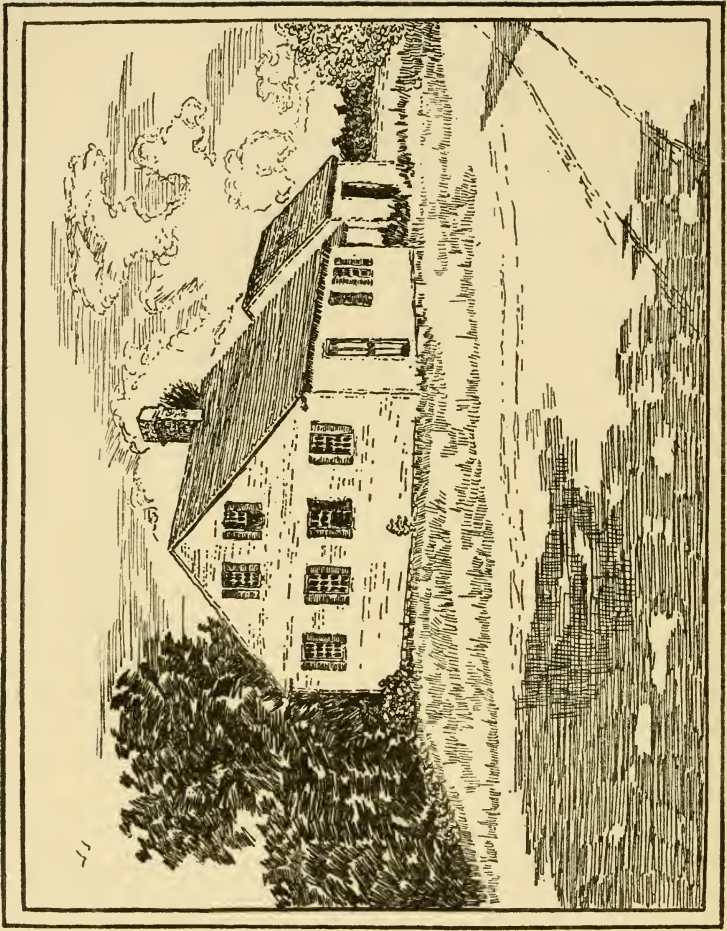
*1796. January 28. I went to Wallis Little's house-warming; thirty odd at the same place.—*James Parker's Diary.*

VII

SHAYS'S REBELLION

THE surrender of Cornwallis was not, in Massachusetts, the end of trouble. The Revolution had sucked the wealth of the people; farms had lain without tillage often for many years, while the men of the family had been at war, and labor was high and scarce. The currency was so debased that a mug of flip cost twelve dollars. To the ignorant the immediate result of poverty and debt was arrest and arraignment before the Inferior Courts, and so toward them these men turned all their venom. Shays's Rebellion was an attempt to intimidate the courts and judges so that they should not sit, and render adverse judgment upon the poor. The idea spread like a forest fire over the land, and Shirley was in its midst. It seethed with sympathizers, for the leader, Captain Job Shattuck, was a Groton man, and he was most ably seconded by Nathan Smith of Shirley. Much has been written in town histories and in monographs of the causes and results of this unique outbreak, so we will limit ourselves to the story as it affected Shirley and Shirley men.

Our old friend, Squire James Parker, who, by the way was neither a sympathizer with nor an active opponent of the rebels, tells us what happened in Shirley. It is difficult for us to see just how an outbreak could develop with such suddenness when men lived in scattered farms and news had to be carried by word of mouth. Cer-



CAPTAIN NATHAN SMITH JR.'S HOUSE, THE GREAT ROAD

tainly in Shirley the news and its consequent effect were quick. On September 6, 1786, James Parker writes: "a stir among the people in regards of Inferior Courts &c." On the eleventh, "I went to Sawtels, Nathan Smith marched some men to Concord In order to stop the Court Seting, it rained hard this Day & Chief of y^e 12 Day I did but Little work, a number went to Concord." Perhaps unluckily for us Parker did not go to Concord but Loammi Baldwin, an eye witness, wrote a description to Governor Bowdoin. The story gives us a fairly accurate portrait of our fellow townsman.

The number of insurgents having been increasing during the whole day, about 3 o'clock a Company from Worcester of about 90 men on horse back and Chief of them armed, drums beating &c moved with solemn pace by Jones's Tavern where the Court were at dinner, in order to join the mob on the green before the Court House, but the Commander of the company from Worcester County hearing one Nathan Smith of Shirley (a person outlawed) who seemed a leader among the middlesex insurgents declare aloud that every person who did not follow his drum and join the Regulars in two hours should be drove out of town at the point of the Bayonet let them be Court Town Convention or whoever else this he did with high oaths & imprecations and whoever should be left would be monuments of God's sparing mercy &c &c Upon which the Worcester leader Stopped and told Smith that he would never join him until he recalled them words &c which he afterwards did and united forces, and at this time are about 250 or 300 strong, have just marched over to shew themselves to the court and returned to the green again.

The insurgents gained the result that they hoped for in Concord, for the court did not sit at that time.

Nathan Smith and his brother, Sylvanus, had both been officers in the Revolution and so had training in the command of men. Sylvanus seems to have been

much less fiery and unbridled, and his part in the rebellion was little. Nathan, on the other hand, was one of those who are fiery, hot-tempered and uncontrolled, rough, unlearned and coarse. He was always in trouble of some sort, and later in life, lost an eye in a scrimmage with a neighbor. The general opinion is that had Smith led instead of Shays the retreat into Canada would never have taken place, and instead of a bloodless rebellion, the government would have had to put down the insurgents with real and bloody fighting. The turmoil went on increasing until at length in November Oliver Prescott of Groton appealed to the governor and council to arrest Job Shattuck and his officers as dangerous to the peace of the state. There was evidently good reason for Prescott's action as Parker tells us that there was "a stir in this place about Going to Cambridge Cort Kallcy & others." The governor and council acted upon Oliver Prescott's hint with alacrity and issued a warrant against "Job Shattuck & Oliver Parker, gentlemen, & Benjamin Page, yeoman, all of Groton in the County of Middlesex aforesaid, Nathan Smith and John Kelsey both of Shirley in said County gentlemen," alleging "that the Enlargement of Said Job, Oliver, Benjamin, Nathan & John is dangerous to the said Commonwealth its peace & safety." According to Parker the arrest took place on the last day of November; "a Great Movement among the people Cap^t Job Shattuck Benjⁿ Page & Oliver Parker took Last Night and Carried off to Boston Goal the people in arms & under arms Tremendous times in Deed A Bloody day with Poor Job." Evidently the officers were content with the arrest of the ring-leader, Shattuck, for our Shirley men escaped imprisonment at the time.

All through January, 1787, the times were still "tremendous in Deed." The next point of attack was upon the court at Worcester which was the next to sit in the disaffected area. Let Squire James tell what he heard and saw.

January 14. I at meeting $\frac{1}{2}$ day. Orders Came to Cap^t. Egerton to Draugh men, 1 Ser^t, 1 corp^l, and nine privates, to go to Worcester to defend the Cort.

16. Was a meeting to Draught men. Drat nine viz: Cor^l Davis, John Walker, W^m Williams, W^m Conant, E^d Longley, Jonⁿ Davis, Moses Chaplin, Rⁿ Kindall, E^d Holdin &c.

22. A Great number of men went to join Shays army at Worcester.

These are, doubtless, the men whom Chandler tells us of, who increased their courage artificially at James Dickinson's Tavern, elected Aaron Bigelow of Groton to lead them, with Solomon Pratt and Cornelius Davis of Shirley as under officers. Parker's diary sounds troubled, and I suppose that men feared much in those days, for houses and families were divided in their allegiance and bloodshed threatened.

January 23. A Cold Day but little News this Day.

24. Jam Egerton at my house. Stories flying every way back & forth.

25. The Cort seting at Worcester; the people in Confusion.

27. I hear Bad nues from Camp this Day.

28. I at meeting $\frac{1}{2}$ Day. James Dickinson, from Shays army, brought Some letters.

30. I sent 9 Caggs down by Egerton. Newes every way.

31. News flying every way these Days, and the whole state in an upreore. Shays, & Gen^l Lincoln, & their men on the Move Back & forth; it seems as if the people ware mad as they realy are. Strange Times in Deed.

February 5. I went to Town meeting in Order to send a Petition to the general Cort.

February 7. the men return from Gen^l Shays Army, & he gone into ye New State.

18. I at meeting $\frac{1}{2}$ y^e Day, fine singing. This 18th Day of Feb^r, 9 men taken out of Shirley, of Shays party to Fitchburg, viz: Phinehas Page, Jer^h Chaplin Jr., John, & Jam Campbell, M^r Clerk, Ned Pratt, J^a Longley, Asa Smith, & all sworn & gave up their arms.

26. Government men coming home Co^{ll} Woods & others.

28. Shirley men going Dayly to take the Oath of Allegiance, & resigning up their arms. Men Enlisting for four months for the sport of government.

March 6. I went to Boston, Cold & good sleading. A Great many Going to swear to be true to government, from Shirley & other places.

21. It was the last Day of Shays party swearing.

As one looks through the list of those who afterward swore allegiance it is difficult to say why some sympathized with Shays and why others did not. Of course the appended lists are inadequate, for many more than these must have gone to join Shays.

The first Shirley men on record were sworn on February 16,* two days before Parker's list, and were eight in number, Edward Smith, Abel Moors, Daniel Sawtell, Simon Page, Jr., Abel Page, Isaac Williams, Ebenezer Pratt, Francis Harris, drummer. The archives then tell of the stragglers during the rest of February and early March.

Feb ^r	28.	John Walker	Shirley	Middlesex	yeoman
		John Heald	"	"	I gun
		Nath ^l Kezer	"	"	" "
March	1.	Sam ^l Walker	"	gent	old Const ^a
	7.	James Dickinson	"	joiner	I gun
	19.	Francis Harris	"	gent	old Const ^a
		Sewall Blood	"	Laborer	
		William Goss	"	yeoman	I bayonet & no other arms

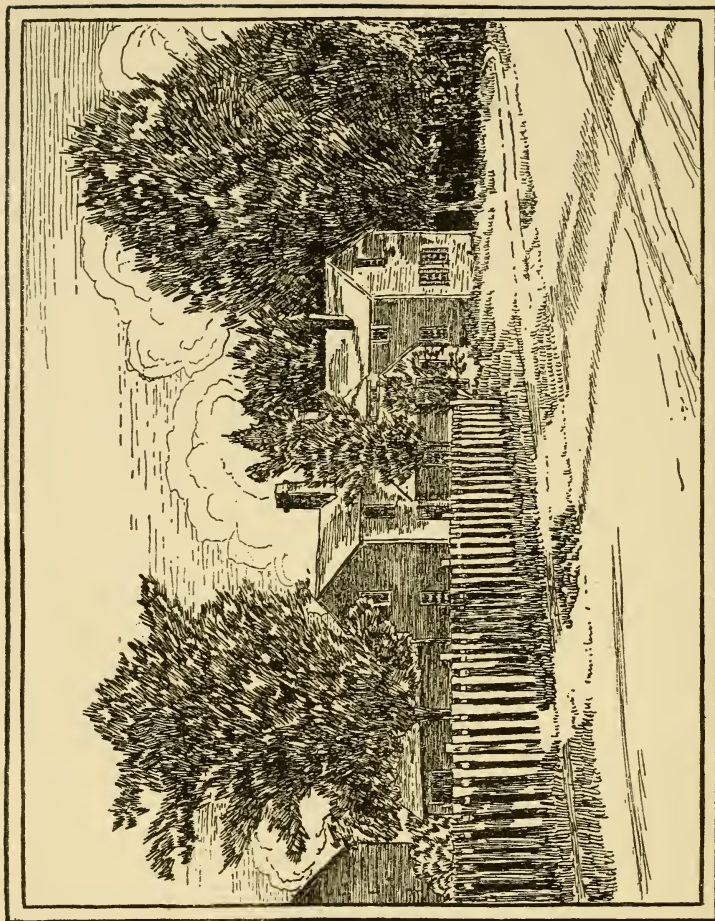
*Mass. Archives, Vol. 190, p. 179.

The great majority, or perhaps it would be better to say the longest list extant, is of those who waited until the last day of all and then gave in. These lists are interesting since nowhere can I find the names of the two ring-leaders, Nathan Smith and John Kelsey. There must have been an exodus from Shirley on the thirtieth of March when Shays's men marched to Lunenburg to be sworn true citizens.

Stephen Stimpson	of Shirley	Carpenter
Daniel Livermore	" "	Yeoman
Hezekiah Patterson	" "	Carpenter
Jonathan Atherton	" "	Cooper
Asa Longley	" "	Husbandman
Eben ^r Pratt	" "	Blacksmith
Edmund Longley	" "	Husbandman
.....	[men of	Townsend]
Abel Longley	of Shirley,	Cooper
.....	[men of	Townsend]
Jno Tarbell	of Shirley	Husbandman
Amos Atherton Jr	" "	Cooper
William Gowin	" "	Husbandman.
Jesse Farnsworth	of Lunenburgh	Husbandman.
Timothy Bolton	of Shirley	Husbandman
Benjamin Egerton	" "	Blacksmith
Samuel Davis	" "	Husbandman
Jonathan Davis	" "	Cordwaner
Phinehas Holden	" "	Cuper
.....	[men of	Townsend]
Jonathan Conant	of Shirley	Yeoman
Jonathan Conant J ^r	" "	Husbandman
Phinehas Longley	" "	Cooper
Calvin Longley	" "	Cooper

(Vol 190-p 185)

George Kimball, justice of the peace in Lunenburg, sent in these lists to John Avery Esq., secretary of the Commonwealth, and, like a woman, adds a postscript, in which he says:



STEPHEN STIMPSON'S HOUSE, FROM CENTRE ROAD

N. B. Their are a Number of other Persons that have taken & Subscribed to the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth that are in the original Subscription Sent to you, it appears that they had not any arms to Deliver up. Some of whom ware minors and Neither they nor their parents ware able to procure arms & others that had not taken up arms but Had in Some way been assisting &c to whom I administered the oath and their names are as follows viz: [men of Townsend] John Tarbel, William Gowin William Bolton, Phineas Longley, Calvin Longley, Samuel Davis of Shirley in the County of Middlesex William Park of Groton in said County, Jonathan Messer of Lunenburg in the County of Worcester.

And so ended Shays's Rebellion, which had, at least, the effect that it brought some amelioration of the conditions which it aimed to change. Like all unsuccessful enterprises it was and is crowned with obloquy.

There is a tradition that has been rife in town that Joshua Longley was hunted for by the government men when he was building the red house at the corner of Centre Road, now known as the Davis house. The house was not finished when the officers came to make the arrest, and Mrs. Longley went to the door, stepping across upon the unfloored timbers. The officers came blindly in and fell through to the cellar, giving Longley time to escape by the rear. One rather doubts if Longley was the principal actor in this tale, for he was appointed by the town in January to be a committee with Asa Holden to help put an end to the rebellion. Stephen Stimpson, who next owned and occupied the house, was a prominent man in the rebellion and one of those haled off to court to take the oath.

Squire Parker's diary may, however, corroborate the tradition as it has come down, for on March 30 he "went

to Groton to hear Joshua Longley tryed by Wallace Little & Hartwell, a great Number of people & others &c. the Doct^r [Hartwell] cleared & Joshua not, the Justices suspended Judgment for 3 weeks." And then Squire James forgets to tell us the sequel. Anyhow something happened to the judge for, on April 2, "Frank Champney & others from Groton [came] & took a Number with a warrant for abusing Mr Little &c. I had 4 fraims of chairs from Nⁿ Smith." With the unfailingly vengeful spirit of our ancestors, Joshua Longley retaliated, for on May 19 Parker writes that "Joshua Longley took Mr. Little with a warrant."

Our ancestors certainly did not stop with fighting England for their rights. They fought her collectively, and then at home they fought each other with equal zest. The two Shirley leaders of the rebellion seem to have been particularly truculent. Nathan*, as we have

1774

Ballian-Smith Jr

said, got into a fight at a "trooping and training" with Jonas Page and lost an eye. Kelsey, who became a neighbor of Parker, was of the same kidney as Smith, and Parker himself was no meek or humble citizen.

Parker and Kelsey started fighting over a boundary, and presumably a road bound, for Parker says, "I worked at the highway, mov'd Kallcys fence myself 4 oxen Jam, John, Daniel, David, Moody, Cart, & tools. Some rain

*Smith's remark at Morse's Tavern is still quoted, That he wished to be buried in a hemlock coffin, so that he could go snapping through hell.

toward night, worked hard."* Kelsey waited nearly two years for his chance and then impounded four of Parker's sheep. These were detained in the Pound until the charges equalled their value and they were sold at auction. Parker went to watch the proceeding and says nothing more in the diary except that Reuben Hartwell bought them. But he must have said or done something which he does not tell, for suddenly we come upon this entry: "Kallcy put up two posts before my door. I took them down in the afternoon." Then Kelsey took down the gate from in front of his house and put up bars which bottled Parker up in some way, and created a hardship. On Thanksgiving Day, when Parker had a goodly company to dine, "Kallcy kept up the bars by his house all day." The quarrel grew so hot that at December town meeting Parker "asked the town wether they ment I should be shut up & have no pass out. No vote upon it." Apparently, like so many matters then, and so few now, there was an "arbatration," so that in the end he and "Kallcy" agreed to fence out a road, each doing half. And so that quarrel ended, an aftermath of the contumacious spirit of both rebel armies. Gradually Shirley subsided to her normal state of "set downs," "frolicks," farming, and the general routine of life, and they lived in such peace as a country neighborhood can, until the War of the Rebellion called their sons and grandsons to arms once more, to fight for rights and liberty again.

*September 16, 1797.

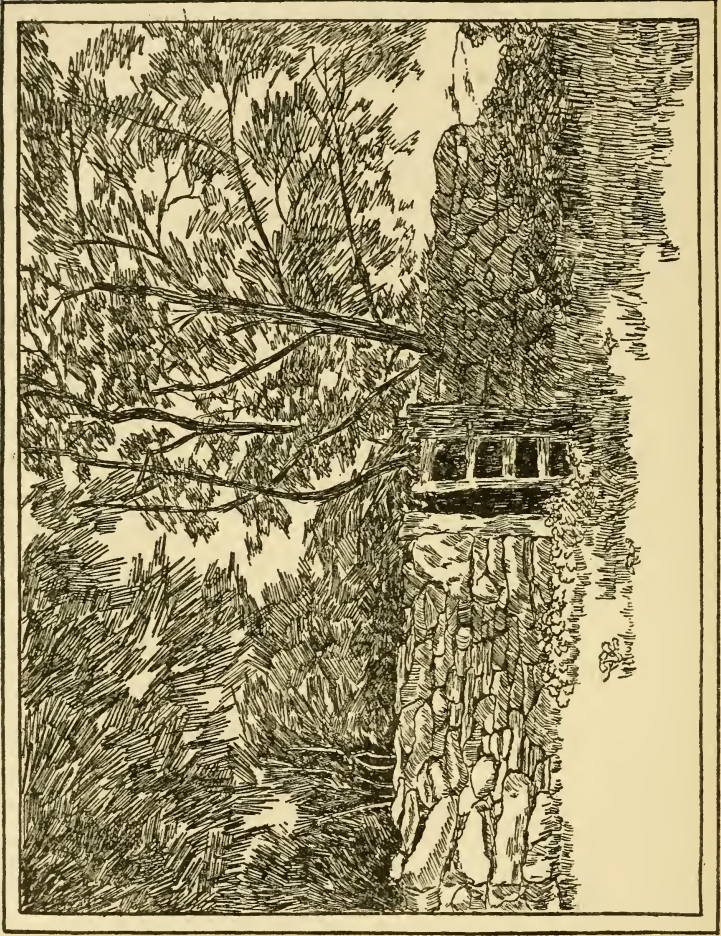
VIII

THE POUND

IN EARLY times the pound was as much a part of the equipment of a town as the church or the stocks. When animals went "at large," trespassers and straying beasts were frequent, and the town derived some revenue from the impounded animals.

Shirley was not in the least behind other towns; and, in her desire to be conventional, on March 20, 1753, voted "to build a log pound." It was a square of unhewn timbers, mortised together at the corners. In those days Centre Road had a more easterly course than it has at present, and the pound was near it. Just over the first hill on Hazen Road, in Mr. Frank Lawton's pasture, is a flat, low place, and here they built the pound. It is strange how one name will remain, and another will be soon forgotten; there seems to be no reason in it. This log pound was abandoned after seven years of use, and yet, nearly a hundred and sixty years after, we still know the hill as Pound Hill, and the school as Pound Hill School.

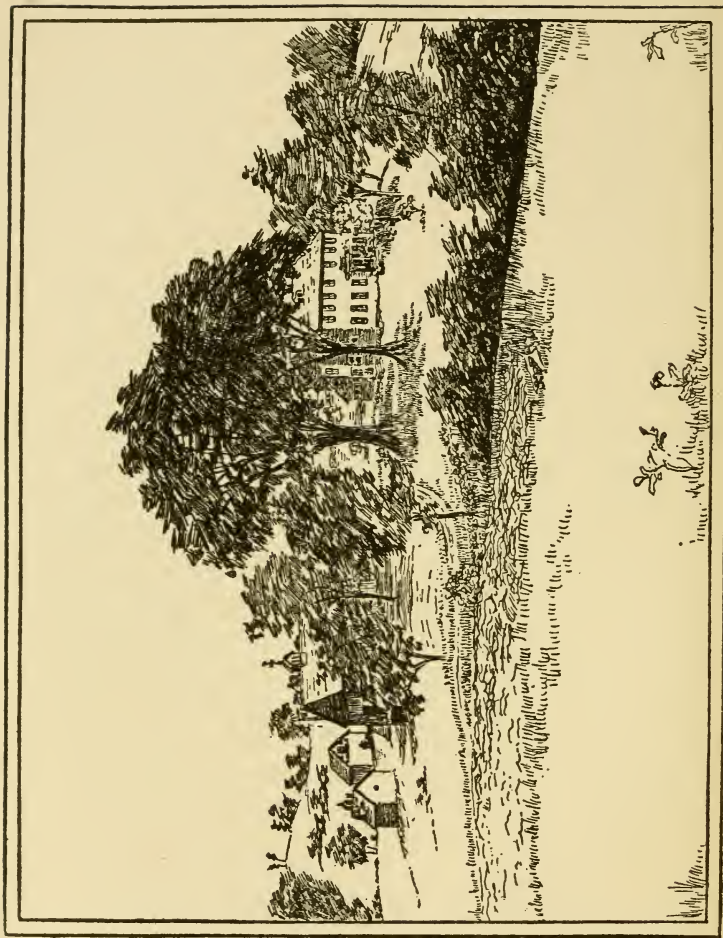
In 1760, when Groton gave Shirley a Common at the present Centre, the location of the new pound there was one among the uses to which it was put. This pound stood just east of Brown Road or Parker Road—for each of these two starts at the Common—on the northeastern corner of the new Common. The town voted in March that it be twenty-five feet square, and that they "build



THE OLD STONE POUND, SHIRLEY COMMON

said pound with timber and have it framed." The new pound lasted but thirteen years, so that one rather wishes to know whether it was hard use or a new fashion that dictated this frequent rebuilding. The pound keeper was an important personage for many years, and a man in constant service. The backs of the old town books contain many entries and descriptions of horses, cows, and pigs impounded and advertised, so that their careless owners, having paid the fee, might claim them again.

On June 8, 1773, William Little, Henry Haskell, and Obadiah Sawtell were appointed as a committee to build the third pound, the stone one that we are so proud of today. It was to be two rods square inside, and pieces of timber were to be placed around the top. They voted also that it be completed as soon as possible. Apparently their new church called for a new and stater-pound beside it. They were not entirely satisfied with it, for on June 13, 1791, Parker makes note that, "Cally raised y^e Pound." I think that except for the trees which have grown up inside and the lack of a crowning timber on the walls the pound must look much as it did when it was first built. The old pound was apparently left in its old place, for in 1812 a committee was appointed "to Examine the timber of the old Pound and report at the next meeting." On the same day the town voted "to buy a cow and lend her to William Warren." Ten days after the first town meeting they had another, during which they voted that "the Committee chose to Examine the Timber of the old pound should go on and repair the pound." They were not satisfied with this, or the committee was not, so they



EDWARD DUNN'S HOUSE, BENJAMIN ROAD

“left it discretionary with said Committee to dispose of the timber of the old pound.” Thus our second pound disappears.

There is no doubt that the pound was used for retaliation as well as for its legitimate purposes. James Parker wrote in his diary under the date of April 13, 1830, “Dick Bennett had my cattle in Pound. I went in the afternoon after them; I paid \$1.75 to the Pound Keeper.” The next day he wrote, “I drove B. Hartwell’s Cattle to the Pound.” A day later he wrote, “I and Harkness mended fence $\frac{1}{2}$ the day.” The mended fence was evidently adequate for some time, but on October second, the day after his father’s funeral, vengeance returned to roost. “Oct 2^d I went to Gorton on Business about &c. Benjamin Hartwell put my cattle in the Pound &c. Bancroft took them out &c.” A pretty mean time, that, to take advantage of a neighbor’s grief, no matter how angry he was.

This pound was the scene of one well-remembered drama toward the close of its usefulness. About 1865 Hazen Clark, who lived on the Tolman farm, had a mare and two colts. Clark was in the habit of allowing his cattle and horses to roam the streets, to the distress and annoyance of his neighbors. Lafayette Warren was field-driver that year, and so, after many complaints, he took the mare and colts as they were roaming, and put them in the pound. The next day they were gone. Warren was angry, hitched up his horse, and drove to Townsend to consult “Lawyer Worcester,” who was then town counsel. Worcester told him to take the horses wherever he could find them, put them in the pound, and at the end of seven days to sue Clark for damages.

So Charles A. Longley, the pound keeper, went over and took the horses. Clark was inclined to fight at first, but decided not to. The horses were duly installed in the pound and Longley established himself outside. He turned his hay cart up against the gate of the pound, and stayed there for eight days and nights. Needless to say he was the centre of a constant curious group, who were anxious to watch him eat his meals, or prepare to go to bed under his cart. At the end of the time one of the horses was sold for costs. Clark sued Warren, but got no damages.

Now-a-days the pound contains nothing larger than a stray dog or cat, self impounded. Men are much more law-abiding in respect to their neighbors' cattle rights than they used to be. Now each one is so afraid of seeming unneighborly that many suffer impositions silently. Is our virility lessening with our greater luxury, or do we get by more peaceful means those things for which our fathers fought?

Our pound is an interesting relic of a bygone custom, and our late town treasurer, Mr. Hazen, has seen to its preservation for many years to come, by very judicious repairs. The old gate was copied exactly, with the old nails and hinges replaced; the brush and small trees inside were cut. While it is perhaps less picturesque than it was, all filled with brush, yet now it has the air of a cherished treasure, well kept.

I like to picture the Common as it was during the Revolution: a treeless plain looking off in all directions over its surrounding valleys, for all the trees on the Common have been planted since 1850. In the centre, facing west, stood the new church, without a tower,

flanked on the south by the horse sheds, on the west by the "new ball pump" in the town well. On the east stood the pound, and toward the southeast the burial ground with its new rail fence. For a time the Horse Pond Road ran south of the "buring place," but later it was changed to its present course. The other roads were all as they are now, except the new road past the town house door. But no dwelling house was near by, for all the houses around the Common were built after 1800. Perhaps the shanty in which "Dame Nutting" taught her school was still there back of the "new ball pump," but otherwise the church was isolated. James Dickinson's house, standing behind its two great elms, was nearest, down the Horse Pond Road, and "Priest Whitney's," down Whitney Road. On Brown Road one had to go as far as the head of the hill to the house that Mr. Norman R. Graves lives in now. It was small in those days, with only one story, containing two rooms, one either side of the front door. Here lived Deacon Joseph Brown, who bought his house in 1772, with forty acres, from Hezekiah Patterson. Brown gave his name to the road one hundred and forty years later! On Centre Road the neighbors were somewhat nearer. George Chase lived in what is now the Adams house, with Seth Walker a short way beyond. Up Parker Road, who shall say? The old church building still stood in its place opposite the present Centre School, and a little way down Green Lane lived Amos Dole. The Centre then was so called only because it was the common land, and not because the small village had gathered around the Common's edge.

IX

OUR SCHOOLS

MR. CHANDLER says that our first settlers went without any schooling at all. Groton schools were too far away, of course, and it was not until 1757 that Shirley bestirred herself to have one of her own. She had by this time a church and burying ground, but no school. The first vote on the subject was passed May 30, 1757, when it was decided "to hire three months schooling in the district, and to begin about the last of August or the beginning of September next, & Mr. Jonas Longley Mr. William Simonds & Mr. John Kelcy was chosen a committee and empowered to agree with some person or persons to keep said school and to assign places for the same." This first school, according to our historian, was held at Jonas Longley's, on the farm now owned by Mr. Herbert Holden. At that same meeting the town voted to buy a pair of stocks, and we can only hope that there was no connection in their minds between the two enterprises. The year following there is no mention of a school at all, but the third year they had two months of a "reading or woman School," which was held during the summer months, and one month in the winter of a "writing or man School."

The cause of education was growing, and from this time on there was no doubt at all in the minds of the parents that there must be schools. In 1761, a vote of the town to "allow Mr. Amos Holden Sixteen Shillings

for boarding Mr. Isaac Farnsworth whilst he was keeping School in this District" gives us the name of our first known school-teacher. Mr. Farnsworth taught for two or three years as appropriations for his board testify, and during his régime the town inaugurated the custom of having the schools in different places. The middle of town usually had two months, the north and south each one. This method was kept up until the town was laid out in regular districts, each with its own school, and probably even then the schoolmaster or mistress moved around to each district in turn. James Parker tells us in 1770, that on February 13 they met in the evening "to agree about the school house & did nothing." Two nights later they again met and "Drawed wrightings in order to finish the school house." This house, the one which stood near where the new Meeting-house was to stand, did not progress very fast toward completion, but the town did not go without schooling, for James Parker kept school for a month. He began March 12, at John Davis's. On April 7 he says that he had finished a week of teaching at Deacon Longley's.

The next year, in January, Parker taught for two weeks at Lieutenant Haskell's in the south, and Thomas Little at Ebenezer Gowing's at the north. At the end of January they moved, Parker to Mr. Livermore's and someone else to Hezekiah Pattersons. School kept up until February 13th.

The only mention of schools for the next three years is what Parker tells us in December, 1774: "Campbell Brown Came to my house in order to get in School man."

With the coming of the Revolution, the people settled

down to a more consistent system of schooling. They divided the town into four districts, and gave each district its proportionate share of the appropriated sum, to use as was thought best. In 1775, £6 were used for schooling for the entire year and James Parker must have received a large proportion of the same. He kept school at Henry Haskell's in the village all through January. He says, "I had in a general way about 30 scho^l some very large men & women grown." The same year Mrs. Newell held the reading school in August. The Revolution put somewhat of a check on their activities, for the next year they had no winter school and only a short summer school, the £6 to be used as they had been used the year before—and no one knows how that was. In 1777, we first catch sight of that very picturesque figure whom Mr. Chandler has so vividly portrayed—"Dame Nutting." The orders for that year contain the entry, "Dec. 1, 1777, Gave Phileman Holden an order for £4:5 for Mrs. Nutting keeping school," and James Parker tells us that he settled with Dame Nutting on October 31 "for her spinning & keeping school & Paid her the money." Dame Nutting's school was at the Centre, near the house long occupied by Mr. Chandler. It was "about twenty feet square, singly covered with rough boards, without inside ceiling, but was furnished with a cellar, to which access was gained by a trap-door in the centre of the room." In one corner was a huge field-stone fireplace, with an uncovered chimney of the same material. Mr. Chandler says that it was customary "to rent the building to some *pedagogue* or *schoolmarm* as a part payment for services in teaching the young idea how to shoot."

Just here the puzzle begins. This schoolhouse, according to tradition, was on Mr. Chandler's land and was rented. Mr. Chandler also says that Dame Nutting taught many years. So far as I can find out from the records, 1777 was the only year in which the town paid for her services. The next year Rebekah Little was the "school marm," and in 1779, Elizabeth Wason taught. The same year Thomas Warren and Wallis Little were the teachers of the "reading school." The schoolhouse seems to have been in a somewhat anomalous position. In 1778, the church records show that it was a public building, for the church members met there on Friday, October 30, to transact business. The following year Parker writes in his diary under November 3, "I sold M^r Whitney my part in the School House."

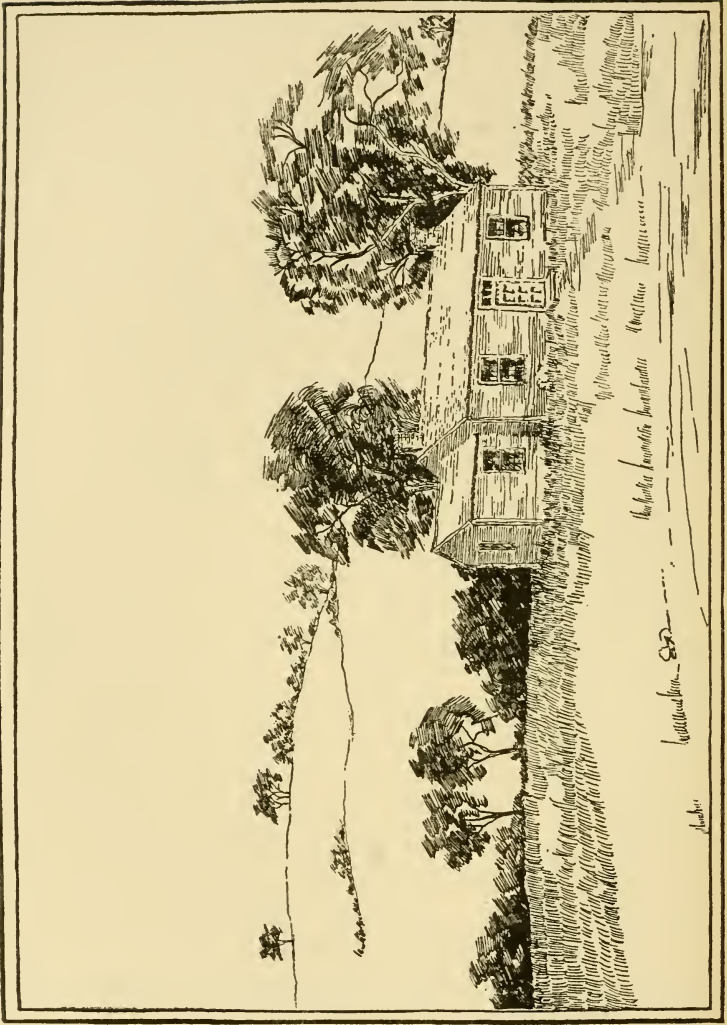
In 1779 the town warrant contained as "Article 5: To see if the Town will buy or hire the School house that is near the Meeting House." The article was passed over in town meeting, and of course was in reference to Dame Nutting's schoolhouse. I think that Mr. Chandler is entirely right in saying that Dame Nutting kept school in Shirley many years, for the Parker children "began School to Mrs Nutting" June 27, 1785, but I believe that it was a private school after that first year during which she was the town school-teacher. It was a habit for many, many years, and even as late as to come within the memory of those now living, to have a private school for those who wished to go longer than the town appropriation warranted. In 1837, there was one such school in town with twenty-five scholars. The next year there were three, and in 1839-40 there were four private schools.

All through the Revolution the schooling was somewhat intermittent, but perhaps not so much so as Mr. Chandler suggests. In 1778, our first settled schoolmaster took charge of the schools. He was a Scotchman, David McLeod by name, whose father of the same name came to Boston in 1740, with his wife, Mary. Seven children were born in Boston to the elder David. He or his son was evidently a sea captain, for in 1768, the item, "David McLeod, Sloop Ann from Hispaniola," appears in the sea news, collected in the Report of the Record Commissioners of Boston. David, Jr., was the eldest of the seven, born May 16, 1740. Our

1783
David McLeod

David McLeod may have come to Shirley as a young man, for he married Sarah, daughter of Robert and Eleanor Henry. She was born in Groton, that is Shirley, in 1744 on her father's farm, which was the one the town bought for Priest Whitney in 1763. So Mrs. McLeod was coming back to the town of her birth, when she and her husband settled in the little house which stood on the triangle of land back of the engine house in the village. They bought this triangle with a house on it and a small piece south of Haskell Street in 1778 of John Patterson.* They had had two children, Thomas and William Scott, born in Boston and Marlboro; the two daughters, Brucey and Mary Gillespie, were both born in Shirley. Captain Samuel Walker paid McLeod on

*Middlesex Deeds, Vol. 176, p. 451.



DAVID McLEOD'S HOUSE, HASKELL STREET

March 1, 1784, thirty-three shillings as "part of his wages for keepin school in the north part of this town," six shillings more on the same day for the same thing, and thirty-four shillings for "eight days and half, Making Rates, at four shillings a day." The same day the town disbursed one pound fourteen shillings to Captain Asa Holden, "being his Due for Boarding Capt. McLeode and other services Done the Town." McLeod was paid two pounds six shillings more in May for keeping school and "making Rates." It must have been a precarious livelihood for poor McLeod, for the next year the committee's "descession" was not to have a school at all. Perhaps that was why he bought seven acres more of land; it was a forcible return to the soil. McLeod took up his teaching in town immediately upon his arrival it would seem for, on February 6, 1778, "Sally and Jam" [Parker] went "to school to M^cCloud the first of their going." Schooling must have been very strange and desultory for on February 13 these same children went to school to Wallis Little. Mr. McLeod was a favorite schoolmaster, however, and though the Parker children often went elsewhere, when their own school kept, they also went to private school to McLeod. In 1781, Parker paid ten bushels of potatoes for his scholarly ministrations. On January 7, 1782, Parker records, "3 of my children begun to go to private School to M^f M^cCloud." The next year "Jam," who was old enough to work on the farm, went to the schoolmaster at night for his schooling.

The next year, 1785, John Long kept school at the Meeting house, and McLeod, in his own house, and Sally Parker, from her short and meager schooling, as-

spired to and did keep school. But good money was going to waste which the Parkers were not earning. Sally did not absorb it all. So our good James went to James Dickinson and Jonas Parker to see if he could not teach school. As one school-man was his brother and the other his brother-in-law they could not have been hard to persuade, and so the next day he began his school, January 26; and he kept it going until March 27, the longest consecutive period in the annals of the town up to that time. The school was quite large too, for he says he had forty or fifty scholars.

When the town passes a vote, like the following, the need of more adequate schooling becomes apparent, unless, as may be the case, this is a chef-d'œuvre of our old friend Obadiah Sawtell. He never could spell in any but a most original manner. To return, the town was asked to vote, "To See if this Town Will pass a vote to be Devided Into Propper Destrets Convenient for Schooling and Build a School House in Each of said Destrets." They accepted a division into three "Classes," as had been customary for several years.

The South School is said to have stood nearly where William Cram's house stands today, but a deed in 1808 from Stephen Stimpson, who lived in the old red house at the corner of Centre and Davis Roads, to Samuel Sprague forces us to another conclusion. The land* was two acres in extent, and was bounded south by Thomas T. Hunt† and the County Road,‡ east by

*Middlesex Deeds, Vol. 198, p. 31.

†Land on which the house occupied by C. R. White and Mrs. Love now stands.

‡Main Street.

Phinehas Ames,* north by the Town Road, † and west by the road ‡ from the clay-pits to the mills, "reserving the school and land." In other words, the school must have stood just north of the railroad tracks and west of the Davis Block. The building was later moved to Main Street and turned into a small dwelling house. It is now the only one of the original school buildings standing, and, of course, looks little as it did in its professional days. James Parker was much concerned in the building of this first South School and, as his words are the only ones extant to tell us what was done, I shall take the liberty to quote them all:

1786. Nov. 6. I worked at the fraim of the New School House by Simpson & others.

Nov. 7. I worked at s^d School House & others.

Nov. 8. We raised s^d Fraim & had a Dispute.

Nov. 14. I hilped Board the school house.

Nov. 15. I carried 4 Bunches of shingles to the School house.

Dec. 22. I worked at the School house Shirley.

Dec. 26. I worked $3\frac{1}{2}$ days at the School house.

Dec. 27. I worked $\frac{1}{2}$ day at the school house.

1787. Jan. 2. I at work at the School House.

Feb. 17. I drew a Great to the School.

Feb. 26. The school Begun in the New School House my children went.

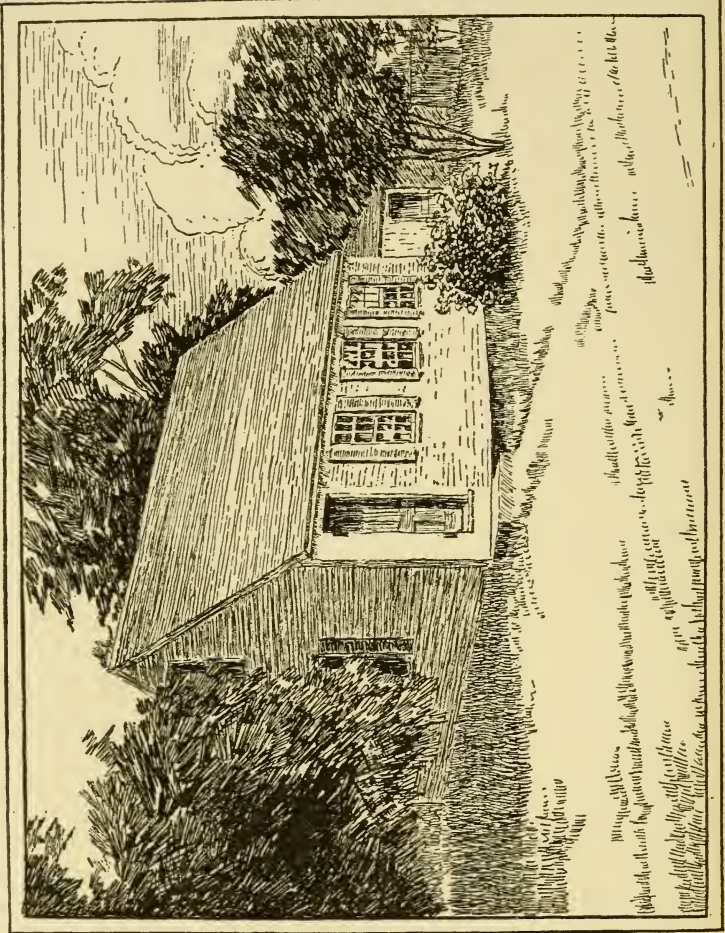
Dec. 3. Was Town Meeting to see about the new Constitution & School House a Great Difficulty about s^d School.

The North School stood where the present brick one does, and, after it had been moved up the old Townsend Road, served as a blacksmith shop well into the twentieth century. The Centre School has not moved very

*He lived where the Davis brick block now stands.

†Davis Road.

‡Centre Road.



THE FIRST SOUTH SCHOOL, NOW ON MAIN STREET

far. In 1805 the old building was abandoned and on February 7th of that year the second was raised.

The good people at the east, headed by John Kelsey, Ebenezer Pratt, and Samuel Walker, were far from satisfied, and they forced a vote through town meeting that a fourth "Class" at the east be added. The next year it was voted to raise "Ninety Pounds for to build said school houses." These were three in number, but it does not designate which three.

The east part of the town did not propose to let its children go uneducated, and so in 1788 the town "voted that the East part be set off as a Deestriect by themselves as many as choses to be set of and build a school house for themselves and draw their proportionable part of the Sch'g as school money and they are to pay thair part tords the school house in the midle of Town."

The same year the Parker papers contain a document of some interest:

To Deacon Joseph Brown Treshurer for Shirley pay James Parker one pound one shilling & one penney it being his due for bilding the South School house and his Recp^t shall be your Discharge for the same.

February y^e 4, 1788 JOHN EGERTON / Committee
/ for bilding s^d house

It is impossible to tell when the other schoolhouses were actually built, as there is no record of the town which throws any light on the subject, and James Parker did not build them. The question of "Sum Meathod" to provide wood seems to be the most agitating thing for the next six or seven years. The length of schooling varied somewhat, from the differences in the appropria-

tions, as this record shows:

- 1789. James Parker from Jan 30 to March 31
Molly Harkness August 13—
- 1791. John Longley Jan 13—
Doctor Longley Feb 7—
- 1792. Mch. 26. "I went to Exebition to John Longley's
school a number of people there." J. P.
- 1795. James Parker Jr., North end, March 14
- 1796. James Parker Jr., South end, Dec 26—

The private school, as I have said, was a common thing in those days, and every young man of education tried his hand at either the public or private form. The next in our record to try private school-teaching was Nicholas Bowes Whitney, the son of Phinehas. Parker calls him "Booz Whitney" nearly always, which seems hard on a minister's son. At any rate Bowes Whitney opened a private school to which James Parker sent his younger children with strange results, for Parker says, "he refused teaching them; I wrote him about it." That was on the thirteenth of February, and on the sixteenth the children went to private school. The trouble with Whitney did not end there, for in the next year Parker writes, "February 25, I went to y^e store, I had a discourse with Nicholas Whitney in About his Abusing David in his School."

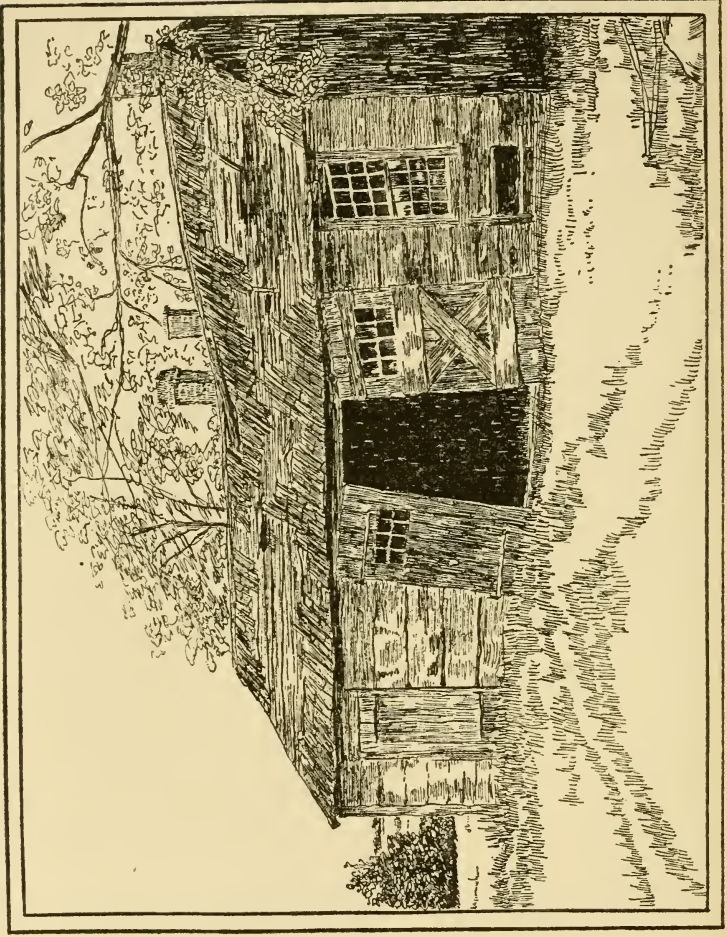
In 1798, two hundred dollars, about the usual sum, was divided between the four districts. The obstreperous east district tried to get an appropriation of twenty dollars through town meeting, to finish their school-house, but failed in the attempt.

Mr. Chandler says that "Master McLeod" was so long engaged in this employment (school-teaching) that

“an entire generation could refer to him as their guide in obtaining a knowledge of letters.” He gives the impression that Master McLeod was severe and did not hesitate to use the rod. He was much looked up to by his contemporaries, for he was one of very few Americans of the time who had travelled in Europe. I don't know whether he had ceased to teach in 1795, or whether an increase in the number of districts called another school-master that year. Anyhow, Chapman Whitcomb gave his receipt to James Parker for school-teaching that year for “three shilling L. M.”

The schools jogged on in their accustomed fashion for another decade, until 1808, when our first school committee was appointed to examine the schools. The committee was headed by the Rev. Phineas Whitney, with Wallis Little, Abel Moore, Daniel Livermore, Samuel Hazen, Jr., John Egerton and Asa Holden as the members. The second innovation was the appropriation of \$30 “to hire a Singing Master one month.” This sounds as if the instruction in singing was meagre, but if it was managed as the singing school in Pepperell was about this time they really got something out of it. The diary of Elizabeth Bancroft tells how she went day after day all the afternoon and sometimes all the evening. It was short but strenuous. The large committee in Shirley was evidently lazy or unwieldy, for the next year's was composed of three, Mr. Whitney, Deacon Joseph Brown and Mr. Joel Willard.

The year following, the town allowed the “people Called Shakers” to draw their proportion of the town's money for their school. Between 1812 and 1814 the



THE OLD NORTH SCHOOL, GARRISON ROAD

town was redivided into districts which, with one exception, remained as long as the district school held sway. The committee which had it under consideration reported "that it is our opinion that it is necessary that one school house be built near the Widow McLeod's barn,* another near the guide board near Capt. Staples Bridge,† another near the Bridge by the Widow Pratts,‡ another near the old Pound place, so called, another near where the Turnpike crosses the road that leads from the Meeting House to Stephen Barretts."§ The Middle, South and East schools were to be sold or removed. This was too drastic a change to be immediately acceptable to the conservative voter, so that two years passed before a committee was chosen "to class the Town and to appoint places where the school houses may be set."

The citizens, it will be seen, were divided into six groups of almost equal size, the largest or "Middle North" reaching from Mulpus Brook south to the Longley Homestead. Among its leading men were the minister, Squire Parker, Squire Whitney and "Ensign" McIntosh. The lists serve to record the inhabitants of the year 1812, and the center of each group may roughly be called the present brick school house. Those at the North and East North are closed; the Middle South is now the home of Mrs. Cynthia E. Lynch; and the East South which included Nonacoicus Farm is gone. It stood near the point where the railroad crosses the road at Mitchelville.

*Near the present High School.

†At Mitchelville crossing.

‡On the Great Road near Lawton Road.

§Centre School.

NORTH DISTRICT*

John Dwight (No. 28)	Mary Smith (No. 14)
Francis Dwight (No. 28)	James Carter (No. 10)
Amos Day (No. 29)	Jonathan Nutting (No. 6)
John Williams (No. 16)	Aaron Woodbury (No. 5)
David Atherton (No. 18)	Samuel Woodbury (No. 5)
Eleazer C. Andrews (No. 20)	Hezekiah Spaulding (No. 3)
Reuben Hartwell (No. 22)	John Heald (No. 2)
Peter Tarbell (No. 26)	Jesse Farnsworth (No. 4)
William Alexander (No. 15)	Nathaniel Holden (No. 11)
Nathaniel Bachelor (No. 13)	Thomas Hassard (No. 9)

EAST NORTH DISTRICT

Oliver La[w]ton (No. 37)	William Williams (No. 60)
Simon Page, Jr. (No. 36)	Jonas Baker (No. 35)
Amasa Hartwell (No. 38)	Nathaniel Day (No. 33?)
Isaac Hall (No. 39)	Jeremiah Stewart (No. 115)
Simon Holden (No. 30)	Widow Hartwell (No. 115)
Oliver Page (No. 65)	Joel Page (No. 65)
Phinehas Fairbank (No. 32?) †	John Fairbank (No. 34?)
Widow Pratt (No. 61)	

SOUTH DISTRICT

Seth Davis (No. 168)	Abijah Learnard
David Parker (No. 167)	Rece's Family [Merrick Rice, No. 148]
Widow Hazen (No. 166)	Benjamin Regg
Thomas Hazen (No. 165)	Widow Longley (No. 163)
Benj. Hastings (No. 164)	Thomas T. Hunt (No. 160)
John Henry (No. 146)	Israel Longley (No. 137)
Nathaniel Farnsworth	Phinehas Ames (No. 162)
Widow Vinting [Vinton] (No. 156)	Samuel Serjant (No. 139)
Luther Longley (No. 124)	Aaron Lyon
Joseph Egerton (No. 154)	John Egerton (No. 134)
Lemuel Willard (No. 149)	Matthew Clarke (No. 140)
Peter Washburn (No. 138)	Thomas Orr

*The numbers refer to the houses occupied by the inhabitants of each district, which may be found in the lists of the occupants of Shirley houses.

†There are three houses, owned by Joshua Longley, which he rented. There is no way to tell which man lived in Nos. 32, 33, and 34.

MIDDLE NORTH DISTRICT

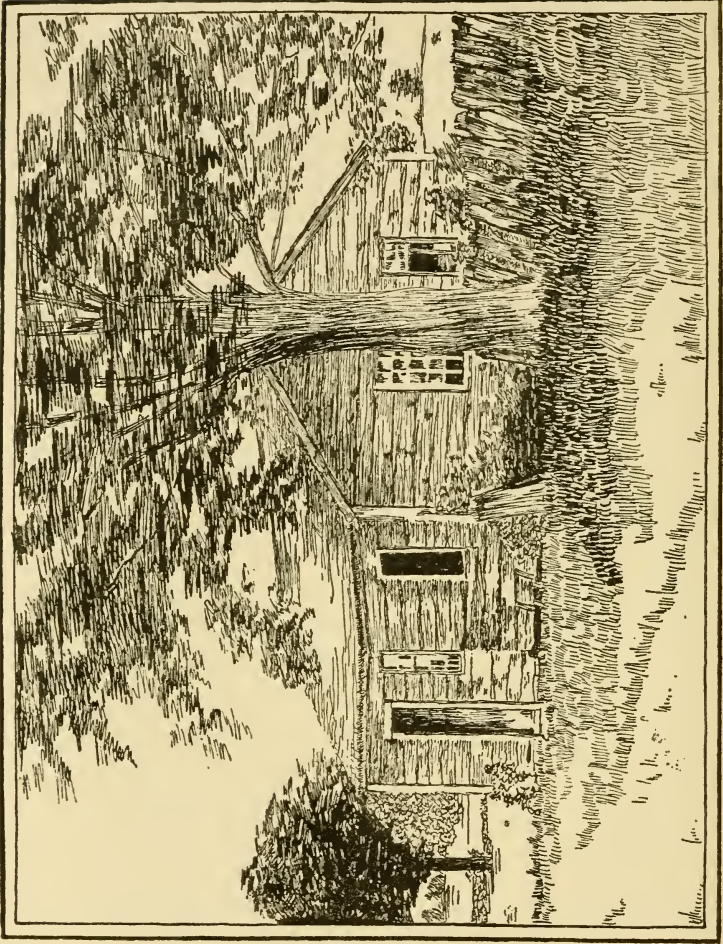
Moses Tucker (No. 42)	Capt. Harrad (No. 79)
Joseph Tucker (No. 42)	David Livermore (No. 80)
Ezra Clapp (No. 44)	Thomas Whitney (No. 90)
Stephen Barrett (No. 51)	James Parker (No. 81)
Nathan Smith (No. 54)	Elisha Dodge (No. 91)
David Sawtell (No. 52)	Esq ^r Longley (No. 92)
Jonas Page (No. 55)	William McIntosh (No. 96)
David Jenkins (No. 57)	Roderick McKenzey (No. 82)
Moses Kezar (No. 45 ²)	Deacon Brown (No. 98)
Moses Jinnerson (No. 71)	Mr. Johnson
Daniel Dodge (No. 70)	Stephen Longley (No. 92)
Wallis Little (No. 67)	Amos Day (No. 29) in both
Moses Chaplin (No. 76)	North and Middle North
Thomas Jinnerson (No. 74)	Districts.
Jesse Chaplin (No. 76)	Edward Bolton (No. 47)
Rev. Phinehas Whitney (No. 77)	Jonas Livermore (No. 80)

EAST SOUTH DISTRICT

Moody Chase (Ayer)	Daniel Livermore (No. 135)
March Chase (Ayer)	William Gleason (No. 142)
Aaron Davis	Thomas Peabody (No. 144)
John Crouch	Capt. Staples (Ayer)
Ira Washburn	Nathaniel Parker
Phinehas Holden (No. 128)	Hezekiah Patterson (No. 127)
Widow Joseph Longley (No. 133)	James Dickinson (No. 131)
Jeremiah Richardson	Francis Balch (No. 131)
Israel Willard (No. 141)	John Walker (No. 130)

MIDDLE SOUTH (POUND^rHILL)

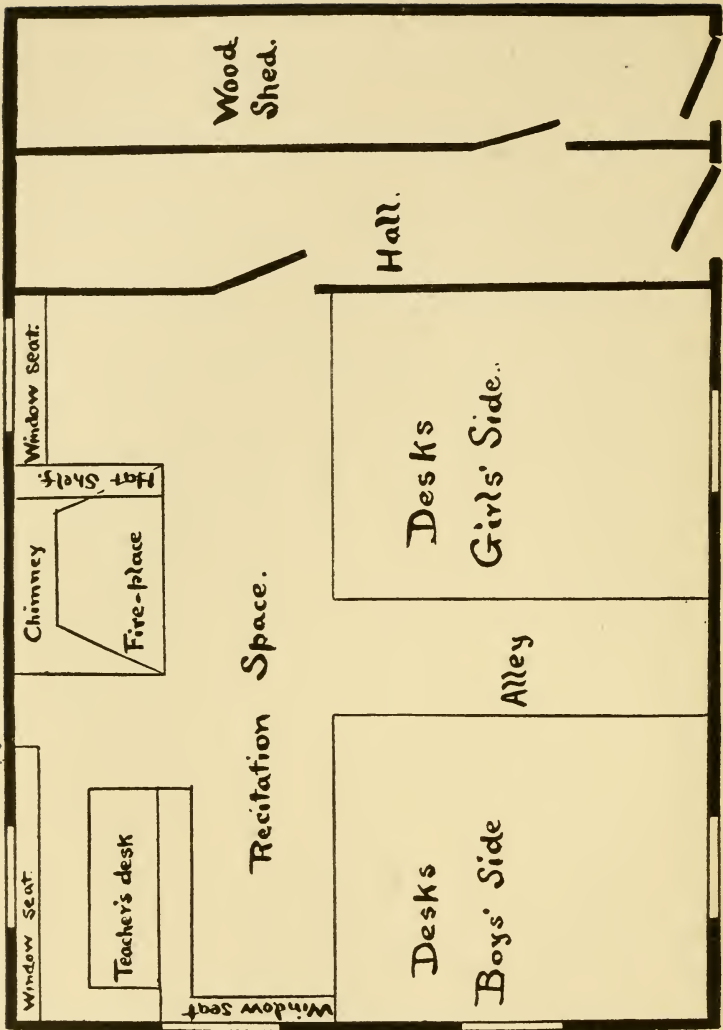
Doctor Hartwell (No. 93)	Daniel Kelsey (No. 118)
John Davis (No. 88)	Nathaniel Livermore (No. 125)
Silvanus Holdin (No. 89)	William Bartlett (No. 123)
Phinehas Page (No. 116)	Capt. Hazen (No. 100)
Joel Richardson (No. 86 ²)	Artemas Longley (No. 103)
Levi Farnsworth (No. 85)	William Conant (No. 104)
Dennis Page (No. 84)	Abel Longley (No. 107)
Capt. Parker (No. 117)	John Kelsey, Jr. (No. 105)
John Kelsey (No. 118)	



THE POUND HILL SCHOOL, CORNER OF CENTRE AND HAZEN ROADS

The Committee's report was accepted in 1814, and the old schoolhouses were to be sold for the benefit of the different districts, the two middle districts to divide the price of the Middle School, the south and the north to have the price of their own, and the two east districts, which had new schoolhouses, twenty-five dollars each. The two east schools got the best of this bargain, because James Parker says that he went to the "selling of the middle school house &c at \$32," on October 31st, so the two middle districts got but sixteen dollars apiece.

All these schoolhouses were of wood. The North, East North, South and Middle North were on the same lots on which they stand today. The East School stood almost on the Fitchburg Railroad tracks near the Mitchellville Crossing. The Pound Hill School stood in the corner of land now Mrs. Lynch's, on the northeast corner of the cross roads made by Centre and Hazen roads. Mr. Samuel Longley says that the Pound Hill Schoolhouse had two windows to the west and two doors to the east on the front, one into the schoolroom and the other into the woodshed. The teacher's desk stood in the northwest corner with a window seat behind. In the middle of the wall space was the chimney with the fireplace, and a window seat extending to the eastern wall. On the east side of the chimney was a shelf for hats. There were two windows on the west side also, with another window seat in the more northern. In front of the teacher's desk was the "recitation space," and then the desks; the girls' section on the eastern side, and the boys' on the western. The desks were made of two-inch plank, and were not changed until after Gov-



THE POUND HILL SCHOOL, ABOUT 1850

ernor George S. Boutwell taught there in the winter of 1834-35.

Some time during the first quarter of the nineteenth century Leander Holden and Joseph Hazen went to school at Pound Hill, and Artemas Longley, father of Samuel, taught them. Mr. Longley was a very strong man, and one day pulled Leander over the desk by his coat collar to punish him for some misdemeanor. Leander told the story one day to Joseph, who remarked that "he should think it was pretty hard on the buttons." Leander answered, "Gad! he didn't mind um buttons."

The village schoolhouse was square, with a hip roof. It had three tiers of seats placed on inclined floors. This school stood for many years after it was sold, south of Mr. Thomas L. Hazen's house.

The routine of the town schools went on for a number of years without any change of unusual interest. Sometimes they had a school committee and sometimes they did not; but when they had, by law, to make returns to the state, the committee became an established fact. The first report to the state was in 1837, and gives several interesting items. There was that year a private school with twenty-five scholars, which means that one district wished for more education than the town furnished. The average wages of the teacher that year, including board, were \$28.12 a month for males and \$10.72 for females! The list of books used was also given: Emerson's Spelling Books, Pierpont's Reading Books and Popular Lessons, Colburn's, Adams's and Emerson's Arithmetics, Smith's Grammar, Olney's, Smith's and Parley's Geographies, Goodrich's, Worces-

ter's and Parley's Histories, Blake's Philosophy and Barret's Astronomy. The next few reports cast a light on the board of the teachers. A "male" was boarded for \$7.71 per month and a "female" for \$5.17.

In 1840-41 the first trouble with the Shakers was reported. They took their share of the school funds, but refused to have their schools examined. When remonstrated with by the school committee they answered that "*this decision came down from the Head of Influence,*" and was irrevocable. The school committee in its report says that this means that the order has come from the parent society in Lebanon, N. Y., and that they can do nothing; but as the Shakers always have kept a good school, they hope it will be all right. The same year the town received fifteen dollars from the state to institute district school libraries. The districts did have these libraries, and one of the books from one of the east schools was still in the possession of the late Mr. J. E. L. Hazen.

In 1842, the town took the care and repair of the schools away from the districts, and installed the single desk and seat in all the schools. The committee this year reported also on the benefit of the large maps of the United States and the newly installed blackboards. Up to this time all but the South School were warmed by open fireplaces, and the committee recommended that stoves with proper ventilators and "a large bowl of water" be placed in the other schools.

A few statistics of the schools of this period may be interesting to serve as a comparison with those of our day.

	CHILDREN
District No. 1 (North Centre)	48
“ “ 2 (Pound Hill)	28
“ “ 3 (South Village)	51
“ “ 4 (South East)	38
“ “ 5 (North East)	50
“ “ 6 (North)	44
“ “ 7 (Shakers)	18
	<hr/>
	277

This was the number of scholars in 1840.

The teachers for the year were as follows:

SUMMER	WINTER
No. 1. Eliza Gibson	George E. Martin
No. 2. S. M. Livermore	Cyrus Kilburn
No. 3. Miss Farewell	Cyrus Kilburn
No. 4. Susan Bennett	George W. Tuttle
No. 5. Miss A. Boutwell	Miss Susan Jones
No. 6. Miss Harriet Dodge	William A. Davis
No. 7. Miss A. Godfrey	Mr. W. M. Montieth

In 1843, Number 5 School, at the east, was burned, and the town at first refused to help build a new one. Later the town appointed a committee to build the new schoolhouse. It was to be of brick, which, for economy's sake were to be burned at the Shirley poor farm. The next year the town bought the schoolhouses and their sites from the districts, deducting the proportional price from each voter's taxes. School Number 6 was rebuilt of brick in 1845, and later in the year Number 4 was authorized to be built. Number 6 cost \$477, with ten dollars to Mr. E. C. Andrews for more land.

The years 1848 and 1849 saw a good deal of unrest in school matters. District No. 3 in the village was too large and unwieldy, according to some, and so it was divided by Catacoonemug Brook into two districts,

Number 8 being that part north of the Brook. This called into being the little brick school just northeast of our grammar school, where in later years General Butler is said to have spoken on one of his political journeys. The next year the town house was built, with its schoolroom in the north end, which gave more accommodation at the Centre and relieved the congestion in the little wooden building, which still served as the North Middle School.

Mrs. Harriet Dodge Holden has written of the old Centre School; she says, "I went to school very young—in front of my house were woods; and I think the old schoolhouse was moved to the corner of the road leading to Ayer, in the woods. I remember nothing else of the building, only that it was moved onto land on the Lunenburg Road,* where Mr. Jennerson stored sumach berries to sell. Later it was a dwelling occupied by troublesome inmates (Gerry Mills, a mulatto). One night when vacant it went up in smoke." Some one else has said that it was blown up, so that no more unsavory occupants should trouble the neighborhood.

All through this period of our school history the men, or boys, who taught were principally college students. Strangely enough I have come across a leave of absence granted by Harvard College to Edward A. Flint, who taught school in Shirley in 1849. It is sufficiently interesting to insert.

REGULATIONS CONCERNING LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO TEACH SCHOOL

I. No leave of absence to teach school shall be granted for a longer time than thirteen weeks, including the time for going and returning, unless by a special vote of the Faculty.

*The Little Turnpike.



HON. LEONARD MOODY PARKER



DR. JAMES O. PARKER

2. If any student, who shall have had leave to keep school shall be absent longer than thirteen weeks, or the time expressed in such special date, including vacation, his connection with the University shall cease.

3. Every student who has been permitted to keep school, shall report himself to the President, *on the day of his return*, and deliver to him a certificate signed by his name, of his having kept school the whole time of his absence, except what was necessary for going and returning.

Harvard University.

Cambridge, Dec. 14, 1849.

E. A. Flint has leave of absence to keep school on the above terms, his leave of absence commencing on the 7th of Dec^r

JARED SPARKS

The later school has almost too much resemblance to the present to be very picturesque, though it will be so in fifty years more. In 1855, Districts Three and Eight were given leave to reunite, and the Middle and South Middle districts had new brick schoolhouses. The custom was for the voters of each district to come together to consider their own school problems, like a miniature town meeting. The records of the Pound Hill School District (No. 2) and the North District (No. 6) are still extant, beginning in 1843. A few of the items are interesting, as showing what questions they considered germane.

Aug. 3, 1855

Voted to set the new school house on land of Joseph Hazen's and Dr. James O. Parker's opposite the old school house.

March 8, 1864

The members of school district No. 2 met agreeable to notice and choose T. H. Parker moderator and E. S. Parker* clerk and Lafayette Warren Prudential Committee, Abner Wheeler† clerk protem.

*Son of T. H. Parker.

†T. H. Parker's farm hand.

Voted to accept the report of the Prudential Committee last year.

Voted to purchase two cords of oak wood and one half cord of soft pine to be brought and piled corded cut once in two split and put into the school house by the 15th of September.

Herman Hazen bid it off at $5.87\frac{1}{2}$ per cord.

Voted to have the Summer School commence first monday in June, winter term first Monday in December.

Voted that each voter of the district on Fast Day set out a tree around the school house.

Voted to dissolve the meeting.

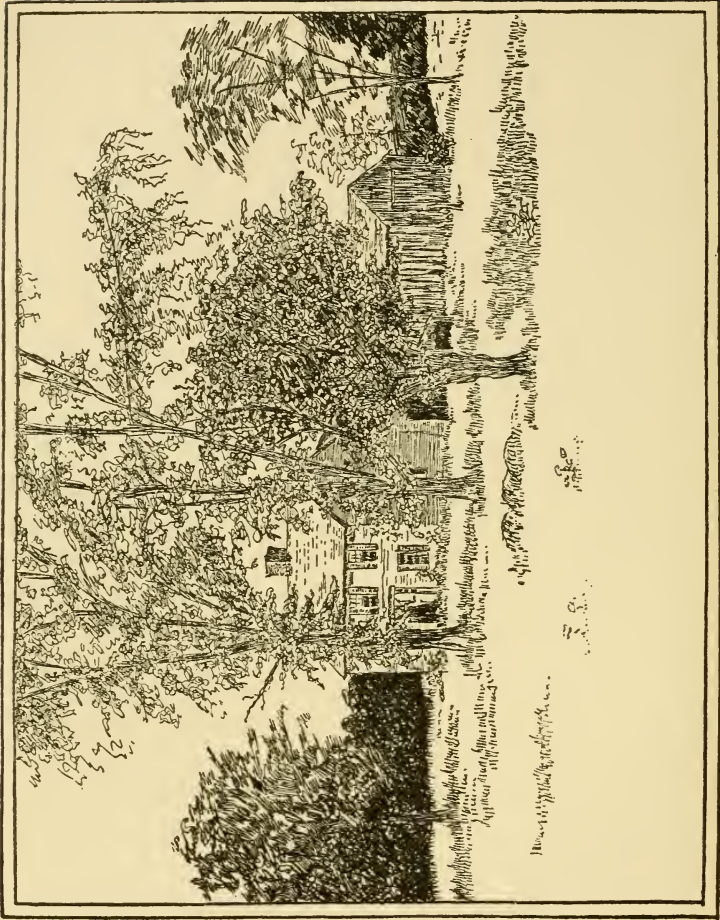
E. S. PARKER *District Clerk*

In 1857, they held a meeting at the school, at which Philemon and Silvanus Holden were present. Ephraim Warren accused them of stealing sheep, and this led to a hand-to-hand fight. As long as the school stood, as a schoolhouse, blood from the affray could be seen on the walls, and Philemon thereafter carried a scar.

X

OUR DOCTORS

MANY stories centre around the physicians of the town, some funny, some tragic, but at the bottom bearing witness to lives of self-denial and homely heroism. Doctor William Worcester came from Tewksbury somewhere about 1769 and stayed a few years, but the first settled doctor we had in Shirley was Doctor Benjamin Hartwell. He was the son of Joseph and Phebe Hartwell of Lunenburg, and was born in that town July 18, 1759. He and his next younger brother, Reuben, both lived in Shirley. Reuben lived on the road between Groton and Lunenburg, diagonally opposite the north brick school. Tradition says that this was one of the first framed houses in town. Both Reuben and Benjamin were rather prominent citizens. Doctor Benjamin studied medicine with Doctor Going of Leominster and came here in 1781; in 1782 he took to himself a wife from Leominster. Mr. Chandler says that her name was "Marial" Nichols; her gravestone calls her "Merit." It is not known where they lived till 1785, but in that year they built the house in which the Reverend Howard A. Bridgman now lives, and set up housekeeping there. He bought that year from Phinehas Whitney, the administrator of George Chase, fifty acres which Chase had bought of Seth Walker and Joseph Sheple. Seth Walker lived in a house whose cellar-hole can still be seen beside a tall elm in the wall along Mr. Lawton's land on Centre



DOCTOR BENJAMIN HARTWELL'S HOUSE, CENTRE ROAD

Road. It is about a hundred and twenty-five feet south of the bars, into the Longley pasture. The hole is so near the road that the fence passes over it. A little east is the depression where the well once was. Mr. Walker's farm was mostly the land occupied by the pasture of the heirs of Melvin W. Longley, in part of which Mr. C. E. Goodspeed lives, and the western part of the land of Mr. F. J. Lawton. The land was bought by Walker of Joseph Sheple in 1748. Centre Road was laid out in 1754, and ran along the eastern bounds of Walker's land part way, then through William Longley's* land to Jonathan Page's;† in other words it turned across the Longley land through what is now the cow run, across Whitney Road, and back of Parker Road to where the old meeting-house stood in Mr. Barnard's field. The fifty acres contained two houses; the widow's dower with a house upon it, which was what is now the older part of the Adams house—the Chase house; and also the old Walker house. We cannot tell which of the two he lived in till his own house was done but it was probably the Walker house. The same year he sold all of it except a house and one quarter of an acre of land, and three acres from the southerly end of the Chase farm, to Joshua Longley of Lunenburg, who immediately began the house which his descendants occupy to this day. Doctor Hartwell and his wife had ten children, eight girls and two boys, born in their house on the knoll. Doctor Hartwell's practice must have been enormous, for in his

*1734. 60 acres to John Comrin of Boston, Middlesex Deeds, 35-417. Sold later to David Fletcher of Westford. It was 133 acres lying east and north of the Chase-Walker land.

†The field now owned by Mr. William E. Barnard.

birth records I find that he attended cases in Townsend, Pepperell, Harvard, Groton, Lunenburg and Leominster, besides those in Shirley. His records cover a period of nearly forty years, from January 1, 1803, to August 27, 1843, during which time he brought eleven hundred and nine boys and girls into the world, an average of almost one a week for forty years. And this does not count the years from 1781 to 1803; so in all there were sixty-two years of service.

Two stories are told of him which bring his life before us graphically. A man had come all the way from Townsend on snowshoes. It was a serious case, and the roads were impossible for horses or teams in the drifted snow. So they started for Townsend on snowshoes. Somewhere on the way the messenger said he could save a considerable distance by making a cut through the woods. So after travelling for some time they came around to their own snowshoe tracks again. The man said that he was tired and must sit down and rest. The doctor refused to allow him to do so, and told him that if they should once sit down they would never rise again. Then the doctor began to go forward, using as a guide the mossy side of the trees, and by following this indication they found their way out of the woods.

Another tale is more amusing, and it holds up a mirror to the times. It was a case in Groton.* "There were several women present with whom he was pretty well acquainted, and they undertook to get him tipsy on black strap. He stayed awhile until several of the women did not care to try to stand up; then he went out and mounted his horse. His travelling was mostly on horse-

* Samuel Longley of California is responsible for this.

back in those days. He had not gone far when his horse began to rise up from the ground. The farther he went, the higher it rose. He found that that would not do, so he got off and putting his arm over the horse's neck and held him down and walked. He had several calls to make on his way home, and would just stop at the door, inquire after the patient and tell her to continue the same treatment until he should call again." The poor doctor, of course, could not let go his horse's neck, or he could never have got it down again, and the horse might have risen like Pegasus, never to alight. "When he reached home he got the saddle and bridle off from his horse and turned it into the pasture. He then made his way to his bedroom, and found his bed going round the room; but he stood still until it came around to the right place, made a spring and landed safely on it. He stayed there until he got rested. The doctor was by no means an intemperate drinker but in those days everybody thought he must bring out the bottle when the minister or doctor called." Mr. Longley adds that Doctor Hartwell "always had a kind word for me." Last winter we came across an old broadside which we have framed. After the horse story that Mr. Longley has told us so vividly it comes in rather naturally, and we can't help wondering if it is the same horse.

STOP THIEF.

STOLEN out of the pasture of the Subscriber, on the night of the 12th of Sept. last, a large well built dark brown Horse, almost black: with all his feet white up to his foot lock joints, a star in his forehead as big as the top of a wine glass and white on his nose, part of his off eye white and has been pricked in his tail with two cuts on a side, a natural trotter, five years old: the thief has been discovered with the horse at Kennebec

river at Hallowell, by the name of JACOB NASH, tho a fictitious name. The fellow supposed is of a middling size with a clear dark brown hair and eyes, round faced, well built, speaks soft, and belongs to the Free Masons, and by the name of *Page*: a shoemaker by trade; whoever will take up said thief and him secure, and return the horse, shall have Thirty Dollars reward, or Fifteen for either and all necessary charges paid by me.

BENJAMIN HARTWELL.

Shirley, Feb. 5, 1801.

Doctor Hartwell lived to a good old age, and when he died his estate was administered by his eldest son, Jephthah. At the time he died he owned the pasture and mowing just east of the brick Pound Hill School. After his death, James Parker delegated Phinehas Whitney to go to Boston and buy of the doctor's heirs the two pieces of land. Priest Whitney bought the land in his own name, and so, when he returned and Joseph Hazen made him a better offer, he threw Parker over. Joseph Hazen began the next morning to plow one end of the field with his oxen. His sons stood at the gate to keep Parker out. But Parker, believing the field to be his, got in, and plowed all the morning. At last there was a compromise, and Hazen kept the land.

1812

Benj^a. Hartwell

Mr. Chandler says that Doctor Hartwell "continued to be called to the sick-beds of those who had known him in earlier life, even unto old age; and, by his timely wit and free converse, would sometimes reconcile to their situation patients whom his prescriptions were powerless

to relieve." After reading James Parker's diary and his accounts of his illnesses, and the medical assistance rendered, it is hard to believe that doctoring was very scientific among country physicians of the time. "1809, Nov. 23d. I kept house. Doc^r Haskell came and bled me, left a Puke & medesin." "1810, Sept. 28. Harkness Brok his thigh on the eg by falling out of the cart." "Nov. 10th I Mrs. Parker and Harkness went to Dr. Carter's; he bathed his Limb with nerve ointment the first time for 7 weeks." In 1826, Thomas Harkness Parker was ill, and James Parker in his diary describes the course of the illness and its treatment at great length. The description may not be of interest to our medical brethren but perhaps it may be to the modern layman.

March 31st Harkness sick, I cald Dr. Parker in at 5 P. M., and at 5 A. M. the next morning, & stayd until 2 P. M., & put him into a warm bath, and cald at evening &c. Harkness in great pain.

April 2^d. Dr. Parker came to Harkness at 5 A. M. Bled him &c. The pain abated, but he was week.

3rd H. Clark sat up with Harkness.

5th Harkness not so well. Hazen Clark went after Dr. Carter. He did not come. Dr. Parker cald at 9, gave H. a Puke; it easd for a while, but did not move the case. Parker cald at 5 A. M. gave H some Magnitia, which move down and releaved H. James went after D^r B. Croft He did not come.

6th Hazen C. went after Dr. Carter. Carter came at 12 o'clock. Parker cald at 2, and at evening. Harkness gaining, we think. I paid Dr. Carter one Dollar for his Visit.

7th Harkness not so well. Stephen M. Longley sat up with Harkness. He rested better, slept quietly, the fever began to abate we think.

Harkness finally got better, but sceptics might think that nature did it after all. James Parker always went to the Lancaster doctors for some reason, when he could,

though his kinsman, Doctor Augustus G. Parker, was living in the village and doing a great practice.

One morning Joseph Hazen, who was plowing, unhitched his horse at ten o'clock, and went for Doctor Parker. The doctor had started on his rounds and Mr. Hazen followed through Lancaster and Harvard, till he got home at six o'clock, to find himself the father of a fine girl, for the doctor had come and gone.

Doctor Parker died in 1843 and Doctor Hartwell in 1845, leaving no doctor in the town but young Doctor James O. Parker. Immediately there was an influx, as the rhyme has it:

"Dr. Dowse caught a louse,
Dr. Parker shook it,
Dr. Hills made a pill,
And Dr. Streeter took it."

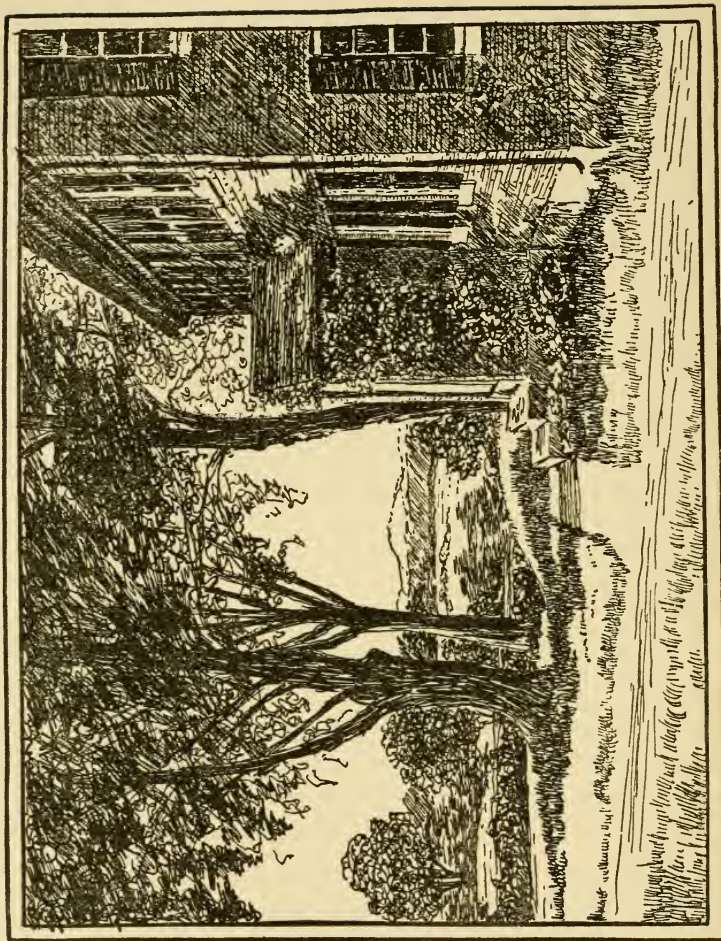
Doctor Dowse and Doctor Streeter stayed but a short time, as there were so many doctors. The story goes that there were seven boys named after Doctor Streeter and that our late town treasurer, Herman Streeter Hazen, was the only one that lived to grow up. He says that he really wasn't named "Streeter," for the town record of his birth shows that his middle name was Frederick. The other two doctors stayed, though Doctor J. O. Parker joined the great flood of those who went to California in '49. Apparently there was some family difficulty, and I fear the old trouble which has hurt so many men—that of indorsing other men's notes and becoming liable. His letters home are quite interesting both for the light they shed on California, and on Shirley too. He writes to his parents from San Francisco December 30, 1849:

Dear Parents:

I have heard from you but once since I left home. That was by letters sent by the steamer of the middle of August. The letters I got about the last of November.

I suppose you feel anxious about me. Just let me say, that I am *well* & comfortably situated; & am in practice. Am paying *two hundred and twenty-five dollars per month for a chamber—one dollar a meal for board—charging sixteen dollars a visit to a patient.* So we go it. The coming year is to be one of great business in this country. Thousands of people are coming here. Towns are growing up in a week as it were. Everything is done upon the canter. A man lives about as long here in a month as he would in New England in a year. When I wrote you in September, I said this town must, some day suffer immensely by fire. It has. Last Monday morning a fire broke out & destroyed \$1,000,000. worth of property. Already there are five new buildings erected, boarded and shingled. There is no delay here. Go ahead is the motto. At this time it is very pleasant. Weather quite mild. We scarcely need a fire, but the ground is extremely muddy. The communication with the mining country is nearly cut off on account of the impassable state of the road, rendered so by the rains. They will not improve much till after the cessation of the rainy season, in March. Then people will flock down from the mines with their gold after something to eat, to wear, & to get rid of the scurvey. Then too there will be a host of new comers from the States, from South America, from Mexico and all parts of the world. Such a crowd as will then be here will make business lively. People are here from every nation almost on earth. Yet, perfect order prevails. The carrying of weapons of defence is perfect nonsense. I rode over two hundred miles without any weapon at all, with only one companion and much of the distance we travelled in the evening.

In 1850 he writes home to his brother in regard to his affairs, in particular of our distinguished citizen, "Squire Gerrish," so called. Doctor James writes, "Follow him up. I gave him no lease of the house, nor of any part of it. I made no verbal agreement with him extending farther than April 1st, 1849. That a man whom



DR. JAMES O. PARKER'S HOUSE

I have assisted & endeavored to benefit as I have Gerrish should take the course he has makes me indignant in the extreme. It shows not ingratitude only but baseness and corruption. Does he suppose because I am in California that I am out of creation?" I fear that others had somewhat the same opinion of the squire. They say that one day the squire met Hazen Clark and Peter Tarbell. He asked them up to have a glass of wine from his fine old glasses, which he took down with great ostentation from the cupboard. They were very small, and Peter knowing the quality of the wine, felt some disgust when he saw that he was to get scarcely a taste, so he said, "Squire, these are the smallest glasses for their age that I ever saw." The squire took the hint and brought out the cider mugs.

In 1851 cholera was rife and evidently caused his parents at home much concern. So to calm their fears Doctor Parker wrote: "Went through the cholera safely. That cholera is something of a disease. I attended a man just down from the mountains who died of it & was buried in such a hurry that about a \$1000 of gold was buried with him. After a week it was missed, the body was exhumed & the gold found in a belt around the body." Before he left in 1851, the Vigilance Committee had taken the place of the "perfect order" that he speaks of two years before. The doctor brought home sufficient to pay all his debts and have enough left to keep him from caring to do more than his slightly indolent nature suggested as comfortable. He lived for many years respected as one of the ablest men the town ever had. His last years were darkened by trouble over the Parker school fund. Many who remember him

feel sure that the deficit in the school fund was not due to wilful negligence, and that there was a spirit of persecution in those who took him to task.

The fourth physician, Doctor Hills, lived in the house just south of the present centre cemetery, which had once been used by Doctor A. G. Parker. Doctor Parker had changed it from the hip-roofed house which Captain MacIntosh had built to a gable-roof, and had added an ell and an office. Doctor Hills made some more changes, putting on a long ell. He took part in the great rivalry among the four doctors of the time. To impress the people he would, while in church, frequently have some one call him out. He would rush home, hitch up his fast horse, for he always had a fast one, and drive past the church on the run. Doctor Hills was a Newbury man and had been educated at the Maine Medical College. He came to Shirley from Townsend, where he had practised nearly twenty years. The doctor left his practice here in Shirley because death cut him off in his prime. He died in 1854 in his fiftieth year. Our Townsend historian chronicles of him that he had "more than ordinary natural abilities; was agreeable in his manners, fond of company, and enjoyed a good joke or a playful repartee."

Very human were all our doctors, and very interesting. The doctor, like the minister, stands out from the majority, both because of his education and because of his nearness to the great events of life.

XI

THINGS RELIGIOUS

ON ALMOST every New England village green, the old church still stands to vouch for the piety and strict godliness of our ancestors, whose first anxiety was for things spiritual. We modern folk find it a difficult task to imagine the part religion and its attendant controversies played in the life of all our forefathers. Debate and litigation were rife on every hand. Men went to law in order to settle every difference and so tenacious were they of their rights in all things, that many a man, obsessed by his sense of injustice, ruined himself rather than give in. It seems as if much of this contumaciousness came from the tenacity with which they held their religious principles, which had been so hard fought for by their ancestors but a generation or two back, that the attitude of mind was still inherent. They had struggled for liberty, and liberty they would have, individual and national.

As a result of all this, almost the first thing a town or district did as a corporate body was to find a place for a church and burying ground. More often than not the distance of the church, to which they all went, was the very cause of the incorporation. Shirley, like many another growing town, felt that the Groton church was much too far away for most of them, and so made petition after petition to the General Court to be relieved. Very often after a church was built long

years intervened before a minister was installed. During the interval the town was served from time to time by the neighboring clergy. But the longing for a church of their own was satisfied.

Here in Shirley they must have set to work on their church as soon as the district was incorporated, for only five months later they voted "to move the meeting house place from where the Com^{tee} stated it about thirty Pole west to a white oak and heap of stones." They voted to pay nine pence a day for man and oxen for moving the meeting-house. As one reads this it does not convey the real picturesqueness which really pertains to the scene. Probably all the male population turned out with their oxen, and drew the church on rollers bodily from one place to the other. They say it took seventeen pairs of oxen to drag the old Pound Hill School over the snow from its site at the corner of the roads to its last resting place, back of Dr. J. O. Parker's house. Two months later they voted to repair the meeting-house and also to determine how much land should go with it. The land belonged to John Page, who later sold the rest to Amos Dole, fifty-one acres "where the Meeting House now stands, except one acre around it and a two pole way to it." If you turn to the chapter on roads you will see a crude plan of where it stood. There you see the meeting-house facing the Parker Road, apparently not far from where Mr. Miller's house stands today, and down the Green Lane, Amos Dole's house, then called Hildreth House, whose cellar-hole you can still find. The burying ground for a year or so was in the acre around the church, but was soon moved when Groton granted us some of the Common land for that purpose.

The first meeting-house was rough in the extreme. Some gave trees; the miller sawed the boards as his share; others gave time, and the raising must have occasioned a general jubilee. All house-raising seem to have been the cause of great feasting and jollification and this, which belonged to all, must have been of vast importance.

All the folk were interested, for town meetings were held every two months to discuss and re-discuss the vital questions concerned. They voted first "to cover the frame on the outside," which means simply that the boards be put on perpendicularly, like many an unclap-boarded barn of today; that it be "ceiled up on the inside, both floors be laid and the roof covered with long shingles, and that the work be accomplished before the middle of May next." Before the month was out they had had another meeting to discuss the shingle question, and those who believed in "short shingles" won the day. The church must have been without beauty and without comfort—a mere shelter from the heat and cold, winds, snow and rain—which degenerated with little change in after years into a useful and long-lived barn.

May came and found the building still incomplete, so it was voted to "board and shingle the meeting-house, and lay both floors and underpin the house." At the same time it was voted to hire three months' preaching and "to try for some other minister besides what we have had." These ancestors of ours were brutally frank in their condemnation of what they did not like, and they never feared to put the same into their public records.

After this the work on the church went merrily on as the

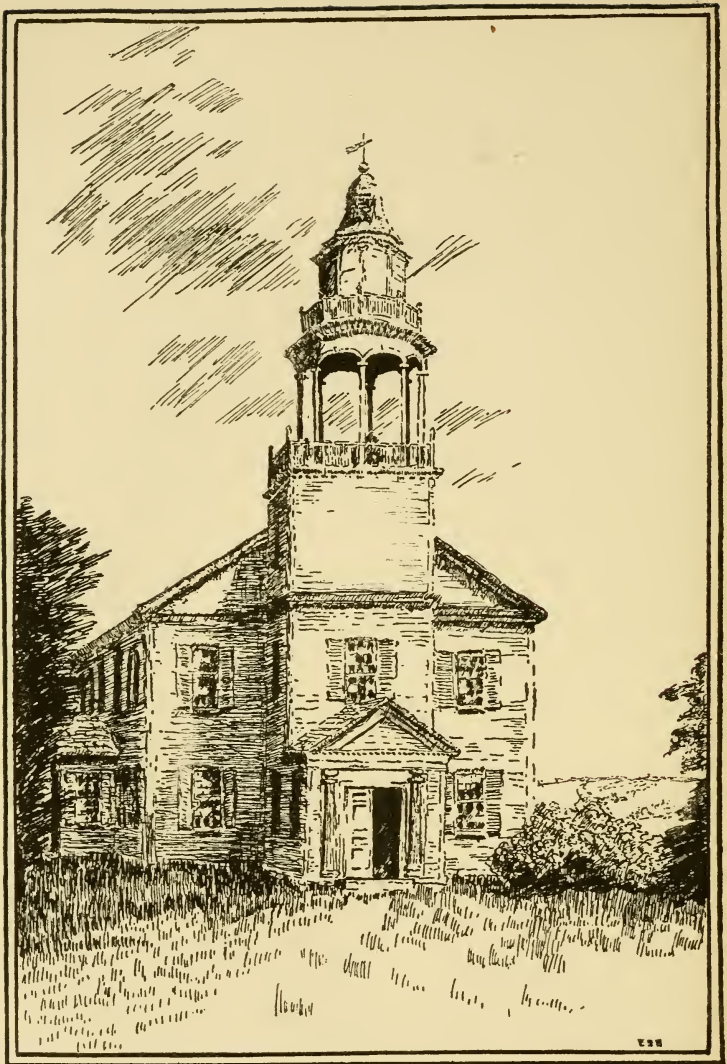
summer weather thawed them out. The following year they finished the inside and voted to "glase the house"; they also paid William Longley for a "Pulpet and Sounding board which he brought from Groton."

There were no seats in the church but benches, which seem to have been put into the gallery even at first, for when a church was "seated," the first row in the gallery succeeded the first row on the floor in importance.

Preaching in the first ten years was enjoyed in the same desultory way as education. They would vote to "hire three months' preaching" in the same casual way in which they would vote to have a "woman school" for "six weeks the ensuing year." This was probably due to poverty in all the frontier towns, and was doubtless the outcome of great thought and sacrifice on the part of those who came to town meeting. All the time the good people were trying to find a permanent minister. They called numerous young clergymen, but one and all preferred to settle near Boston or some other large town. So over and over again their hopes were disappointed, and year after year they increased the salary as an inducement. The first year they offered £10; small to be sure, but great in proportion, as £15 was the total civil outlay for the year. It is hard for us to imagine a town so poor. At last, in 1762, after a heart-rending number of failures, the town offered Phinehas Whitney £66:13:4, twenty cords of wood, and a farm to live on if he would *only* come. In this case the inducement proved sufficient, and when he arrived he found things to his satisfaction, so that he stayed with his people for fifty years, until death overtook him early in the nineteenth century. So long has his influence

lasted that the new generation now speak with reverence of "Priest Whitney," as of a man whom they have known.

The farm they bought for him was that of Robert Henry who had died leaving a widow, Eleanor. He was a Scotch-Irishman whose career in town was short and uneventful. The land lay just east of the Whitney land as we know it, and probably took in the land on which the house of Mr. F. A. Wyman now stands and nearly up to and along what we know as Parker Road. It was a convenient piece of land because it was near the site of the original church. On April 10th the town voted "to accept the land that the committee purchased for the District which was two thirds of the Real Estate of Mr. Robert Henry Dec^d and pay seventy three pounds six shillings and eight pence it being the first cost and also to pay the necessary cost that Capt. Harris and Lieut. Walker was at about the same." Mr. Whitney was not content with the land alone, for the same year he bought sixty acres and the buildings upon them of Jonathan Moors which adjoined the land the town gave him on the west. Here he built the house in which he lived so many years, facing Whitney Road, which then turned northerly over the hill to the old church site. This land was part of one of the very large grants in Shirley, that to Samuel Waldo, who founded Waldoboro, Maine. It was of four hundred and fifty acres, and bore the name of "Beaver Pond Farm." Priest Whitney's house was taken down about 1850 and re-established in the village, where, having served the first Protestant minister well, it then sheltered our first Catholic priest, Father Coté. Thereafter Priest Whitney's transactions in real estate



THE CHURCH IN 1800

were continuous and many. It seems as if he had owned nearly every piece of land in town at some time or other.

Mr. Whitney's labors among his scattered flock were attended by such success that very soon his congregation outgrew the little church of which they had been so proud, and a new edifice had to be built. They chose a different site for it, and in 1773 built what is part of the present church on the Common, where the soldiers' monument now stands. In dry weather in the summer you can still see the outline of the old foundation, for the grass turns brown sooner there.

Like the first church it was not built without difficulty, for, though the building was erected in 1773, they began to discuss it much earlier. James Parker went to town meeting the last day of December, 1770, "to find y^e Sentre of Land to Build a meeting house and they agreed to do ye same." It is too bad that Parker did not live at the Centre at that time to tell us more fully how the work progressed, but he does help us somewhat to see what happened. The committee met on the twenty-first of January, 1771, and "pitched upon a spot." From the context we gather that they brought the lumber to build, and then something happened, for on February 26, 1772, "ye meeting house fraim went off at Vendue at O^b Sal^l at 133 old ten^r." After this Parker becomes more interested for in August he took the contract to board and shingle the building for £58 old tenor. In 1773 the work actually progressed. In May, Parker carted "4000 boards with oxen for Haskell for New Meeting House." By August it was nearly done, and Parker, Deacon Longley, and William Little were appointed to seat it. They met again and again through

October and November, and finally on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1773, they had their first meeting in the new church. The next day they celebrated by having an "artillery," whatever that may have been, at the old meeting-house. On the twenty-ninth the deeds for the pews were issued.

The new site was on land that Groton had deeded us for a training field and burying ground. The church was forty by fifty feet, according to the vote of the town on May 21, 1771. This second church was built with much less controversy and bitterness than the first, for there was now a minister to take the initiative and calm heated discussions. The outside was perfectly plain, much like a modern barn except for the windows, and there were small doors instead of a great one, one at each side and one on the front. It is hard to say whether the apse in the rear was there or not, but the building had no tower.

Inside, the same general plan was held to as in the former church. Galleries ran on both sides, but now the town had so grown in prosperity that box pews were built by many. The minister's pew was "on the right-hand side" of the pulpit, and the wealthier citizens were grouped around the walls. Each man built his pew according to his taste and the size of his family, so that there was little uniformity. The rest of the floor space was filled with benches.

They sold almost everything they could from the old church. In 1773 they voted that the selectmen sell the windows of the old church "at vendue, at a time, they in their discretion think best." The six square pews in the gallery were also sold in the same heartless

fashion. The vendue was not very successful, it would seem, because it took so long to get rid of the material. On the thirty-first of January, 1774, they attempted to sell the frame of the old meeting-house, but seem to have had no bidders, as the sale was put off till the fourteenth of February. Parker makes no record of what took place on the fourteenth, so that we do not know whether it was then or later that it was taken down and moved to its last resting place, to become a barn. The barn was finally burned, and so nothing remains of our earliest meeting-house.

The following year they voted to have a "good-ball pump in the district well by the meeting-house," and somewhere they built horsesheds, for they are mentioned in an early deed and in the layout of an early road. Then with great dignity the town voted to "turn the road" that ran by Priest Whitney's house so that it would run to the new meeting-house, for his greater convenience.

Some twenty years later, in 1792, the church was reseated in more modern style. Pew ground could be bought, and a carpenter and his hands came to put in pews. On March 31, Parker went up "to y^e Meeting-house to see y^e pews building." They finished on April fourth, and Parker adds to his day's doings, "the men that made the new pews finished & stayed at my house all night; paid Leighton off."

It was not until 1804 that a tower was added to the new church, which made a useful portico for the front door. The tower was about a third as wide as the church, in the form of a square projection. You can trace its lines now in front by seeing where the clapboards

were pieced. On the map of 1830, in the town hall, a picture shows that it apparently had three windows on each side, one above the other, and two above the front door. There were three doors at this time, one in front and one at either side. The two side doors were garnished by very lovely porches with plain Doric columns. One of these porches came to grace the back of Mr. C. A. Longley's broom shop when the removal of the church to a sloping site made side doors impossible.

The porches and the belfry took a little over two months to build. As Parker had moved to the Centre he was an interested spectator and he records the progress of the work.

1804. June 16. Hands at work on the belfry &c.

June 30. Lock & I put up part of my fore yard fence. A great number of Hands at work on the Meeting House Belfry & porches.

July 5. The people raising the Belfry. A Number of Hands went on slow, poor roapes.

July 6. They finished raising the porch.

August 31. They finished Raising the rest of the Belfry or cupelo; all of it with out dammage &c.

The meeting-house was first painted on July 4, 1810.

With the belfry came a bell, presented in grandiloquent language by our very self-satisfied gentleman farmer, Wallis Little. So grandiloquent and self-satisfied was his letter of presentation that the town's acceptance shows quite plainly that the people felt the gift too useful to refuse, but they would not add by much enthusiasm to the bumptiousness of the donor. It is one of the few joys of reading old town records to find bits of human nature like this cropping out of the dry transcripts of a town's routine business. Later a new bell was given by two citizens who did not feel so self-satisfied. The old bell

was sold, and the money went into repairs and expenses. Leonard Moody Parker and Thomas Whitney, who gave the new bell, made a rather curious proviso in their gift. They made it a condition "that if the town shall not ring it, the First Parish may. In case they fail to ring it any other religious body may." The bell was given just after the great Unitarian-Congregational schism had passed over the town, and it makes one a little suspicious that the Unitarian wing at that time showed signs of weakness.

Our sympathies are almost always likely to go out to the "under dog," and of this class I think those who, in olden times, were disciplined by the church are conspicuous examples. Our fathers' minds worked so differently from ours; their sins were not ours; their methods were not ours; and their frankness was much greater. In 1785, Captain Harris would not come to communion, and all the town stayed after church to appoint a committee to find the reason. The committee reported that "Capⁿ Harris absented himself because of some difficulties in his mind respecting y^e chh not taking notice of an objection w^h was made by L^t Powers a number of years since against y^e Cov^t being propounded to Cap. Hazen." They go on to say that as Captain Harris has been assured that discipline will be maintained henceforth, he "is now in Charity with this Chh. and begs their Charity towards him." And looking back in the records we find that this grievance of Captain Harris's had burst into flame after a quiescence of fourteen years! And the church at that time had voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint. We can but wonder what quarrel stirred our valiant captain to make so public a retribution upon his fellow-citizen.

In 1779 the church was again stirred by delinquency in its membership, a delinquency which had far greater consequences than the quarrel between our two captains. This was the Shaker schism which has given a picturesque touch to our town for generations.

One who knew our meeting-house some seventy-five years ago writes: "I wish I were an artist and could give a sketch of the dear old church as I remember it in its first improvement with the three porches &c and the interior—its blue pillars supporting the galleries, on one, in white paint, '1773.' The aisles and pews seem familiar as I look at them through this long space of time. . . . One of the customs that passes before me as a reality now is, that the *men* at the close of the service were the *first* to leave the pews and walk solemnly out, then the women followed. . . .

"The earliest recollection of our church music is when the bass viol was the principal instrument, played by Mr. David Livermore most vigorously as though he enjoyed it, then the double bass which he also played many years, having the addition of flute and violin and other instruments occasionally. In the choir Mr. Isaac Hall, I think must have been the leader, as he sang bass and beat time most emphatically, entering into the spirit of the occasion. I am not certain that the audience rose during the singing but did in the prayer."

She gives one other picture of the church-going habits of the time: "My grandfather Holden went to church in the square-topped chaise with grandmother always, the children, two sons and two daughters, in a wagon behind. In the cold weather, with no heat in the church, a foot stove which was always replenished at our house,

gave her warmth till noon, when the coal cup was again renewed. They always ate their noon lunch at our table, bringing it with them." She adds that her uncle, Wilder Dodge, who was a carpenter, took a pew as part payment of his work in building the pulpit. He also took many of the old panelled doors of the old pews and used them in his house as ceiling, as panelling, and in various other capacities. In this remodelling the church was added to by squaring out the jogs left between the tower and the church, and putting in the stairways to the gallery in the new space.

In 1851 the church was moved to one side of the training field. The land sloped away to the rear, and the side doors could only be reached by long flights of steps, so the cross aisle was done away with, along with the box pews, the high pulpit, and the sounding board.

Through all these changes, except the last, Priest Whitney held to his labors, gathering his flock Sunday after Sunday as he grew older and feebler. Sometimes, apparently he could not come. In 1806, James Parker, Jr., writes in his diary: "August 3. I went to meeting; Esq Tom [Mr. Whitney's son] read the Discourse." Perhaps his late sorrow may account in a measure for this, for his wife had died about six months before. Lydia Parker wrote to her brother, Leonard Moody Parker, in November, 1805, describing the last hours of Mrs. Whitney. Leonard was a student at Dartmouth at the time. "I am sure I do not know where to begin. I think I saw in my father's letter that you wished to know the particulars respecting Mrs. Whitney's death on Wednesday. The priest return'd home on that day; she was taken unwell & on thursday she was derang'd

& did not know anything more till death clos'd her eyes on Friday afternoon about two o'clock. The Minister is in Tollourable health & spirits, as to the girls they bear it with greater fortitude than I could have expected. this day I am to go & see them & spend a few days. I shall have about the same time that I used to. Clar* is in love with Rider. L. Jonson is a comming at Thanksgiving."

Mr. Whitney himself died in 1819, beloved and respected by all, a type of man who has had very much to do with the upbuilding of the intellectual life of the country towns in New England and the northern states. For, say what you will, our northern country towns have, and always have had, a reading population; our district schools in the old days fostered a love of reading, and there is scarcely a household now of the old stock where you will not find many magazines. We are constant users of such public libraries as are to be reached by us, and here are the birthplaces for many a great magnate who goes forth to the city to lead in literature, science or business. For this, such men as Mr. Whitney have been responsible, because they set the community an example of intellectual life, and stood high above their people, respected and honored.

Mr. Whitney was succeeded after some years by the Rev. Seth Chandler, who was also endeared to his people through a very long tenure of office, ably carrying on the standard of culture and refinement. Ralph Waldo Emerson visited him, and a chamber in his house is still pointed to with pride, as that where Emerson slept.

* Clarissa Whitney, aged sixteen. She married Henry Isaacs of Mason, N. H.



REV. SETH CHANDLER



COL. THOMAS WHITNEY

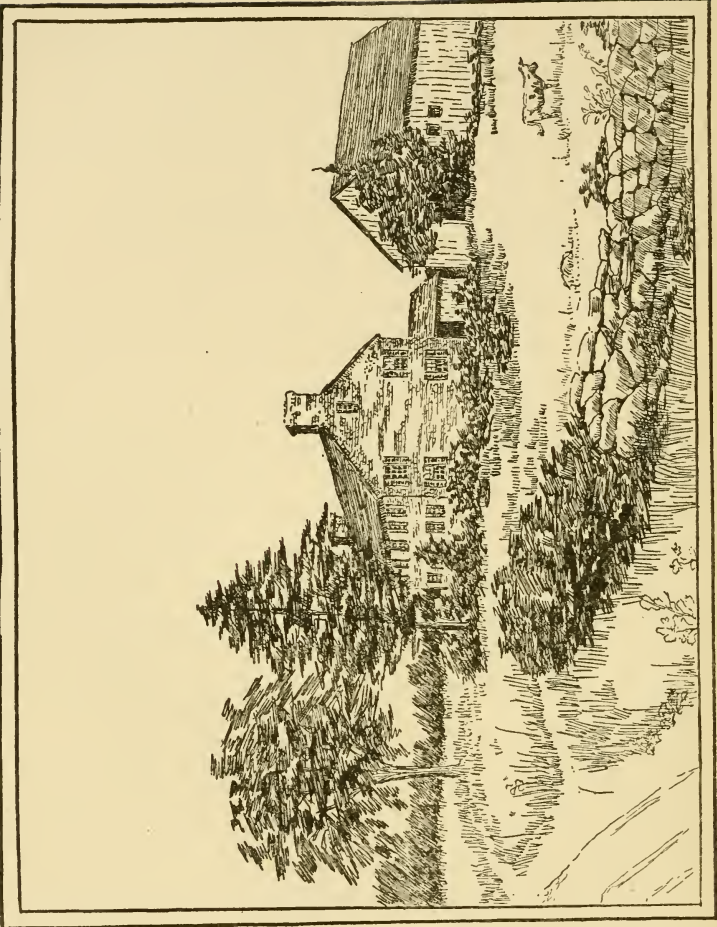
It's the southwest chamber, large and commodious, with a lovely view over the fields to the woods and the sunset beyond. Mr. Chandler was a reader and kept in touch with the theology of his day. Mr. Charles B. Fairbanks who was assistant librarian at the Boston Athenaeum in 1848, kept a memorandum from day to day to jog his memory. The entry for August 28, 1848, has an interest for Shirley people:

Appleton's Ordination sermon imp (Peabody).
 Waterhouse's Principle of Vitality.
 Two of Lathrop's Disc.
 dl'd to Rev. S. Chandler.
 Shirley.

Care of
 Whitney & Fenno Milk St.

The *Columbian Centinel* for January 7, 1818, gives an interesting item: "In Shirley on New Year's Day Rev. JACOB WOOD, over the 1st Universal church and society in that town. The charge and an excellent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr. TURNER of Charlestown from 2 Tim. ii, 15; and the installation prayer and fellowship of churches by the Rev. Mr. DEAN of this town. The services were solemn and impressive, the music good, the day pleasant, and satisfaction complete."

Here is recorded the second division in religious worship which gradually broke up the old town-wide gathering-together. The church, dedicated the year before with "solemn" service, stood on a bluff on the south side of the Catacoonemug, facing north. The land had been owned by Squire James Parker, and was part of the original home lot of our first settled schoolmaster, David McLeod. The church, now used as Odd Fellows



JOHN EGERTON'S HOUSE, CENTRE ROAD

Hall, stood where the Universalist Church now stands; and was according to Mr. Chandler "uncouth" and "unattractive." When the Fitchburg Railroad was put through in 1846, Shirley Village began to grow, and the church was remodelled to its present dignified, simple, and attractive form. As the interior has been entirely changed, perhaps Mr. Chandler's description will not be amiss, for many of you will read this book because it is new, forgetting how very good Mr. Chandler's history really is. "It contained forty-four pews, and a gallery for the choir. It was surmounted by a tower, in which hung a fine toned bell. It was ornamented with a pulpit of choice mahogany and supplied with an elegant communion table and chairs. . . . It had fixtures for illuminating the interior when required for evening services. The aisles and floors of the pews were uniformly carpeted, and the pew seats were furnished with comfortable upholstery." Mr. Munson gave the church an organ, and the one which it replaced went to the Orthodox Society, and was in use there for many years.

In 1873, the members of the church had an experience meeting at which there were three present who had been present at the dedication of the church in 1818. These three were Mr. Samuel Hazen, seventy-two, Mrs. Lucy Crossman, daughter of Captain William McIntosh, and Mrs. Sally T. Gardner, who as Sally Tarbell had sung in the choir on that occasion. They said that the church was built in 1815 and 1816, before the land was bought of James Parker for thirty dollars.* The timber was given by different members of the congregation,

*January 10, 1817. Middlesex Deeds, Vol. 504, p. 431.

and the work was done on contract by David Kilburn of Lunenburg, and Emery Barnard of Holliston. The cost was met by the sale of pews and there was no debt. Mrs. Edward Staples gave a very beautiful damask curtain for the pulpit window, a cushion and tassel-trimming for the pulpit. On the day of dedication Captain William McIntosh played the bass viol and led the choir.

The church doctrine appealed to many, and the feebleness of Mr. Whitney added to the strength of the new church, which quickly gathered a most prosperous congregation from Shirley and the nearby towns. The early list of members has never been printed:

Samuel Hazen	John Henry
John Edgarton	Silvanus Holden
Israel Willard	Elnathan Polley
Theophilus Willard	Aaron Lyon
Elnathan Polley, Jr.	Luther Willard
Sherman Willard	David Parker
Clavin Floid	James Page
Aaron Wheeler	Amasa Hartwell
Benjamin Hastings	Jeremiah Stuart
Jeremiah Richardson	John Kelsey, Jr.
Luther Holden	Edward Staples
Thomas Hazen	Jonathan Smith
Jonas Page	W ^m McIntosh
Edmund Page	Silas Blood
Thomas Ritter	Daniel Willard
Eleazer Lain	William Willard
Gideon Ray	James Lawson
Joseph Edgarton	Peter Washburn
Stephen Hildreth	Leonard Edgarton
John Davis	Caleb Willard
John Kelsey	Luther Lyon
Lemuel Willard	John Coolidge
Jonas Livermore	John Gibson
Merick Rice	Aaron Gardner

Ephraim Robbins	Art ^e Whitney
Aaron Davis	John Phelps
J. L. Whitney	Levi Farnsworth
Caleb Stiles	Thomas Orr
John Rea	Abijah Leonard
Sampson Gould	Levi Sherwin
Thomas Gould, Jr.	John Phelps
Reuben Bathrick	Ashlan T. Bennett
W ^m Harris	Joel Travis
James Bennett	Ezra Cowdrey
Eben ^r Dinsmore	Dea. John Pierce
Eben ^r Dinsmore, Jr.	Capt. Peter H. Newhall
Elijah Dodge	Ira Holman
Abraham Pierce	Charles Gilchrist
Israel Longley	Jacob Sanderson
William Longley	Joseph Turner
Moses Collins	Samuel Messer
Phinehas Ames	Joel Emery
Daniel Kelsey	Abijah Lawrence
Daniel Newhall	Zach Whitney
Thomas Damon	Joseph Morse

Alvah Wetherbee, April 5, 1823
 Rufus Houghton, Jr., April 8, 1823
 Aaron Walker, April 3, 1824
 George Whitcomb, April 3, 1824
 Nath^l Farnsworth, April 3, 1824

The prosperous beginning was a prophecy of its success for many years. The society did not always have a settled minister. For some years the Rev. Russell Streeter lived in the brick house on Centre Road that John Egerton had built, and during his tenancy he ministered to the church.

In 1845, while Mr. Streeter was in town, a Ladies' Aid Society was gathered, which has continued to the present time. The names of those who were the founders of the society in that year were:

Mehitable Edgarton (wife of Major Joseph)
 Mary Edgarton (daughter of Major Joseph)
 Sarah C. Edgarton, secretary (daughter of Major Joseph,
 later Mrs. Mayo)
 Lucy M. Crossman, director (Lucy McIntosh, wife of W^m
 Crossman)
 Susan H. Edgarton
 Abigail Hastings (dau. Benj.) m. Samuel Fuller.
 Martha Hastings
 Keziah J. Crossman (wife of Abishai)
 Lucy Longley (daughter of Joseph and Mary, b. 1800)
 Lydia Emery, director (wife of Darius, sister of Lucy Longley)
 Sarah P. Longley (wife of Major Israel)
 Lorena C. Davis (wife of George)
 Rebecca Davis
 Charlotte E. Sanderson (wife of George)
 Sally Hazen (Sally Hartwell, wife of Thomas Hazen)
 Abigail Travis (wife of Granville)
 Cynthia A. Edgarton
 M. E. Willard
 Ann M. Hazen
 Martha Hazen (wife of Thomas Clark)
 Nancy Longley (daughter of Ivory)
 Miranda Butler (sister of Albert)
 Mrs. Celinda Holden (Mrs. Sylvanus Holden)
 Caroline Bennett (Mrs. John Smith)
 Malvina L. Longley (m. Albert Butler)
 Jane A. Longley, treasurer (Mrs. C. A. Edgarton)
 Lucy Holden
 N. D. Butler
 Mary J. Butler
 Elizabeth Sawtell (dau. David)
 Ruth Whitney (Mrs. W^m)
 Mrs. T. H. Parker (Nancy Crossman)
 Mary H. Willard, vice president (Mrs. Sherman)
 Almira Walker
 Elizabeth Foster (wife of Captain Foster)
 Sophia Barrett
 N. E. Sawtell (Mrs. William)
 Sarah Alley, director (Mrs. Joel)
 Mary Ann Parker (Mrs. Augustus G.)

L. E. Munson (Mrs. N. C.)
Pamelia Powers
Mercy Foster
Rebecca Holden
Eliza Holden (daughter of Nathaniel, m. Jonas Holden)
Anne Longley Hazen, president (Mrs. Joseph)
Lucy C. Longley, director (Mrs. James P.)
Elizabeth B. Edgarton (Mrs. William)
Julia F. Streeter (Mrs. Russell)

In later years the old church was either primitive or inadequate, and so in 1870, assisted again by Mr. Munson, a new church was built on the site of the old. The church was redecorated inside a few years ago, by the Edgartons who have been faithful adherents from the beginning.

In 1828 Jane Little gave an indenture to the Orthodox Society of land at the Centre with a church already built upon it. * The Orthodox Society was represented by Trustees Joseph Brown, Willard Porter, Imla Wright, Samuel S. Walker, Zenas Brown, Jacob Harrington, Jabez Harlow and Jonas Holden. This piece of land was described as lying on "the Great County Road from Groton to Worcester." The deed represents the schism in Shirley, between the Unitarian and the Orthodox wings of the church. The Unitarian branch stayed in the old edifice. The new group, under the leadership of Jane Little, the wealthiest woman at the Centre, was incorporated, and built the lovely arched brick church on Parker Road. The early members of the church were sixteen in number:

* 1828. Sept. 20. Raised the Brick meeting house.

Dec. 17. I at home Dedication of the Brick meeting house. Number people.

Dec. 21. Preaching at the new meeting.—*James Parker's Diary.*

Joseph Brown, died July 15, 1843
 Samuel S. Walker, dismissed April 12, 1834
 Imla Wright, dismissed Feb. 3, 1833
 Jacob Harrington, died March 2, 1863
 Esther Brown, died Feb. 22, 183-(?)
 Rhoda Brown, dismissed to Townsend
 Harriet Walker, dismissed to
 Sarah B. Harrington, died May 18, 1869
 Esther R. Gefts, excommunicated
 Sarah Meriam, dismissed to Leominster August 2, 1841
 Amelia Shepley, died at Fitchburg
 Jenny Little, died July 1, 1845
 Nancy Holden, dismissed to Fitchburg
 Lucy Porter, dismissed to Townsend May 25, 1839
 Elizabeth Harlow, dismissed to Lunenburg
 Abigail Livermore, dismissed to Lunenburg Feb., 1843

The Rev. Hope Brown came in 1830 to take charge of the little flock; he lived in the parsonage next the church, now owned by Mrs. Steele MacKaye. His ministration lasted for fourteen years, broken but once in its harmony and peace, and that by the scandal whose history is given elsewhere. Before Mr. Brown came the church lost one member, Esther Gefts. We of the present day are perhaps not quite so ready to sit in public judgment upon our fellows as our grandfathers were, but it may be that their way was kinder, in that they gave the condemned at least a chance to justify his conduct. Esther Gefts was brought to trial before the committee of the Orthodox Society, condemned and excommunicated on September 27, 1829. Her story is not unique, and her treatment followed the custom in vogue then and before that time.

Miss Esther Gefts,

Your conduct for some time past has occasioned grief to the Church of which you are a member; your neglect of public worship, misspending the Sabbath and falsehood.

Individuals have warned you of the reproach you would bring upon yourself and the cause of Christ, and intimated that you might reform and give Christian satisfaction. This you have neglected to do as yet, the cause is now before the church, they are in duty bound to *notic* it. You will doubtless remember how we solemnly entered into covenant with God, before angels and men and promised to watch over each other in love. I now in behalf of the Church, notify and request you to meet with the Church at the meeting house on Thursday next at 3 o'clock P. M. and make your defence before the Church against the above mentioned charges.

Sept. 14th, 1829.

IMLA WRIGHT { *Committee of the
Orthodox Cong'l Church
Shirley.*

SAMUEL S. WALKER, *Scribe*

After Mr. Brown left, the church had many ministers and was moved to the Village. There it has done splendid work all through its long life, existing in great harmony with its Universalist and Baptist brethren.

I insert here, because I think it has not been printed before, a list of its early members. It has been most painstakingly kept up, and should aid some searchers after information about their ancestors.

MEMBERS ADDED TO ORTHODOX CHURCH

1830

April 25. Mrs. Lucy Porter, died 20th March, 1847, at Clintonville

Mrs. Abigail Hartwill, died October, 1869

Mrs. Hepsibeth Davis

Miss Sophronia Davis

Miss Mary Fletcher { dismissed to Lowell, November 4, 183-?
died June 11, 1839, aged 28
letter returned not having
been presented

1831

- Aug. 15. Mrs. Sylvia Cook, dismissed to Lunenburg March 31, 1850
Mr. Henry Lane
- Jan. 2. Miss Hannah Pierce, dead
Miss Nancy Damon, died 19 September, 1847
- July 3. Mrs. Sybil Hartshorn, died January 29, 1844
Mrs. Patty Adams, dismissed to Lunenburg March 31, 1850
Mr. I. H. Spaulding, dismissed to Townsend May 26, 1839
Mr. S. J. Cook, dismissed to Lunenburg March 31, 1850
Mr. Asaph Goodridge, died February, 1843
- Sept. 4. Mr. Jonas Holden, dismissed to Fitchburg
- Nov. 6. Mr. Willard Porter, dismissed to Lunenburg February 28, 1850
Mr. Alvin Holden, baptized, dismissed 5th March, 1818, to Cambridge Port

1832

- Jan. 1. Mrs. Eliza Boynton
Miss Elizabeth French, baptized, died July, 1841
- May 6. Mrs. Sarah Page, died February, 1862
Miss Lydia Nutting (Olivers), died 1849, Fitchburg

1833

- Jan. 6. Mrs. Sarah Cook, died June 24, 1834
Miss Mary L. Andrews, dismissed to Lunenburg, baptized
Miss Sarah Trumbull, dismissed to Leominster
- Mar. 10. Mr. Joel Eaton, died March 29, 1843
Mr. Willard Worcester, baptized, died September 9, 1860
Mrs. Mary (Eaton) or Hutchinson, letter to Fitchburg August 10, 1854 (?)
Mrs. Elvira Worcester
Mrs. Mary P. F. Brown, dismissed
Miss Lydia S. Eaton, diss to Mason
Miss Mary W. Eaton, dismissed to New Ipswich
- May 5. Mr. Daniel G. Waters, baptized, excom.
- July 7. Mrs. Martha Phelps

1834

- Jan. 5. Lydia Augusta Davis (Batson), baptized, dismissed to Lunenburg, September 4, 1864

1835

- Jan. 4. Sampson Worcester, dismissed to Lancaster October, 1844
 Isaac Harrington, dismissed
 Relief Harrington, dismissed
 Frances Gibson, dismissed November, 1837, to chh in Cambridgeport
 Nancy Boynton Ashby, dead
 Maria Jennerson, Lunenburg
- May 3. Jonas Meriam, dismissed to Leominster August 22, 1841

1836

- Jan. 17. William Eaton, dismissed to Lancaster
 David Porter
 Martha D. Andrews, Alias Waters, diss to Townsend
 Lucy Ann Hartwell, diss to Townsend
 Hannah Page, diss to Lancaster November 1844
 Ivis B. L. Eaton, diss, baptized
 Susan Eaton { dismissed to the church in
 Louisa E. Eaton { Lancaster
 Nancy E. Holden { dismissed to the church
 Harriet K. Holden { in Fitchburg under the
 Mary F. Holden { care of Rev. E. Bullard
 Sarah Ann Porter (Hyatt), dismissed October, 1852, lives in Lunenburg
 Sarah W. Harrington, baptized, excommunicated 28th February, 1850
 Harriet Bennet, dismissed to Leominster August 22, 1841
- July 3. Clarissa Longley, died 1849
- Sept. 4. Ivis Bartlett
 Minnie Flagg { dismissed to
 Nancy Flagg { Lunenburg 1840

1837

- Jan. 1. Nathaniel Boynton, Jr., baptized
 William C. Wallis, died May 8, 1842, at Berlin

- 1838
 Sept. 2. George Hildreth { dismissed to chh in Lunenburg
 Lucy W. Hildreth { 5th January, 1849
 Henry W. Spaulding { dismissed to Lunenburg
 Mrs. Spaulding { 3th June, 1848
- Nov. 4. Harriet E. Porter, dismissed to Harvard 9th April,
 1848
 Julia Ann Worcester (or Park)
 Eunice Davis, 1840, baptized
 Sylvia Adams (Mrs. David Porter), Do
 Eliza Ann Bathrick (Farrar), Do
- 1839
 July 4. Avery Reed { dismissed to Leominster
 Charlotte Reed { August 22, 1841
- 1840
 Nov. 1. Lucretia Going (Philadelphia)
- 1841
 Jan. 3. Rebecca S. Longley (Burrell)
- 1842
 Nov. 6. Abigail Adams, baptized, dismissed to Mason,
 N. H., 5 December, 1847
 Elizabeth Balcom, died January 5, 1864
 Jackson Cook, dis to Lunenburg March 31, 1850,
 died 1862
 James M. Wright, baptized
 Lydia Adams, dis to Lunenburg March 31, 1850
 Jane Augusta Porter, died August 16, 1843
- 1843
 May 6. John Park
 Henrietta Park
 Mary B. Worcester, dismissed to Lancaster Octo-
 ber, 1844
 Robert Thompson, baptized, dismissed to Albert
 Barnes Church (1st Pres) in Philadelphia 11th
 June, 1848
 Abram Wallis Wright, Boylston
 Almira Frances Worcester, dismissed to Lancaster
 October, 1844
- July 2. Imla Wright, dismissed to Antrim, N. H., 9th
 April, 1848
 Samuel B. Clark

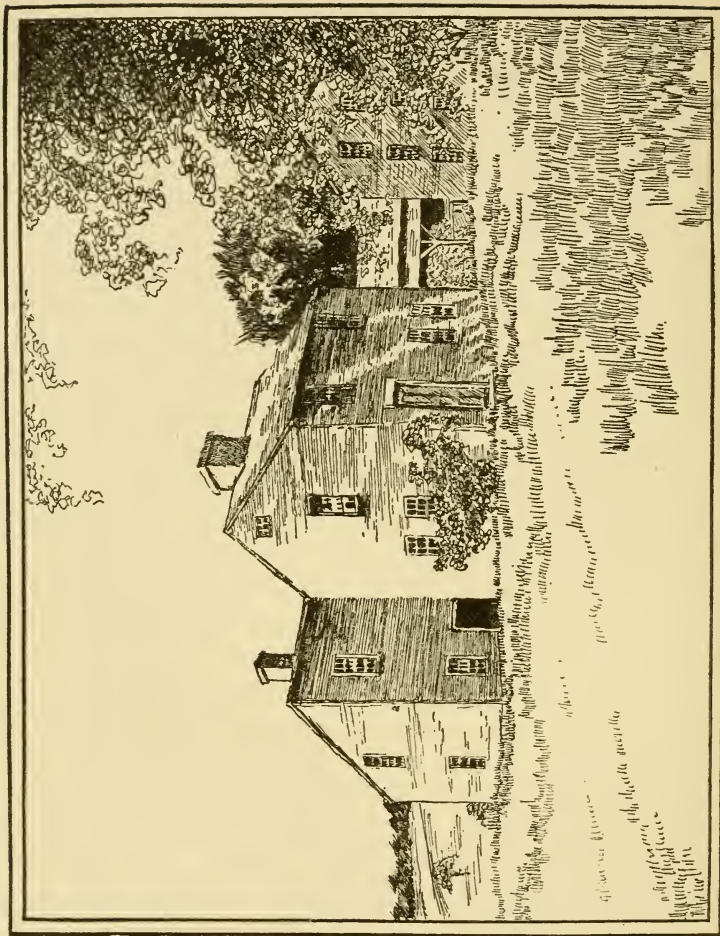
- Nov. 5. Mary Longley (Mrs. Hughes)
Elisha Boynton, baptized
Pamelia D. Longley, died 1868
Betsey Kelsey, diss to Townsend
Elvira L. Park, letter to Philadelphia
Mary A. Boynton, baptized
Eliza A. Boynton, letter to Honolulu April, 1855
James Cook, dis to Lunenburg March 31, 1850

XII

THE "SHAKING QUAKERS"

ON APRIL 28, 1779, "the church was desired to stop after the Lecture being notified the Sabbath before that there were matters of importance to lay before them. It was motioned that a Committee should be chosen to converse with several Delinquent members of y^e Ch^h accordingly Cap^a Sam^l Walker, Mr. John Heald & Cap^a Harris were chosen as a Committee to joyⁿ with the Pastor to converse with Elijah Wildes Ju^r & Eunice his wife and Anna Wheelock members of this Chh & to Enquire of them the Reasons of their—absenting themselves from the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, for some time past—also to converse with Stephen Holden upon the same subject—The Pastor accordingly with part of the committee took the first opportunity & conversed with each of y^e afores^d delinquent members But could obtain no satisfaction."

The first three of these delinquent members never again returned to the church, but persisted in their revolt for two years, until, in 1781, Mother Ann Lee came to Harvard. Up to the time of her coming it seems to have been merely a revolt, but upon her arrival it crystalized into definite form. Mother Ann Lee at Harvard took over the followers of Shadrach Ireland, who had died, leaving his sect without a head, and in Shirley she made the three delinquents her nucleus. Almost immediately it seems the sect leaped into noto-



ELIJAH WILDES, JR.'S HOUSE

riety, and Parker rode over to Harvard in company with Pratt, Egerton, Winslow Parker & John Ivory. He calls them the "Shakeing Quakers." This was in October, 1781, just a little while before he heard of Cornwallis's surrender. On November 9, "Lemuel Patterson had my horse to go to see the Shakeing Quakers." The novelty was great, and again Parker went to see them, this time at "Wildses." Mother Ann Lee had many picturesque adventures both in Harvard and Shirley while founding her sect of the United Believers, always known to the world as the "Shakers," since they "shook before the Lord" in their services.

Just how the Wildses met her we cannot tell, but her religious light appealed to them, and they welcomed her with open arms and hearts. It was a singularly well adapted spot for her particular tenets, for beside celibacy, which was the foundation stone, she taught community of goods. The Wildes farms, which were some two hundred and fifty acres of woods and fine flat intervales, were an ideal place in which to start community life. The two settlers, Ephraim and Elijah * Wildes, were brothers, and their farms extended northward from the Lancaster line. Later Elijah's two sons, Elijah, Jr., and Ivory, inherited the two farms, Elijah's being nearer Lancaster. Ivory's house, which had previously been his father Elijah's, was on the west side of the road where the North Family buildings are now. It was moved, early in the society's development, across the road, where a great lilac bush now stands to mark its later site. It was a small, one-story house, like many others

* 1791, April 6, "Old Elijah Wildes cut his throat; I went to see him at evening." James Parker's Diary.

in the town. Elijah Wildes, Jr., built himself a more pretentious house in 1771. It was a two-story frame building of the type that was so common in those days, with the chimney at the right end and the door in front at the left. It was really half a house, built with the hope that later the second half, to the left of the front door, might be added when the family prospered, but only the rear end of the second half was ever added. The house had the long lean-to roof in the rear. In front of this old house stood two enormous elms, in one of which was an iron ring. The dear old Shaker ladies always showed this ring with pride, as that to which Mother Ann always tied her horse when she came from Harvard to visit them. The house stood until 1901, when it was torn down because it was "not worth patching any more," and, as the society was much reduced, had no usefulness. In the house was a low door in the southeast chamber, and behind was a half closet, in which they once hid their beloved prophetess from the seething mob outside. The door they covered with a bureau, and she was very effectually hidden. The people of Shirley and Harvard looked upon Mother Ann as a disciple of the evil one and tried to stone her to death. She escaped, but two of her elders were abominable treated. All this they endured, in humbleness of spirit as martyrs have endured for their belief, since the beginning of religion itself.

Elijah and Eunice, and Anna Wheelock, became her devoted disciples, soon followed by Ivory Wildes and his family, Oliver Burt and his family. The census for 1790 discloses the fact that the society during its first nine years grew with great rapidity, considering the small community from which it could hope to draw.

In 1790 there were sixteen men, nine boys under sixteen years, and thirty-eight women and girls. Elijah's house became the nucleus of the "Church Family," and Ivory's of the "North Family"; the "South Family" was on land of the Willards, and was over the line in Lancaster. The persecuted and downtrodden have always many followers and so the congregation of the Shakers grew.

After Mother Ann's death in 1784, the various congregations organized and a covenant was duly signed. As this covenant is interesting and has, I think, never been printed, it is inserted here.* Verbose as it is it shows an earnestness of purpose, which was amply fulfilled by the later history of the settlement.

The following is the Covenant of the Church of the Religious Society of Christians, commonly called and known in the World by the Name of Shakers, in the Town of Shirley, in Relation to the possession and Improvement of a Joint Interest, In the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and ninety-three, the year in which most of the Members were gathered, the following Order and Covenant was then, and from time to time afterwards, made known and understood, Received and Entered into by us, as members of the Church, According to our Understanding in Gospel order, this being our Faith, and Confirmed by Experience, that there could be no Church in Compleat order according to the Law of Christ, without being gathered into one Joint Union and Interest, wherein all the members Might have an Equal Right and privilege, according to their Calling, Both in things Spiritual and temporal; wherein we might have A Greater privilege of doing good to Each other, and the Rest of Mankind, and Receiving according to our need, Jointly and Equally one with another agreeable to the following articles of Covenant:

Ily. the Conditions on which we were Received were as Follows: all of us, that were of age, offered ourselves to do it freely and Voluntarily believing it to be our Duty and Privilege.

* I am indebted to D. Chester Parsons, Esq., for this text.

2ly. All that are Received as members, being of age, that have any Substance or property of their own, being free from any Just or Lawful Claim or Demand in their knowledge, may, and have a Right, to bring it in, and Consecrate it as part of the Joint Interest of the Church, agreeable to their own Faith and Desire, to be Improved for the Use and Support of the Church, and any Other Use that the Gospel Requires, according to the Understanding, Discretion, and Direction of Nathan Willard and Oliver Burt, who are appointed as Deacons, and to Such Others as may be appointed to that office, as their Successors in Said Church.

3ly. All the members that are, or Shall be Received into the Church, Shall possess one Joint Interest as a Religious Right, i. e. all Shall have Just and Equal Right and privilege according to their Needs, in Sickness and in Health, in the Use of all things in the Church, without any Difference being made on account of what any one Brought in, Whether more or Less, So Long as they Remain in obedience to the order and Government of the Church, and are holden in Relation.

4ly. Each individual Shall Consider Them Selves under obligation, according to their Strength and Ability, to improve their time and Talents for the prosperity and welfare of the whole; and the whole Shall Consider Themselves under Equal obligation in Relation to the Welfare of Each Individual, in Conformity to the order and Government of the Church.

5ly. as it is not our Purpose in Uniting into Church order to gain an Earthly Treasure, But what we obtain by Honest Industry, More than for our own Support, Should be bestowed for the Relief of the poor, the Widows, and Fatherless, and other Charitable Uses according to the Requirement of the Gospel; therefore we Each of us Individually, for ourselves, Do Solemnly Covenant to gether that we will not bring the Church, as a Body, nor Each other, as Individuals, into Debt nor Blame on account of any Interest or Labour we have or Shall bestow to the Joint Interest of the Church. But Solemnly Engage freely to Give and consecrate our time and Talents as Brethren and Sisters, for the Mutual good and welfare of Each other, and for other Charitable Uses, according to the order and Government of the Church.

The foregoing is the true Sense of the Covenant of the Church of Christ, according to our Understanding in Relation

to the order and Manner of the Possession, Use and Improvement of a Joint Interest: Which we feel Determined to Support in a Solemn manner, and, as we have Received the Grace of God in Christ by the Gospel, and are Called to follow him in the Regeneration, We believe Ourselves Debtors to God, not only in Relation to Each other, but also in Relation to all men, to Improve our time and talents in this Life in that manner in which we might be most Useful as being what God doth Require & accept. Youth and Children under age are not to be Received under the immediate Care and Government of the Church, but by the Request or free Consent of both their Parents if Living, Except they were left by one of their parents to the Care of the other; then by the Request or free Consent of that parent; and If the Child have no parents, then by Request or free Consent of Such person or persons as may have Just and Lawful Right in Care of the Child, together with the Child's own Desire.

In testimony whereof we have with both Brethren and Sisters hereunto subscribed our Names in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and ninety seven.

Sarah Safford
 Sarah Longley
 Eunice Wildes
 Abigail Longley
 Susanna Kinney
 Ruth Whittemore
 Ruth Robbins
 Susannah Whittemore
 Abigail Wildes
 Susanna Holt
 Abigail Warner
 Lucy Warner
 Mary Lyon
 Relief Coollidge
 Anna Wildes
 Ruth Robbins
 Hannah Knight
 Marther Draper
 Elizabeth Warner
 Dorithy Mirrill
 Prudence Warner
 Sarah Burt

Sarah Blood
 Olive Wheelock
 Betty Reed
 Sarah Burt
 Marey Buttrick
 Susanna Wildes
 Susanna Warner
 Rebeckah Whittemore
 Susanna Edson
 Nathan Willard
 Oliver Burt
 Elijah Wildes
 Peter Perham
 Jonathan Kinney
 John Temple
 David Melven
 John Coollidge
 Amos Buttrick
 Asa Brocklebank
 Daniel Clarke
 Flavil Coollidge
 Abil Beekwith

At first the settlement of Shakers consisted of the three Wildes houses, and perhaps the Willard house in Lancaster, but as they grew their number forced them to build others. The church was built about 1798, and the shingles on it lasted nearly a hundred years, as the Shakers told us with pride. Also the inner woodwork had been painted but once in all its long history. What the original color had been I could never determine, but when I saw it at the end of the last century it was an iridescent peacock green. You had the feeling that once it had been neither blue nor green, but that some alchemy had given it this strange tint. The queer straight benches of wood which lined the walls under the windows were all of this color, as were also the great timbers overhead, with their plain three-cornered brackets at the end. The walls and ceiling were white. Over this were two stories of bedrooms where the elders and ministers slept. The stairway could be shut to the outside world by a trapdoor, thus ensuring rest and quiet for meditation and study. In later years they built, just south, a brick building which was called the "Ministers shop," and there the leaders performed manual labor.

Up on one of the hills is a stone which they set up in an enclosure. I don't know just what it signifies, but they ever after called the hill "Holy hill." The inscription runs:

Written and placed here
by the command of our
Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ
Engraved at Harvard
Erected, July 15
1844

In later years the Shakers were a most valuable part of the town. Their cleanliness, their thrift, their honesty, appealed to the better element, and were a fine example to all. Elder John Whitely, our last resident elder in Shirley, was a most dignified and picturesque figure. He was born in Huddersfield, England, and migrated with his wife and family. He and his wife remained faithful to the end, but the children went out into the world. He was a large man with long white hair; he always wore butternut-colored homespun trousers and coat, made in a by-gone fashion, and a very broad flat-brimmed hat. All the town respected him and loved him, and we have a park in the village named for him. Dr. Samuel A. Green, Boston's octogenarian ex-mayor, used to drive over every Fourth of July to dine with Elder John and the sisters. He said it was the only quiet spot that he could find on that day. He enjoyed their hospitality to the full, and they enjoyed the advent of a man of the world to sharpen their wits.

The Shakers always stood for honest work, though I doubt if many now realize that they stood also for progress. They were the first to make cut nails, and wire nails; they were the first to sell "yarbs" commercially prepared. They invented a musical instrument much in demand before congregations had bass viols or organs and while the hymns were still lined out by a precentor. The instrument had one string so arranged that it could give any pitch desired. The Shakers invented the apple corer and a machine to cut green corn from the ear. There were many other things they did, but the list grows too long.

In Shirley they built a quaint long house where they

made "Shaker apple sauce" to sell; they had a broom shop, a mop shop, a blacksmith shop, and a house where they prepared herbs. Besides they made their own furniture. I think that few who have once seen their furnished houses could fail to pick out their furniture afterward. It was always the extreme of solidity and plainness, though the lines were often graceful. The houses partook of the same characteristics, and everywhere one finds the most careful work. They, too, were very plain, but plain in so characteristic a way as to be almost a distinct style. Usually the only ornamentation on a brick building was in the cornice.

In 1830, Caleb Butler's survey shows that the North Family had but one house. This had three stories, three chimneys, eight windows, and was of brick, painted yellow. The house still stands near the road on the right-hand side as one goes toward Lancaster. The Shakers all say that Elijah Wildes, Sr.'s house was here too. If they are right Butler has ignored it. The Church Family, then as later, was the largest. As one travels toward Lancaster there was, first, a house on the right, with one story, two chimneys and four windows, also painted yellow. Next, on the same side of the road, was a long two-story house with three chimneys and eight windows. This was white. Directly opposite stood the church, which had two chimneys, one at either end, and two doors at either end also, two for the men and two for the women. There were five windows toward the street. The church was the only building which had a gambrel roof, except one barn. Next came what I believe to have been the two Wildes houses, Ephraim's next the church, with one story, two



THE CHURCH, BUILT 1790, SHAKER VILLAGE



THE APPLE-SAUCE HOUSE. SHAKER VILLAGE

chimneys, and two windows, one on either side the front door. This was the same type as David McLeod's. Opposite was Elijah Wildes Jr.'s house. There was one other building, the office, which was like Ephraim Wildes's house, except that it had but one chimney. All the Church Family houses but one were painted white.

The year after Caleb Butler surveyed the town a traveller came along who was so impressed by the settlement that he wrote a long article in the *Salem Gazette* for August 5, 1831. Part only of this article I will quote, for it is too long to give the whole:

The appearance of the village is very pleasant, and as neat as that of other clean country towns. The families reside in three large, commodious, old-fashioned houses, opposite the meeting house; another is a no great distance beyond, and a fourth is just within the borders of Lancaster. The dwelling-houses are painted yellow, with chocolate-colored roofs; the meeting house is of pure and brilliant white, with also, a dark roof. A small building like a vestry stands by the side of the meeting house. . . . On entering the house [the church] by the door to the male part of the congregation we were struck by the delightful cleanness of the hall. The floor was smooth and white as polished marble, indicating that what are nautically called holy stones and elbow grease are not spared. The whole area was open, without fixtures of any kind, except a small stove at one end. Moveable seats painted a chocolate color were provided in sufficient number to accommodate both spectators and members of the Society. . . . All their shoes [women's] were high in the quarters, and had the little, high, uncomfortable wooden heels which are perpetuated in the portraits of our great-grandmothers. In point of beauty it did not strike me that the world had suffered any great loss from their exclusion, for, not to be ungentle, a plainer set of girls and women could with difficulty be found. . . . Their dress, except only their shoes, was of the purest white, with a neat cap of becoming plainness, and a kerchief thrown triangularly over the

shoulders, concealing the neck. The devoted enthusiasm of the "Milleniel Church" manifests itself in a rigid simplicity, and the wooden hall had no other ornament than neatness. Its melody would have been improved if the initiation of the Hebrew demonstration had extended to the introduction of the harp, the dulcimer and psaltery; but their want of taste is a misfortune [with] which I do not believe either you or I have any right to reproach them.

He tells also of the only negro who was a Shaker, with her broad beaming face and great enthusiasm. This was Chloe Harris, a sister of Solomon, who lived on Clapp Road. Solomon's wife was Saloma Adeline Boston! Chloe and Solomon were the children of Melvin Harris, a colored man from Lunenburg, and Ruth, daughter of Silas Davis, a white girl. Silas Davis lived almost on the Lunenburg line, on beyond the "Pest House" and the house of Jonas Parker. Chandler says of him that no one knew whether he lived in Shirley or Lunenburg, but he claimed citizenship with us. Caleb Butler ignores his house completely.

The Shakers still wore the dress that had been the fashion when Mother Ann Lee came to them in 1781. I say wore, because as the settlement dwindled year by year the dress of the "world" crept in, and the uniform was worn less and less, except on journeys or at gatherings. Their quaint religious dances, their primness, their "yee" and "nay," have appealed to many writers in their hundred and thirty years of plain and righteous living. William Dean Howells stayed with the Shirley community for some time, and there wrote his "Undiscovered Country," whose plot centres around this village. He spent his summer at their "Tavern," just over the Lancaster line, now popularly known as "The

Brick." Also you can find an article about Shirley in his "Three Villages." The Shakers always treasured the memory of that summer, and an autographed photograph which he left behind. They were very proud to have known him.

As the Shakers were a celibate community their only hope of increase was from the outside. Many poor unfortunates came to them, as to a convent or monastery, either for peace or for support, and while none was ever turned away, each one desirous of joining had to prove his sincerity by a long novitiate. Some, of course, were lost to them when love claimed its victims there as elsewhere, and a brother or sister went out into the world to join the common lot. So to augment their numbers they took in many children of the poor, and many orphans, giving them a good education, intellectual, moral and manual, in the hope that their early training would induce them to join the "Milleniel Church" and stay with them forever. For many years they flourished, but at present their recruits are very few, and as the elder members die there is no one to take their place. A generation hence, and the Shakers will be known only by tradition. Their placid lives have given them very sweet faces; they have not had to worry for their daily bread. Each had a duty to perform as a part of the general whole; beyond that their responsibility ended.

Their tradition of extreme neatness and cleanliness they kept intact, but they added to it neither grace nor art. Their costume and their houses, being very simple and usually dull in color, induced in them a desire for garish coloring in whatever they made for their little

shop. They seem very childlike in their love for crude color. As the society in Shirley dwindled the few sisters and the one brother, Henry Hollister, subsisted chiefly on what they grew, and the money gained from selling their milk in the village. Thirty years ago Brother Bennett Bolton was a familiar figure, as he peddled the milk through the village. He smoked a villainous che-root for asthma, and took snuff, but sister Josephine assured us that "Bennett was a good man." In 1861, he had some sort of an adventure, for the town granted him "\$40.00 in full for damage received by being thrown into the River."

The few sisters augmented their slender means by a small store, which they kept in a room at the back of the office building. This room was always most carefully darkened except when a would-be purchaser was within. Here you could buy candied flag-root and orange peel, oval wooden boxes, baskets, mops, braided rugs, small bottles of "composition" which was warranted to heat red-hot the coldest stomach, crocheted and knitted mats, and fifty other things. The Shakers lived so out of the world that a glimpse into their store was like going into a shop of our grandmother's time. Shirley Shakers never made the lovely Shaker cloaks which the Lebanon Society and others have made for so many years.

Across the road from the office was a long woodshed, and in a room above Eldress Josephine Jilson had a curiosity room. Here she had gathered together all the best possessions that were left to the three Shirley families, and also everything which she knew to be essentially Shaker,—all the inventions which the mem-

bers had made, the machines used in their particular industries; in fact, everything that might be of historical value. She had some very good old china and pewter, a Wildes chair, clumsy and homemade, that was over two hundred years old. There was a loom on which their palm-leaf bonnets had been woven for years, and a very tiny one on which the palm-leaf braid, about an inch wide, was woven. The bonnets were fashioned much like a straw sugar scoop, with a silk ruffle behind, of "Shaker drab." The eldress always wore a white muslin cap of the same shape, held out by white wire.

When the Shirley settlement was to be abandoned, deeded to the Commonwealth for an Industrial School for Boys, the Shakers sold their goods and chattels. The change was very sore for the good ladies, for many of them had never known any other home; but they felt that their broad acres were to carry on a work that they had begun and had to abandon—the giving of a good manual education to children who needed it. So now most of our houses contain their chests and bureaus, or their chairs, rush bottomed, with a queer half globe inserted in the hind legs, so that one can tip back without injury to the floor. With sadness our Shakers went to live in the Harvard Family, and with sadness we saw them go, for they left a place that no one else can fill.

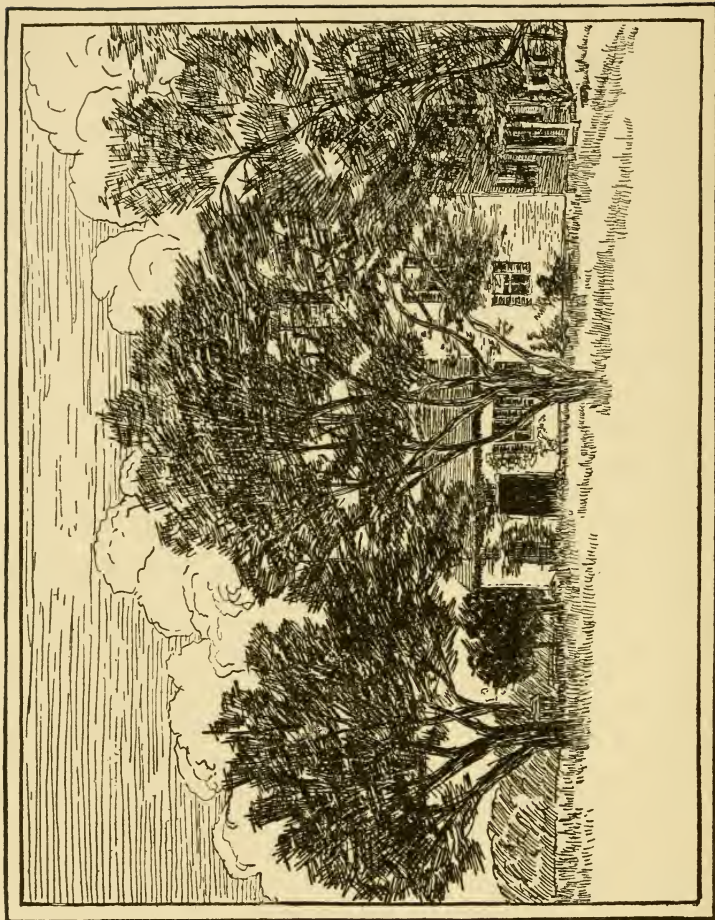
XIII

ABRAM HARTWELL'S "FIRE"

SOME years ago, at an auction, I came across a unique pamphlet which gives a glimpse of the town in 1832. It was printed at Lunenburg that year, and is entitled "A Brief History of a Most Destructive and Tremendous Fire which has been Enraging in Shirley for Months. By Abram Hartwell." This sounds like the Boston or Chicago fire, but when one opens this wonderful book one finds that it is really a scandal. I've tried to paraphrase the tale, but so much is lost in the change from Hartwell's vivid language, that I have decided to give the story as he told it and let those whom it will shock blame Hartwell and not me. He began most heatedly, because this scandal was in the newly started Congregational Church at the Centre, over which the Reverend Hope Brown held sway, and of which Abram Hartwell,* like many nearby Lunenburgers, was a member.

"A most *tremendous* and *destructive* fire broke out in Shirley last Autumn much like that unquenchable fire kept up in the Valley of Hinnon and from whence we have the word Gehenna or Hell. This Shirley fire has been spreading and blazing more and more ever since last Autumn and still continues to enrage with greater violence. I was much alarmed when this fire broke out and made use of all the means in my power to obtain

*He lived on the road from Shirley Centre to Flat Hill in a house now owned by Prof. J. Sturgis Pray, and north of his own residence (1914).



THE REVEREND HOPE BROWN'S HOUSE, PARKER ROAD

help and have the fire quenched; but it was all in vain." After lamenting that "no man threw a drop of water except when I forced him to do it," he tells us that many were setting new fires until the "*Building* is now all on fire at every corner, top and bottom, and I cannot put it out alone." Finally, after giving much good advice to those who own the building and the fire, he finds that they are ungrateful and care nothing for it, and soon tells us what "by this time you may begin to mistrust what this fire, which has been enraging so long, means. 'I guess (said one) it is an orthodox fire, or quarrel.' Yes friend, you have guessed right the first time. This orthodox fire was first kindled in a Bible Class last Autumn by Mrs. Lucy Spaulding* much noted for her *piety and goodness* among the Orthodox and a member of that very little church lately got up in Shirley. For well known, however unjust reasons, the said Mrs. Lucy went to a number of members of the Bible Class, of which I was the teacher, and not only slandered but lied about me." Hartwell says that her conduct caused him to examine "Orthodoxy," with the result that he withdrew from the Bible Class and "they soon became unbelieving and dispersed like Jews."

"After false and slanderous stories had been told about me, by the said Lucy, and been in circulation for months, I wrote to her as I thought proper. I accused her of slander, falsehood, and reporting many other things which were derogatory to my reputation. What I wrote, the family highly resented; and hurried away to their *Good Little* Rev. Mr. Brown for advice in so desperate a case. He ordered them to get together and settle

*She was Lucy, daughter of Willard Porter of Shirley.

it. Then, agreeable to order, Mr. Israel H. Spaulding came to me and took me aside with his friend, and said, 'My wife received a letter from you last night. (Now this was a lie, for I learnt by the man, who carried the letter, that she received it that morning.) You have stated things in that letter against my wife, which if you do not prove, I will prosecute you. I have an hundred dollars in the house laid up, which I will spend unless you settle it soon.' . . . I insisted upon his naming something in the letter which was not true. At length he said, 'You accused my wife of going up on to Negro Hill in Boston to visit Daniel Messer * in his shop unbeknown to me.' I asked him (Mr. S.), 'Is it not true?'—he said, 'No, I knew she was going, and she asked me to go with her.' " Abram then proceeded to mix Mr. Spaulding up and to prove that all he said was untrue, to his, Hartwell's, satisfaction; to prove, in fact that all the Spauldings were liars. "After Mr. Spaulding had caught himself quite a number of times, I requested his friend to take notice of what Mr. S. had first stated, for I probably should call on him to relate it at some other time. The reason why I followed Mr. Spaulding's wife around after the Messer *Boys* so last Autumn was because she said 'no one who was intimate with the Messers could be a Christian, nor have a Christian spirit.' Mr. Spaulding pretended that he could not believe his wife could lie; and as to himself I suppose he thought it was utterly impossible.

"I asked him if he thought he had seen all the letters which his wife had sent to Daniel Messer? He answered,

*The Messers were a numerous negro family in Lunenburg. Two of our Kezer girls (white) in Shirley married into this family.



STEPHEN MELVIN LONGLEY

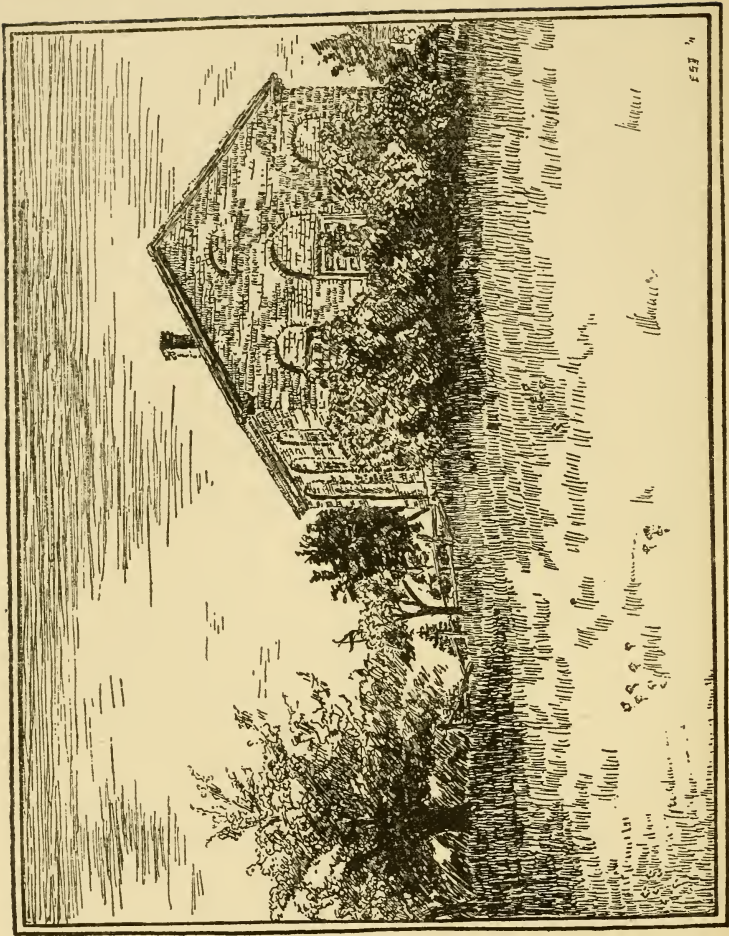


THE REV. HOPE BROWN

'Yes, I know I have.' I then asked him how he knew? 'My wife told me so,' said he, 'and she will not lie.' I then told him of four letters which were then in Boston, and to my certain knowledge he had not seen one of them. Mr. Spaulding appeared so very important, that I thought I would ask him whether he believed that his wife ever told any person that she loved Daniel Messer's *Little Finger* more than all the Spauldings that she ever saw? And whether he believed she ever wrote in a letter to Daniel Messer, concerning him, that it was hard to give her hand where she could not bestow her heart? This rather blanked Mr. S. and he wanted to be going. So after notifying me according to law (or Orthodoxy), to attend court at his house on the last Tuesday in Feb. 1832, then and there to be held by his father, an *Ecclesiastical Justice* and very respectable Orthodox man, in and for the County of Middlesex—he cleared out like a *white head*."

Next the scene shifts to the court. Here we have Mr. Spaulding and his wife defended by the Rev. Hope Brown. Dr. A. Bard,* counsel for the defence, who was obliged to be absent, advised a plea for a continuance which was not granted. So Abram stood for himself, and told us the reason he submitted to this was that Mr. Brown stated that "he came there not as counsel for Mr. I. H. Spaulding and wife, but, as they belonged to the Church of which he stood at head, he considered it his *right* and *duty* to come and attend the court. This the Rev. Mr. said with a good deal of *importance* which I as well as others took notice of."

* The Lunenburg doctor, a peppery man.



THE "BRICK CHURCH," PARKER ROAD

"The Plaintiff having neither remark nor evidence to offer, I had nothing to rebut, . . . so I proceeded to show what her character was for *veracity* and *propriety*." Mr. Hartwell on this head began to ask Mrs. Spaulding a question which she denied was true, and which Mr. Samuel J. Cook* affirmed; and so Mr. Hartwell triumphantly remarked, "Here was one absolute lie proved out against the very pious Mrs. Lucy to begin with. And this, I tell you, dropped the important little Minister's head as tho he had had a butcher's knife stuck in the silver cord back of his neck.

"I inquired of Mrs. Lucy whether she ever told any person that I, not six months from the time the Bible Class was set up, was seen playing cards at Mr. Messer's? Reader, take particular notice here of the question I asked. The reason why I want you to take notice is because another orthodox woman come into the *scrape*. Now Mrs. Lucy answers the question very calmly, 'Yes, Mrs. Holden told me so.' This Mrs. Nancy Holden† is another very *pious* member of the same church with Mrs. Lucy Spaulding. I then asked Mrs. Holden if she ever told that story. She did not deny it but said, 'Abel Cook told my husband so.' I then called Mr. Abel Cook upon the stand. I enquired of him whether he had ever told such a story: he answered quickly no *never* such a *word!!* Now can you imagine what way Mrs. Holden took to get rid of this lie? No, you cannot.

*Mr. Cook lived on what is Groton Road in Shirley, but just over the line in Lunenburg. His son, Mr. Abel Cook, was one of the oldest survivors in the neighborhood.

†Nancy (Kimball) Holden, wife of Jonas Holden, and sister-in-law of William Holden.

But I will tell you. She started up and said, 'You do not understand it, Abel Cook told my husband within six months that he had seen Mr. Hartwell play cards there some time but did not tell when.' This Mr. Cook denied also ever telling Mr. Holden. But how little this looks like the question and answers which were distinctly heard over so many times. Justice Spaulding is an orthodox man himself, and he soon found that the more they paddled the deeper they were in the mire, and he gave the case in my favor without examining one half of the witnesses."

Mrs. Lucy had aroused Mr. Hartwell on another count which next came up in the trial. She had said, it seems, that the Bible Class "had better have a Christian for a teacher if he cannot explain so much." Hartwell says that by this time no one could remember anything; but Mr. William Holden,* standing at the court room door and hearing the question and the answer, for Mrs. Spaulding denied everything, said, "I know that to be a lie, for I heard her say it not a week ago myself." But this I did not hear nor know of until after the court.

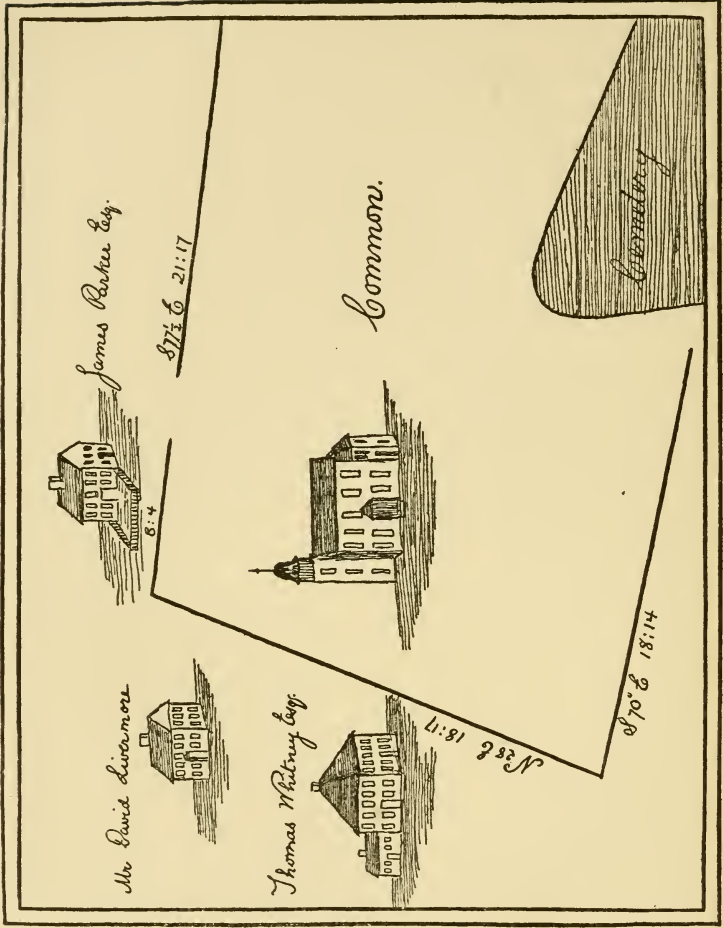
"After Justice Spaulding had brought in the *verdict* and pronounced the said Lucy guilty, she very humbly acknowledged, and I could do no other but forgive her. Then to close Mr. & Mrs. Spaulding requested me to be again teacher of the Bible Class, and they would both agree to go; but I refused to make any such bargain. Now let me ask, how does it compare with the slander and falsehood they kept in circulation for months. A short time ago I was not Christian nor fit for a teacher; now they solicit me to be their teacher."

*Mr. Holden lived in a small house on the Little Turnpike just west of its intersection with Parker Road, known as the Putrin House.

The last five pages contain a dissertation on the character of some of the members of the church, with a particularly virulent diatribe upon the Rev. Hope Brown, all so over-done, that you feel the poor man must have brooded so long upon his wrongs that he is not quite sane. Mr. Samuel J. Cook, who lived just over the Shirley line in Lunenburg, is the only man of whom he approved and who, he says, showed "what he professed to be, a meek and humble follower." Hartwell, like many another of narrow life, condemns the whole sect because he felt himself wronged by a few members, and he certainly does condemn them in no measured terms. At the end of all he writes:

"N. B. This history was prepared for the press in April, and I have been waiting ever since for them to quench the *fire*, and I would suppress the history. But as they seem to choose *will* rather than religion I must expose them."

One would like to know more of the *dramatis personæ* of this little tragedy, but they were all, so far as one can find, residents of Lunenburg about whom history is silent, except the Rev. Hope Brown and William Holden. One turns with wonder, after the excited denunciations by Mr. Hartwell, to read in Mr. Chandler's History that "Mr. Brown was a truly devoted pastor; was much beloved by his people. . . . He was very active and faithful in the discharge of his parochial duties; was ready in season and out of season to offer counsel and exhortation. His separation from his parish and his removal from the neighborhood were very generally regretted, and many of his friends could hardly be rec-



SHIRLEY COMMON IN 1830

onciled to a policy that dissolved a connection that had been so long and so prosperously sustained." Altogether he seems to have been a good man and well liked. Unluckily for our pamphleteer he himself has left behind a reputation for crankiness and lack of balance which his "history" amply corroborates. Mr. Richard Bennett tells how, walking in the woods one day, he came upon Hartwell who was practising to become a preacher. Hartwell carried through the whole service, waiting for his imaginary congregation to sing the hymns. He never was able to succeed in his ambition, but had to content himself with teaching the "Mulpus School" in Lunenburg, and pulling an occasional tooth. He married, after the "fire" was over, Eunice Fairbanks. She was a spiritualist, and when she came to be buried, the funeral was held in the Unitarian Church at Shirley Centre. A spiritualist medium took charge of the service, "who stroked her forehead and shut her eyes and preached a strange discourse."

It is hardly fair not to say that the maligned Spauldings were people highly esteemed by their neighbors, and came to be among Townsend's best respected citizens.

XIV

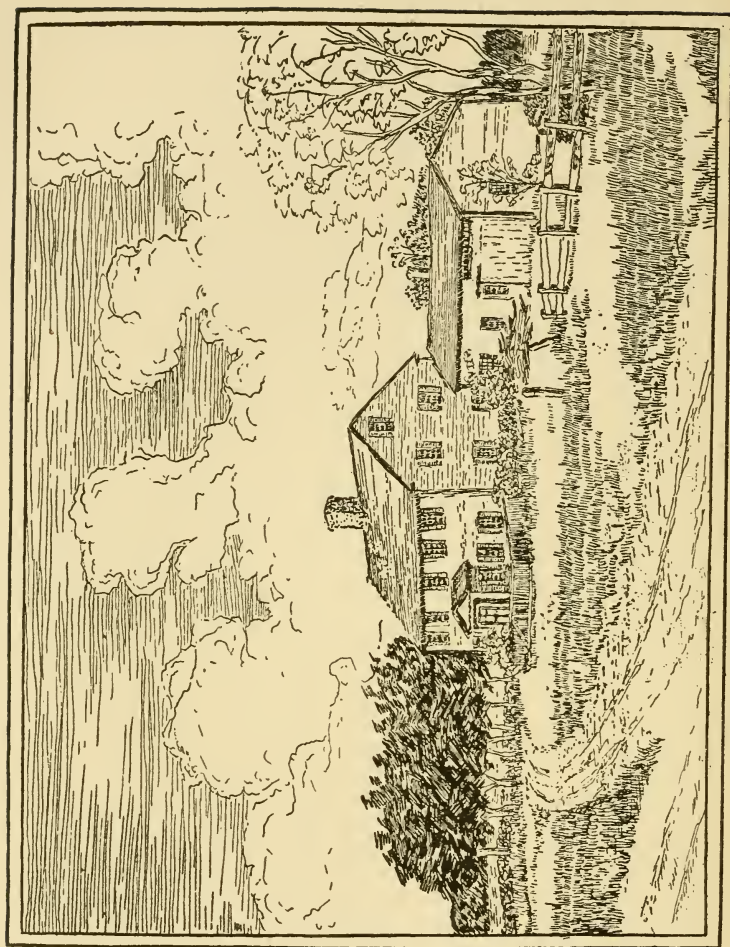
AN ANCIENT LITIGATION

FOR many years before the Revolution broke out there had been a militia company in Shirley, which had musters of its own and on special occasions went to Groton or Lancaster to swell the muster there. Muster was evidently a hilarious time, and all sorts of things happened when the men had had a little too much rum and grew reckless. On October 24, 1770, James Parker tells us that he "went to Groton trooping, & shot a Pistell full, & hurt my hand, & stayed all Night at my Mothers, & Wallace Little with me."

Two years after, the training was at Shirley on October 21st. "Wee had a Training, a Raney Day; I had about 15 men to Breakfast with me, Ser^t Hazen with 3 men, Ser^t Fletchur with about 8 sholdiers, Bisides spektators; Ser^t Holden gave a dinner and then home." Samuel Hazen became captain of the troop and Parker lieutenant, but for some reason they do not seem to have been pleasing to the public, for Parker writes, November 15, 1774, "was Training; the Old & young met, and Put out Cap^t Hazen, & I, & Egerton, & Put in Holden, & Obadiah,* & Richards,† for their offercers, & chose their minut men. Sol Smith had about 20 men." And so the fight began, for Parker and Hazen were very much disgruntled by being expelled, and the following March, at town meeting, the two factions met and fought it out.

* Obadiah Sawtell,

† Charles Richards.



OBADIAH SAWTELL'S TAVERN, THE GREAT ROAD

March 6. Was March meeting; Obadiah,* Francis,† & Asa, ‡ Selectmen, & Walker, Treasurer; they layed Hog § a road as they Purtended, so they carried on the meeting as they Pleased.

March 14. Was Training in order to view Arms. Capt. Holden meet at the Meeting House; Cap^t Hazen, with our Partey, meet at M^r Ivorys with about 41 men, so we Trained there all y^e afternoon.

March 18. In ye afternoon I went to town meeting. They turned out M^r Ivory from goin Delegate, & put in Cap^t Harris, & turned out M^r Livermore, & put in Haskell & Walker; so they served the Devil High.

The times were getting too disturbed just then for the fight to continue, as the real outbreak of war was at hand. On April 11 there was a general muster in Groton; "it begun to Snow in Deed, Cold, raw weather." Most of the men of Shirley marched out on the nineteenth, and tradition has it that only five were left in town. Parker is a little incoherent in his story of that time, and he omits to tell us how they got the news.

April 19-20. The Regulars this morning, well they came up as far as Lexington, killed eight men; from thence to Concord; ye 19 at 12 o'clock I sot off, & went as far as Lincoln, from thence to Cambridge ye next day. I saw a great Number of Dead men lying on the road Both our men & Regulars; a great number of men gathered together at Cambridge.

April 21. I was in Cambridge. Multitudes of men of all ranks; it is judged there was killed & wounded of our men about 50, & regulars killed & wounded Between two and three hundred.

April 22. I went over in Rokbury, and stayed there all night; there was a muster in the evening.

*Obadiah Sawtell.

†Francis Harris.

‡Asa Holden

§ Joseph Longley. The road ran through Parker's land, hence the bitterness.

April 23. Was the Sabbath. I came back to Cambridge & heard Preaching in ye afternoon. In ye afternoon 6 of us sot of to come home; all work going on this day as much as any Day in ye week; a shocking Day in Deed as ever was seen in this Part of New England.

And so for some time it was a tale of enlisting, and of needless "larms." He records the Battle of Bunker Hill in language so inadequate as to be almost laughable. "This Day Charlestown was set on fire by the regulars, & a Number of our men killed in the Battle, & a number of regulars, A Very warm siege in Deed for the time."

Meanwhile our brave captain and lieutenant were keeping well at home, and far from the strife in Boston. Parker went down in February, and stayed through the last days of the siege of Boston. Part of his regiment was ordered to New York, but he was among those left behind in Boston till the first of April. He complains that "our Duty was very Fortiagueing & hard untill our time was out," but adds that provisions were "very good, & a general time of Health Throughout the Camp all the time we was gone."

And so he came home, where the old fight, held in check by the common peril, was brewing once more. They had a training and put in under officers, although Parker does not tell us of which faction they were. But in August the storm broke, for on the twenty-first he and Captain Hazen were arrested on some pretense or other. The fight seems to have been of the south against the north. Parker, Egerton and Hazen all lived south of the centre; Sawtell, Harris, and Holden lived north of the Great Road. Egerton seems to have escaped the enmity of the north end of town. And then we see William Bolton and his file of men marching up

the hill from Sawtell's tavern, through the Centre and down the road to the Parker house under the hill, and marching back with Parker. Parker does not say who arrested Hazen, but we can well imagine the choice dish of gossip the scene furnishd many a household that night. Parker writes: "I was taken by a warrant Issued by L^t Col^o Josiah Sawtell, by W^m Bolton & a file of men, & carried to Landod Sawtells at 8 o'clock to be Tryed by a Court Marshall. Cap^t Hazen was taken likewise. He was Tried this day; a great number of witnesses against us. My Case did not Come on this Day Until Next morning. I was orderd to Landlord Sawtells again." The next day he tells us that he "was Tried, & Brought in Judgment against us Both, in to be Cashiered by this Court Marshall; viz. Col^o Sawtell, Cap^t Isaac Woods, Cap^t Thos Warren, Cap^t Jabez Holden, & Lieu^t Nathaniel Lakin. Y^e Complainers a Great Number." They were by no means put down, for the next day "Cap^t Hazen & I went to Groton to Brigadier general Prescott, to Col^o Sawtell, & So round in Order for recompence."

Parker does not tell us very much more in his diary about the fight, but his written complaint in conjunction with Hazen is extant.

TO OLIVER PRESCOTT ESQ^r BRIGADIER GENERAL OF THE
BRIGADE OF MELITIA IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND
STATE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY

Sir

We Samuel Hazen jr and James Parker haveing been respectively Commissioned to be Cap^t and first Lieu^t of the Company of Melitia in the Town of Shirley in the th6 Regiment of your Brigade, in the faithfullness to Our Country, from a respect to Order and regularity and in Jestice to Our Selves, by the unwarrantable authority assumed and Exercised Over

us by Josiah Sawtell Esq^r Lieu^t Co^{ll} of the same Reig^t, are Obliged to request, and we do hereby request you to appoint a Court Martial to Try the said Lieu^{tt} Co^{ll} Josiah Sawtell, for Misdemeanures & Breaches of Deuty with which we herein charge Him.

Ever since the receiveing Our Commissions we have always paid the readiest care and attention to Our Duty and the fullest Obedience to the Orders and service of the State; and still are ready and willing to Expose Our Lives and Estates in Defence of Our Country and in Discharge of those Offices to which we think Ourselves farely chosen And Honourably Commissioned.

It was therefore a Matter of the greatest Surprise when on the 21st Day of August last, we ware by the Order of Lieu^t Co^{ll} Sawtell Arrested and immediately carried before him at the House of M^r Obadiah Sawtell where he informed us, that a complaint been exhibited against us, for breach of Duty and thereupon he had Ordered a Court Martial to try us; which Court consisted only of Lieu^{tt} Co^{ll} Sawtell (who appeared to set as president) of Cap^t Isaac Woods, Cap^t Jabez Holden, Cap^t Thos Warren, & Lieu^t Nathaniel Lakin. We assured Lieu^t Co^{ll} Sawtell we ware not guilty of any breach of Duty:—however we desired a Copy of the charge against us. It was denied us, but Haveing other Learnt the purport of the Complaint, we informed Lieu^t Co^{ll} Sawtell that if time Could be given us to git some witnesses we Could convince him that the charges against us were not True, and requested the Suitable Time might be allowed us for that purpose, this was also Denied us. We then requested that some Persons who Happened to be present might be examined as witnesses and even this was denied us. Here upon percieveing that no good was like to come of Lieu^t Co^{ll} Sawtells Management of the affair, we Objected to the Legality of the whole proceeding, the Law requireing the court Martial in such Cases to Consist of the Majority of the Commissioned Officers of the Regiment. This Objection was also ruled aganst us, and we think by an Unsuffarable arogance and wanton Exercise of influence and power in Lieut. Co^{ll} Sawtell. Then after Confineing us two Days, Circumstances of Unusual Severity Lieut Co^{ll} Sawtell Declared Us cashered,—and that we ware removed from Our Offices, and nothing more to do with Our Company, we have

since made repeated application to Lieut Co^{ll} Sawtell for redress of Our Injuries—But to no Purpose. These extraordinary proceedings of Liu^t Coo^{ll} Sawtells, together with his since transmitting the orders of the State to an Improper Officer, hath greatly Disordered the affairs of the Company, Disquieted the Inhabitation of the Town and Dishonored our military government.

we there fore Charge Liu^t Co^{ll} Sawtell with Misdemeanors and breach of Duty.—

1. In a wanton & Lawless exercise of Power in appointing a Court Martial (by him so Called) to try us on the 21. Day of Aug^t last and acting therein illegally, Unjustly & partially.

2. Fraud in the return of his proceedings therein to Brigadier Prescott.

3. Aiding & promoting Mutinous & seditious Opposition to the regular and leagual Command and government of Our Company.

SAM ^{ll} HAZEN, <i>Cap^t</i>	} <i>of the Company</i> <i>of Militia in</i> <i>Shirley.</i>
JAMES PARKER, <i>First Lieut</i>	

Shirley Jan^y 6 1777

Parker is rather reticent of the later aspects of the case. The two abused officers evidently got their case before the courts, for on June 21, 1777, he says, "I went to Groton, Cap^t Hazen with me, & Notify Josiah Sawtell of a Meeting at Littleton. I sumoned W^m Bolton, &c." Captain Hazen was tried in Boston, in early July, but Parker gives us no inkling of the result, merely, "I went to Cap^t Hazen's to see him after his Troyal at Boston, with G^l Prescott & old fife." Parker talks often of "old fife," but whether he means Josiah Sawtell by this name does not appear; but it seems probable, for in July, 1778, "Cap^t Hazen sued old fife for Damage, 1000£." In March, 1779, he was summoned to court in Concord, and Parker went with him. They stayed a day and a night, and Parker's only comment is, that

he "bought a hat for Jam." In September the case came on again at Concord, and again Parker's comments are irrelevant. In November they went to "Cambridge Cort," and again there is no report of the case, only that he "gave \$5 dollars a mug for flip." For our satisfaction and for a good ending to the story, Parker does tell us what happened at the end.

March 11. I went to Concord Cort with Cap^t H. He won the day of old Josiah Sawtell, £800 and all Cost. Ye next Day I came home from Concord, after 8 OClock at Night."

I fear that he and Hazen stayed late to celebrate their victory. His own satisfaction came later and is recorded on August 30, 1780: "met Old fifes and settled with him and took 1000 Dolors, the rest in Notes."

XV

OUR OLIVER HOLDEN

WHEN the number of celebrities who were born in your town is meagre, you cherish most carefully the one or two you have. Shirley has not been much blessed by the advent within its borders of persons later known to fame; in fact Oliver Holden is almost its only claim on outside notice. Many famous ones have visited us, and many have later had well-known sons or grandsons, but the famous have succeeded in being born elsewhere.

Having but one great one we are most anxious to honor him in all possible ways. We sing his hymn, "Coronation," at all our gatherings of local or patriotic coloring. I, at last, have made a pilgrimage to the Bostonian Society's rooms to see his portrait, and the organ on which he used to play. He seems to have been a gentle soul, bound up in his music, and one who should justly be regarded as worth remembering, because the pioneers of music in New England were so few.

Much as we may honor the man in the abstract, we would wish also to honor his birthplace, and that has been most difficult to do.

Some years ago a stranger came to our town, in search of local color. He knew that Oliver Holden was born in Shirley, and, in his haste, decided that the house of Amos Holden, on Townsend Road, was the birthplace of Oliver. The original house had been burned, but a picture of the more modern house occupying the site

was taken, and published. The occupant of the farm, duly elated by the honor thus conferred upon him, put up a great sign on his barn with the legend, "Coronation Farm." I feel much thankfulness to this erroneous tradition, for without it we and ours should never have settled in Shirley. When we were still only engaged, our historian, John E. L. Hazen, wrote a note urging us vehemently to come out one Sunday, to talk the situation over, to drive to the spot, and to see what he had found by delving in the records at Cambridge. So one perfect May Sunday we went, and in less than no time we were wholly convinced that the accepted "Coronation Farm" had no right to the title whatever.

Nehemiah Holden, the father of Oliver, had a more romantic life than his brothers and sisters. He was adventurous, and in early life went to Louisburg, lured by the tales of the older men who had fought in the campaign, and who had seen the expulsion of the Acadians. In Louisburg he fell in with a young couple named Mitchell, who had come from Ireland, bringing with them a young sister of Mitchell's. Nehemiah courted the sister and married her. The four then settled on the Island of Cape Breton, where a son was born to the Mitchells. Mrs. Mitchell was a niece, tradition says, of the Earl of Carbery, and had run away with the handsome gardener, Mitchell. Soon after, Holden and Mitchell enlisted among the soldiers of the King, to fight against the French and Indians. During the campaign Mitchell was murdered in a particularly brutal and hideous manner, and his death so wrought upon his sister, Mrs. Holden, that she died also. Not many months later, Nehemiah married the Widow Mit-

chell. One daughter, Elizabeth Mary Stevens, was born in Louisburg, and then the young couple came to Shirley to live, and there the rest of their children were born. Oliver was the fourth child, born September 18, 1765. Mrs. Holden was Irish, and both her race and gentle birth gave offense to her Saxon neighbors. She had been well educated and was able to give much better teaching to her children than was enjoyed by her neighbors' boys and girls, dependent entirely upon the district school. The hardships of pioneer life must have been difficult for one of her gentle rearing, but she must have been of fine temper, for her picture, painted in later life, looks serene. Oliver resembled his mother.

By consulting the records, it is evident that the farm on which Nehemiah Holden lived was along the interval of the Squannacook River. He bought a hundred and sixty acres and a "small dwelling house" from his elder brother, Caleb. The farm and the land next west had belonged to Nehemiah's father, John; when the elder Holden died, his son, Amos, was given the western land as his share, and Caleb the eastern. Both brothers had settled on their land before 1747, when the petition for the division into a new town was signed. Four of Caleb's children were born on the farm, and then, having sold to Nehemiah, he disappears from this chronicle. Nehemiah's land lay just east of the ancestral Bolton acres, formerly belonging to Amos Holden, and that constituted our right of interest in the matter. We wandered about on that lovely May Sunday, and Mr. Hazen showed us where he thought Oliver was born. There is what appears to be a cellar-hole just at the end of Longley Road, facing Groton Road, a little to the

east of their junction. It is on a high and rocky eminence, looking out to the east over the valley of the Squannacook, far below.

Last autumn, on a crisp and sunny Sunday, we went cellar-hole hunting, and, strangely, led by chance, we came upon another cellar-hole on Nehemiah Holden's land. We were in search of the Thomas Hazard and Charles Treadwell cellar-holes on the Squannacook Road. These two negroes lingered in town after many of the others on the Great Road had moved elsewhere. The Holden cellar-hole is just back of a more modern house, built in the side hill and now occupied by Mr. Jarvis and his daughter. The hole has been filled, but not so much but that in a dry season the depression and the outline in dry grass can be seen. A poplar tree grows in the middle, and is now the only monument to mark the place where Oliver Holden was born. After sifting all the evidence, Mr. Hazen agreed that this is, without doubt, the site.

In the early days, when Shirley represented the "common lands" of Groton, John Holden was granted some very large tracts of land, which, luckily for him, were very near together, in fact formed a very irregularly shaped piece with the Squannacook as its eastern bound. The earlier settlers of a new area invariably chose certain lands first, as more desirable. Of course one cannot be very positive about what happened two hundred years ago, but the man who probably settled in Shirley as early as any, after our first miller, Eleazer Gilson, was John Kelsey, who came as early as 1731. He chose the broad intervale of the Nashua, just north of the Fitchburg Railroad tracks, and just across the river

from Major Simon Willard's "Nonacoicus Farm." The General Court considered that it was paying Major Willard well to grant him the broad intervale, on what is now the Ayer side of the Nashua. The fact is that the intervalles and meadows along the Nashua, Squannacook, Mulpus and Catacoonemug, and those around Spruce Swamp, "Reedy Meadow," Boardman's Swamp, the "grassy pond called the Horse Pond," and the little Horse Pond, were the most desirable lands. Meadow hay grows very quickly, and intervalles are more easily cleared, and richer to till.

Now John Holden's land had two fine meadows upon it, one along the Squannacook, the other west of Longley Road, later known as the "Bolton meadows." John Holden had three sons, who were already married when he died in 1751. John, the eldest, stayed in Groton on his father's farm. Caleb took the land along the Squannacook, and put up his "small dwelling." Amos, the third son, took the Bolton meadows, and a piece of fourteen acres north of Groton Road. Amos had sixteen children, among whom was little John, the fifer boy, of whom Miss Helen M. Winslow has written. Later in life, Amos sold this farm, and moved over to the Townsend Road, to our false "Coronation Farm." Caleb, as has been said before, sold his farm to Nehemiah, on his return from Louisburg. Now Caleb and Nehemiah lived in the house on the Squannacook Road.* The other cellar-hole on the hill was upon Nehemiah's land, but it is impossible, from the layout of roads, from maps, or any other source, to prove that a house stood there. The only thing that points to a house

*No. 9 on the map.

having been there at all is the recollection of Mr. Herman Hazen, that in his boyhood a small negro cabin occupied the site. This must have been built after 1830, as Butler mentions no house there at that time. The cellar itself is in a place which looks as if it had always been wood and pasture land, for the soil is very rocky. Groton Road, moreover, was not laid out until 1774, nine years after Oliver's birth, and twenty-seven years, at least, after Caleb Holden's settlement. The road along the Squannacook was laid out twelve years earlier, in 1762, and followed a path already "trod," to the mill at West Groton, or "Tarbell's Mill." The description of the road is very interesting, because, after all the years that have passed, the landmarks are as easy to distinguish as of yore. It was a highway, two rods wide, "beginning at the ridge by Tarbells Mill Pond, running across a Pine hill in Nehemiah Holden's land, so on across two Deep Gutters, so on by a ridge, and up a valley, where the Path is Now Trod. So on upon the northeasterly side of Holden's meadow til it comes to a Piece of common Land," and so on to meet the Townsend Road.

Aside from the fact that this road tells us just where Holden's meadow was, there is other proof of the antiquity of the house on Squannacook Road. In 1830, when the state ordered surveys of the different towns to be deposited in the State House, Caleb Butler, the historian of Groton, made a survey of Shirley. He made two maps, one of which went to the State House. The second, and by far the larger, is still in the safe in the Town Hall at the Centre. With this second map, he deposited a book giving a survey of the roads of the

town, and a description of the houses along them. His method of picturing the house is unique. He tells the number of stories, the number of chimneys, and the number of windows in the front. If the house had but one story, and but one window, you have immediately a mental picture of a one-room house, with a door, and a window beside it. A two-story house with five windows, would immediately call to mind one of the type of Mr. Barnard's at the Centre, and so on. He also adds any facts, such as the color of the paint, if it had any. In his survey of Squannacook Road he started at Groton Road, and went north. This house stood on the right-hand side; it had one story, one chimney, two windows, and was "old." In other words it was the typical two-room house, so common among the early settlers. The word "old" is not applied by Butler to any other house in town, except Dickinson's Tavern on the Horse Pond Road, so that he was chary of that designation. All this is, of course, no absolute proof; but it is far more probable that a man would build his house in the open fields which he tilled, near water, and near the mill. It is far pleasanter to picture our little Oliver playing in the sunny meadow, getting lost in the "two Deep Gutters," which are still there, than on the bleak and rocky hillside on the Groton Road.

In studying Oliver Holden's career, one wonders whether it was not the union of the Celt and the Saxon, the gently reared and the strong pioneer, which made the son what he was. Certainly he was different from the other Holdens of his generation. In 1788, when he was twenty-three, and had learned his father's trade of carpenter, he went to Charlestown, where he spent the

rest of his life. His activities were many and varied. He lived in a fine, square house on Pearl Street, with a large garden round it. This, when the nearby land was laid out in lots for sale, he called "the elegant reserve." He carried on his trade as carpenter and joiner at first, but much of his prosperity arose from shrewd dealings in real estate. He was connected with the First Baptist Church in its early days in Charlestown, but soon after joined another organization known as the Puritan Church. Mr. Holden was the head and preacher of this little organization, who followed the Bible implicitly, and made it the test of all their acts. They worshipped in a little one-story building on School Street, shaded by a great elm tree. In 1793, he published his first book of sacred music, "The American Harmony." He soon gave up his trade, and opened a music store, teaching music in his leisure hours. His "Worcester Collection of Sacred Harmony" was the first book of music printed on movable type in this country. Isaiah Thomas, the famous Worcester printer, imported the type from Europe. Holden died in 1844, leaving a name honored and respected by all, and one tune, at least, that will live for many years to come, "Coronation."

After the Holdens moved away from Shirley, the farm was owned by Samuel Walker, but who occupied it, it is difficult to say. In 1812, it had fallen from its high estate, and was occupied by the negro, Thomas Hazard. He had probably lived there since 1803, for Doctor Hartwell records the birth of five sons of Thomas between 1803 and 1812. He was a brother of Peter Hazard of Groton, who once occupied a cabin in Shirley on the Great Road, and who lived to be one hundred and

one. His wife was Roseanna Tuttle, a "person of color" like himself, who died at the age of ninety-eight of the excitement attendant on his one hundredth birthday.

One day when Thomas Hazard lived in the house on Squannacook Road, Mrs. Hazard baked a nice pumpkin pie, which she put on the bench outside the door to cool. Thomas wandered up, and sat in it, while it was still very, very hot, and the tradition has come down to our day. In 1830, when Butler made his survey, there was another negro just a little farther up the road named Charles Treadwell. He had married three years before Harriot Henesy, whose brothers or father lived opposite the house where Mr. Hatch lives now. Treadwell built his house on a little rocky promontory, overlooking the half-moon meadow, earlier known as Nehemiah Holden's. The cellar-hole is tiny and the house, according to Butler's description, matched it, for it had one story, one chimney, and one window, "small." Here twin sons were born in 1828, and another in 1831. The scenery along the upper Squannacook in Shirley is different from that in the other parts of town; it is more abrupt, and shows the action of nature more distinctly.

Oliver Holden's memory is kept green in Shirley by a fine bronze tablet in the old church at the Centre. It has a portrait of Holden in low relief upon it, and it is this which most startlingly resembles his mother. In the rooms of the Bostonian Society, in the Old State House, is a corner devoted to Oliver Holden. His organ stands there, and beside and over it are some of his manuscripts, framed, and a beautiful portrait of the composer. It is a little shrine to one who was a pioneer of New England culture.

XVI

OUR CELEBRITIES

IT IS seldom that a town is vouchsafed a picture of its own beginnings from one who saw it with his own eyes and wrote his impressions down. Too often, I find, even our town meetings are misleading, for again and again the recorded votes of the town were never carried out, either because the authority or money was lacking, or a belated public sentiment deterred. So we of Shirley should consider ourselves fortunate that one of our temporary ministers, who came to us before our beloved "Priest Whitney" settled here, should have recorded what he saw.

The church had voted a little earlier that they should employ as minister some one "other than we have had before," and as a result they employed a young man who had been studying theology with a relative in Lancaster. This was Robert Treat Paine, afterward signer of the Declaration of Independence. Paine, then about twenty-six years old, a Harvard graduate, had just returned from several years of adventure on the sea. He had commanded a sloop in which he had sailed down the coast, and then across to Fayal and Cadiz. At Cadiz he had turned his cargo into money, and after buying lemons, oranges, figs and madeira had sailed up to London and back to Boston again. Immediately he put to sea once more as master of the *Sea-flower*, and spent two years whaling in the north Atlantic. This was

a strange preparation for the ministry, but he was of those who had been bred on sermons, and had looked with favor upon the ministry, with its assured position and many privileges. Preaching was hereditary, and he had been in training for it for years, but his final teaching came from a relative of his mother's in Lancaster. While he was at Lancaster he was called to preach for six weeks at Shirley. This was in the spring of 1755, just two years after the town had been set off from Groton. The church had been built nearly opposite and a little south of the place where the Centre school stands. It was only partially furnished at the time, and Paine tells us that part of his congregation had to stand, as the rude benches were insufficient. Paine writes home:

I find my present church in the middle of thirty acres of scrub wood. Upon my appearance, the people, who were sunning themselves under the trees, repaired to the seats, and I preached with satisfaction to them.

Paine's biographer adds to the picture:

Here we see the youthful Paine, in white lappet and wristbands, blowing a horn to call his congregation together; preaching "satisfactory" sermons; bowing in prayer while the venerable deacons stand at the ends of the pews; and lining out the psalms from the Bay Psalm Book, "The tidings strike a doleful sound." As a preacher he was one step higher in dignity and standing than as teacher. The transient title of "Reverend" was probably used chiefly by his sisters. We find no record that he was ever ordained. When he stepped from the pulpit, he demitted the title and such emoluments as the people gave their ministers.*

Paine had taught school in Lunenburg four years before, and apparently the fact that both Shirley and

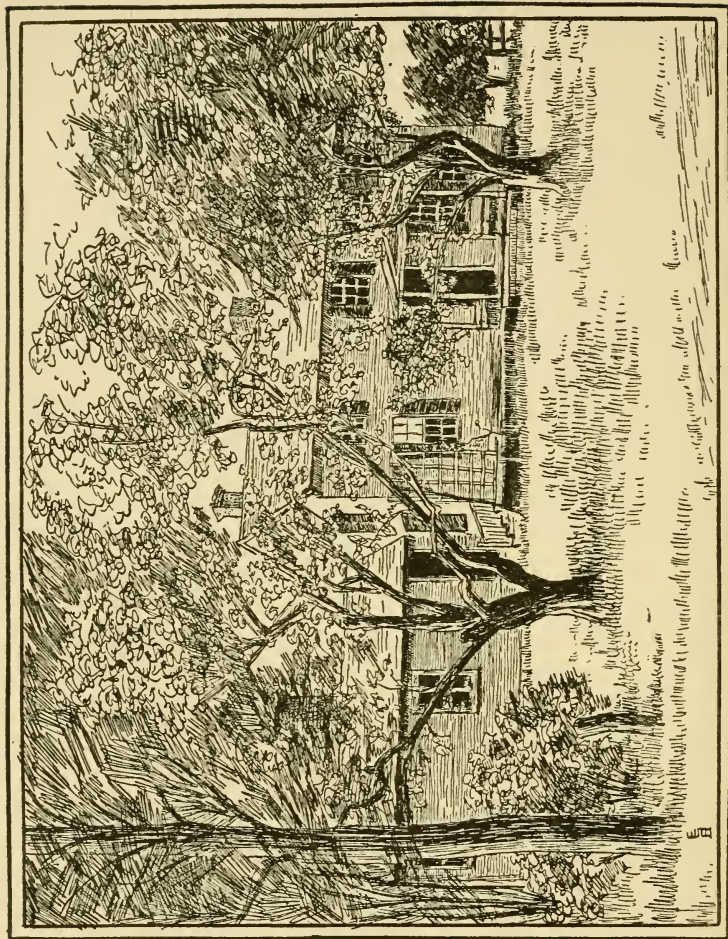
* Two Men of Taunton. Ralph Davol, pp. 116, 117.

Lunenburg were on the "Crown Point Road," the old Indian trail from Boston to Canada, had its effect upon him. Of course soldiers passed constantly through Shirley on their way to the North in the expeditions against the French and Indians. So Shirley was his last attempt at a country ministry, for in August, while he was still in town, he received a commission as Chaplain of the "Regiment of Foot" under Colonel Samuel Willard, a relative, then about to set out against Crown Point. So in September, Paine left us for active military service.

His description of our beginnings is somewhat pathetic. It seems hard that our ancestors should have striven so greatly, and that their best should have been so poor; but the blessed thing after all is that they had ideals of life, however imperfectly they were carried out.

Not many times has Shirley been visited by the great of the earth, being, as it is, a pleasant little town scattered over its hills, hugged by the sister streams, the Squannacook and Nashua; offering no wonderful views, no startling effects, but a pleasant, restful hominess, which appeals to all who come, but does not call loudly to the noisy world. After Priest Whitney came to minister to the souls in Shirley, and he had built his house in dignified fashion as befitted his state, a gentle visitor came often to the town to stay at the parsonage.* Dorothy Quincy, whose name spells romance to us now, came up many times from Boston to visit at the Whitneys. With her came Madame Lydia Hancock, whose niece, Lydia Bowes, was the second wife of Priest Whitney. If tradition tells the truth, Madame Han-

*West of Howard Fuller's.



BETSY KELSEY'S HOUSE

cock had determined upon a match between her favorite nephew, John, and the fair Dolly. So she did all in her power to bring them together; and we know that at least one meeting took place in Shirley, for John came here in 1773, the bearer of a letter from Edmund Quincy to his daughter:

Dear Dolly:

Altho I am not to be favored with *one* Letter or line, I sit down to write you a *second*, to congratulate you upon the favorable account of your health, which I have, with great satisfaction recieved, thr^o, Col^o Handcocks goodness, in communicating what M^r. Whitney informs him on that head, & also upon the agreableness of Mad^m Hancock's & your present tour into the Country, (especially at Lancaster), where Nature smiles thr^o the most extended circle of observation; Where the beauties of the Animal & Vegitable world, as well as those of the Ceelestial Regions, illude y^e Search of the most phylosophical eye. Let us take the hint (indeed very obvious), & be thence taught to contemplate, admire & adore the inexhaustible Source, from whence is derived every blessing both of the upper and the nether springs; the latter soon, very soon, may be dried up; but this affords us a singular reason for our own making sure of a portion in the Former which is never failing. . . . The inconstancy of humane things, which we are very apt to regret, is very wisely designed to Correspond with every affair relative to the humane System; in the honest Examination, & right understanding whereof, as far as our respective capacities reach, is said to consist that wisdom, recommended to us as *the principal thing*; and as our creator has been pleased to furnish us with the divine talent of reason & reflection, we are infinitely obliged to improve the same to the highest degree of our intellectual capacity; indeed the longest span of life will prove too short to render praise to the *author* of our Being, adequate to the blessings with w^{ch} he vouchsafes to crown us here; and hence a cogent argument to evince y^e revealed doctrine of a Resurrection & a future life, in the Full expectation whereof, we are by Divine permission, to be ever gratefully rejoicing, in what ever state an all wise providence may see fit

to place us, in this life, and the more innocently & inoffensively we live in it, the higher will be the enjoyment of every favor we may receive, th^o by a Different System of action we are in danger of annihilating the same; but I may not proceed, tho. on a most agreable subject of Contemplation, my time being Short & interruptions frequent.

You have the honor of Col^o Hancock's being the bearer, I wish him a pleasant Journey, & a happy meeting with his valuable aunt & you, & that you with them may have a safe & comfortable Journey home: You'll make mine & your Sist^r Katy's compliments acceptable to Mad^m Hancock, M^r Whitney & Lady, to which I need not add that I remain, Dear Dolly,

Your most affection^{te} Father and Friend,

EDM. QUINCY.

BOSTON, June 18th 1773.

To Miss Dolly Quincy.

P. S. Your sister Katy intended an answer to your Short L^r.—but this day has not been able. Col^o Hancock & associates have had a hard task, respecting y^e G's, L^t G's & other Letters of w^{ch} you'll see Copies,—but I think notwithstanding, He appears to rise the higher the greater y^e burthens. M^{rs} Boyle here remembers her love to you, & wants to see you.

[*Addressed*]

To

Miss, Dolly Quincy
at the Rev^d M^r Whitneys

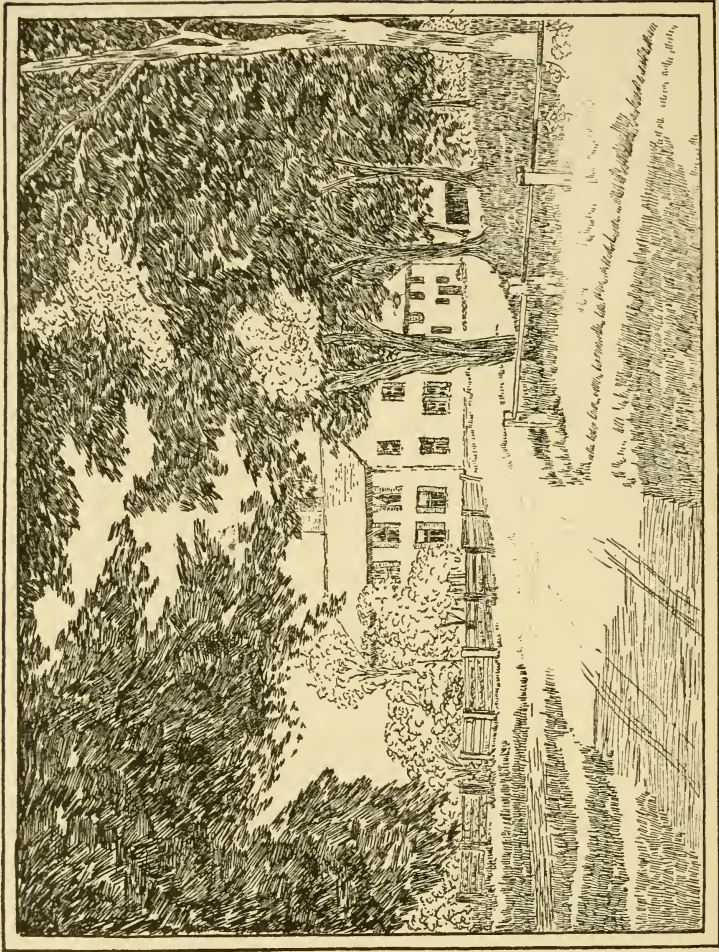
in

Shirley
By favor of Col^o Hancock.

So John rode to Shirley to accompany his aunt and his lady-love upon their homeward journey. But soon the Revolution came and John and Dorothy visited us no more. Still we have one reminder of their friendliness, for Madame Hancock left us a great Bible to grace our church which was being built during their visit here.

The old order changed; those who had broken the wilderness, and those who had seen Paine and Hancock and Dorothy Q., died, and their sons took their places. As in all the New World, new people and new blood crept in, Scotch-Irish, Irish, negro, but still the old New England stock held sway. New sects came, and new churches sprang up. To our old church in its new belief came a gentle, learned soul, who left a mark upon the town in all its activities. Seth Chandler lived in the parsonage by the Common for over fifty years, beloved and respected by all. Here in Lyceum days, Ralph Waldo Emerson came to lecture to our people in the new Town Hall, and afterwards to sleep in the best chamber of the parsonage. It was the southwest upper room. From the windows he could look out over fields and woods to the sunset and Wachusett, for Shirley is a "fair guid" town to look at when the sun is setting.

It was in these same days that George S. Boutwell, Governor of Massachusetts, and Secretary of the Treasury under President Grant, taught in the little old wooden Pound Hill School, and lived in James Parker's new brick house. He loved in later life to talk of those days, and the thrift of "Captain James," who was horrified at the amount of paper that the young man used, certain that such recklessness would be sure to bring him to want at last. Boutwell slept in the northeast chamber, and he had so little heat in winter, that the frost stood out in glistening crystals on the wall each morning, and the water froze in the pitcher at night. Strangely enough, later, the old schoolhouse followed the teacher's homeward steps, and was dragged across the snow by seventeen pair of oxen, to stand just outside his window at the



SQUIRE JAMES PARKER'S NEW HOUSE, SHIRLEY CENTRE

Parkers, degraded into a woodshed. James Parker was wont to sing one song continually as he went about, which must have been an especially cheerful one to his "help" as they worked:

"This world out of nothing was made,
And all that is therein;
And 'tis often we've heard it said,
'Twill all come to nothing again."

He often sat in the northwest window of the dining-room in his rocking chair. On Sundays, after dinner, he would put on his old straw hat, take his pitchfork for a cane, and go down the hill to visit his daughter-in-law, Nancy. She was a better cook than his wife, Ruthy, and her pies lured him.

A little later Ben Butler gave a political address in the little red brick schoolhouse beside the Congregational Church, and at the Baptist Chapel the worshippers listened to the youthful sermons of President Faunce of Brown University and of President Andrews of the University of Nebraska. Hosea Ballou, the great Universalist divine, preached here in Shirley the dedicatory sermon of the church to which his great-grandson still goes each Sunday.

So, many an able man has learned some of his early lessons from us, and we hope has remembered us kindly in after years. But all these were people who came to us from outside, and do not include our modest roll of those, born among us, who have achieved distinction. Immediately, all good Shirley folk will think of Oliver Holden of "Coronation" fame, and will remember that he was born and lived his early childhood on our side of the Squannacook. He is not our only candidate for

musical fame, for nearly a century later John Sullivan Dwight, the eldest son of the John Dwight, who lived down Town Meeting Road, won more than local fame. He was a member for five years of the famous "Brook Farm." Later, having gone to Boston, he wrote for the "Harbinger" and the "Dial," and in 1852 established "Dwight's Journal of Music," the first musical paper in this country. And now some fifty years later still, we are being gladdened by the fame that our pianist, Wesley Weyman, is bringing home to us from abroad.

Nearly a hundred years ago, in the stately old Edgarton house, now unhappily used as part of the Suspender shop, was born a sweet, timid but indomitable child. She grew up loving the little village with its elm-shaded streets, its wooded hills and winding brook. Her husband, who must have adored her, has written so appreciative a memoir of her that it is hard to write so briefly of her. She was an avid scholar, fond of nature, a seeker after peace, and she was blessed with a poetic instinct. Sarah C. Edgarton began early to write poetry and among the poems that have come down to us are a few that describe the Shirley of her day. She loved the Catacoonemug, but finding the name too hard for her poetic muse, she extended the name of one of its branches, Bow Brook, to cover it all.

Far in a wild and tangled glen,
 Where purple Arethusas weep—
 A bower scarce trod by mortal men—
 A haunt where timid dryads sleep—

A little dancing, prattling thing,
 Sweet Bow Brook, tutor of my muse!
 I've seen thy silver currents spring
 From fountains of Castalian dews.



SARAH CARLTON EDGARTON MAYO



THE EDGARTON HOUSE, LEOMINSTER ROAD

"Bow Brook" ran by the old red mill, which stood just west of her house, and this too she celebrated in song.

Bright in the foreground of wood and hill,
Close by the banks of my native rill,
Rumbling early ere dawn of light,
Rumbling late through the winter night,
When all the air and the earth is still
Toileth and groaneth the old red mill.

Around its cupola, tall and white,
The swallows wheel, in their summer flight;
The elm trees wave o'er its mossy roof,
Keeping their boughs from its touch aloof,
Although four stories above the rill,
Towereth aloft the old red mill.

After a few years of apprenticeship in writing for the "Ladies Repository," Miss Edgarton began the publication, in 1840, of an "annual" called the "Rose of Sharon." She had to write a large part of the first few numbers herself but the annual was a success, and she edited it for many years. She published also some small books containing her verses, such as the "Floral Fortune Teller." All her work is colored by an expressed religion, which did not seem strange in her day, but to us seems like a foreign language only partly understood. She was born in a time of religious turmoil, and this deep interest aroused by sectarian division colored her life. In the ebb and flow of recent migration more than one name will come to mind of those neighbors and friends who have helped the fair fame of Shirley, doing more than well in the ministry, in letters, in art, and the finer enterprises of the great world. One of Shirley's younger sons is even now holding high his literary ideals, hoping

for a return of the poetic drama that has glorified the greater epochs of history. He too sang of Shirley, on that peaceful summer day, when the returning sons and daughters met to celebrate her hundred and fiftieth anniversary.

The loud circumference of warring lands,
 Labour and craft and wrong surround us; still
 Shy in her orchard-wildness Shirley stands,
 A hush'd spectator on her mapled hill.

Here to her simple festival she calls
 Her friends home—yet not all; where be they now
 The Pilgrim race that filled her corn-field walls
 And served the Lord with patience and a plow?

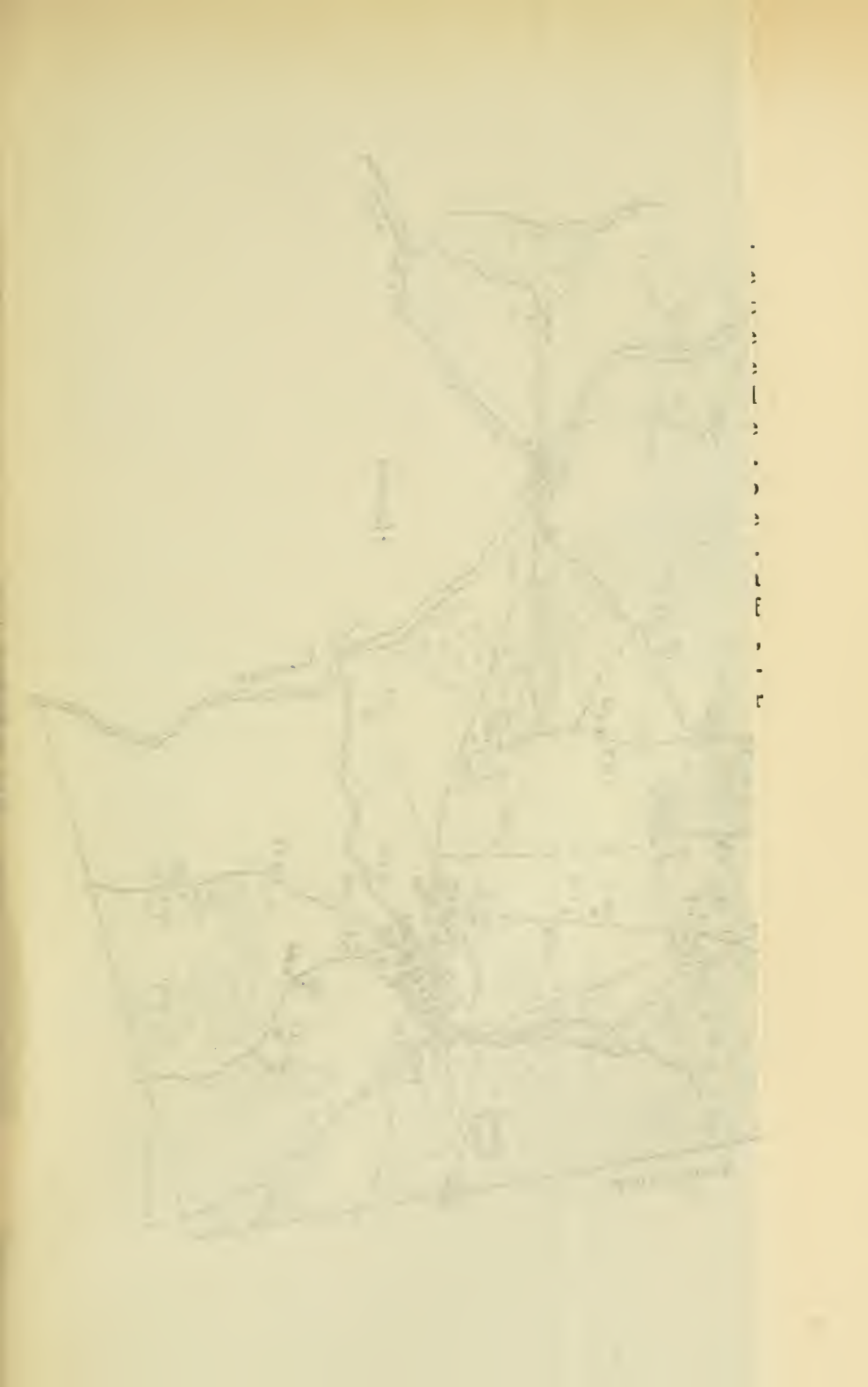
For still the sights familiar to their eyes
 Are scenes for ours; the spires of Groton blaze
 Their weather-cocks from Gallows Hill's sun-rise
 And the long slopes of Harvard slant in haze.

Let, then, our thoughts be memories; let our pride
 Be the untainted loveliness, which is
 Our Shirley's dower, on woods and pastures free
 Let our ambition, even as hers, be this:—

Unenvious, to win the envied bays
 Of nature's health and honest common-sense,
 And, by the peace of sane, inglorious days,
 To earn the unrepote of innocence.

PERCY MACKAYE.

30 July, 1903.

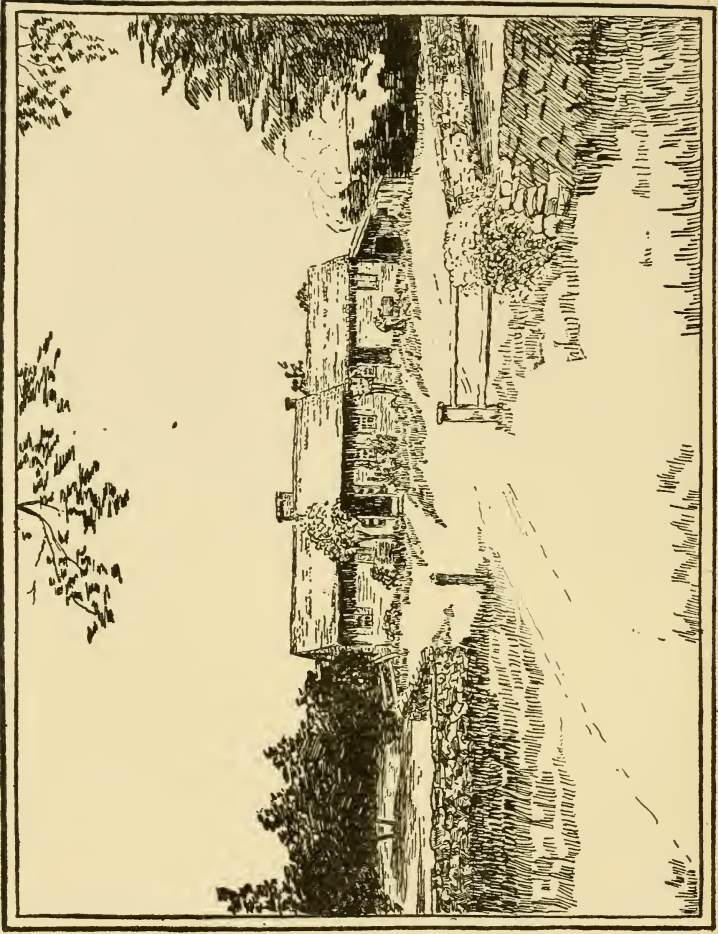


OCCUPANTS OF SHIRLEY HOUSES

This list of the occupants of the houses in Shirley is necessarily very incomplete. To the times before 1830, little material existed to tell us whether the owner did or did not occupy the house. In some cases he continued his residence in another town, and we may presume that a tenant made use of the house. Very often a mortgage deed appears like a real deed; in such cases, where the evidence is not conclusive, I have given the mortgagee as the owner, and the real owner as tenant. During the last one hundred years, when the land is easier to identify, only the occupants as given on the various maps have been used, merely as a guide to those who would search farther. The houses designated are those which are known to have been built before 1847, when Caleb Butler published his history of Groton and Shirley. There are probably many mistakes also, as would be only likely in so great a mass of material. Incomplete and incorrect as it is, it is still a basis for other and better work.

ABBREVIATIONS

- C. Census.
- cir. about.
- d. deed, following a date.
- d. died.
- dir. directory.
- inh. inheritance.
- J. P. James Parker's Diary.
- m. map, following a date.
- m. married.
- pet. petition to be set off as a separate town, 1747.
- r. road.
- sch. school districts.
- val. valuations printed by the Town.
- I^m, I^m ♀, I^l, I male, I male under sixteen, I female.
- I^s, I^c, I^w, I story, I chimney, I window.



MOSES BENNETT'S HOUSE, TOWNSEND ROAD

1. TOWNSEND ROAD.

	Nathaniel Blood.
1747 pet.	Moses Bennett, builder.
1755 r.	Moses Bennett.
1767	Jonathan Bennett, Exr. Moses.
1767 d.	Richard Sawtell, 30 acres and buildings.
1812 sch.	No occupant.
1830 m.	Eleazer Jewett. 1° 1° 2°.
1838 d.	Eleazer Jewett. Owner (mortgage).
1847 m.	Nathaniel Kezar.
1857 m.	Nathaniel Kezar.
1860 r.	William Gibbs.
1875 m.	William & Michael O'Neil.
1880.	Jethro Snow.
	William Watson.
1882.	No tenant.
1914.	John W. Leahy.

2. SPAULDING ROAD.

1753 r.	Elnathan Sawtell.
1763 d.	Jerahmeel Powers.
1767 d.	Richard Sawtell.
1776 d.	John Heald of Temple, N. H. 110 acres and buildings.
1790 c.	John Heald. 2 ^m 2 ^f .
1798 d.	John Heald, Jr.
1803 d.	Thomas Blood of Groton.
1804 d.	Isaac Turner, Jr.
1806 d.	Hezekiah Spaulding of Mason, N. H.
1812 sch.	John Heald, tenant.
1830 m.	John Heald, tenant. 1° 1° 2°.
1847 m.	No name.
1856 m.	Gone.

3. SPAULDING ROAD.

	For land see No. 2.
1806 cir.	Hezekiah Spaulding, builder.
1830 m.	Hezekiah Spaulding. 2° 1° 5° red.
1847 m.	Hezekiah Spaulding.
1882 m.	Hezekiah Spaulding.
1912.	Ransom B. Adams.

4. TOWNSEND ROAD.

- 1767 d. Richard Sawtell. (See also No. 2.)
 1776 d. John Heald.
 1790 c. Jesse Farnsworth. 1^m 1^m u 1^t.
 1791 d. Jesse Farnsworth, builder.
 1820 d. Peter Tarbell. 43 acres and buildings.
 1830 m. Jesse Farnsworth. 1^o 2^o 4^w.
 1847 m. Francis Harris.
 1856 m. A[bner] Wheeler.
 1875 m. Gone.

5. SQUANNAHOOK ROAD.

- Benjamin Ellingwood, of Shirley.
 1782 d. Jeremiah & Elizabeth Sheldon, of Lynnfield, 50 acres and buildings.
 1782 d. Nathaniel Heyward, of Lynnfield.
 1784 d. Benjamin Woodbury.
 1811 d. Samuel Woodbury.
 Benjamin Woodbury, tenant.
 1812 sch. Aaron Woodbury and Samuel Woodbury.
 1822 d. Aaron Tuttle.
 1830 m. Joel Adams, of Lunenburg. 1^o 1^o 2^w.
 1875 m. Joel Adams.
 1882 m. George H. Adams.
 1914. George H. Adams.

6. SQUANNAHOOK ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant.
 1766. Thomas Flucker and Isaac Winslow, inheritance.
 1773 d. Moses Kezar. (d. 1778.)
 1776 d. Nathaniel Kezar.
 1790 c. Nathaniel Kezar. 2^m 1^m u 4^t.
 1795 d. Nathaniel Kezar, Jr.
 1798 d. Jonathan Nutting.
 1812 sch. Jonathan Nutting.
 1830 d. Asahel Adams of Boston. 1^o 1^o 4^w.
 1847 m. P. Whitin.
 1856 m. Charles O. Adams.
 1875 m. J. Holland.
 1882 m. J. Holland.
 1914. Rose McEnney, owner.
 Moses Wood, tenant.

7. SQUANNACOOK ROAD.

This cellar-hole was the site of a house built about forty years ago, and afterward moved to Ayer. Because of the crudity of the old maps, Nos. 7 and 10, situated on the same farm, were impossible to distinguish without the assistance of Mr. Peter Tarbell's memory.

8. SQUANNACOOK ROAD.

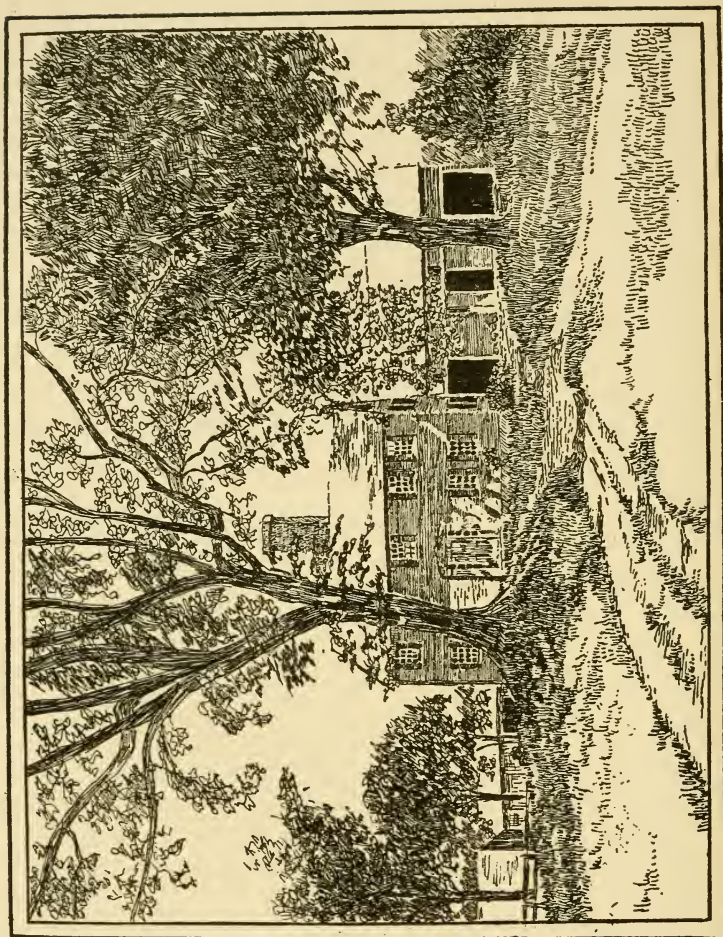
- 1812 sch. Not built.
Francis Shepard.
1830 m. Charles Treadwell, negro. 1° 1° 1° small.
1847 m. Gone.

9. SQUANNACOOK ROAD.

1730. John Holden, grant.
1747 pet. Caleb Holden. "Small dwelling house."
1760 d. Nehemiah Holden.
1765. Oliver Holden, born here.
1762 r. Nehemiah Holden (of Shirley, 1776).
1769 d. Samuel Walker. (Perhaps a mortgage.)
1788. Nehemiah Holden, still tenant.
1812 sch. Thomas Hazard.
1830 m. Thomas Hazard. 1° 1° 2° "old."
1847 m. Emerson Hazard.
1857 m. E. Shumway.
1875 m. Gone.
1912. Andrew Jarvis. New house on the site.

10. GARRISON ROAD.

- 1765 r. Moses Kezar.
1776 d. Nathaniel Kezar.
1799 d. George Farrar.
1805 d. Samuel Johnson, later of Westmoreland, N. H.
1808 d. James Carter.
1812 sch. Samuel Johnson, tenant.
1814 r. James Carter, of Sudbury.
1820 d. James Carter.
1828 d. George Hildreth.
1830 m. George Hildreth. 2° 1° 3° "off the road."
1847 m. Edwin Haynes.



ASA HOLDEN'S HOUSE, TOWNSEND ROAD

- 1828 d. Sumner Hartwell, owner.
 1830 m. Daniel Kezar. 1° 1° 3°
 1847 m. Gone.

14. GARRISON ROAD.

- Jerahmeel Powers.
 1752 d. David Bennett. (Elizabeth Sawtell, his widow, exec.)
 1770 d. Lemuel Woods, 53 acres and buildings.
 { 1770 d. Aaron Woods, $\frac{1}{2}$ Farm and buildings. See 13.
 1784 d. Sarah Woods, of Boston (Aaron's $\frac{1}{2}$).
 1777 d. Samuel Lamson, $\frac{1}{2}$ Farm and buildings.
 1784 d. David Bicknell, Dwelling and $\frac{1}{2}$ barn.
 1798 r. William Bolton, Jr., tenant.
 1800 d. Mary Smith.
 1830 m. Sumner Hartwell. 2° 1° 2°.
 1882 m. Sumner Hartwell.
 1912. Edgar A. Jenkins.
 1914 d. Ebenezer Soule, of Newton.

15. GARRISON ROAD.

- For land see No. 21.
 Reuben Hartwell.
 1813 d. Benjamin Alexander, $\frac{1}{2}$ acre, builder.
 1830 m. Benjamin Alexander. 1° 1° 2°.
 1847 m. Luther Holden.
 1857 m. Luther Holden.
 1875 m. Charles S. Holden.
 1882 m. Charles S. Holden.
 1912. Mary E. Holden.

16. GROTON ROAD.

1728. Thomas Williams' wife and children, grant.
 Caleb Bradley.
 1752 d. Richard Harrington, builder.
 1782 d. Simeon Harrington.
 1784 d. Joshua Longley, owner.
 Simeon Harrington, tenant.
 1790 c. Simeon Harrington. 1° 1° 2°.
 1794 d. Solomon Russell.
 1798 val. No house given.
 1808 d. John Williams.
 1813 d. Nathaniel Thayer of Lancaster, mortgage transferred to
 1813 d. Thomas Whitney.

- 1823 d. John Williams, release of mortgage.
 1827 d. Jonas Holden, builder.
 1830 m. Jonas Holden. 2^o 1^o 3^o.
 1847 m. William Kezar.
 1857 m. William R. Neat.
 1912. Heirs of William R. Neat.

17. GROTON ROAD.

- William Williams.
 John Williams, ad^m.
 1757 d. Amos Atherton.
 1771. Obadiah Sawtell, owner.
 1771. Phinehas Whitney, owner.
 1774 r. Amos Atherton, tenant.
 1790 c. Lydia Atherton. 1^m 2^l.
 1791 d. Jonathan Atherton.
 1794 d. David Atherton. 45 acres, house, barn and cooper shop.
 1812 d. Abraham Moore.
 1830 m. Gone.

18. GROTON ROAD.

- William Williams, builder.
 1768 d. Edward Shave, 51 acres and buildings.
 1790 d. Elizabeth Burrage. (See No. 19.)
 Edward Shave or Sheaff, tenant for life.
 1800 d. James Walker.
 1802 d. Andrew Burrage.
 1804 d. David Atherton, of Berlin, 130 acres and buildings (nos. 18 and 19).
 1825, February 16. "I at David Athertons Vendue of his house Barn & 40 acres of land sold to Stephen Barrett." J. P.
 1825. Stephen Barrett.
 1830 m. Francis Shepard, tenant. 1^o 1^o 2^o.
 1847 m. Nathaniel Hartwell, built the present house.
 1857 m. Nathaniel Hartwell.
 1875 m. Nathaniel Holden [Hartwell ?].
 1882 m. Orsamus W. Andrews.
 1912. Joseph F. McDermott, of Fitchburg.

19. GROTON ROAD.

1739. John Williams.
 Wm. Williams, ad^m.
 James Prescott.

- 1748 d. Samuel Larrabee.
 1753 d. Samuel Larrabee, Jr., 60 acres "with a poor house and barn."
 1760 d. Convers Spring.
 1761 d. Robert Learned.
 1761 d. Edward Shave or Sheaff.
 1774 r. Edward Shave.
 1790 c. Edward Shave. 1^m 2^l.
 1790 d. Ephraim Burrage, owner.
 Edward Shave, tenant for life.
 1800 d. James Walker, tenant.
 1802 d. Andrew Burrage.
 1804 d. David Atherton. 130 acres and buildings.
 1830 m. Gone.

20. GROTON ROAD.

- Thomas Tarbell.
 1733 d. William Simonds Jr. of Woburn.
 1758. Mary Simonds, ad^m.
 1758 inh. Widow Mary Simonds } joint tenants.
 John Simonds }
 1763 d. Ebenezer Going.
 1790 c. Ebenezer Going. 1^m 3^l.
 1798 val. Ebenezer Going. House \$104.00.
 1800 d. William Going.
 1805 d. Joshua Longley and Thomas Whitney.
 1806 d. Abel Farnsworth, execution.
 1812 sch. Eleazer C. Andrews. House remodelled in 1813.
 1830 m. Eleazer C. Andrews. 2^s 1^o 5^w yellow.
 1847 m. Eleazer C. Andrews.
 1856 m. Eleazer C. Andrews, old house burned, 1872.
 1875 m. M^{rs}. S. B. Andrews, new house.
 1882 m. Charles H. Andrews.
 1914. Charles H. Andrews, owner and occupier.

21. GROTON ROAD.

- Richard Holden, grant.
 Nathaniel Holden.
 1741 d. Asa Holden, builder.
 1764 d. Hugh Smylie.
 1771 d. Benjamin Woodbury. 80 acres.
 1790 c. Benjamin Woodbury 1^m 2^l.
 1794 d. James Walker.
 1794 d. Timothy Walker.

- 1798 d. Peter Graves.
 1800 d. Reuben Hartwell, owner.
 1830 m. "Unoccupied." 1° 1° 2°.
 1847 m. Solomon Harris, negro.
 1857 m. Jacob Phelps, Jr.
 1875 m. Gone.

22. GROTON ROAD.

- For land see No. 21.
 1800 d. Reuben Hartwell, builder. House like No. 26, reversed.
 1830 m. Reuben Hartwell. 2° 1° 2°.
 1847 m. James S. Hartwell.
 1856 m. Mrs. Hartwell.
 1875 m. Gone.

23. GROTON ROAD.

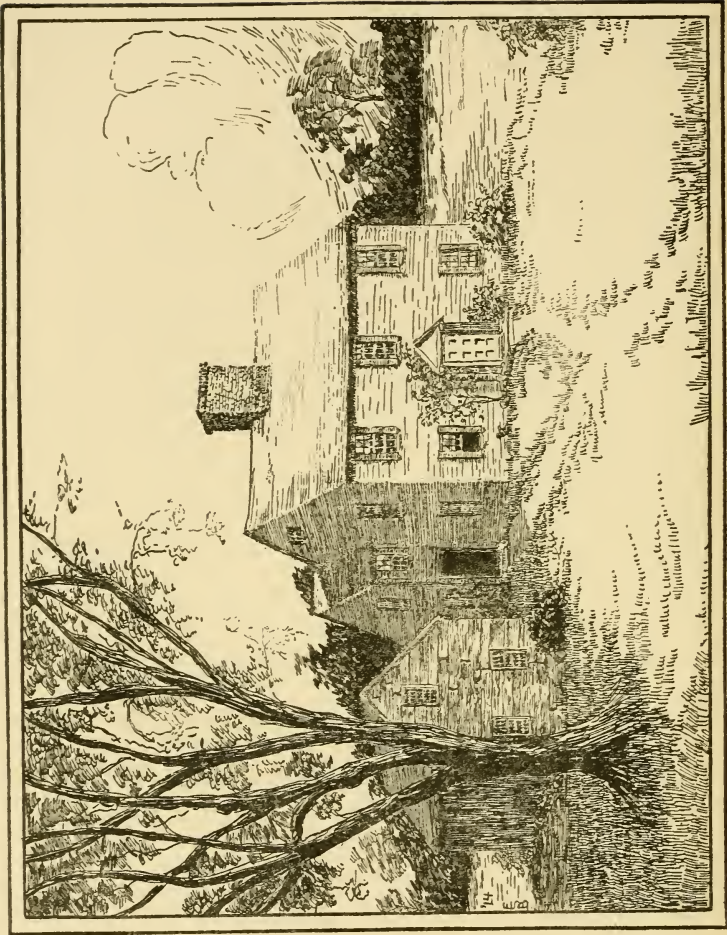
- Obadiah Sawtell.
 1729 d. Joseph Wilson, 10 acre right.
 1734. Joseph Wilson, builder.
 1747 pet. Joseph Wilson.
 1774 r. Joseph Wilson.
 1790 c. David Wilson. 1^m 3^m 2^l.
 1830 m. Jacob Phelps. 1½° 1° 3°.
 1847 m. Stewart Phelps.
 1875 m. Stewart Phelps.
 1882 m. No name.
 1912. Occupied.

24. GROTON ROAD.

- For land see No. 26.
 1816 cir. Edward Bolton, tenant. An "out-house" according to Peter Tarbell.
 1830 m. Noah Williams. 1° 1° 2°. Mrs. Williams kept a kettle of boiling water to throw on Peter Tarbell if he should come to see her.
 1847 m. George Kezar.
 1857 m. Daniel Kezar.
 1875 m. Gone.

25. GROTON ROAD.

- For land see No. 26.
 1847 m. Peter Tarbell. Being built, brick.
 1856 m. Peter Tarbell.



WILLIAM BOLTON'S HOUSE, GROTON ROAD

- 1875 m. F. H. Clapp.
 1880. Asa Barnes, Peter Tarbell says.
 1882 m. No name.
 1914. Thomas J. McCormack, of Norwood, Mass., owner.

26. GROTON ROAD.

- 1730 d. John Holden, grant.
 1756 d. Amos Holden, builder.
 1760 d. Amos Holden.
 1764 d. Abel Lawrence.
 James Prescott, Josiah Sartell, Joseph Sheple, Jonas Cutler.
 1773 d. William Bolton, of North Parish, Reading.
 1778. Timothy Bolton, joint tenant.
 1790 c. William Bolton. 1^m 1^m 2^f.
 Timothy Bolton. 1^m 2^m 4^f.
 1798 val. William Bolton. Dwelling and land \$715.00.
 1804 d. James Parker, owner.
 Asa Tarbell.
 1806 d. Peter Tarbell.
 1830 m. Peter Tarbell. 2^s 1^o 3^w.
 1847 m. Peter Tarbell.
 1856 m. Gone.

27. TOWNSEND ROAD.

- For land see No. 29.
 1827 d. Jonas Holden.
 1830 m. "Unoccupied." 1^s 1^o 3^w.
 1847 m. Joseph W. Taylor.
 1852 val. Joseph W. Taylor.
 1857 m. Not given.
 1875 m. Michael J. Moran.
 1882 m. Not given.
 1914. Edward J. Stevens.

28. TOWN MEETING ROAD.

- Nathaniel Lawrence.
 1720 d. Hannah Holden.
 1728 d. Jonathan Holden. 80 acres.
 1739 d. Jonathan Gould.
 1743 d. John Whitney, builder.
 1765 d. John Whitney, Jr.
 1765 d. Abraham Whitney.
 1769 d. Francis Harris and John Ivory.

- 1770 d. John Dwight.
 1815 d. Francis Dwight.
 1818 d. Amos Day.
 1818 d. Willard Porter, 100 acres and buildings.
 1830 m. Willard Porter. 2° 1° 5' v.
 1832 d. Israel H. Spaulding.
 Willard Porter, tenant.
 1832 d. Benjamin Hartwell.
 Willard Porter, tenant.
 1847 m. Work house.
 1856 m. "Brick Works."
 1875 m. S. Eager.
 1882 m. Joseph P. Thompson.
 1914. Henry Farrar.

29. TOWNSEND ROAD.

- Nathaniel Holden.
 Prudence Holden.
 1756 d. Amos Holden.
 1790 c. Amos Holden. 2^m 3^m v 5'.
 1798 val. Amos Holden. House \$80.00.
 1798 d. Amos Holden.
 1799 d. Moses Holden.
 1810 d. Amos Day. 80 acres and buildings.
 1812 sch. Amos Day.
 1830 m. Amos Day. 1° 2° 5' v.
 1847 m. Amos Day.
 1856 m. Not on the map. The old house burned.
 1875 m. Patrick Callahan.
 1880 val. Patrick Callahan.
 1910. Hiram S. Clark. Owner and occupier.

30. LONGLEY ROAD.

- Phinehas Burt, builder.
 1750 d. John Tarbell.
 Jonathan Kezar.
 1804. Simon Holden (m. Mary Kezar).
 1811. David Fuller (m. Mary (Kezar) Holden).
 1830 m. Samuel Patch (m. Mary (Kezar) (Holden) Fuller). 1° 1° 1' v.
 1847 m. Samuel Patch.
 1857 m. Samuel Patch.
 1875 m. Dexter B. Crosbee (m. Hannah Fuller, see above).
 1882 m. Dexter B. Crosbee.
 1914. John W. Moulton. Modern house built on the old cellar
 about 1905.

31. LONGLEY ROAD.

- 1847 m. Oliver Lawton, Jr., builder.
 1856 m. Oliver Lawton, Jr.
 1875 m. Oliver Lawton.
 1882 m. Unoccupied.
 1880. Charles T. Sleeper, owner.
 1914. Mrs. Charles T. Sleeper. House roof raised four feet.

32. LONGLEY ROAD.

1741. Elisha Rockwood, grant.
 1756 d. Moses Sartell.
 17—. Thomas Bennett.
 1777 d. Moses Kezar, 20 acres, small dwelling house and barn.
 1783 d. Samuel Kemp, Jr.
 1786 d. Sawtell Holden, owner.
 1794 d. Joshua Longley, owner.
 1830 m. Henry Henesy, negro, tenant. 1° 1° 1°.
 1847 m. Gone.

33. LONGLEY ROAD.

- Peter Hobart et als, grant.
 1733 d. Peter Parker.
 1772 d. Jacob Gilbert.
 1772 d. William Gordon.
 1772 d. Moses Blood. 50 acres and a small dwelling.
 1790 c. Moses Blood. 1^m 2^l.
 1792 d. Sewall and Abel Blood.
 1794 d. Joshua Longley.
 1799. "Stephen Longley took Rhoda off to the North End." J. P.
 1806, May 8. "I at raising of Stephen Longleys house." J. P.
 1828, April 28. "I at Vendue of S. Longley farm." J. P.
 1829 d. Edmund Longley.
 1830 d. Henry Fowle, Jr., of Boston.
 1830 m. Henry Fowle, Jr. 2° 1° 5° yellow.
 1847 m. Thaddeus Balcom.
 1857 m. Richard Hall.
 1875 m. Thomas Geary.
 1880 dir. Michael T., Daniel R., and John Geary.
 1882 m. Thomas Geary.
 1886. House burned in November. "Turner's Public Spirit."
 1914. Howard A. Hatch. Modern house.

34. NEAR LONGLEY ROAD.

- 1727 d. Samuel Tarbell, grant (2 pieces, 37 and 42 acres).
 1741 d. John Russell.
 1746 d. James Gordon, of Boston. 80 acres and a dwelling house.
 1773 d. Nathaniel Gordon, of Dunstable.
 1783 d. Sawtell Holden, owner and occupier.
 1794 d. Joshua Longley, owner.
 1798 r. Captain Sylvanus Smith, tenant.
 1830 m. Gone.

35. BETWEEN LONGLEY AND LAWTON ROADS.

- 1727 d. Samuel Tarbell, grant.
 Thomas Shattuck.
 1749 d. Hugh Moore, d. 1757. Log-cabin.
 1758 d. Heirs of Hugh Moore. Ruth Moore ad^m.
 Hugh Moore, Jr.
 1787 d. William Goss.
 1790 c. Mary Goss. 1^m u 4^l.
 1797 d. Jonas Baker of Westminster.
 1798 c. Jonas Baker. 42 acres and buildings valued at \$825.00.
 1812 sch. Jonas Baker, tenant.
 1830 m. Gone.

36. KITTRIDGE ROAD.

- 1757 d. Simon Holden.
 Joshua Longley.
 1789 d. Abel Blood.
 Simon Holden, tenant. 1^m 1^m u 2^l.
 1790 d. Elias and Samuel Foster, from Westford.
 1794 d. Enoch Kendall of Wilmington. 80 acres and buildings.
 1798 c. Enoch Kendall. House \$149.50. Land \$780.00.
 1800 d. Simon Page.
 Enoch Kendall, tenant.
 1830 m. Simon Page. 2^s 1^o 3^w.
 1847 m. A. W. Holden.
 1857 m. Hezekiah Porter Kittredge.
 1875 m. Hezekiah Porter Kittredge.
 1882 m. Hezekiah Porter Kittredge.
 1912. Gone.

37. LAWTON ROAD.

- Simon Page, grant.
 1769 d. Simon Page Jr.

- 1775 r. Simon Page, Jr.
 1790 c. Simon Page. 2^m 1^m u 3^t.
 1791 d. Abel Page. 42½ acres and buildings.
 1796 d. Oliver Lawton, of Hancock, N. H.
 1798 val. Oliver Laughton, \$617.50 land and house.
 1830 m. Oliver Laughton. 2° 1° 2^w.
 1857 m. Oliver Laughton.
 Abel F. Lawton.
 Daniel S. Knapp.
 George G. Day, of Ayer, owner.
 1873 d. Michael H. Mullen, of Marlborough.
 1882 m. Omitted.
 1914. John B. Crowe.

38. KITTRIDGE ROAD.

- 1747 pet. William Williams.
 1775 r. William Williams.
 1778. Simon Holden.
 1778 d. James Whittaker, of Rindge, N. H.
 1783 d. Isaac Williams.
 1790 c. Isaac Williams. 1^m 1^m u 2^t.
 John Williams. 60 acres and buildings near Squannacook
 Pond.
 1806 d. Amasa Hartwell.
 1821 d. Thomas Whitney, owner.
 1830 m. Thomas Benson, tenant. 1° 1° 2^w.
 1834 d. Jonathan E. Hartshorn.
 1847 m. Gone. Moved next to 37 and remodelled.

39. KITTRIDGE ROAD.

- Isaac Parker, grant.
 1722 d. Samuel Waldo.
 1766 inh. Samuel Waldo's heirs.
 1766 d. Simon Holden.
 1775 r. "Simon Holden's new field."
 1788 d. Joshua Longley, owner.
 1790 c. Josiah Hall, tenant. 1^m 3^t.
 1792 d. Richard Hall, owner.
 Josiah Hall, tenant.
 1811 d. Isaac Hall.
 1830 m. Isaac Hall. 1° 1° 2^w.
 1841 r. Isaac Hall.
 1846 d. Harvey A. and Moses W. Woods.

- 1853 tax. Andrew Hall, taxed \$500.
 1857 m. E. Blood.
 1875 m. Gone.

40. LAWTON ROAD.

- Oliver Page.
 Lydia Page, builder (m. Simon Holden, Jr.).
 1815 d. Thomas Whitney, 48 square rods.
 1830 m. James Going, tenant. 1° 1° 2' w.
 1847 m. Loammi Hartshorn.
 1857 m. Loammi Hartshorn.
 1868 r. Patrick Haheir.
 1875 m. Patrick Haheir.
 1882 m. Omitted.
 1914. William Wilkins. He has added a second story.

41. KITTRIDGE ROAD.

- 1775 r. Simon Page, no house.
 Eunice Page, builder. (m. Abijah Nutting 1788, and moved to Groton.)
 1790 c. Moses Jennerson. 1° 3' m ° 2' l.
 1798 val. Moses Jennerson. Dwelling \$80.00.
 1821 d. Amasa Hartwell.
 1830 m. Amasa Hartwell. 1° 1° 2' w.
 1847 m. Widow [Eunice] Jenkins.
 1857 m. Mrs. Edmund Jenkins.
 1875 m. Caroline A. Jenkins.
 1880 dir. Edgar A. and Frederick A. Jenkins.
 1882 m. Adolphus Jenkins.
 1914. Unoccupied and fast going to ruin. It is the only house which retained its wooden latches, with the latch string, throughout its history.

42. GOING ROAD.

- 1747 pet. Joseph Dodge.
 1769 inh. Joseph Dodge, Jr., John and Rebecca Alexander, Samuel and Thomas Bryant.
 1782 d. Wallis Little, owner.
 Thomas Bryant, tenant.
 1794 d. Thomas Bryant, tenant.
 1798 val. Thomas Bryant, tenant.
 1812 sch. Moses and Joseph Tucker, tenants.
 1814 d. Ebenezer Little, owner.

- 1827 d. Calvin B. Hartwell.
 1828 r. Calvin B. Hartwell.
 1829 d. William Going.
 1830 m. Not on the map.
 1847 m. Gone.

43. GOING ROAD.

- For land see No. 42.
 1814 d. Ebenezer Little, owner, and probably builder.
 1827 d. Calvin B. Hartwell.
 1829 d. William Going.
 1830 m. William Going. 2° 1° 3' end yellow.
 1847 m. William Going.
 1857 m. Abraham H. Fairbanks, owner and occupier.
 1875 m. Abraham H. Fairbanks.
 1882 m. Abraham H. Fairbanks.
 1914. Heirs of Granville Fairbanks, owner.
 Occupied by transient tenants.

44. CLAPP ROAD.

- Joseph Dodge.
 Joseph Dodge, Jr.
 1774 r & d. Thomas Burkmar. 1 acre and "mansion house."
 1784 d. Moses Ritter.
 1790 c. Moses Ritter. 1^m 3^m u 2^l.
 1810 d. Moses Ritter.
 1815 d. Ezra Clapp. (m. Lydia Ritter). Clapp's furniture sold in 1824.
 1824 d. Ebenezer Little. Old house taken to Ayer and a new house built.
 1828 cir. Thomas Jennerson. 27 acres and buildings.
 1830 m. Omitted.
 1847 m. Omitted.
 1856 m. S. Barrett.
 1875 m. Gone.

45. CLAPP ROAD.

- Joseph Dodge.
 Joseph Dodge, Jr.
 1774 r. Sewall Dodge. House and blacksmith shop improved by Sewall Dodge. No deed.
 1776 d. Wallis or William Little, owner.
 Thomas Nichols, tenant.
 1830 m. Solomon Harris, negro. 1° 1° 2'.
 1847 m. Gone.

46. GREAT ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant. "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1830 m. Micah Phillips. 1° 1° 1° w. negro cabin.
 Daniel Giger also lived here later according to Peter Tarbell,
 Esq.
 1847 m. Not given.
 1857 m. Gone.

47. GREAT ROAD.

- Nathaniel Lawrence.
 1720. Hannah (Lawrence) Holden.
 1727 d. Jonathan Holden.
 1739 d. David Gould.
 1747 pet. David Gould.
 1751 d. William White, innkeeper.
 1755 d. Solomon Stewart, two dwelling's and a Barn. (See No. 48.)
 1762 d. Jonathan Moors.
 1767 d. William Bolton, Jr., of North Parish, Reading.
 1781. Abigail (Bolton) and Ezra Smith, widow's dower.
 1790 c. Ezra Smith.
 1799 d. Thomas Whitney.
 1799, February 17. "John Holden and family run off last night." J. P.
 March 19. "Bought John Holdens house and land of Capt. T.
 Whitney.
 April 3. "I at North End let my Holden house to E. Parker"
 [Elisha]. J. P.
 1800, March 6. "Vendue Widow Smith's farm." J. P.
 1800 d. James Parker, owner.
 1800. Hoar and Proctor, tenants. J. P.
 Thomas Hazard, negro, tenant of the cooper shop. J. P.
 1802. Jonas Adams, tenant. J. P.
 1803. Roderick McKenzey, tenant. J. P.
 John Henesy, negro, tenant of the cooper shop. J. P.
 1805, March 19. "I agreed with Abner [Mitchel] let him my S[mith]
 house." J. P.
 1809. Daniel Knight, tenant. J. P.
 1810. Caleb Blood, tenant. J. P.
 1811. Henry Farwell, tenant of both. J. P.
 1814. Henry Farwell, tenant of both. J. P.
 1816. Edward Bolton, tenant. J. P.
 1818, March 12. "My copper shop was burnt to ashes about 9 o'clock
 evs." J. P.
 1825, April 16. "David Sawtell moved out of my house." J. P.
 April 18. "I at Sawtell farm salting sheep." J. P.
 1830 m. Gone.

48. GREAT ROAD.

- 1755 d. Two houses then on the land.
 1803 d. James Parker, owner.
 1804. Abner Mitchell tenant. J. P.
 1809. Abner Mitchell, tenant.
 1814. "John moved Abner Mitchell goods to John Rockwoods
 with my team." J. P.
 1829, April 18. "Lawrence moved in my Mulpus house." J. P.
 June 11. "Lawrence moved out of my Mulpus house." J. P.
 July 23. "Solomon Harris move into my house." J. P.
 1830 m. Jacob Mitchell, negro, tenant. 1 • 1 • 17.
 1832. E. Longley "rent for Mulpus house" James Parker's ad-
 ministration.
 1847 m. Gone.

49. GREAT ROAD.

- For land see No. 47.
 1767 d. William Bolton, Jr. No house.
 1793 d. William & Sally Bolton.
 1808 d. Thomas Ritter.
 1810 d. Stephen Barrett, owner and builder after 1830.
 1847 m. Luther Hartwell, tenant.
 1857 m. Luther Hartwell, tenant.
 1875 m. G. H. Cordwell.
 1882 m. No tenant given.
 1912. Gone.

50. GREAT ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. Jerahmeel Powers.
 1750 d. Nathan Smith.
 1755 d. Ephraim Smith, owner.
 Nathan Smith, tenant.
 1786 d. Lewis Smith.
 1790 d. Joshua Longley, owner.
 1790 c. Nathan Smith, tenant. 1 = 2'.
 1830 m. Gone.

51. GREAT ROAD.

- 1747 pet. Jonathan Gould.
 1756 r. Jonathan Gould.
 1758 d. Obadiah Sawtell innkeeper.
 1787 d. Ephraim Lawrence, owner.
 Obadiah Sawtell, tenant.

- 1789 d. Sawtell Holden, owner.
Obadiah Sawtell, tenant.
- 1790 c. Obadiah Sawtell. 1^m 3^t.
- 1792 d. Samuel Walker.
- 1792 d. Nathan Adams. 40 acres and buildings.
- 1798 val. Nathan Adams. House \$208.00.
- 1800 d. Stephen Barrett, Jr. of Concord, tanner.
- 1830 m. Stephen Barrett, Jr. 2^s 1^o 5^w slate colored.
- 1847 m. Stephen Barrett, Jr.
- 1875 m. Rev. Charles H. Whitney.
- 1882 m. Rev. Charles H. Whitney.
1912. La Forest J. Carpenter, owner and occupier.
1914. George Conant, of Alstead, N. H. and Acton.

52. GREAT ROAD.

- David Kingman, of Bridgewater.
- 1777 d. Nathan Smith, Jr., house, and blacksmith shop south of the road.
- 1781 d. Hugh Moor.
- 1812 sch. David Sawtell.
- 1815 d. Francis Dwight.
George Farrar, tenant.
- 1828 d. George Farrar, of Concord, blacksmith.
- 1830 m. George Farrar. 2^s 1^o 5^w. Shop north of road.
- 1857 m. George Farrar.
- 1875 m. Amos Farrar.
- 1880 dir. Howard M. and Amos W. Farrar.
1914. Charles E. Haskins.

53. GREAT ROAD.

- Land as in No. 52.
- 1815 d. Francis Dwight, owner.
- 1830 m. Almond Morse, tavern. 2^s 2^o 5^w double front white.
- 1847 m. Samuel [J.] Farnsworth.
- 1857 m. Samuel [J.] Farnsworth.
- 1875 m. R. Lawrence (see below).
- 1880 dir. Simeon R. Lawrence. "Mulpus house," tenant.
- 1882 m. No name given.
1914. Louis J. Farnsworth, owner.

54. GREAT ROAD.

- John Page et als.
- 1768 d. Simon Page, 8 acres "on Mulpus by the Bridge and a dwelling."

- 1769 d. James Page.
 1790 c. Nathan Smith, Jr.
 1830 m. Captain Nathan Smith. 1° 1° 2 w.
 1857 m. J. Lawton.
 1875 m. Joseph P. Thompson.
 1882 m. Joseph P. Thompson.
 1914. William A. L. Crockett.

55. GREAT ROAD.

- 1812 sch. Jonas Page.
 1823 d. James Page, "the house in which he now lives."
 1823, July 31. "I went to Vendue of Jonas Page's farm." J. P.
 1827 d. Varnum Barrett.
 1830 m. Varnum Barrett. 2° 2° 5 w yellow.
 1847 m. Samuel J. Farnsworth.
 1882 m. Samuel J. Farnsworth.
 1914. Louis J. Farnsworth.

56. LITTLE TURNPIKE.

- Daniel Dodge.
 1828 d. Asa and Edmund Jenkins. 7 acres.
 1830 m. Asa and Edmund Jenkins. 2° 1° 5 w yellow.
 1832 d. Asa Jenkins.
 1845 d. Asa A. Jenkins.
 Asa Jenkins, lessee.
 1847 m. R. Longley.
 1857 m. Asa Jenkins.
 1875 m. O. F. Cousin.
 1882 m. William White.
 1912. John H. Stickney, owner.
 Marmaduke Redmayne Wildman, tenant.
 1914. John H. Stickney.

57. GREAT ROAD.

- For land see No. 72.
 John & Simeon Hildreth of Westford.
 1811 d. David Jenkins, $\frac{1}{2}$ acre, builder.
 1813 r. David Jenkins.
 1830 m. Mrs. Jenkins. 1° 1° 2 w.
 1847 m. Mrs. L. B. Perkins.
 1857 m. Mrs. L. B. Perkins.
 1875 m. David Hartwell.
 1882 m. David Hartwell.
 1912. Gone.

58. GREAT ROAD.

- Jonathan Page, grant.
 1751 d. John Page.
 1774. d. Daniel Chapman.
 1779 d. Nathaniel Day.
 1790 c. Nathaniel Day. 1^m 4^m 3^t.
 1798 val. Nathaniel Day. House \$104.00.
 1812 sch. Nathaniel Day.
 1830 m. Joseph Day. 1[•] 1[•] 2^w.
 1847 m. Joseph Day.
 1852 val. Martin Turner.
 1856 m. H. Turner.
 1875 m. Melzor V. Farnsworth.
 1914. Melzor V. Farnsworth, owner and occupier.

59. GREAT ROAD.

1722. Abraham Lakin, grant.
 1786. James Ross, mariner.
 1786. Inhabitants of Shirley, by execution.
 Mr. Hall, tenant.
 1793 d. James Blake, tin-plate worker.
 1793 d. Wallis Little, owner.
 1794 d. Benjamin Osgood, of Westford.
 Jonas Baker, tenant.
 1814 d. Inhabitants of Shirley. 9 acres, house and barn.
 1830 d. Jabez Harlow, carpenter.
 1847 m. Jabez Harlow.
 1857 m. Jabez Harlow.
 1875 m. George Farnsworth.
 1914. George Farnsworth.

60. GREAT ROAD.

1722. John Snow, grant.
 1777. William Williams Jr. (m. Abigail Harris 1777).
 1790 c. William Williams. 1^m 2^m 3^t.
 1812 sch. William Williams.
 1830 m. Mrs. Williams ("widow"). 1[•] 1[•] 1^w.
 1847 m. Alice Davis (widow of Granville C. Davis, d. 1847).
 1857 m. Alice Davis. (The road or the house changed in position as
 the house is now on the north side of the road.)
 1875 m. Granville C. and Franklin G. Davis.
 1882 m. ——— Wood.
 1910. James M. Craft.
 1914. Fred Frary.

61. HAZEN ROAD.

- For land see No. 63.
 1783. Solomon Pratt, builder. (m. Hannah Harris.)
 1790 c. Solomon Pratt, blacksmith. 1^m 1^m 4^l.
 1798 val. Solomon Pratt. 20 acres and buildings. House \$45.00.
 1812 sch. Widow Pratt.
 1830 m. Mrs. Hannah Pratt. 1° 1° 2^w.
 1847 m. Sumner E. Hopkins.
 1857 m. Mrs. E. Hopkins.
 1875 m. Sumner E. Hopkins.
 1882 m. Sumner E. Hopkins.
 1914. Gideon C. West.

62. GREAT ROAD.

- For land see No. 63.
 1830 m. Jonathan Kilburn, builder, after 1812. 2° 2° 5^w.
 1882 m. Jonathan Kilburn.
 1914. F. Edwina Burnham, of Revere, Mass.

63. GREAT ROAD.

- Isaac Parker, grant.
 1719 d. Eleazer Gilson. Built the first mill in Shirley.
 1727 d. Ebenezer Sprague.
 1730 d. Seth Walker.
 1742 d. Captain Francis Harris.
 1790 c. Captain Francis Harris. 1^m 1^m 1^l.
 1792 d. Francis Harris, Jr.
 1795 d. Abel Moors. 50 acres north of the road, house and barn.
 1798 r. Abel Moors and Susanna Harris.
 1823, March 17. "I at Vandue of the Harris Farm bid it of to Esq^r Whitney \$2280." J. P.
 1829, March 20. "I settled with J. Estabrook gave him a deed of his land." J. P.
 1830 m. Joseph Estabrooks. 1° 1° 2^w.
 1857 m. Joseph Estabrooks.
 1875 m. Mrs. Herbert O. Peaslee.
 1882 m. Mrs. Herbert O. Peaslee.
 1912. Frank E. Kemp.

64. GREAT ROAD.

- For land, see No. 66.
 1830 m. Henry Hoar. 2° 1° 3^w and 3 shops.
 1847 m. Harvey W. Wood.
 1857 m. Gone.

65. GREAT ROAD.

- John, Joseph, & Benjamin Page.
 1762 r. Simon Page.
 1768 d. Simon Page.
 1798 val. Simon Page. Dwelling \$286.00.
 1799 d. Oliver Page.
 1812 sch. Oliver Page.
 1828, January 9. "Vandue Oliver Page." J. P.
 1830 m. Peter Page. 2° 2° 5°.
 1847 m. Abram Foster.
 1857 m. R. E. and Moses W. Wood.
 1875 m. William H. and Edwin L. White.
 1882 m. Edwin L. White.
 1914. Three tenements.

66. LITTLE TURNPIKE.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. William Little, from Ireland.
 1790 c. William Little. 1^m 2^m ° 2^t.
 1776 d. Wallis Little $\frac{1}{2}$ the farm.
 1794 d. Wallis Little $\frac{2}{3}$ the farm.
 1798 val. Wallis Little. House \$30.00.
 1830 m. ——— Campbell. 1° 1° 2°.
 1847 m. Abraham Freeman.
 1856 m. Gone.

67. LITTLE TURNPIKE.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. William Little.
 1776 d. Wallis Little $\frac{1}{2}$ farm, builder.
 1790 c. Wallis Little. 3^m 2^m ° 4^t.
 1794 d. Wallis Little $\frac{2}{3}$ farm.
 1796, January 28. "I went to Wallis Little's house warming thirty
 odd at the same place." J. P.
 The tavern built.
 1798 val. Wallis Little. Dwelling and out-houses \$1040.00.
 1823 inh. William Little.
 1824, March 24. "I at the Vandue of Wallis Little Property. I bought
 several acres." J. P.
 1830 m. William Little. 2° 1° 5° yellow.
 1857 m. William Little, died 1858.
 1875 m. Henry S. Hume.
 1882 m. Henry S. Hume.

1883. Bruce Masters (Chandler).
 1904. Henry C. Johnson.
 1914. Eugene Chevrette, of Fitchburg, and Acton Vale, Can.
68. LITTLE TURNPIKE.
 Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1769 d. William Little.
 1823 d. Wallis Little, Jr., builder.
 1830 m. Wallis Little, Jr., 2^e 1^o 4^w white.
 1847 m. No name.
 1856 m. George Chandler.
 1875 m. John W. Thacher.
 1882 m. John W. Thacher.
 1914. Arthur R. Cummings, owner and occupier.
- 68a.
 Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. Robert Henry, d. 1759.
 1760. Widow Eleanor Henry $\frac{1}{3}$ and "an old dwelling house."
 1761 d. Francis Harris $\frac{2}{3}$.
 1761 d. Rev. Phinehas Whitney $\frac{2}{3}$.
 1763 d. Rev. Phinehas Whitney $\frac{1}{3}$. Amalgamated with his farm.
69. LITTLE TURNPIKE.
 1814, Nov. 9, "They moved the School House from the middle down on the turnpike by old Jennersons. Wallis and others."
 J. P.
 Thomas Jennerson used it to store the sumach-berries which he sold to tanners.
 William Deputron.
 Prudy Deputron, tenant; known as the "Putrin House"
 1830 m. William Holden. 1^o 1^o 2^w.
 1847 m. No name given. Gerry Mills, mulatto, tenant, about this time.
 1857 m. Gone. It was blown up with gunpowder, because it had become such a nuisance.
70. LITTLE TURNPIKE.
 Jonas Livermore.
 1814 d. Daniel Dodge. 9 acres, no house.
 1829 d. Wilder Dodge.
 1830 m. Widow Dodge. 2^o 2^o 6^w yellow.
 1847 m. Wilder Dodge.

- 1882 m. Wilder Dodge.
 1912. Alice R. Worcester, owner.
 John H. Stickney, tenant.
 1914. Leroy Taylor and Henry Walenta, of the Bronx, New
 York, tenants.

71. LITTLE TURNPIKE.

- "Beaver Pond Farm."
 Samuel Waldo, grant.
 Wallis Little, owner.
 1812 sch. Moses Jennerson, tenant.
 1830 m. Moses Jennerson, tenant. 1^o 1^o 4^v.
 1832 d. { Dexter Bruce, of Tewksbury.
 Samuel Smith, of Littleton.
 1834 d. Dexter Bruce.
 1837 d. Charles Chandler.
 1882 m. Charles Chandler.
 1914. William A. Ladd.

72. GREEN LANE.

- Jonathan Page, grant.
 1751 d. John Page.
 1762 r. Amos Dole, tenant.
 1767 d. Amos Dole.
 1771 d. William Russell.
 1773 d. Rev. Phineas Whitney.
 1779 d. Lemuel Bicknell.
 1790 c. Ruth Bicknell, widow. 2^m 1^l.
 1791 d. Stephen Hildreth.
 1797 r. John Hildreth.
 1800 d. John Bicknell, ex^r.
 1800 d. Stephen Hildreth.
 1804 d. James Bicknell.
 1804 d. Jonathan Ayer.
 Stephen Hildreth, tenant.
 1805, February 20. "I at Stephen Hildreth Vandue of his farm."
 J. P.
 1808 r. Stephen Hildreth, tenant.
 1830 m. Moses Jenkins. 1^o 1^o 3^v.
 1847 m. P. Longley.
 1857 m. Thomas Whitney.
 1875 m. Gone.

73. GREEN LANE.

- James Dickinson.
 1776 d. Charles Phipps. 30 acres, no house.
 1784 d. David Wilson, buildings.
 1785 d. James Parker, owner.
 1789. "Wilson moved away to Mitchell House." J. P.
 Levi Farnsworth, tenant. J. P.
 1791. "Abner Mitchell moved into my Wilson house." J. P.
 1793. Agreement between Parker and Dickinson.
 1830 d. Leonard M. Parker, Sarah Jones and Lydia B. Treadwell,
 known as "Wilson Place."
 1830 m. Gone.

74. PARKER ROAD.

- 1803 d. Levi Carlisle, of Hartland, Vt.
 1808 d. Thomas Jennerson. 80 rods and buildings.
 1814 d. James Parker, owner.
 Thomas Jennerson, tenant.
 1829 d. Edmund and Stephen M. Longley, owners.
 Thomas Jennerson, tenant.
 1830 m. Thomas Jennerson. 1* 1° 2* red.
 1837 d. James Parker Longley.
 1857 m. James Parker Longley.
 1875 m. James Parker Longley.
 1877 d. Elizabeth Davis, wife of Samuel Davis of Dedham.
 1884 d. Frank W. Cummings.
 1899 d. Manley D. Lincoln.
 1904 d. Henry Foster Grout, of Melrose.
 1914. Henry Foster Grout.

75. PARKER ROAD.

- Jonas Livermore, builder, about 1796.
 1802. Jonas Livermore. J. P.
 1814 d. Thomas Hammond.
 1823. William Jones, Exr.
 1823 d. Thomas Whitney.
 1826 d. Jenny Little. 10 acres and buildings.
 1830 m. Jane Little. 2* 2° 5* yellow.
 1847 m. Not given.
 1857 m. George Page.
 1875 m. T. Averill.
 1882. Stephen H. Stone.
 1914. Heirs of Stephen H. Stone.

75a. PARKER ROAD.

- 1826 d. Jenny Little.
 1836 d. Rev. Hope Brown, builder.
 1847 m. Not given.
 1857 m. Daniel G. Waters.
 1875 m. F. Lawton.
 1882 m. Not given.
 1914. Mrs. Steele MacKaye, owner.
 The Baroness von Hesse, tenant.

76. HOLDEN ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. Daniel Page.
 1747 pet. Daniel Page.
 1783 d. Jeremiah Chaplin. 61 acres and building and "one half a cyder mill near the Farm." Chandler says he built a new house. He was of Ipswich.
 1790 c. Jeremiah Chaplin. 2^m 2^m u 4^t.
 1801 cir. Moses Chaplin.
 1812 sch. Moses and Jesse Chaplin.
 1830 m. Moses Chaplin. 1^s 1^s 2^w.
 1847 m. Moses Chaplin.
 1857 m. John K. Going.
 1875 m. Nathan Holden.
 1882 m. Nathan Holden.
 1914. Luther E. Holden.

77. WHITNEY ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. John Moors.
 1746 d. Jonathan Moors.
 1762 d. Rev. Phinehas Whitney, builder.
 1790 c. Rev. Phinehas Whitney. 3^m 2^m u 6^t.
 1810, October 11. "Helped Aaron Lyon draw Mr. Whitneys house some." J. P.
 1812 sch. Rev. Phinehas Whitney.
 1828. Captain Sylvanus Smith, tenant. (Chandler.)
 1830 m. Abijah Sanderson, tenant. 2^s 2^s 3^w white.
 1847 m. Thomas Whitney, owner.
 1857 m. Asaph E. Buss.
 1875 m. Mrs. A. E. Buss.

1882. Removed to Shirley Village, Phoenix Street.
 1912. Father Coté. Roman Catholic Parsonage.
 1914. Father Rosario Richard.

78. WHITNEY ROAD.

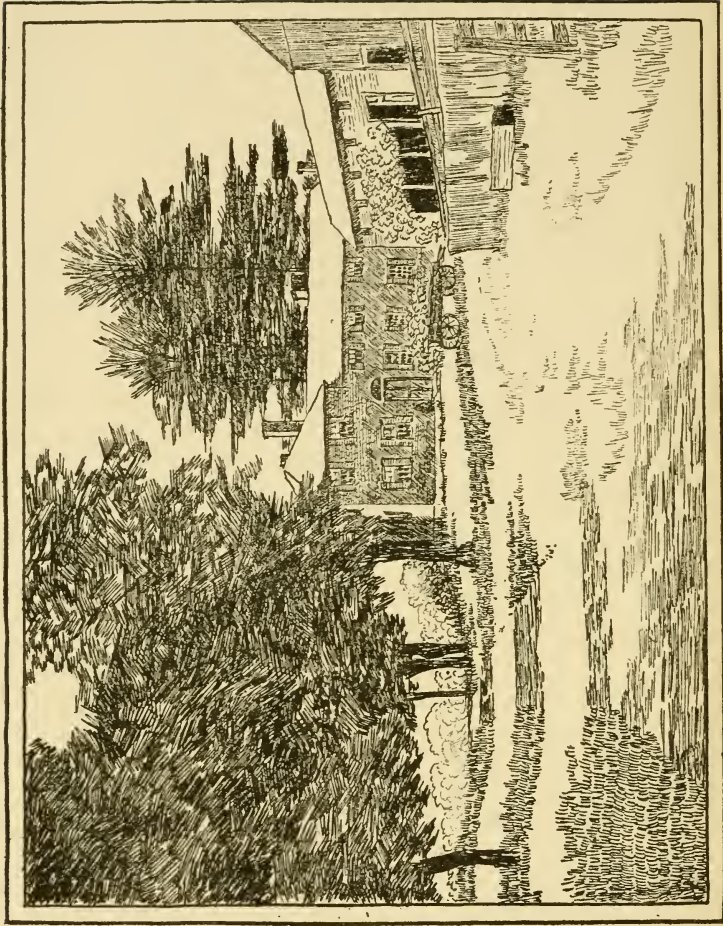
- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1828. Thomas Whitney, Jr., builder.
 1830 m. Thomas Whitney, Jr., 2° 2° 5" brick.
 1847 m. Thomas Whitney.
 1856 m. Asaph E. Buss.
 1875 m. Mrs. A. E. Buss.
 1882 m. Thomas K. and Benjamin Fiske.
 1914. Howard Fuller, of Providence, R. I. Burned and rebuilt
 as a 1½ story house. Same walls.

79. WHITNEY ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1744 d. John Moors.
 1746 d. Jonathan Moors, builder.
 1762 d. Rev. Phinehas Whitney.
 1800 cir. Captain William McIntosh, tenant.
 1812 sch. Captain Harrod.
 1816. Captain Harrod, tenant, "farm-house."
 1830 m. Not given.
 1856 m. Nathan Holden.
 Torn down by Asaph E. Buss.

80. WHITNEY ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 Rev. Phinehas Whitney.
 1777 d. John Jupp. .50 acres and a dwelling.
 1798 val. Mary Smith.
 1801 d. David Livermore.
 1806, May 19. "I at the raising of David Livermore's house" J. P.
 He built his new house southeast of the old one, tradition
 says.
 1830 m. David Livermore. 2° 1° 5" yellow.
 1847 m. David Livermore.
 1857 m. Rev. Seth Chandler.
 1882 m. Rev. Seth Chandler.
 1912. Helen M. Winslow.
 1913. Mrs. Charles S. Dakin.



COLONEL THOMAS WHITNEY, JR.'S HOUSE, WHITNEY ROAD

81. COMMON.

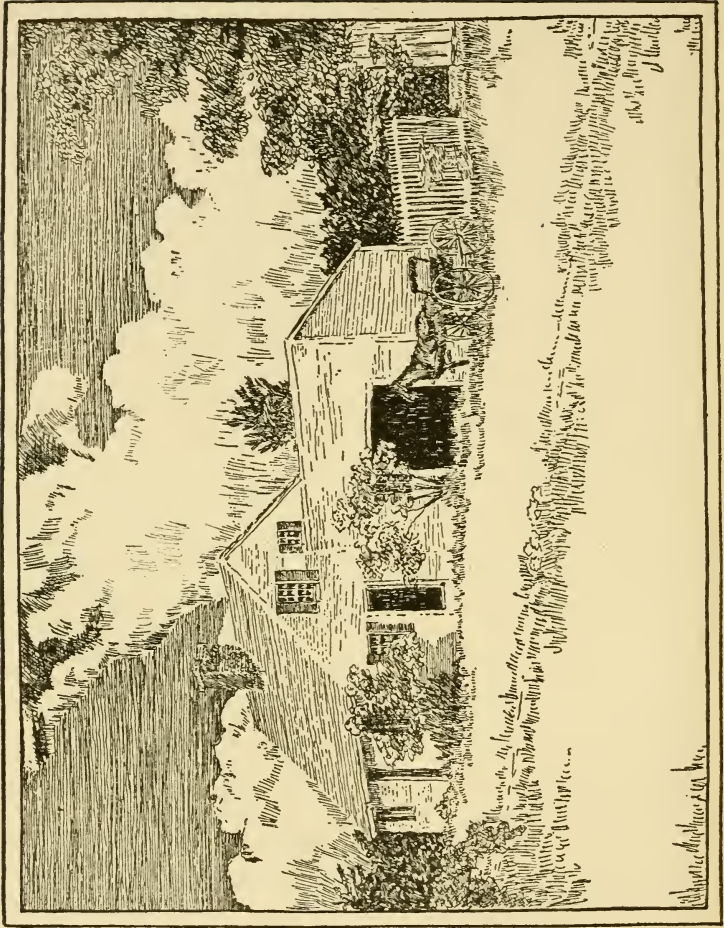
- Stephen Holden $\frac{3}{4}$ acre and buildings.
 Abner Parce [Pierce].
 1797 d. Thomas Whitney.
 1799 d. Elisha Dodge.
 1800, June 12. "Elisha Dodge raised his house, did not go." J. P.
 1803 d. James Parker, Esq.
 1803, May 23. "I moved into my New House." J. P.
 1830 m. James Parker, Esq. 2^s 1^o 5^w white.
 1830 d. Leonard Moody Parker, Sarah Jones and Lydia B. Treadwell. 3 acres.
 1847 m. Leonard Moody Parker, Esq.
 1875 m. Mrs. Lucy R. Holden.
 1882 m. Mrs. Lucy R. Holden.
 1914. William E. Barnard.

81a. PARKER ROAD.

1844. Leonard Moody Parker, "house lately built by him."
 Deed of Jenny Little to L. M. Parker.
 1857 m. Leonard Moody Parker, owner.
 1875 m. Alvin Lawton.
 1914. Mrs. Alvin Lawton.

82. HORSE POND ROAD.

1721. John Page, 14 acre right.
 1727. Jonathan Page, grant.
 1751 d. Joseph, John, Simon and Benjamin Page.
 1767 d. Benjamin Page.
 1772 d. James Dickinson, builder.
 1773, June 8. House raised.
 1790 c. James Dickinson. 2^m 7^t.
 1800 d. Thomas Whitney, Esq. 96 acres.
 1812 sch. Roderick McKenzey, tenant. "Roderick McKenzey and Polly from Lancaster warned from Shirley April 6, 1786. Taken in by Captain John Edgarton." He was a tailor by trade.
 1830 m. Jephthah Gleason. 2^s 1^o 3^w old.
 1847 m. A. Hartwell.
 1857 m. T. Whitney, owner.
 1875 m. Gone.



DENNIS PAGE'S HOUSE, LUNENBURG ROAD

83. LUNENBURG ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 1767 d. Ephraim Warren, builder.
 1790 c. Ephraim Warren. 1^m 1^m 2^l.
 1801, April 11. "David and Moody helped Levi F^b [Farnsworth]·
 move Warren old house." J. P. (See No. 85.)
 1802 r. William Warren, owned the land. The cellar hole is now in
 Lunenburg, since the relocation of the town bounds.

84. LUNENBURG ROAD.

- Samuel Waldo, grant, "Beaver Pond Farm."
 William Little.
 1770 d. Mitchell Richards, "and a hovel."
 1785. Abraham Haskell, owner.
 Mitchell Richards, tenant.
 1789. David "Wilson moved away to Mitchel House." J. P.
 1789. William Little.
 Timothy Phelps.
 1800 d. Thomas Whitney, owner, 5 acres, house and barn.
 1810 d. Luther Farnsworth of Groton, owner.
 1812 sch. Dennis Page.
 1830 m. Dennis Page. 1^o 1^o 2^w.
 1847 m. Dennis Page. Raised the roof.
 1857 m. Mrs. S. D. Page.
 1875 m. No name.
 1882 m. No name.
 1899. Frederick Dame.
 1914. Charles Chester Lane, Director of the Harvard University
 Press.

85. HOLDEN ROAD.

- Nathaniel Harwood.
 1733 d. Nathan Smith.
 1740 d. Charles Richards, builder.
 1745 d. James Gordon; 30 acres, dwelling and barn.
 1778 d. Jonas Parker.
 1784. James Mills, tenant.
 1808 d. Levi Farnsworth, tenant.
 1812 sch. Levi Farnsworth.
 1818. Levi Farnsworth.
 1830 m. Silvanus Holden, Jr. tenant. 1^o 1^o 3^w.
 1832 d. Luke Holden; house enlarged, two storeys and lengthened.

- 1847 m. Silvanus Holden, Jr.
 1857 m. Silvanus Holden, Jr.
 1875 m. Joseph S. Currier.
 1882 m. Nelson A. Holden.
 1899. Harry C. Bennett.
 1905. John W. Evans. Burned.
 1912. Gone.

86. GORDON ROAD.

- 1741 & 1744. William Bennett, grant.
 1745 d. John Russell, house built.
 1745 d. James Gordon.
 Temperance Gordon.
 1778 d. Jonas Parker, built a new house. 170 acres.
 1787, October 4. "I went and helped Jonas Parker raise a Back kitchen
 to his house." J. P.
 1790 c. Jonas Parker. 1^m 4^m u 4^f.
 1794 cir. James Parker, owner of house.
 1812 sch. Joel Richardson?
 1823. Joseph Chute, tenant. J. P.
 Luke Holden, tenant. J. P.
 1827. Reuben Holden, tenant. J. P.
 1828, April 1. "I at my Jonas Farm. Reu Har^l [Reuben Hartwell]
 moved out & gone off Lun[en]burg].
 1829, March 24. "I let my Jonas house to L. H." J. P.
 1830 m. Luke Holden.
 1847 m. Luke Holden.
 1857 m. S. Hazen.
 1875 m. E. E. Whitford.
 1882 m. Zopher Jones.
 1912. Gone.

87. GORDON ROAD.

- 1779 r. Silas Davis.
 1783. James Mills (Chandler).
 1838 r. "Davis House."

The land is not recorded in the Middlesex Deeds. If it had no separate existence, it was part of the old Jonas Parker farm. The cellar hole is now invisible, but is supposed to have been in Shirley, close to the Lunenburg line. Like the Warren house, it may in reality have been in Lunenburg.

88. HOLDEN ROAD.

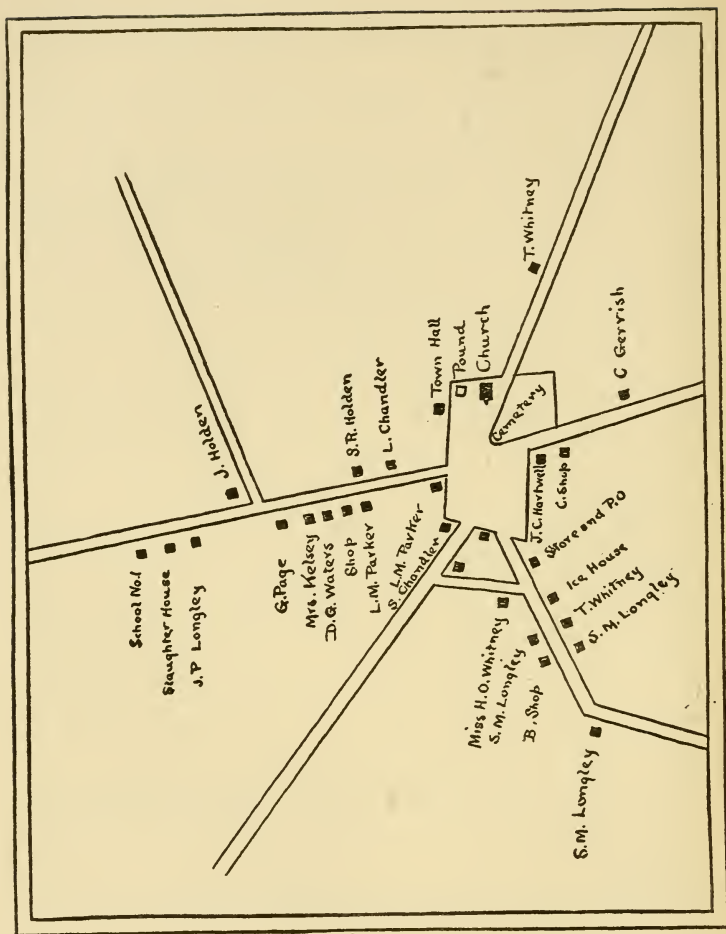
- Richard Holden.
 1721 d. Stephen Holden, grant. 108 acres.
 1741 d. Stephen Holden, Jr., $\frac{1}{2}$ 108 acres, "small house & Corn house."
 1778 d. Sawtell Holden.
 1779 r. Sawtell Holden.
 Stephen Holden. Life tenant of 1 acre and the house.
 1790 c. Stephen Holden.
 1790 d. John Davis, except the house and 1 acre as above.
 1812 sch. John Davis. Planted the "Twelve Apostles" on the south side of Holden Road. Eleven maple trees for the good Apostles and a pine tree for Judas.
 1818, January 5. "I at the Vandue of John Davis." J. P.
 1823. Samuel Davis, of Sterling.
 1828 d. Samuel Sargent, Jr.
 1830 m. Samuel Sargent, Jr. 2^m 1^m 3^w.
 1831 d. Isaac Harrington.
 1834 d. Silvanus Holden, Jr.
 1847 m. Luke Holden, Jr.
 1857 m. Gone.

89. HOLDEN ROAD.

1721. Stephen Holden, Sr. grant.
 1747 pet. Philemon Holden.
 1748 d. Philemon Holden.
 1790 c. Philemon Holden. 2^m 1^m 3^w.
 1812 sch. Silvanus Holden.
 1830 m. Sylvanus Holden. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1^o 3^w.
 1846. Luke Holden, Jr.
 1857 m. Luke Holden.
 1882 m. Luke Holden.
 1914. Heirs of Mary Augusta (Holden) Jubb.
 William Jubb, tenant, of Ekcersoll Moor, near Bradford, England.

90. COMMON.

- 1777 d. John Jupp. The house was near site No. 81.
 Mary Jupp.
 1797 d. Thomas Whitney, Esq.
 1797, May 13. "I at raising Th^o Whitneys House." J. P.
 1825, April 30. "Esq^r Whitney raised a barn." J. P.
 1830 m. Thomas Whitney Esq^r. 2^o 1^o 5^w white.



SHIRLEY CENTRE IN 1857

- 1847 m. Widow Henrietta Whitney.
 1857 m. Miss H. O. Whitney.
 1875 m. Thomas Edwin Whitney.
 1882. Henry A. Pevear, of Lynn.
 1914. Baptist Social Union. "The Mary Anna Home for Weary Mothers and their Offspring."

91. CENTRE ROAD.

- William Longley, grant.
 1755. Moses Gould, builder.
 1763. Moses Gould, "Where he now lives."
 1763 d. Gardner Wilder.
 1767 d. Benjamin Gould, owner.
 Moses Gould, tenant.
 1768 d. John Pierce, Jr.
 1779 d. George Chase "¼ acre and house ¼ mile south of the meet-
 ing house.
 1785 d. Phoebe Chase, widow.
 1799 d. Elisha Dodge, enlarged the house. 1 acre and buildings.
 1812 sch. Elisha Dodge.
 1830 m. Elisha Dodge. 1° 1° 4' white.
 1830 d. Jefferson Dodge, of Waltham.
 Isaac Hall, hatter, tenant.
 1847 m. Stephen M. Longley, owner.
 Isaac Hall, tenant.
 1857 m. Stephen M. Longley, owner.
 1875. Albert Adams.
 1914. Albert Adams.

92. CENTRE ROAD.

- William Longley et als. grant.
 George Chase, land.
 1786. Joshua Longley, builder.
 1790 c. Joshua Longley. 3^m 2^m 4^f.
 1817. Stephen Longley.
 1830 m. Stephen M. Longley, Esq. 2° 1° 5' yellow.
 1857 m. Stephen M. Longley.
 1875 m. Estate of Stephen M. Longley.
 1882 m. Melvin W. Longley.
 1914. Heirs of Melvin W. Longley.

93. CENTRE ROAD.

1726. Phinehas Parker, grant.
 1785. Dr. Benjamin Hartwell.
 1785, April 20. "I went to Vendue of Chase farm at James Dickinsons
 it was bid off to Doct^r Hartwell." J. P.
 1830 m. Dr. Benjamin Hartwell. 2[•] 1[•] 3[•] yellow.
 1847 m. Widow Hartwell.
 1857 m. Miss Maria Hartwell.
 1875 m. Miss Maria Hartwell.
 1882 m. Dr. Hartwell's Estate.
 1886. Baptist Society of Shirley, owners.
 George Holroyd, stocking manufacturer, tenant.
 1900. Gideon C. West, tenant.
 1914. Rev. Howard Allen Bridgman, editor "The Congrega-
 tionalist." "Meadow bend."

94. CENTRE ROAD.

1726. Phinehas Parker, grant.
 Joseph Sheple.
 1748 d. Seth Walker.
 1760 cir. George Chase, owner.
 Joshua Chase, tenant.
 1775 d. Jonas Parker.
 1778 d. Samuel Hazen.
 1778. Charles Perrin, owner.
 John Maddin, joint tenant.
 1778, June 4. "I went to raise a barn for old Mading." J. P.
 1779, November 13. "I went to help Perrin raise his house." J. P.
 1787 d. Joshua Longley, owner.
 Charles Perrin, tenant.
 1804, December 3. "I at the Vandue of Perrins goods. I bought a
 number of articles." J. P.
 1812 sch. Gone. Land owned by Hazen.

95. CENTRE ROAD.

1721. Stephen Longley, Sr., grant.
 1812 (after) Edmund Longley, builder.
 1830 m. Edmund Longley. 2[•] 1[•] 3[•].
 1847 m. E. F. Thayer.
 1857 m. John Ramsdell Holden.
 1882 m. John Ramsdell Holden.
 1914. Heirs of Homer Parker Holden.

96. BROWN ROAD.

- 1727-8. William Longley et als., grant.
 1775 r. Oliver Livermore.
 1800 cir. Capt. William McIntosh, builder.
 1812 sch. Capt. William McIntosh.
 1823 d. Charles Whitney. 4 acres and buildings.
 1826 d. Thomas Whitney, owner.
 1830 m. Isaac Williams and Sumner Hopkins tenants. 2° 2° 5' yellow.
 1834 d. Jonas Longley.
 1834 d. Dr. Augustus G. Parker.
 1835 d. Dr. Benjamin Hartwell, owner.
 1847 m. Dr. Ebenezer P. Hills.
 1856 m. No name.
 1875 m. Herman Streeter Hazen, moved to the west side of the road farther south.
 1914. Mrs. Grace E. Winslow of Huddersfield, England. Owner and occupier.

97. BROWN ROAD.

1728. William Longley et als., grant.
 Samuel Hazen.
 1810, April 9. "I Bought of Aaron Lyon Lakins Foley behind my Barn took a Deed and agreed to Draw off the materials before May." J. P.
 April 12. "I with my oxen & Stephen Longley with his oxen at 30 loads drew all the underpinning stone & timber from the Sellar back of my barn to whare A. Lyon is building." J. P.
 June 1. "Carted brick Lyons sellar from Lakins sellar."
 1812 d. Aaron Lyon.
 June 27. "I gave Aaron Lyon a quit claim deed of his house & land and he gave Artimus Longley one." J. P.
 1812 d. Artemus Longley. $\frac{3}{4}$ acre and house.
 1823 d. David Livermore.
 1830 m. Ruth Smith. 2° 2° 5' yellow.
 1847 m. Daniel G. Waters.
 1857 m. O. Howe.
 1867 r. Heathcote Brownson. At one time he lived in the Brick Church.
 1882 m. Heathcote Brownson.
 1914. Merrick W. Carey.

98. BROWN ROAD.

- 1727-8. William Longley et als., grant.
 1772 r. Joseph Brown. 40 acres and buildings.
 1790 c. Joseph Brown. 1^m 3^m 3^t.
 1830 m. Zenas Brown. 1° 1° 4^w.
 1857 m. Zenas Brown.
 1865 r. Charles Brown.
 1875 m. L. Smith.
 1882 m. George C. Boutwell.
 1914. Norman R. Graves, of Lakeville, N. S.

99. CENTRE ROAD.

1728. Phinehas Parker, grant.
 Thomas Hazen. (See No. 94.)
 1827 d. Benjamin Hartwell, Jr., builder. 2 acres, 128 rods.
 1830 m. Benjamin Hartwell, Jr. 2° 1° 2^w irregular.
 1847 m. Moses Chaplin, Jr.
 1857 m. Mrs. Chaplin.
 1880 dir. Russell P. Ambler.
 1914. Mrs. Cynthia E. Lynch, owner.
 Miss Helen M. Winslow, tenant.

100. HAZEN ROAD.

1724. Eleazer Robbins, grant.
 1729 d. Nicholas Bartlett.
 John Bartlett, ex^r of Nicholas Bartlett.
 1763 d. James Dougherty, builder.
 1768. Mortgage. William Coffin of Boston, foreclosed.
 1780. Town of Shirley, owner.
 March 30. "I went to Sawtells vendue of Dehoughertys farm. Wallace Little bid it off for Lemuel Parker." J. P. Lemuel Parker, lessee.
 1782, April 15. "from thence to Vendue the Dehougherty farm. Let said farm to Livermore & Stimson." J. P.
 1784. Edwin Dunn, lessee (Town Records).
 1785. John Longley, Jr., tenant (Chandler's History).
 1793 d. Samuel Hazen, S..
 1795, October 14. "I went to the raising Dehorty House." J. P. (Gambrel roof and lean-to.)
 1808, June 28. "I at the raising old Capt. Hazen's Barn." J. P.
 1815. Heirs of Samuel Hazen, Jonathan Burton et als.
 1816 d. Thomas Hazen, owner.
 Abijah Sanderson, tenant.

- 1830 m. Joseph Hazen. Changed it to a hip-roof. 2• 1• 3• yellow.
 1882 m. Joseph Hazen.
 1904. Helen M. Winslow.
 1914. Henry Ware, Esqr., of Brookline, Mass.

101. HAZEN ROAD.

1729. John Longley.
 1734. Dr. William Rand, apothecary.
 1764. James Patterson?
 1770 r. James Brooks, taverner from Concord.
 1777 d. Samuel Hazen, owner.
 James Brooks, tenant.
 1780. Timothy Phelps, tenant.
 1790 c. Timothy Phelps. 2^m 2^m u 3^l.
 1794. Moved to site 103 (q. v.) by Asa Longley.

102. HAZEN ROAD.

- 1727 d. Benjamin Prescott, grant.
 1729 d. Nicholas Bartlett, builder, "mansion house."
 1760 (dower) Elizabeth Bartlett-Patterson-Nichols.
 1790 c. Samuel Nichols. 1^m 1^l.
 1794 d. Phinehas Whitney, part owner.
 1796 d. Joshua Longley, part owner.
 1798 val. Asa Longley.
 1830 m. Gone.

103. HAZEN ROAD.

- 1727 d. Benjamin Prescott, grant.
 1785 cir. House removed from site No. 101. Second story removed.
 1790 c. Asa Longley. 1^m 1^m u 2^l.
 1794 d. Asa Longley.
 1798 val. Asa Longley. House \$162.50. Second story added.
 1812 sch. Artemus Longley (died, 1824).
 1824, December 7. "I at the Vandue of Capt. A. Longley." J. P.
 1825, October 17. "I at the Vendue of A. Longley land." J. P.
 1830 m. Widow of Artemas Longley. 2• 1• 3• yellow.
 1847 m. Moses Lawrence (m. widow Desire Longley).
 1857 m. Moses Lawrence.
 1865 r. Mrs. Desire Lawrence.
 1875 m. Samuel Longley.
 1882 m. Samuel Longley.
 1900. George S. Wells, owner.
 1914. William A. Boutilier, of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

104. HAZEN ROAD.

1727. William Longley et als., grant. See No. 107.
 1729 r. William Longley, builder.
 1729 d. John Longley.
 1747 pet. Jonas Longley.
 1770 r. Jonathan Conant.
 1812 sch. William Conant.
 1822 d. William Conant (d. 1846).
 1830 m. William Conant. 1° 1° 4".
 1847 m. Widow Conant.
 1857 m. Augustus Holden.
 1875 m. Augustus Holden.
 1882 m. No name.
 1903. Leander S. P. Marsh. Altered the house.
 1914. Rufus Hall, owner, unoccupied.

105. WARREN ROAD.

1728. William Longley et als., grant.
 1734 d. John Comrin.
 1765 d. David Fletcher of Westford.
 1747 pet. Hezekiah Patterson, owner.
 1795 d. John Kelsey, Jr.
 1830 m. John Kelsey, Jr. 1° 1° 2". (Died 1835.)
 1847 m. H. and J. Chandler, owners.
 1857 m. Gone.

106. WARREN ROAD.

1727. William Longley et als., grant.
 Hezekiah Patterson.
 1811 d. Luther Lakin, buildings.
 1814 d. Luther Lakin (mortgage).
 1822 d. Nathan King.
 1830 m. Nathan King. 2° 2° 5".
 1847 m. Henry and J. Chandler, joint occupiers.
 1852 r. Daniel Lyman Chandler.
 1857 m. Ephraim Warren.
 1875 m. Napoleon Lafayette Warren.
 1882 m. Napoleon Lafayette Warren.
 1914. John W. Evans.

107. HAZEN ROAD.

- 1727 d. { William and Nathaniel Longley.
 { Robert Rand et als. Grant.
- 1729 r. William Longley, "his house."
 1729 d. John Longley.
 1747 pet. Jonas Longley.
 1767 d. Jonas Longley d. 1799.
 1790 c. Jonas Longley. 2^m 1^m u 2^l. 143 acres and buildings.
 1798 v. Jonas Longley. House \$90. Land \$2080.00.
 1793 d. Abel Longley. d. 1828.
 1828 inh. Jonas Longley. House like No. 92.
 1830 m. Jonas Longley. 2* 1° 5^w.
 1847 m. Andrew Jackson Reed. House burned 1851.
 1856 m. Not named.
 1875 m. Augustus Holden.
 1882 m. Augustus Holden.
 1914. Herbert Holden.

108. HAZEN ROAD.

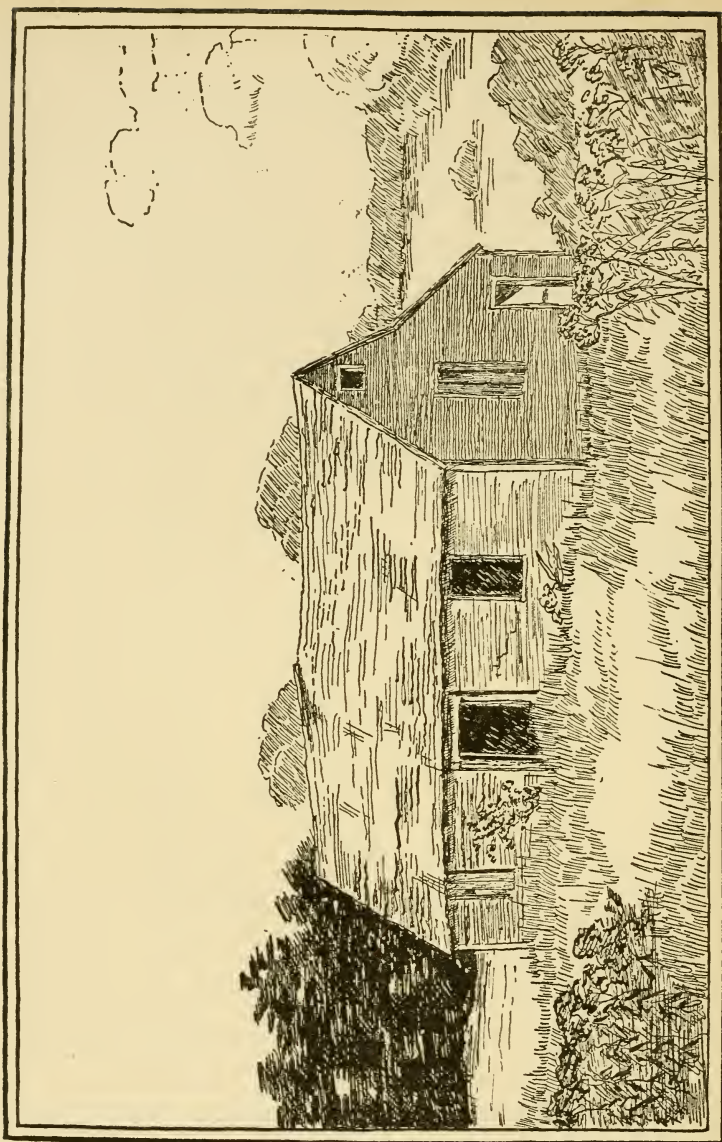
- 1812 after. Thomas Peabody, Jr.
 1830 m. Thomas Peabody, Jr. 1° 1° 1^w.
 1847 m. E. Smith.
 1857 m. Andrew Jackson Reed.
 1875 m. Gone.

109. HAZEN ROAD.

- 1830, after. Built of the timbers of No. 26.
 1847 m. T. Carlisle.
 1857 m. E. Warren.
 1875 m. Dennis Sullivan.
 1880 d. Patrick and Hugh Mitchell.
 1882 m. Hugh Mitchell, owner.
 1914. Hugh Mitchell, owner, occupants transient.

110. HAZEN ROAD.

- Thomas Whitney.
 1821 d. John Farnsworth Jr. 1 acre. Builder.
 1830 m. John and Joseph Farnsworth. 1° 1° 4^w.
 1847 m. Joseph and Calvin Farnsworth.
 1882 m. Calvin L. Farnsworth.
 1914. Occupied. Late Eldridge Gerry White.



AMASA HARTWELL'S HOUSE, PLAIN ROAD

III. HAZEN ROAD.

1799. Francis Harris, Jr.
June 13. "I helped F^r Harris raise his little house." J. P.
1830 m. Francis Harris, Jr. 1° 1° 2 v.
1847 m. P. Harrington.
1852 val. Jacob Harrington.
1857 m. B. Bathrick.
1875 m. Alvin Sanford White.
1882 m. Alvin Sanford White.
1914. George F. Buxton. Added a second story, 1912.

II2. WALKER ROAD.

- 1812, after. William Williams, Jr. Builder.
1830 m. William Williams. 1° 1° 4 v.
1847 m. William Williams.
1857 m. Joseph V. Wright.
1882 m. Joseph V. Wright.
1899. Mary A. Howard and James Calvin Carter Parker, joint
occupiers.
1912. Heirs of Mary A. Howard, owners.

II3. HAZEN ROAD.

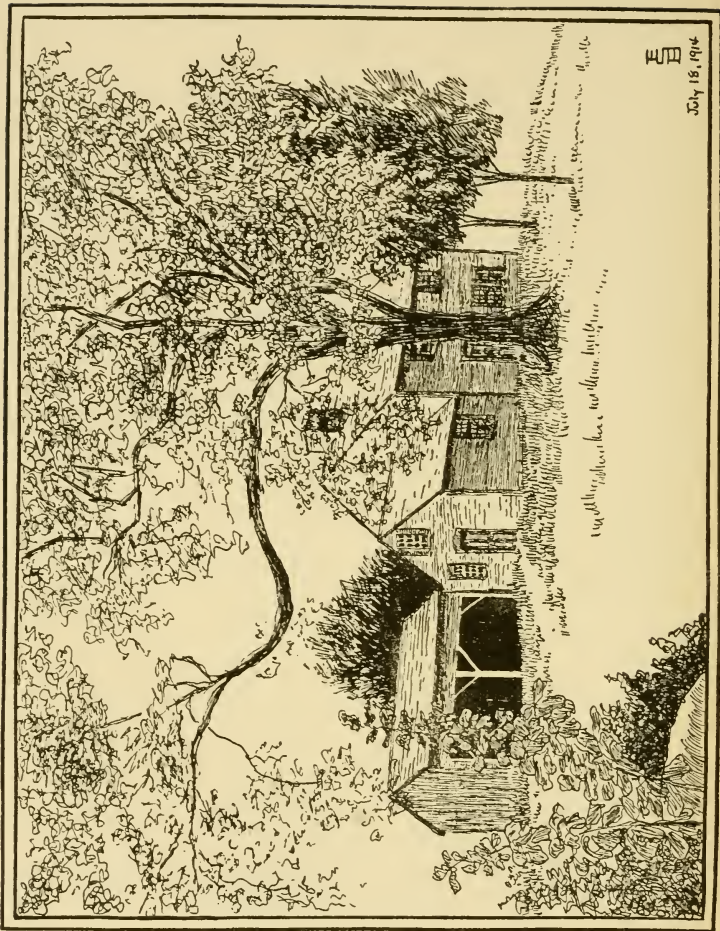
- 1812, after. Francis Harris.
1830 m. Francis Harris. 1° 1° 1 v, very small.
1847 m. Gone.

II4. HAZEN ROAD.

- Jesse Hildreth.
Thomas Smith et als., heirs of Jesse Hildreth.
1814 d. Elisha Gates of Stow.
1826 d. Jephthah Lawton.
1833. Jephthah Lawton, builder.
1857 m. Jephthah Lawton.
1875 m. G. F. Ingraham.
1882 m. ——— Sanborn.
1914. Elbert Wood.

II5. PLAIN ROAD.

1741. James Hartwell.
1790 c. Amasa Hartwell. 1^m 2^m 5^l.
1797 r. Amasa Hartwell.
1812 sch. Widow Lydia Hartwell.



PHINEAS PAGE'S HOUSE

- 1830 m. Widow Hartwell. 1° 1° 3'.
- 1847 m. Jeremiah Stewart.
- 1852 r. Mrs. Lucy Stewart.
- 1856 m. Mrs. J. Stewart.
- 1875 m. Sumner Stewart.
- 1882 m. Sumner Stewart.
1912. In ruins.

116. OFF HOLDEN ROAD.

- 1779 r. Phinehas Page (m. 1769).
- 1790 c. Phinehas Page. 3^m 4^m 3^f.
- 1812 sch. Phinehas Page.
- 1830 m. Phinehas Page. (d. 1833) 2° 1° 3'.
- 1838 r. Eli Page.
- 1847 m. Philemon Holden.
- 1882 m. Philemon Holden.
1912. Gone.

117. VALLEY ROAD.

- William Farwell, built a small house.
- 1766 d. James Parker. 40 acres and dwelling.
1785. William Farr, tenant. J. P.
1787. Levi Farnsworth, tenant. J. P.
1789. Levi Farnsworth, tenant. J. P.
1796. "Old Richardson moved out of my house." J. P.
1797. "I stript my old house & raised a new part a fine day had 10 hands." J. P.
- 1798 val. James Parker, owner. House enlarged \$286.00. James Parker, Jr., tenant.
- 1812 sch. James Parker, Jr.
- 1815 d. James Parker, Jr.
- 1830 m. James Parker, Jr. 2° 1° 5' yellow.
- 1834 d. Thomas Harkness Parker.
- 1875 m. Emerson Smiley Parker.
1912. Emerson Smiley Parker, owner and occupier.
1914. Pamela Harkness Parker.

118. CENTRE ROAD.

- Samuel Davis, grant (see No. 122).
- 1795 d. John Kelsey.
- 1798 val. John Kelsey.
- 1801 d. Daniel Kelsey.

- 1805, May 27. "I at the raising Kallcys house." J. P.
 1812 sch. John and Daniel Kelsey, joint tenants.
 1823 d. Widow Sarah Kelsey's dower.
 1830 m. Widow Sarah Kelsey. 2* 1* 5* red.
 1841 d. Joel Eaton, joint tenant.
 1843 d. Thomas Eaton, joint tenant.
 1845 d. Theodore Jewett.
 1847 d. Henry Waters.
 1857 m. Moved to Shirley Village on Front Street, east of Church Street. James Parker, owner.
 1875 m. Dr. Asahel A. Plympton and Congregational Society.
 1914. Heirs of Dr. Plympton and Congregational Society.

119. CENTRE ROAD.

- Joseph Longley land (see No. 120.)
 1832. James Parker, Jr. Built house.
 1847 m. James Parker.
 1857 m. Dr. James Otis Parker.
 1882 m. Dr. James Otis Parker.
 1886. George Heywood, owner, unoccupied.
 1897. Jacob P. Hazen, owner.
 1899 d. Charles Knowles Bolton.
 1914. Charles Knowles Bolton. "Pound Hill Place."

120. CENTRE ROAD.

- 1754 r. Joseph Longley (d. 1758). Farm and Buildings £100:0:0.
 1758. Mary Longley, dower.
 1773. "Edmund Longley raised his house." J. P.
 1778 d. Edmund Longley.
 1779, Feb. 26. "Edmund Longley sold his^r farm to Elisha Rockwood on the 23." J. P.
 May 10. "Edmund Longley got his farm back." J. P.
 1781, April 11. "Edmund Longley sold his farm this day." J. P.
 May 18. "M^r Pratt [Ebenezer] moved up to E^d Longley farm." J. P.
 1781 d. Ebenezer Pratt.
 1784, December 7. "I moved off a load of goods for M^r Pratt they all moved off this day from this House to his Shop." J. P.
 1785 d. James Parker.
 January 12. "I moved into Pratts House with all my Family & the greatest Part of our things." J. P.

- 1791 June 24. "I begun to fraim my high house." J. P.
 June 28. "I finished fraiming & raised my upper part of my
 house. I had a number of good hands." J. P.
 1826 d. James Parker, Jr. No house.
 1830 m. Gone.

121. CENTRE ROAD.

- Samuel Davis, grant.
 Nathaniel Davis, inheritance.
 1722 d. John Solendine.
 1752 d. John Solendine, Jr.
 1755 d. Thomas Little. 130 acres and buildings.
 1768 d. James Dougherty, by execution "65 acres Dwelling house
 Barn and other buildings."
 1769 d. John Lucas, House, 35 acres and 5 acres, mortgage foreclosed.
 1770 d. Martin Gay, Barn and 4 acres, mortgage foreclosed.
 Thomas Little, tenant.
 1770. House burned on November 19. James Parker's Diary.
 The land was all bought by John Ivory. (See No. 134.)
 The house stood on the knoll north of No. 134, near the wall.
 The Bartlett land originally belonged to the same farm.

122. BENJAMIN ROAD.

- Samuel Davis, grant.
 Nathaniel Davis, inheritance.
 Benjamin Prescott.
 1729 d. cir. Nicholas Bartlett. 40 acres.
 1742 d. Caleb Bartlett. builder.
 1747 pet. Caleb Bartlett.
 1747 d. James Gordon.
 Hezekiah Patterson.
 1768 d. Oliver Fletcher. 40 acres and buildings.
 1779, April 1. "We drew a house for O. Fletcher a number of Hands."
 J. P.
 1785 d. John Parker.
 1786 d. June 15. "This day John Parker moved to Shirley." J. P.
 1790 c. John Parker. 1^m 2^m 6^f.
 1791 d. Cýrus Marble, owner.
 John Parker, tenant.
 1791 d. James Parker "Fletcher lot."
 John Parker, tenant.
 1797. Bezaleel Lock, tenant. J. P.

1801. Roderick McKenzie, tenant. J. P.
Nov. 2. "I pooled down part of my old house where McKenzie lives." J. P.
- 1826 d. James Parker, Jr.
1830 m. Gone.
123. BENJAMIN ROAD.
- Samuel Davis, grant.
Nathaniel Davis, inheritance.
- 1722 d. John Solendine.
1738 d. William Bartlett of Newton. 65 acres.
1748-1751. William Bartlett, built the house.
1785. William Bartlett, Jr., inheritance.
1790 c. William Bartlett. 1^m 1^m 4^f.
1798 val. William Bartlett. House \$40.00.
1830 m. William Bartlett (died 1831). 1^o 1^o 2^v.
1847 m. Gone.
124. BENJAMIN ROAD.
- Samuel Davis, grant, see No. 123.
- 1790 c. Silence Bartlett. 2^f.
1807. Luther Longley (m. Mary Bartlett). Chandler's History.
1812 sch. Luther Longley.
1815 (gir.) Seth Davis.
1830 m. Seth Davis. 1^o 1^o 2^v.
1831. Joel Eaton.
1844 d. Thomas Eaton.
1847 m. Widow Eaton.
1852 r. Mansel Hazelton.
1857 m. George Davis.
1875 m. Moved to Davis Road.
1914. J. Fred Brown.
125. BENJAMIN ROAD.
- Samuel Davis, grant. 1724 d. Eleazer Robbins, grant.
Nathaniel Davis, inheritance. 1729 d. Nicholas Bartlett.
Jonathan Page. 1758 d. Elizabeth Bartlett (dower).
James Patterson.
- 1739 d. James Patterson.
1747 d. Charles Richards.
1765 d. Oliver Livermore of Watertown (d. 1782).
1770, May 1. "Mr. Oliver Livermore Raised his house." J. P.
1790 c. Mrs. Catherine Livermore. (d. 1800.)

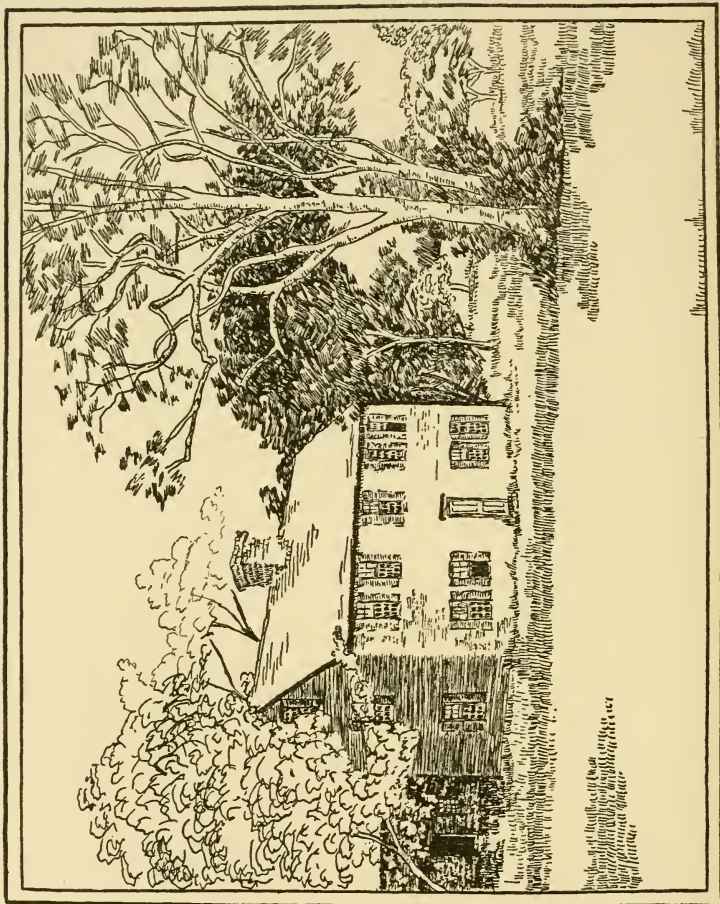
- 1802 d. Nathaniel Livermore } joint occupiers.
 Daniel Livermore }
 1821 d. Heirs of Daniel Livermore.
 1822 d. William Livermore, of Groton, owner.
 Nathaniel Livermore, tenant.
 1830 m. Widow Livermore.
 1847 m. Stillman D. Benjamin.
 1856 m. Stillman D. Benjamin.
 1875 m. Sidney W. Benjamin.
 1882 m. Sidney W. Benjamin.
 1914. C. F. Edgarton and F. H. S. Hyde, joint owners.

126. CLARK ROAD.

- William Longley, grant.
 1752 d. William Farwell, Jr.
 1775 cir. William Farwell, builder.
 1786 d. John Todd.
 1793 d. John Phelps, cooper, 20 acres, house, barn and cooper shop.
 1798 val. John Phelps. House \$279.00.
 1801 d. Thomas Whitney.
 1802. Aaron Lyon, tenant (Chandler's History).
 1830 m. Reuben Balcom, tenant, 1^o 1^o 2^o.
 1847 m. James Longley.
 1857 m. James Hall.
 1868. Eleazer Robbins (assessors record).
 1882 m. Eleazer Robbins.
 1914. George Holden. (Second story added.)

127. CLARK ROAD.

1727. Benjamin Prescott, grant.
 William Farwell.
 1761 d. William Baker. 30½ acres and a house.
 1763 d. John Davis.
 Samuel Davis.
 Joshua Longley.
 1787 d. Hezekiah Patterson, Jr.
 1790 c. Hezekiah Patterson. 2^o 2^o.
 1812 sch. Hezekiah Patterson.
 1830 m. Thomas Hazen Clark. 1^o 2^o 4^o.
 1857 m. Thomas Hazen Clark.
 1875 m. William B. and Warren Wilson.
 1882 m. William B. and Warren Wilson.
 1914. Annie E. Ward (now a two-story house).



SAMUEL WALKER'S HOUSE, WALKER ROAD

128. PATTERSON ROAD.

- William Longley.
 1747 pet. William Farwell, Jr. Land and buildings.
 1752 d. William Farwell, Jr.
 1775 d. John Todd.
 1786 d. Caleb Swan, of Charlestown.
 1791 r. Caleb Swan.
 1791 d. Phinehas Holden.
 1800 r. Phinehas Holden.
 1812 sch. Phinehas Holden.
 1826 d. Abel Longley Holden, and Jonas Holden.
 1830 m. Abel Longley Holden. 1st 1^o 3rd.
 1847 m. J. Butler. House moved to Mitchelville between the railroad track and the River.
 1857 m. J. Ham.
 1875 m. A. L. Harris.
 1880 dir. Hurlburt L. Harris.
 1912. Gone.

129. PATTERSON ROAD.

- Double House.
 1847. { Abel Longley Holden.
 { Jonas Holden.
 1853 d. Lyman Eaton (eastern half).
 1856 d. D. Brown (western half).
 1868. Thomas Patten (western half).
 1875 m. S. H. Morse (western half).
 1880 dir. William H. Fuller (western half).
 1910. { William H. Fuller (western half).
 { Mrs. Jennie Eaton Byram (eastern half).
 { Mrs. W. H. Fuller.
 1914. { Unoccupied.

130. WALKER ROAD.

- 1740 (cir). Simon Pierce.
 1750 d. Samuel Walker. 200 acres.
 1790 c. Samuel Walker. 1st 1^o 1st 2^d.
 1794 d. John Walker.
 1805 r. John Walker.
 1812 sch. John Walker (d. 1820).
 1820 . Samuel Stratton Walker.
 1829 d. Levi Dodge and Jephthah R. Hartwell.

- 1830 m. Levi Dodge. 2° 1° 5' yellow.
 1857 m. Levi Dodge.
 1875 m. Charles H. Dodge.
 1882 m. Charles H. Dodge.
 1912. Henry L. Dodge.

131. WALKER ROAD.

1727. Josiah Sawtell, grant. 140 acres "near to Cattaconemug."
 Builder.
 1731 d. John Kelsey, 170 acres. Buildings and fences.
 1747 pet. John Kelsey.
 1771 d. John Kelsey, Jr.
 1790 c. John Kelsey. 3^m 3^m 7^l.
 John White, of Weymouth.
 1795 d. Ebenezer Pratt.
 1802 r. Widow Molly Pratt.
 Molly, wife of Joseph Longley, and Levinah, wife of William
 Gleason.
 1807 d. James Dickinson.
 1812 sch. James Dickinson and Francis Balch.
 1815 d. Francis Balch (m. Sarah Dickinson).
 1830 m. James Dickinson, tenant. 1° 1° 2'.
 1836. Francis Balch.
 1852 val. George Rice (m. Dorcas Balch).
 1857 m. Gone.

132. WALKER ROAD.

- For land see No. 131.
 1836 cir. Francis Balch, builder.
 1847 m. Francis Balch.
 1857 m. Francis Balch.
 1875 m. Charles Kendall.
 1880 val. John E. Gardner.
 1882 m. Charles Kendall.
 1914. John E. Gardner, owner and occupier.

133. CLARK ROAD.

- John Longley, Jr., land.
 1789 d. Joseph, Calvin and Edmund Longley.
 Feb. 12. "My daughter Egerton moved away from my
 house into a house Joseph Longley Built." J. P.

- 1793, June 17. "Benj^a Egerton moved his family to Lancaster." J. P.
 1795. "I was with Joseph & Calvin Longley Dividing their farm."
 J. P.
 1798 val. Joseph Longley. d. 1813.
 1812 sch. { Joseph Longley, Jr., d. 1826 (inheritance).
 { Widow Joseph Longley.
 1830 m. Widow Longley. 2^a 1^o 3^w.
 1857 m. Elihu D. Longley.
 1882 m. Elihu D. Longley.
 1914. Janette E. Hewes.

134. CENTRE ROAD.

- Samuel Davis grant. (See No. 121.)
 1773, Dec. 8. "I went to Vendue to Mr. Ivorys. His Home Place
 (No. 149) was bid off to one Wallace & Corhill for 4400,
 the other (No. 134) was bid off to John Egerton for 1305."
 J. P.
 1774, Oct. 29. "John Egerton moved into his own house." J. P.
 1777 d. John Egerton.
 1812 sch. John Egerton. (d. 1828.)
 1828, December 18. "I at Vendue of Esq. John Egerton." J. P.
 1828 cir. Rev. Russell Streeter.
 1830 m. Rev. Russell Streeter. 2^a 2^o 5^w brick.
 1847 m. Joshua B. Fowle.
 1857 m. William W. Goodhue.
 1875 m. T. or W. Livermore.
 1882 m. William P. Wilbur.
 1901. Charles W. Marshall.
 1902. Torn down.

135. CLARK ROAD.

- 1727 d. John Longley from Heirs of Samuel Davis 40 acres.
 from James Blood 5 acre right.
 1733 d. from Samuel Barron and Ephraim Philbrook
 Jr., 57 acres.
 1746 d. from William Longley, 17 acres.
 from Jonas Longley, 18 acres.
 1734 d. John Longley, Jr. 139 acres and buildings at "Tinn Corner."
 1789 d. Joseph, Calvin, and Edmund Longley, coopers.
 1791 r. John Longley, Jr. (d. 1792.)
 1795. "I was with Joseph & Calvin Longley Dividing their farm."
 J. P.

- 1798 r. Calvin Longley.
 1800 d. Nathaniel Livermore. Dwelling house, barn, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cooper's shop.
 1802 d. Daniel Livermore.
 1812 sch. Daniel Livermore.
 1830 m. Nathaniel Boynton. 1° 1° 4".
 1857 m. Nathaniel Boynton. (He moved to the Village near the Cemetery. Called by the boys "Whistler.")
 1875 m. Samuel M. Carter.
 1880 dir. Samuel M. Carter.
 1882. Francis E. Merriman. Moved to the west side of the road and modernized.
 1914. Clinton Harris.

136. CENTRE ROAD.

1744. William Longley, grant. 31 acres.
 1746 d. Samuel Flood.
 1765 d. Samuel Walker and Zachariah Longley.
 Samuel Flood, tenant.
 Joseph Longley.
 1781, Feb. 24. "John Egerton took a Deed of Joseph Longley's Farm." J. P.
 1830 m. Widow Edgerton & John Walker.
 1847 m. Thomas Peabody.
 1857 m. Jacob Harrington.
 1875 m. Frank B. White.
 1914. C. W. Marshall, owner.
 Frank B. White, tenant.

137. CENTRE ROAD.

1725. Eleazer Tarbell, grant.
 1748 d. William Longley. 30 acres where he now lives.
 1788 d. William Longley, Jr.
 1792 d. Israel Longley.
 1798 val. Israel Longley, owner.
 Jacob Chase, tenant. House \$82.00.
 1812 sch. Israel Longley.
 1830 m. Israel Longley. 2° 2° 4".
 1847 m. John Park.
 1857 m. William M. Park.
 1882 m. William M. Park.
 1914. Heirs of William M. Park.

138. CENTRE ROAD.

- John Walker.
 1812 sch. Peter Washburn, tenant.
 1824 d. Peter Washburn. $\frac{1}{2}$ acre and house.
 1830 m. Peter Washburn. 1^o 1^c 2^v.
 1847 m. Not given.
 1857 m. Thomas Hastings.
 1875 m. Captain J. Foster.
 1880 dir. John Weir, Jr.
 1882 m. P. Page.
 1914. Auguste Provost, of Phillipston and Ashburnham.

139. DAVIS STREET.

- James Parker, grant. 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres.
 1726. Phinehas Parker.
 1729 d. Mary (Parker) Page.
 John Page et als.
 1767 d. Phinehas Page.
 1774 d. Joshua Longley, builder. 37 acres.
 1788 d. Stephen Stimpson. 30 acres and buildings.
 1808 d. Samuel Sargent, of West Springfield.
 1812 sch. Samuel Sargent.
 1830 m. Eleazer Davis. 2^o 1^c 3^v yellow.
 1847 m. Eleazer Davis.
 1875 m. George W. Davis.
 1914. Heirs of George W. Davis.
 Three tenements. "the Red House."

140. BENJAMIN ROAD.

- Samuel Davis, grant.
 Nathaniel Davis.
 Jonathan Page.
 1739 d. James Patterson.
 1756 d. John Harris. 45 acres, house and barn.
 1758 d. Isaac Solendine.
 1762 d. John Butterfield. (m. Martha Trull.)
 1764 d. John Butterfield and David Trull, joint tenants.
 1766 d. Thomas Little.
 Isaac Solendine.
 1776 d. Samuel Randall.
 1780 d. Edward Dunn, an Irishman from Belfast.

- 1790 c. Edward Dunn. 1^m 1^m 0 2^t.
 1795. Andrew Dunn.
 1804, November 1. "I at Dunn Vendue of his farm sold off \$1111 Dollars." J. P.
 1812 sch. Matthew Clark.
 1830 m. Matthew Clark. 2^s 1^o 3^w (from map).
 1857 m. Samuel "Hazen Clark."
 1880 dir. Samuel H. Clark and Samuel H. Clark, Jr.
 1891 d. Francis E. Merriman.
 1900. Mary Smith, owner.
 1905 d. Mary C. Tolman, of West Newton.
 1914. Mary C. Tolman. "Elmhouse."

141. CLARK ROAD.

- John Longley, grant.
 1786 d. Israel Willard. 100 acres, house and barn.
 1790 c. Israel Willard. 2^m 5^t.
 1798 val. Israel Willard. House \$90.
 1812 sch. Israel Willard.
 1827. Enoch Kendall (deed of Parker to Hazen).
 1830 m. David Firmin. 2^s 1^o 3^w.
 1857 m. David H. Firmin.
 1882 m. George P. and Charles H. French.
 1911. Harding M. James.
 1914. Arthur G. Dunn.

142. MAIN STREET.

1773. Joshua Longley (deed of Hale to Hale).
 Heirs of Joshua Longley.
 1811 d. William Gleason, 100 acres and buildings.
 1817. James Parker and Thomas Hammond owned "Leason House." J. P.
 John & Betsy Fletcher.
 1824. Eben Gleason.
 William Gleason, life tenant.
 1830 m. William Gleason. 1^s 1^o 4^w.
 Stephen M. Longley.
 1830 d. William Gleason.
 Matilda P. Elliot.
 1853 d. Dexter Bruce, Jr., of Auburn, Mass. Enlarged the house.
 1882 m. Dexter Bruce.
 1912. Waldo Whitman.

143. MAIN STREET.

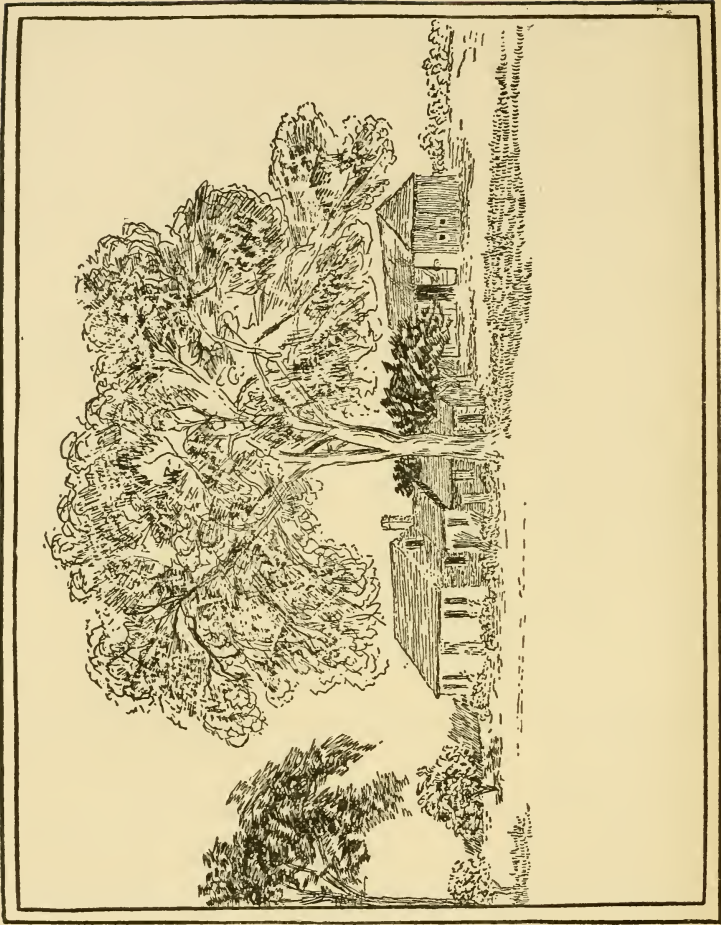
- 1830 m. David Sawtell. 1 • 1 • 4 v.
 1875 m. David Sawtell.
 1880 dir. Walter Eugene Griffin.
 1912. Walter Eugene Griffin, owner.

144. NEAR MITCHELVILLE BRIDGE.

1770. Thomas Peabody (m. Elizabeth Longley).
 1790 c. Thomas Peabody. 1 m 3 m u 3 f.
 1822 d. Thomas Peabody, Jr. 12 acres and buildings.
 1830 m. The Widow Peabody. 1 • 1 • 2 v "at a distance." This was
 the last log house in town.
 1847 m. No name given.
 1857 m. Gone.
 Later a house was built near the site, which was afterward
 moved to Mill Street and which now faces down Chapel
 Street. The cellar-hole of this house is easy to find, and
 the garden of Bouncing Bet run wild.

145. FROST ROAD.

1745. Thomas Tarbell, grant.
 1748 d. Abijah Frost. 40 acres, builder.
 1788 d. Scripture Frost.
 1790 c. Scripture Frost. 1 m 1 f.
 James Parker and Thomas Hammond, joint owners.
 1817. John Walker, tenant. J. P.
 1819. John Priest, tenant. J. P.
 1820, April 4. "Reuben Sweirs moved into my Frost house to carry it
 on." J. P.
 1823, January 18. "The whole family moved off my Frost place." J. P.
 1823, February 11. Manasseh Solendine moved into my Frost farm."
 J. P.
 1824. Jonathan Davis, tenant.
 1825, April 1. "William Swears & wife moved into my frost farm.
 Jonathan Davis moved out." J. P.
 1826, September 13.' I went to frost farm to see [Jesse] Aiers." J. P.
 1828, Jan. 27. "Jesse Aiers died at his frost farm." J. P.
 1830 m. No name given.
 1847 m. No name given.
 1857 m. Samuel Hazen, owner.
 1880 dir. B. W. Robbins, tenant.
 1882 m. Heirs of Samuel Hazen.
 1912. The house was burned in a grass fire when untenanted.



ABIJAH FROST'S HOUSE, FROST ROAD

146. MOUNT HENRY ROAD.

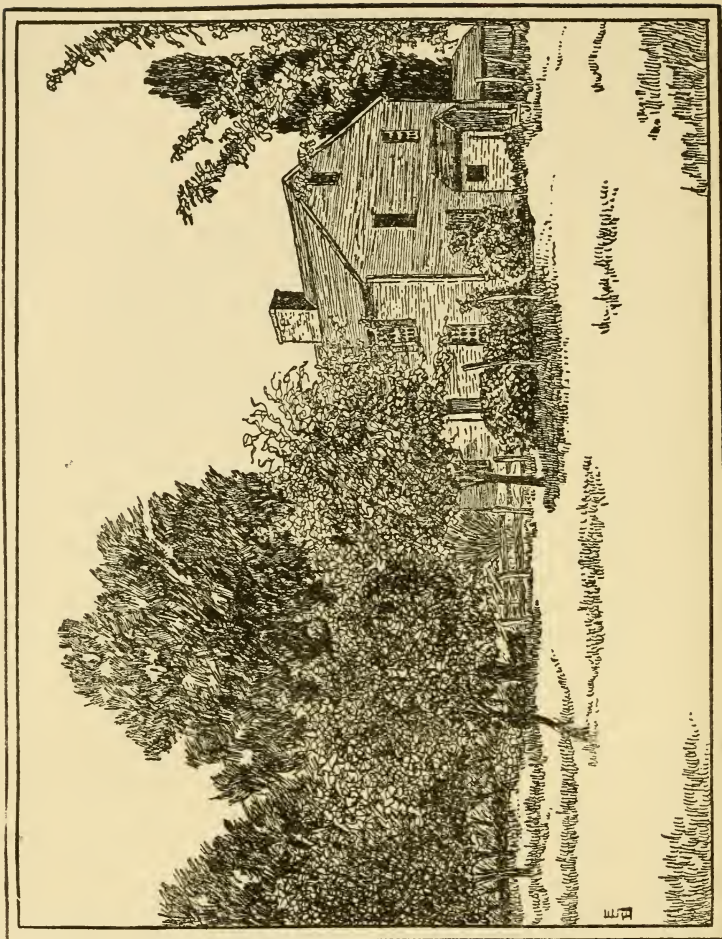
- William Longley.
 1793. Elisha Dodge.
 1801. Ivory Longley.
 1803 d. Elijah Longley. 12 acre farm.
 1806 d. John Henry. Near the "Silver mine."
 Joseph Bullard.
 1812 d. Israel Longley.
 1813 d. Abraham Pierce.
 1830 m. Not on the map. The road was laid out in 1823, without
 mention of a house. The cellar hole is just south of the
 railway.

147. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- 1800 r. Captain John Egerton's land.
 Moses Carlton.
 1821 d. Joseph Edgerton, Adolphus Whitcomb & George Lawrence.
 1830 m. Jacob A. Balch, tenant. 2^o 1^o 3^w yellow.
 1847 m. J. Longley.
 1857 m. J. Longley.
 1875 m. Mrs. Longley.
 1882 m. No name given.
 1914. Timothy Lucy, owner.

148. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- Lemuel Willard.
 Merrick Rice.
 1814 d. Moses Carlton. "Small dwelling and mills."
 Lemuel, Theophilus & Sherman Willard.
 1820 d. Joseph Edgerton.
 1821 d. Joseph Edgerton, Adolphus Whitcomb, Cunningham &
 Israel Longley, administrators.
 1830 m. Sewall Parker, tenant. 1^o 1^o 2^w.
 1838 d. Hiram Longley.
 1847 m. No name given.
 1857 m. No name given.
 1875 m. No name given. [Henry A. Sawtell.]
 1882. Henry A. Sawtell.
 1912. A second story has been added.



SAMUEL HAZEN'S HOUSE.

149. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- John Longley.
 1757 d. Thomas Trowbridge. 100 acres, saw mill and buildings.
 1764 d. Cutler and Ward.
 Thomas Trowbridge, tenant.
 1765 d. John Ivory.
 1767 d. William Frothingham.
 John Ivory, tenant to 1789. The widow till 1795.
 1773, Dec. 8. "I went to Vendue to Mr. Ivorys. His Home Place
 was bid off to one Wallace & Corhill for 4400, the other
 [probably Solendine meadow] was bid off to John Egerton
 for 1305." J. P.
 1796 d. John Egerton.
 Joseph Edgerton.
 1810 d. Lemuel Willard. 50 acres and buildings. Ivory's land south
 of the road to Leominster.
 1830 m. Herman Wilder, tenant. 2° 1° 3' v.
 1836 d. Sherman Willard.
 1847 m. Sherman Willard.
 1875 m. Not given.
 1882 m. Not given.
 1912. Gone.

150. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- For land see No. 149.
 1830 m. Calvin Green. 2° 1° 5' v yellow.
 1847 m. J. B. Foster.
 1857 m. Sherman Willard.
 It is now the last house in the row on the left hand side
 of the road going toward Leominster. It has been made
 into a two tenement house. At one time it was used as a
 Mill Store by Edgerton, Whitcomb and Priest.

151. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- Ivory Longley, blacksmith.
 1806 d. Cyrus Whitney, owner.
 Zaccheus Gates.
 1810 d. Submit and Nabby Gates. 2 acres near the paper mill.
 1816 d. Moses Carlton.
 1830 m. Joel Parker. 2° 2° 3' v yellow.
 1842. Dr. Charles C. Dowse.
 1847 m. Joseph Edgerton.

- 1857 m. F. W. Pope.
 1875 m. Mrs. Sally Tarbell Gardner.
 1883. Mrs. Sally Tarbell Gardner.
 1914. Mrs. Inez Sawyer.

152. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

1813. Israel Longley.
 Adolphus Whitcomb, et als.
 1830 m. Francis Balch, tenant. 2° 1° 3° red.
 Nathaniel F. Cunningham and Israel Longley ad^m.
 1838 d. William Whitney.
 1847 m. Edwin Haynes.
 1848 d. William W. Edgerton $\frac{1}{4}$ acre, dwelling house and out houses.
 1850 d. James Gerrish.
 1880 dir. James Gerrish.
 1912. A. H. Sherman.

153. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- Israel Longley.
 1819 d. Moses Carlton.
 1821 d. Thomas L. Hazen. (Or mortgage release.)
 1830 m. Thomas Hazen, tavern. 2° 3° 5° double front, white.
 1847 m. Thomas Hazen.
 1857 m. Thomas Hazen.
 1875 m. S. Longley, tenant.
 1882 m. No name given.
 1912. Thomas L. & Kate E. Hazen owners.

154. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- 1830 m. John Capen. 1° 1° 1°.
 1847 m. No name given.

155. LEOMINSTER ROAD.

- Joseph Edgerton.
 1830 m. Joseph Edgerton. 2° 4° 5° brick ends.
 1847 m. Joseph Edgerton.
 1857 m. William W. Edgerton.
 1914. Leather Shop.

156. HASKELL STREET.

- John Patterson.
 1778 d. David M^cLeod.
 1790 c. Sarah M^cLeod. 1° 3^t.
 1808 r. Alpheus Nutting.

- 1812 sch. Widow Vinton. Sold at Vendue by Joseph Bryant.
 1812 d. James Parker.
 1830 m. Alpheus Nutting. 1[•] 2[•] 2^w yellow.
 1847 m. P. Holden.
 1857 m. Mrs. T. Hazen.
 1875 m. Hazen Brothers, owners.
 Albert Fuller, last occupant.
 1912. Had been moved to Fredonian Street two houses east of Mill Street.

157. HASKELL STREET.

- 1791 d. Jonas Parker and John Egerton.
 1797, Feb. 7. "I at W^m. Floyds to look his farm." J. P.
 James Parker, owner.
 1805. Jotham Wright, tenant.
 1806. William Floyd, tenant; "poor Flood fel back."
 1812. Jonathan Farnsworth, owner 1 acre and dwelling.
 1822 d. Archibald McIntosh.
 1830 m. Widow McIntosh. 2[•] 2[•] 3^w.
 1847 m. William H. Crossman.
 1853 v. Abishai Crossman.
 1857 m. L. Crossman and B. Hart.
 1882 m. No name given.
 1914. Alfred F. Rivers. Remodelled.

158. CENTRE ROAD.

- Nathaniel Flint. (See No. 159.)
 1763 d. John Patterson.
 1786 d. John Patterson, Jr., 1 acre.
 1786, April 13. "I went to John Patterson Jr raising of a house in y^e afternoon." J. P. He was an innkeeper.
 1799. Lemuel Patterson of Harvard; John Patterson of Lunenburg; Jane Patterson, of Shirley; Samuel Patterson of Walpole, N. H.
 1799 d. Wallis Little.
 1804 d. Samuel Davis. 25 acres with house and barn.
 1828 d. John Smith.
 1830 m. John Smith. 2[•] 1[•] 3^w yellow.
 1847 m. I. Longley.
 1857 m. Norman C. Munson. Built a new house.
 1875 m. Gone.

159. CENTRE ROAD.

- Nathaniel Flint.
 1755 d. Samuel Herrick of Reading. 50 acres, $\frac{1}{2}$ corn & $\frac{1}{2}$ saw mill.
 1757 d. Timothy Buxton.
 Stephen Buxton, administrator.
 Deborah Buxton, dower, 50 acres and small dwelling house.
 1763 d. John Patterson.
 1780, June 19. "In y^e afternoon I went to help John Patterson raise a
 Barn." J. P.
 1790 c. John Patterson. 1^m 2^l.
 1828 d. Edmund L. Peabody.
 1830 m. Willard Worcester. 1^o 1^o 2^w yellow.
 1847 m. Edward Fales. Enlarged or rebuilt for a tavern and store.
 1857 m. Luther Longley.
 1875 m. Henry Edgarton. Removed to Fredonian and Mill Streets.

160. CENTRE ROAD.

1798. Samuel Davis.
 1800 r. Samuel Davis.
 1803 d. Oliver Hill, of Harvard, 5 acres and buildings.
 1803 d. Thomas T. Hunt.
 1804. Samuel Davis, tenant, barn on west side of the road.
 1812 sch. Thomas T. Hunt.
 1823 d. Dr. Augustus G. Parker.
 1830 m. Dr. Augustus G. Parker. 2^o 2^o 3^w white.
 1847 m. John Kendall Going.
 1857 m. John Kendall Going.
 1875 m. Hiram Longley.
 1880 dir. Edwin H. Conant.
 1912. Thomas L. Hazen, owner.
 Charles R. White } joint tenants.
 Mrs. Love }

161. MAIN STREET.

- Henry Haskell.
 Morris Kelley (m. Relief Haskell).
 1789 d. John Patterson, Jr.
 1791 d. Jonathan Farnsworth.
 1801 r. Jonathan Farnsworth.
 Phinehas Ames.
 1807 d. Reuben Bathrick.
 1830 m. Benjamin Edes. 2^o 2^o 5^w.

- 1857 m. L. Longley.
 1875 m. Mrs. T. W. Wasson.
 1880. Orin M. Bennett. Burned.
 1912. Gone.

162. MAIN STREET.

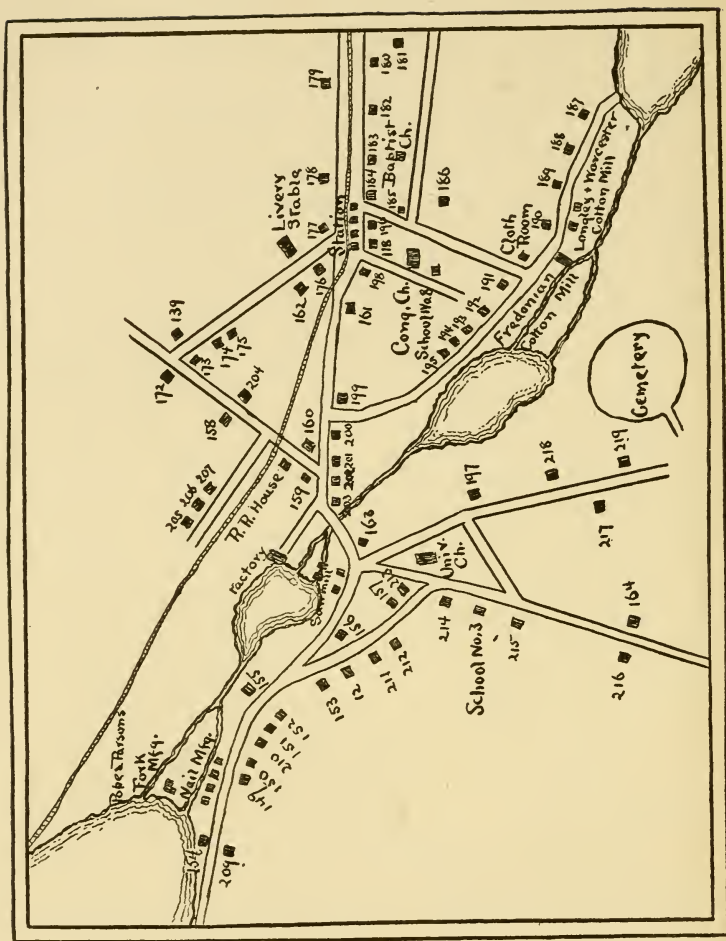
- 1773, June 28. "this Day Haskell Begun to Raise his house I helped
 him a spell." J. P.
 Morris Kelley. (m. Relief Haskell.)
 1789 d. John Patterson, Jr. 50 acres and a small dwelling.
 1791 d. John Egerton.
 1807 d. Phinehas Ames.
 1812 sch. Phinehas Ames.
 1830 m. Widow Olive Ames. 1 • 1 • 2 " yellow.
 1857 m. Widow Olive Ames.
 1875 m. Moved east of the blacksmith shop. Two dormer windows
 added.
 1914. M. A. MacElroy.

163. LANCASTER ROAD.

1742. William Longley, grant.
 1760 d. Thaddeus Harrington.
 1771 d. Joshua Longley.
 Thaddeus Harrington, tenant.
 1790 c. Thaddeus Harrington, tenant.
 1797. Ivory Longley, tenant (d. 1808).
 1830 m. Widow Lydia Longley. 1 • 2 • 2 " green.
 1847 m. Miss Longley.
 1852 r. Lydia Longley.
 1857 m. Darius Emery (m. Lydia Longley).
 1882. No name given.
 1914. Tenants.

164. LANCASTER ROAD.

- The Second South School.
 1812 sch. Benjamin Hastings.
 1830 m. Benjamin Hastings. 1 • 1 • 2 " red.
 1852 r. Benjamin Hastings.
 1857 m. Mrs. B. Hastings.
 1875 m. Napoleon B. Hastings in a new house.
 S. Hazen in old house.
 1880. Thomas L. Hazen, owner.
 1912. Gone.



SHIRLEY VILLAGE IN 1857

165. LANCASTER ROAD.

- 1797, April 25. "I at Thom^s Hazens raising." J. P.
 1812 sch. Thomas Hazen.
 1830 m. James Darling, tenant. 2^o 1^o 5^w yellow.
 1847 m. Thomas Hazen, Jr.
 1875 m. Hazen Brothers.
 1882 m. Samuel Hazen 2nd.
 1914. Sidney S. Horton, of Malden, Mass.

166. LANCASTER ROAD.

- Cornelius Whitney, log cabin.
 1757 d. Samuel Hazen. 100 acres. Homestead Farm.
 1767 d. Samuel Hazen, Jr.
 1790 c. Samuel Hazen, Jr. 2^m 1^m 4^t.
 1796 d. Samuel Hazen, Jr. (3rd)
 1812 sch. Widow Hazen.
 1830 m. Samuel Hazen. 2^o 1^o 3^w yellow.
 1882 m. Samuel Hazen.
 1914. Edward M. Davis, old house torn down. New house built.

167. LANCASTER ROAD.

- Samuel Haskell, of Harvard.
 Lemuel Haskell, of Harvard.
 1775 d. James & John Campbell of Lunenburg.
 1779, November 8. "I went to help James Campbell Draw his house,
 we did not finish, Left it &c." J. P.
 November 9. "in the afternoon I went and helped S^d Campbell
 draw his house." J. P.
 1790 c. James Campbell. 4^m 1^m 2^t. 71 acres.
 1798 val. Oliver Tiney, tenant.
 1798, March 14. "I bought Nicholas Campbell's farm." J. P.
 March 19. "I apprising widow Campbell's farm with Ivory
 Wildes, Butterfield & Tiney." J. P.
 March 26. "I took a deed of James Campbells farm." J. P.
 1799 d. James Parker, Jr.
 1799, February 14. "Nick Campbell & Mother moved off out of
 Shirley bag & baggage." J. P.
 1805, October 30. "I at the Campbell lot, Jam & David at work on
 the old house." J. P.
 December 31. "David Parker moved his wife home." J. P.
 1815 d. James Parker, Esq.
 David Parker.

- 1824, April 23. "I at the raising of David Parkers house." J. P.
 1830 m. David Parker. 2° 3° 5° white.
 1880 dir. Leonard M. Parker.
 1882 m. Heirs of David Parker.
 1914. Amos L. Parker.

168. OFF LANCASTER ROAD.

- Jonathan Sampson. 20 acres } in Stow
 Samuel Hazen } Leg.
 1760 d. Edward Hazen, builder.
 1767 d. John Pierce. 109 acres and buildings.
 1770 r. John Pierce.
 1790 c. Samuel Randall. 1^m 2^m 3^t.
 1798 d. Henry Chandler, of Westford. Moved to Reading in 1810.
 1798 val. Samuel Randall, tenant.
 1812 sch. Seth Davis.
 1815 d. David Parker, owner.
 Seth Davis, tenant.
 1817 r. Seth Davis, tenant. "Davis House."
 1830 m. Gone.

169. HARVARD ROAD.

- Joseph and Hannah Brown } in Stow
 Peleg and Ruth Lawrence } Leg.
 Samuel Hazen.
 1752 d. Ephraim and Elijah Wildes, builder.
 1753 d. Elijah Wildes.
 1767 r. Elijah Wildes.
 1790 c. Elijah Wildes. 1^m 5^t.
 1790 c. Ivory Wildes. 3^m 3^m 5^t. 150 acres "where he now lives
 and buildings."
 1806 d. Shakers.
 1830 m. Shakers. 1° 2° 4° yellow.
 1846 m. Shakers.
 1882 m. Shakers.
 1912. Gone. Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Industrial
 School for Boys.

170. HARVARD ROAD.

- 1753 d. Ephraim and Elijah Wildes (see No. 169).
 1767 r. Ephraim Wildes.
 1771. Elijah Wildes, Jr. House raised April 15, 1771. J. P. 200
 acres and buildings.

- 1797 d. Nathan Willard and Oliver Burt. Shakers.
 1830 m. Shakers. 2* 1* 5* white.
 1847 m. Shakers.
 1882 m. Shakers.
 1904 or 5. Demolished.
 1914. Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Industrial School for Boys.
 The house stood just west of the great elm on the west side of the road in the "Church Family."

171. HARVARD ROAD.

- { 1775 d. Nathan Willard, 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in Stow Leg.
 1777 d. Jonathan Davis, 20 acres.
 1778 d. Samuel Hazen, Jr., 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres.
 1778 d. William Longley, 13 acres.
 1780 d. Joseph Kneeland, 20 acres.
 1780, November 18. "Col Haskell raised a house on y* Plains." J. P.
 1784, Henry Haskell 122 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, farm and buildings "where he now lives."
 1789 d. Thomas Russell, of Boston.
 J. L. Sullivan ad^m.
 1803 d. George William Erving, T. L. Winthrop, Att'y.
 1803 d. Daniel Clark.
 1804 d. Nathan Willard and Oliver Burt. Shakers.
 1830 m. Gone or moved.

219. HARVARD ROAD.

- William Longley.
 1793 d. Elisha Dodge.
 1802 d. Ivory Longley. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres and buildings.
 1806 d. John Henry.
 1817 d. William Henry.
 1832 d. Israel Longley.
 1847 m. No name given.
 1857 m. John Henry.
 1875 m. J. M. Porter.
 1914. John Sprague.

220. ON THE "OLD FORDWAY."

- Parrott Tenney 63 acres.
 James Prescott, grant, 10 acres.
 1766 d. Oliver Hale, 63 acres.

- 1770 d. Paul Hale, 10 acres.
 1773 d. Oliver Hale, 10 acres.
 1777 d. Timothy Phelps, 73 acres.
 1786 d. Daniel and Oliver Burt, Shakers.

221. HOUSE BY THE MILL POND.

John Ivory.

1772, June 22. "I took a warrantee deed of M^r Ivory of about 40 acres of Land & house." J. P.

"Tarbell's wife and family," tenants. J. P.

October 9. Deed to Jonathan Davis.

December 7. "Tarbell's wife and family moved out of my house by y^e Mill Pond." J. P.

1773, February 11. "Sleded boards from the old house Parker sold Davis."

February 13. "Davis finished pulling down the house."

August 3. "Plowed the old field round Tarbell sellar hole."

J. P.

1782, June 5, "Old sellar hole." J. P.

SHIRLEY VILLAGE, 1857.

12. Charles Parsons.
 118. Dr. Plimpton.
 139. George Davis.
 149. Sherman Willard.
 150. Sherman Willard.
 151. F. W. Pope.
 152. James Gerrish.
 153. Thomas Hazen.
 154. No name given.
 155. W. W. Edgarton.
 156. Mrs. T. Hazen.
 157. L. Crossman.
 158. Norman C. Munson.
 159. L. Longley.
 160. John K. Going.
 161. I. Longley [Israel?]
 162. Mrs. P. Ames.
 163. Darius Emery.
 164. Mrs. B. Hastings.
 172. Moses T. Gardner. (H. O. Peaslee, 1914.)

173. A. E. Lawrence.
 174. E. Pierce. (Frank P. Rugg, 1914.)
 175. B. Shop.
 176. Shoe Shop.
 177. Stable office.
 178. Morris & Warner Tinware Mfg.
 179. J. K. Going. (Oliver Balcom, 1914.)
 180. C. Balch.
 181. J. W. Holbrook.
 182. E. Wilkins.
 183. Elihu Longley. (Barney Bodah, 1914.)
 184. C. Saunderson. (Jeremiah O'Neil, 1914.)
 185. Paint Shop.
 186. O. Barrett.
 187. Daniel Porter.
 188. Daniel Porter.
 189. O. Longley.
 190. J. Kellerher.
 191. }
 192. }
 193. } Worcester & Longley.
 194. }
 195. }
 196. D. Chandler.
 197. J. L. Parker. (John E. L. Hazen, 1914.)
 198. Store. O. Longley & G. E. Gates. (Conant Bros., 1914.)
 199. Willard Worcester. (Frank Brockleman & Charles Stebbins,
 1914.)
 200. M. T. Gardner & Co. (H. O. Peaslee's Store, 1914.)
 201. Store. (Brockelman Bros' Store, 1914.)
 202. William Sawtell.
 203. B. Shop.
 204. B. Priest. (Willie Dadman, 1914.)
 205. }
 206. } I. Longley.
 207. }
 209. No name.
 210. J. C. Parsons.
 211. O. Whitcomb. (Henry Brockleman, 1914.)
 212. E. W. Coffin. (George Balch, 1914.)
 213. B. W. Hurt. (Crossman.)

214. J. Gardner, Jr. (Mrs. John H. Nickless, 1914.)
215. G. W. Sanderson. (Michael Gionet & Michael Bulger, 1914.)
216. A. R. Graves. (Harry H. Lynch, 1914.)
217. Samuel Hazen.
218. Abishai Crossman. (The Misses Hunter, 1914.)
219. Captain John Henry. (John Sprague, 1914.)

GENEALOGIES

These scattered genealogies are added to supplement those which Mr. Chandler so carefully prepared for his History of Shirley. Mr. Chandler included in his register no family which did not have a representative in town before 1801; nor was he able, because of the inaccessibility of the records at the time, to deal adequately with certain families whose names he merely mentions. Many of the family records herein given are fragmentary, because of the undue amount of research required to trace a too migratory family.

ADAMS

ASAHEL ADAMS, son of Edward of Lunenburg and brother of Joel Adams, was born in Shirley, February 5, 1794. After living for several years in Boston he bought the house where Jonathan "Nutting now lives" in 1830. It was on Squannacook Road, just east of Joel's. He soon moved to Chelsea and was an insurance agent at the time of his death of old age, March 30, 1879, aged eighty five years, one month and twenty five days. He married Hannah Crosby Jones.

Children:

- I. MARY ANN JONES, b. August 12, 1817, in Boston; d. April 10, 1831, aged thirteen years, and eight months. The death was noticed in the *Boston Advertiser* for April 23, 1831.
- II. HANNAH CROSBY, b. January 21, 1819 in Boston.
- III. NANCY, b. December 13, 1821 in Boston.
- IV. HENRY JONES, b. August 6, 1832 in Shirley. Living at Alleghany, Pennsylvania, in 1879.
- V. ABIGAIL R., of Boston, in 1879, unmarried.

JOEL ADAMS, of Shirley, the son of Edward Adams * of Lunenburg was born in February, 1799. He and his brother Asahel came to Shirley

* Edward's brother, Jonathan Adams, Jr., of Lunenburg, was the grandfather of Mr. Albert Adams of Shirley Centre, and great-grandfather of Mr. Asa Ardie Adams and Mrs. Norman R. Graves.

about 1825 and settled on adjoining farms on Squannacook Road. Joel Adams married Mary Marrett of Lexington, April 1, 1827. They had five children, and then Mary died, August 14, 1847, aged forty six years. He married, second, Ann Maria Lewis of Townsend, who was the mother of George Henry Adams. Joel Adams died at Shirley, November 16, 1879.

Children:

- I. JOHN MARRETT, b. February 4, 1828; m. July 6, 1854, Mary Jane Lawrence of Manchester, Vt. She d. May 11, 1908. He has been the town highway surveyor.

Children:

1. *George Amos*, b. May 28, 1856; m. Carrie Lucy Tedford, June 3, 1888.

Children:

- i. John Edward, b. August 3, 1889.
 - ii. Grace Marion, b. June 13, 1892; m. Lawrence Burleigh Smith, October 15, 1913.
 - iii. Hattie, b. March 17, 1899.
2. *John Franklin*, b. March 7, 1861; d. September 19, 1862.
3. *Willie Albert*, b. November 11, 1869; d. September 17, 1870.

- II. CHARLES OTIS, b. August 26, 1829; m. 1, Elvira Spaulding; d. September 26, 1857, aged twenty years, three months, and thirteen days; m. 2, Hannah C. Neat; d. July 25, 1860, aged twenty five years, seven months, four days.

Child:

1. *Charles H.*, b. September 15, 1857; d. September 27, 1857.

- III. ALBERT, b. April 21, 1832; killed in West Chelmsford in 1852, unm.

- IV. ———, son, b. August 27, 1833; d. e.

- V. MARY ANN, b. October 5, 1837; m. Dana Spaulding. Lived in Brookline, N. H., and Leominster. Issue.

- VI. GEORGE HENRY, b. October 5, 1853; m. 1, Clara Marilla Smith; m. 2, Josephine Frances Haskell of Peterborough, N. H., who d. May 8, 1913. Living in Shirley in 1914.

ANDREWS

ELEAZER CRAFT ANDREWS, of Shirley, was baptized at Chebacco Church, Ipswich, January 5, 1777, the son of Joshua and Lucy (Low) Andrews. Joshua had died March 28, 1776, leaving a widow and two children, Eleazer and Lucy. They had been married but two years. Eleazer Andrews married, at Wenham, Mary Dodge, October 14, 1800. He bought, between 1806 and 1810, the old Simonds-Going farm on the Townsend Road, under the shadow of Davis's Hunting Hill. His mother, Lucy Low Andrews, spent the last years of her life in Shirley, and died there June 10, 1815, aged eighty years. Mary Dodge Andrews died before

September 9, 1854, aged eighty three. Eleazer died April 16, 1855, and his will was probated on May 1.

Children:

- I. PETER, b. September 5, 1801; m. Sarah B. McMaster, daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Badger) McMaster of Lyndeboro, N. H., int. March 27, 1831; d. November 2, 1864.

Children:

1. *Orsamus Willard*, b. January 16, 1832; d. unm. January 12, 1910.
2. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. September 30, 1833; m. Alpheus Adams of Chester, Vt.; d. June 27, 1899.
3. *George Brown*, b. August 7, 1835; m. Delia Harrington of Worcester; d. August 23, 1912.
4. *Martha Waters*, b. September 10, 1837; m. Almond M. Holden; d. February 5, 1892. See Chandler's History.
5. *Daniel Waters*, b. November 20, 1839; d. unm. January 9, 1913.
6. *Charles Henry*, b. February 5, 1843; m. Anna L., daughter of Stewart Phelps.

Child:

- i. Jennie Frances, b. January 19, 1877; m. William P. Sargent and had Marguerite, Francis W., and Edith.
7. *John Humphrey*, b. October 2, 1847; resides in California, unmarried.

II. MARY L., b. June 21, 1806; d. unm. January 19, 1865.

III. MARTHA D., b. March 10, 1811; m. Daniel G. Waters, January 4, 1837, by Rev. Hope Brown, and had issue.

IV. ELIZABETH, b. February 23, 1814; d. January 25, 1821.

BAILEY

WARD BAILEY. Came from Rowley before 1770, and settled in Shirley. On January 22, 1770, Parker records in his diary "I bought £5 worth of flax from Ward Baley." It seems probable that he died very soon after, because on June 19, 1772, his widow Mehitable and her daughter were warned from Shirley. She removed very soon after to some place at present unknown.

Child:

I. MEHITABLE.

THADDEUS BAILEY, son of Josiah Bailey, Jr. of Lunenburg, and Sarah Carter his wife, was born April 30, 1779 in Lunenburg. He was also a resident of Shirley for a short time. Dr. Hartwell records the birth of a daughter, April 23, 1803.

"July 4, 1801. Great Independence Groton, Thad Bailey hurt." J. P.
 "Jan. 19, 1803. I bought a watch of Thad Bailey." J. P.

BARRETT

STEPHEN BARRETT, of Shirley, was born in Concord, April 30, 1776, the son of Stephen and Sarah (Barrett) Barrett. He was the grandson of Colonel James⁴ Barrett (Benjamin,³ Humphrey,² Humphrey¹), the defender of the bridge at Concord, and later famous in the Revolution.

Stephen Barrett was a tanner like his father, and so when he moved to Shirley in 1801, he established his tan vats along Mulpus Brook. He bought and remodelled the old Sawtell Tavern on the Great Road. Before he came to Shirley, he married in Concord, Sarah Barrett, the daughter of Samuel Barrett of Concord, on November 3, 1799. His mother came to Shirley also, and died there October 19, 1825, at the age of seventy three. Children:

I. SALLY, b. April 19, 1801, in Concord; m. Thomas Whitney, October 10, 1822; d. May 4, 1868.

II. VARNUM, b. December 10, 1801, in Shirley; m. Susan Willard Longley, November 12, 1827; d. February 14, 1875. Farmer. He was an influential citizen.

Children:

1. *George Varnum*, b. in Boston, June 10, 1837; m. Nellie A. Johnson of Lunenburg, August 5, 1876. He d. November 4, 1912; she d. November 18, 1896. Deputy sheriff and Capt. M. V. M.

2. *Mary E.*, b. November 12, 1840; m. Orin M. Bennett, November 18, 1858; d. August 30, 1869.

3. *Josephine*, b. July 2, 1843; d. July 9, 1876, unmarried.

III. STEPHEN, b. January 14, 1804; m. Catherine Hodgkin, October 25, 1835. Farmer in Ayer.

Children:

1. *Charles Stephen*, b. February 5, 1837; m. October 18, 1866, Nancy Maria Farmer. Living in Ayer, 1914. Carpenter. His son Charles Albert has two sons in Boston, Stephen and Edgar, and one in Ayer, Elliott.

2. *Samuel*, b. August 26, 1847. Living in Ayer, unmarried, 1914. Wood worker, with the Ames Plow Co.

IV. EMERSON, b. April 1, 1806; d. February 7, 1852, unmarried. Tanner.

V. REBECCA, b. January 2, 1808; d. February 5, 1837, unmarried.

VI. SAMUEL, b. June 5, 1810; m. Susan Treadwell of Ipswich, April 26, 1838; d. October 13, 1849.

Children:

1. ———, daughter, b. December 28, 1840. (Dr. Benjamin Hartwell's records.)

VII. HARRIET, b. June 20, 1812; m. John K. Going, Jr., May 29, 1837.

VIII. GEORGE, b. ———, 1815; d. January 31, 1852, unmarried.

IX. ELIZABETH, b. January 21, 1818; m. Artemas Longley, May 18, 1845.

X. PHEBE, b. January 10, 1823; m. E. Dana Bancroft; no issue; d. October 27, 1861.

XI. CHARLES, b. August 25, 1825; d. September 30, 1851.

BARTLETT

NICHOLAS BARTLETT, of Shirley, was the brother of William Bartlett, and Caleb Bartlett, sons of John of Newton, who all came to Shirley early in the eighteenth century and settled on adjoining farms. Caleb's farm was the eastern part of the farm now owned by Mr. C. K. Bolton; William's, adjoining it to the south, is now the western part of the farm owned by Mr. C. F. Edgerton and Mr. F. H. S. Hyde; Nicholas settled on the farm now owned by Mr. Boutilier. The house stood southwest of the present house. Nicholas married first Mary Cooke, April 17, 1733, and second Elizabeth ———. He died in Shirley about 1762, and his widow married, second James Patterson, and third Samuel Nichols. Nicholas Bartlett's estate was administered by his son John of Boston, who sold it to his sister's husband, James Dougherty.

Children:

- I. MARY, b. September 13, 1734; m. in Boston, September 22, 1758, James Dogharty or Dougherty.
- II. JOHN, b. June 15, 1736; m. perhaps on January 18, 1759, in Boston, Tabitha Kidder, of Cambridge.
- III. SAMUEL, b. November 17, 1737; d. December 10, 1737.
- IV. ELIZABETH, b. October 6, 1738; m. Edward Scott of Fitchburg.
- V. SAMUEL, b. July 24, 1740; m. Anna ———. In 1766 Samuel Bartlett, his wife and three children were warned from Groton, being then of Shirley.

Children:

 1. *Samuel*, b. May 22, 1762, in Shirley.
 2. *Anna*, b. February 5, 1764, in Shirley.
 3. *Sarah*.
 4. *Lucy*, b. March 29, 1776, in Groton.
 5. *Benjamin*, b. June 29, 1778.
- VI. THOMAS, b. March 22, 1742.
- VII. SARAH, b. September 14, 1743.

BICKNELL

DAVID BICKNELL, of Shirley, was born July 11, 1734, in Weymouth. He was the son of Zachariah Bicknell of Weymouth, and Bathsheba Whitmarsh, whom he married October 10, 1720. Zachariah was the grandson of John, and great-grandson of Zachary Bicknell, the pioneer ancestor of the family. Zachary, at the age of forty five, came to this country from Weymouth, England, with his wife, Agnes, and son, John, then aged eleven. He settled in Weymouth, Mass., before March 20, 1635, and died before March 9, 1637.

David Bicknell, of Shirley, married Jerusha Vinson, November 19, 1755. He moved to Shirley, where he lived and where, according to James Parker's dairy, he was buried April 29, 1790. His will is on file among the Probate Records at East Cambridge, Number 983, old series. David Bicknell lived in the house which had been built by David Bennett (No. 14). According to David's will, his wife at the time of his death was Ruth. Children:

- I. SAMUEL, b. October 14, 1757; d. e.
- II. LEVI, b. April 27, 1759, in Weymouth. His father's will, 1790, calls him of Boston; m. in Lunenburg and had issue.
- III. BATHSHEBA, b. June 1, 1760, in Weymouth. She married ——— Farnsworth.
- IV. JANE, b. August 25, [1761] at Weymouth, was unmarried in 1790.
- V. JERUSHA, b. February 28, 1763; m. ——— Gill, before 1790.
- VI. DAVID, baptized August 19, 1764, in Weymouth.
- VII. HANNAH, baptized August 28, 1774. Not mentioned in her father's will in 1790.
- VIII. ELIAS or ELIJAH, baptized "Elias" August 31, 1777. Given as "Elijah," "of Boston," in his father's will in 1790. He married, in Boston, Sally Moor on September 6, 1801.
- IX. SAMUEL, baptized March 4, 1782. He was of Shirley in 1790. He married, perhaps, in Boston, Deborah Dunham, November 22, 1807.

LEMUEL BICKNELL, of Shirley, son of Zachariah, and brother of David, was born in Weymouth, June 25, 1739. He married, September 4, 1760, Ruth Vining. After his death, on February 24, 1788, the widow Ruth married John Hildreth (q. v.). James Parker mentions him in 1786, and also mentions a William Bicknell's marriage in 1789, as taking place in Shirley. No mention of this marriage occurs in the Town Records, and the girl's name is not given by Parker. Lemuel Bicknell lived in Green Lane in house No. 72.

Children:

- I. SARAH, b. April 16, 1761, in Weymouth; m. Jonathan Eager.
- II. DEBORAH, b. September 7, 1762, in Weymouth; m. Micah Pratt.
- III. ABNER, b. March 7, 1764, in Weymouth.
- IV. LYDIA, b. May 4, 1765, in Weymouth; m. Oliver Parker of Needham; int. March 2, 1786, recorded in Shirley.
- V. LEMUEL, b. January 24, 1770, in Weymouth.
- VI. RUTH, b. October 6, 1776, in Weymouth; m. Phinehas Wait, Jr., of Groton, November 17, 1796.
- VII. JOHN, b. May 7, 1779, in Weymouth. Of Shirley in 1804.
- VIII. JAMES, b. June 24, 1782 in Shirley. Of Shirley in 1804.
- IX. FANNY, spelled "Phaney," b. May 11, 1785, in Shirley.

BLOOD

MOSES BLOOD, of Shirley, was born in Groton, November 25, 1724. He was the son of John Blood, of Groton, who married, July 13, 1712, Joanna, daughter of James and Lydia Nutting. John's father, James Blood, married in Groton, September 7, 1669, Elizabeth Longley, and second, Abigail ———, whose son John was. Richard Blood, the father of James, was the first settler of the name in Groton. His wife's name was Isabel.

Moses Blood married Elizabeth Stone in Groton, June 27, 1745. He lived in Pepperell until 1770, and then removed to Shirley. He bought his farm in Shirley in 1772, and held it until 1792, when he deeded it to his son Sewall.

Children:

- I. ELIZABETH, b. July 6, 1746, in Pepperell.
- II. SARAH, b. March 16, 1748, in Pepperell; m. Elijah Ames, August 23, 1768.
- III. MOSES, b. April 29, 1750, in Pepperell. He married and had issue in Pepperell.
- IV. ABEL, b. September 17, 1752, in Pepperell. He was in the Revolution, credited to Dunstable in 1775, and to Pepperell in 1780. He married at some time and place unknown. The birth of one child is recorded in Shirley.

Child:

 1. *Abigail Prescott*, baptized June 16, 1793, in Shirley.
- V. ANNA, b. April 7, 1755. d. e.
- VI. RACHEL, b. November 11, 1757.
- VII. ANNA, b. September 15, 1760.
- VIII. NATHANIEL, b. August 21, 1762.
- IX. SEWALL, b. May 24, 1765, in Pepperell. He was in the latter part of the Revolutionary war, credited to Shirley in 1786. At that time he is described as a boy of sixteen, with light hair and complexion, light eyes, five feet nine inches in height. He is called a farmer. He enlisted for three years. His marriage intentions with Molly Randall or Kendall were published in 1786, on April 9. The intentions are given in both ways, but the Kendall is probably right as Molly K. Blood died in Windsor, Vt., in 1813. Her husband died in the same town in 1814.

Children:

 1. *Sewall*, b. November 16, 1786, at Mason, N. H.
 2. *Nathaniel*, b. August 17, 1788, in Shirley. He died in 1874 in Windsor, Vt.
 3. *Lucas*, b. June 27, 1790.
- X. MARY, b. April 4, 1770.

BOLTON

WILLIAM BOLTON, of Shirley, was born in the North Parish of Reading, October 25, 1721, the son of William Bolton who married Elizabeth White of Andover on January 5, 1720. The elder William Bolton, called Scotch-Irish, had come as an emigrant from the Bann Valley, near Coleraine, in the north of Ireland in 1718, though the family was originally from Lancashire. After a year and a half of married life in Andover, he moved to Reading where two sons, William, mentioned above, and John (a soldier killed at Cape Breton in 1746), were born, and where he died September 10, 1725. The widow returned to Andover, and it was in that town that the younger William passed his boyhood. She married Timothy Dorman of Boxford. After the death of her second husband, the widow returned to Reading. Her son, William Bolton, married about 1743, but beyond the fact that his wife's name was Mary nothing further is known of the marriage. They lived in Reading until 1773, when William and his family followed the family of his eldest son to Shirley. The attractive house which he left behind in Reading still stands in the corner of the Lynnfield line and the highway, near two famous chestnut trees. While there he frequently held the office of tithingman. Mary Bolton died soon after the removal to Shirley, and William married Mrs. Sarah Farnsworth of Groton, May 16, 1776. William Bolton died April 30, 1804. His widow died in Groton June 24, 1822, aged ninety nine years and ten months.

Children:

- I. WILLIAM, b. January 21, 1744, in Reading. He married in Reading March 28, 1765, Abigail, daughter of William and Abigail (Going) Sheldon; and two years later they moved to Shirley and bought the house which had served as the first tavern in town. He died in Shirley, May 7, 1780. The widow married Ezra Smith, and continued to live on the widow's dower, which happily included the house. She died March 7, 1790. It was this William Bolton who arrested Captain Parker and Captain Hazen. He served as tithingman, fire warden, surveyor of highways, and was a Revolutionary officer.

Children:

1. *Abigail*, b. February 16, 1766, in Reading; m. October 24, 1782, Joseph Chaplin of Lunenburg, in Groton.
2. *Nelly*, b. December 29, 1769, in Shirley. She d. February 1, 1770.
3. *William*, b. October 14, 1771, in Shirley; he married Sarah Lewis in Reading, September 18, 1788. He lived in Reading, Shirley and Fitchburg, and died on April 4, 1827, leaving three sons, David, William and Aaron.
4. *John*, b. October 24, 1773, in Shirley. He married Betsy Tilton, in 1798, in Wells River, Vt. He married, 2,



MOSES BENNETT BOLTON



THE SUN-DIAL AT POUND HILL PLACE

Cynthia Chamberlain and 3, Abigail Wesson. He had twelve children and died March 28, 1843. Issue.

5. *Thomas*, b. August 22, 1775. He died at sea in 1806.
6. *Nelly*, b. August 12, 1777, in Shirley.

II. **ELIZABETH**, b. probably in 1745 or 1746; mentioned in the North Parish church records, Reading.

III. **DANIEL**, b. July 1, 1747. Named for Rev. Daniel Putnam. Probably died early.

IV. **EBENEZER**, b. January 12, 1749, in Reading. He married February 20, 1771, Elizabeth, daughter of David and Esther (Going) Damon, and lived in Westminister, Mass. He married, 2, Mrs. Hannah (Savage) Barnes. Said to have fought at Bunker Hill. Died in 1835.

Children:

1. *Betsy*, b. August 9, 1772, in Reading; m. Nathan Taft of Gardner and moved to Packersfield, N. H. They had four children.
2. *Esther*, b. December 18, 1773, in Westminister; m. Joseph Baker, and lived in Gardner.
3. *Jerusha*, b. October 17, 1775, in Westminister; m. June 2, 1796, Silas Holt, and had two children.
4. *Abram* } twins, d. e.
5. *Asa* }
6. *Ebenezer*, b. February 14, 1778, in Westminister. He m. Linda Leland of Gardner, and had four children.

V. **EDWARD**, b. May 25, 1751. Probably died early.

VI. **AARON**, b. February 12, 1753, in Reading. He married, April 12, 1774, Dorcas, daughter of Jonas and Mary Winship of Westminister and died there April 29, 1837. He was a Revolutionary soldier, captain of militia and selectman.

Children:

1. *Dorcas*, b. February 1, 1775; d. September 4, 1778.
2. *Dorcas*, b. September 25, 1778. She married Samuel Clark in Boston, September 11, 1805. Issue.
3. *Moses*, b. 1781 in Westminister; d. September 9, 1785.
4. *Hannah*, b. June 26, 1783, at Westminister; m. December 12, 1806, Moses Thurston and moved to Cambridge, Vt.; six children.
5. *Eunice*, b. August 9, 1786, at Westminister; m. int. November 6, 1808, Joseph Jackson. Lived at Templeton, Mass. Issue.
6. *Nancy*, b. July 31, 1788. She married at Westminister June 23, 1812, Josiah Jackson, 2d. Issue.
7. *Mary*, b. May 21, 1791; m. January 3, 1809, Hon. Ohio Whitney of Ashburnham, a cousin of Rev. Phinehas Whitney of Shirley. Issue.
8. *Louise*, b. January 8, 1794, in Westminister; m. March 16, 1813, Caleb Wilder, 3d, of Ashburnham and lived in Fitchburg. Issue.

9. *Matilda*, b. November 21, 1796; m. at Gardner, December 26, 1815, Nehemiah Shumway; m. second, ——— Townsend. Issue.
10. *Aaron*, b. October 9, 1800; d. January 22, 1803.
- VII. *SARAH*, b. 1755, in Reading; m. int. February 4, 1780 to David Wilson of Shirley, a near neighbor of her father. She died before 1784.
- VIII. *LOIS*, b. February 28, 1757. Living after the Revolution.
- IX. *TIMOTHY*, b. May 5, 1759, in Reading. He was in the alarm of April 19, 1775, and later served in the campaigns at Saratoga and on Long Island, and spent a winter at Valley Forge under Washington. On his return in 1778 he married Sybil Bennett, whose mother, Mrs. Farnsworth, had married his father. Timothy and Sybil Bolton lived on his father's farm as "joint tenants" with him. After his wife's death, on March 20, 1807, Timothy Bolton moved to Jamaica, Vt., where he died in 1826. "Timothy & Cybell" owned the covenant in 1779.
- Children:
1. *Mary*, b. February 1, 1779 in Shirley; m. Captain Torrance.
 2. *Edward*, b. February 5, 1780; m. Elizabeth Sanderson, of Harvard, April 17, 1800. He was killed by a rock in 1834. His children were all born in Shirley.
- Children:
- i. Leonard, b. November 28, 1800; m. Mary Ann Bennett of Lancaster July 4, 1826. Lived in Boston.
 - ii. Edward Bennett, b. November 28, 1802, a Shaker; d. March 10, 1882.
 - iii. Mary, b. March 15, 1805.
 - iv. William, b. March 17, 1807; m. Sybil Kezar, October 31, 1830. Left issue in Enosburg, Vt.
 - v. Eli, b. April 17, 1809; m. 1, Rebecca Nichols in Reading, April, 1831; m. 2, in Westbrook, Me., Mrs. Eleanor (Toby) Wilson, October 22, 1835. Issue.
 - vi. ———, son, b. August 26, 1811.
 - vii. ——— daughter, b. February 20, 1814.
 - viii. ———, b. December 31, 1816; d. January 1, 1817.
 - ix. ———, son, b. April 9, 1818.
 - x. Elizabeth, b. November 19, 1819; m. 1, Wentworth Sanderson; m. 2, Eli Stone of Groton.
3. *Olive*, b. October 19, 1781, in Shirley; m. John Darby, June 7, 1801.
 4. *Oliver* or *Olvin*, b. August 9, 1783. Issue in Rockingham, Vt.
 5. *Eunice*, b. May 13, 1786, in Shirley; m. Isaac Sanderson of Harvard, pub. December 1, 1805; d. Boylston, December 8, 1860.
 6. *Moses Bennett*, b. August 26, 1788, in Shirley; m. Sarah Roxanna Bliss, August 14, 1811, in Wilbraham. He died June 2, 1878 in South Hadley Falls.

Children:

- i. James King, b. March 31, 1813, in Wilbraham; m. Marilla Ingram of Amherst, October 24, 1837. Lived on present Bolton Street in South Hadley Falls; d. March 21, 1897. Descendants of his son Charles E. Bolton, M.A., Mayor of East Cleveland, are living in Shirley, 1914.
 - ii. Henry Elliot, b. May 9, 1815, in Palmer; m. Catherine Moody. Died in Bondsville, July 5, 1897.
 - iii. George Washington, b. February 22, 1817, in Wilbraham; m. Ruth Gilbert. Lived in Michigan.
 - iv. Obed Bliss, b. November 24, 1818; m. Caroline J. Snow. Issue in Brooklyn, N. Y.
 - v. Francis, b. November 20, 1820; m. Sarah Stebbins. Issue.
 - vi. Eliza Bliss, b. June 19, 1822; m. Edwin Patterson.
 - vii. Lucy Bartlett, b. September 3, 1824; m. 1, C. Beckwith, Jr.; m. 2, G. G. Moody; m. 3, Asa S. Wolcott.
 - viii. Mary Ann, b. September 12, 1826, d. e.
 - ix. Moses Bliss, b. June 1, 1828, at Wilbraham; m. 1, Lucinda O. Vinton; m. 2, Mrs. Mary (Gray) Wells. Issue.
 - x. Samuel Slater, b. June 10, 1832, at Sodom, Mass.; m. 1, Lucy D. Cudworth; m. 2, Mrs. Phebe (Sherwood) Nidderly. Issue in Michigan.
7. *Lucinda*, b. July 1, 1791, in Shirley; m. Erastus Glover of Wilbraham.
8. *Eliab*, b. February 23, 1794; d. September 11, 1796, in Shirley.
9. *Eliab Going*, b. December 19, 1797. He married Dorcas R. Farwell of Groton in 1821. His seven children were all born in Groton. He died in Vermont, February 18, 1876.
- X. MARY, b. February 11, 1761, in Reading. She married Asa Gage of Hubbardston on March 8, 1781. They moved to Jamaica, Vt., where in his later years her brother Timothy joined them.
- XI. SUSANNA, b. November 22, 1763. She married Ebenezer Pratt, Jr., in Lunenburg, November 28, 1782 and d. November 24, 1849. Lived in Hancock and Alstead, N. H.
- XII. EUNICE, b. December 18, 1764. Probably died early.
- XIII. AMOS, b. in Reading 176-. He died early.

BROOKS

JAMES BROOKS, "taverner from Concord," later of Shirley, was born in Concord, August 6, 1723. Captain Thomas Brooks, of Concord, who came from London with his wife, Grace, was his earliest ancestor in this country. Thomas Brooks's son Gershom married in Concord Hannah Eccles, and their son Joseph, born on September 16, 1671, was the father of

James. Joseph married, first, Abigail ———, and second, Rebecca Blodgett, on June 26, 1706.

James Brooks married Elizabeth Bathrick of Arlington, on December 26, 1745. The birth of two of his children is recorded in Lincoln, and one in Harvard. Two Brooks girls, who may have belonged to this family, were married in Littleton at a time when James was living in Shirley. They are included tentatively. James Brooks was in Shirley as late as 1789, and probably longer. James Parker mentions the male Brookses, who were probably James's sons, at a later date.

Children:

- I. PRUDENCE, bapt. June 1, 1750, in Lincoln. Parker mentions her in 1781, when she was still unmarried.
- II. ABRAHAM, bapt. August 25, 1751, in Lincoln. Abraham helped Parker with his father's steers in 1772.
- III. MOSES, mentioned in 1770, by Parker, as a shoemaker. 1826, "Moses Brooks carted dung." J. P.
- IV. PHEBE (?), m. Ebenezer Wood, Jr., of Littleton, December 2, 1775.
- V. REBECCA (?), m. Samuel Wood, Jr., of Littleton, August 13, 1771; d. October, 1836.
- VI. AARON, called of Lunenburg during the Revolution, or sometimes Leominster. He is mentioned by Parker as late as 1798. He married Hannah Burrage of Lunenburg, May 1, 1783.
- VII. ———, son, b. in Harvard in 1764. He died October 2, 1766, aged 17 months.
- VIII. JOEL, b. about 1766. He died January 15, 1828, aged 62, and lies buried in Shirley. 1826, March 22, "Joel Brooks went off to Ashby. I paid him." J. P.
1828, "this first day J. [Joel] Brooks went off to W^m. Little. Said Brooks died the 15 day of Jan^y at W^m. Little's. 16 he was buried I was there Mr. Robins attended."
Jan. 16. "I at Brooks funeral at W^m. Little's." J. P.

BROWN

The Reverend HOPE BROWN, first minister of the Orthodox Church at Shirley Centre, was born at Concord, Mass., February 16, 1798, the son of Elijah and Rhoda (Wheeler) Brown of Plainfield, Connecticut. He graduated at Amherst College in 1828, afterwards spent two years at Princeton Theological Seminary, and was licensed to preach August 4, 1829. He married Mary P., daughter of Benjamin Fuller of Fitchburg, April 12, 1831. He lived in the parsonage on Parker Road, and there his five children were born. After leaving Shirley, he ministered to some other parishes, but finally settled in Rockford, Illinois. He died at Beloit, Wisconsin, February 20, 1883, leaving four daughters.

Children:

- I. CATHERINE FULLER, b. August 23, 1832,* in Shirley.
- II. HELEN EURYDICE, b. April 9, 1834, in Shirley.
- III. HENRY LYMAN, b. February 17, 1836, in Shirley.
- IV. MARY OLIVIA, b. August 27, 1838, in Shirley.
- V. EMILY MIRANDA, b. June 30, 1840.

BURKMAR

THOMAS BURKMAR, born about 1742, is first mentioned in Shirley, on July 8, 1773. In September of that year he applied for a "license to sell Tee." He enlisted in the Revolution, and was drummer, cornet, lieutenant and captain. He lived in what was called the "Mansion house," on Clapp Road. He sold many other things besides "Tee," for James Parker bought watches, guns, molasses and rum of him at various times.

Tho Burkmar

He was an intimate friend of James Parker's and often took dinner with him. January 9, 1779, Parker writes, "Burkmar was at my house, we Drunk some flip." About 1785, he and his wife, Mary, sold land on Flat Hill in Lunenburg, and moved to the northern part of Ducktrap, Maine. He owned a farm of between two and three hundred acres, and was very prominent in the town which was set off as Northport through the petition of himself, two of his sons and others in 1795.

He died at Northport in May, 1826, at the age of eighty four, a Revolutionary pensioner. His wife died April 26, 1832, at the age of ninety six. Their descendants are still living in the adjoining town of Belfast, Maine.

Children:

- I. JOSEPH, b. about 1764; enlisted December 2, 1780, being then sixteen, four feet nine inches in height, hair, eyes and complexion dark. "Capt. Burkmar sent his son Joseph for his oxen." Parker's diary, April 7, 1782. He had a farm of 100 acres in Northport.
- II. THOMAS, signed the Northport petition in 1795.
- III. GEORGE; b. 1771; a soldier in the War of 1812; m. July 19, 1801, Patty Brown, both being of Northport. He died at Belfast, January 17, 1862, aged ninety one years. She died January 10, 1865, aged eighty seven years.

* The births are as given in Dr. Hartwell's records. Sometimes when the child was born about midnight the date of the day before is given.

- IV. JOHN, under sixteen in 1790. Signed the Northport petition in 1795.
- V. DAVID, under sixteen in 1790. In 1791 "David Burkmar run from Benjⁿ Egerton." J. P.
- VI. NANCY, m. January 10, 1799, Samuel Prescott of Northport.
- VII. SAMUEL, b. 1784; carpenter in Belfast, Maine. He died there February 18, 1858, aged seventy four years.

BUTTERFIELD

JOHN BUTTERFIELD, of Shirley, was born in Westford in 1728, the son of Benjamin and Keziah Butterfield. Benjamin was the great grandson of Benjamin Butterfield who came from England to Charlestown in 1638. He was of Chelmsford in 1654. John Butterfield was a housewright by trade, and it is perhaps a sign that he was a careful one from the fact that he recorded with great accuracy the births of all his children in Shirley. He married Martha Trull of Littleton, October 2, 1750, and with her brother, David, lived in the house now owned by Mrs. James P. Tolman. David married in Needham Mrs. Jemima Hawes, November 9, 1763. Practically nothing is known about the Butterfields after they left Shirley. James Parker mentions "Butterfield" twice, once as an appraiser of the Campbell farm, March 19, 1798, and once as an auctioneer. As he never gives the first name it is impossible to tell which of the Butterfields remained in town so long.

Children:

- I. BENJAMIN, b. March 27, 1751, in Westford.
- II. JOHN, b. July 28, 1753, in Westford.
- III. ABEL, b. February 5, 1756, in Templeton, Mass. 1771: "Then Abel Butterfield son of John & Martha Butterfield had his right arm torn off in a cider mill." Town Records of Shirley.
- IV. HENRY, b. March 14, 1759, at Groton.
- V. KEZIAH, b. August 28, 1761, at Harvard.
- VI. MARTHA, b. April 14, 1764, at Shirley; "baptized Sept^r; y^e 9."
- VII. ABRAHAM, b. 1766 in Shirley.
- VIII. RUTH, b. 1769, in Shirley.

CAMPBELL

JAMES CAMPBELL came to Shirley in 1779, and lived on the farm now the property of Mr. Amos L. Parker. He and his brother John, who bought much land in Shirley in common, are called of Lunenburg, but the records of that town are silent concerning them. The brothers came from Tewksbury; they left behind a brother William and sisters Elizabeth, wife of Nathaniel Butterfield, and Jane, wife of Robert Richardson. There had

been a younger sister, Mary, who had died of fever in 1756. James Parker mentions them in his diary. In 1783, James Campbell and "his two boys" worked for him. James and his wife were alive in 1798, but he probably died in 1799, as Parker records on October 14, 1799, "Nicholas Campbell & mother moved off out of Shirley bag & baggage." In 1800, a sheriff's writ against James Parker was issued by Nicholas Campbell of Kingsbury, Washington County, New York, for two hundred and twenty-six dollars on a note made out by James Parker to James Campbell and transferred by him to Nicholas in June, 1779. James Campbell married Elizabeth Nickles, on July 12, 1764, in Tewksbury. They lived in Tewksbury until they moved to Shirley and there their children were born. On November 8, 1779, the neighbors went to help James Campbell "draw his house" in Shirley.

Children:

- I. MARY, bapt. October 6, 1765; perhaps died early.
- II. JAMES, bapt. July 20, 1766; m. July 11, 1793, Sophia Fletcher.

Children:

1. *Washburn*, bapt. August 3, 1794, in Shirley.
2. *Sophia*, b. December 9, 1795, in Lancaster.
- III. HANNAH, bapt. February 26, 17—; m. Elijah Butterfield, in Lancaster, January 31, 1793. Later of Kingsbury, N. Y.
- IV. NICHOLAS, left Shirley in 1799 for Kingsbury, N. Y.
- V. POLLY, m. Phineas Fletcher, November 25, 1790.

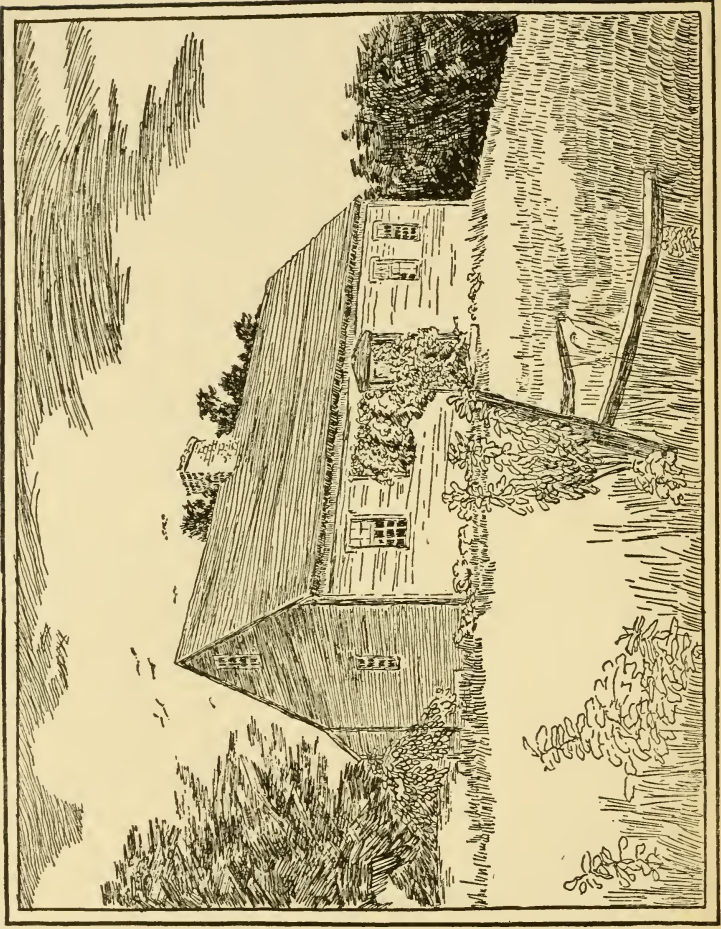
JOHN CAMPBELL, brother of James Campbell, married Hannah Nickless December 6, 1769. He came to Shirley with one small child two years earlier than his brother. He married Martha Ivory, November 27, 1788. In 1791, he deeded to his brother James his share of the Shirley estate, and in 1799, his two sons, John and Rogers, deeded their portion to Elijah Butterfield, one of James's heirs. The deed speaks of John as "deceas'd." He died before December, 1796, leaving a will providing for his widow and their young children.

Children:

- I. JOHN, m. Nancy Rugg in Lancaster, December 12, 1795. He lived in Lancaster, just south of the Shirley line.

Children:

1. *Hervey*, bapt. May 15, 1795.
2. *Nancy*, bapt. September 20, 1795.
3. ———, daughter, d. November 29, 1796, aged 10 weeks, of fits.
4. *Patty*, bapt. October 23, 1796.
5. *Anna*, bapt. January 21, 1798.
- II. ROGERS, bapt. July 15, 1777, in Shirley. He lived with his brother in 1798, on the farm in North Lancaster.



WILLIAM CONANT'S HOUSE, HAZEN ROAD

- III. ELIZABETH, bapt. August 15, 1779, in Shirley.
 - IV. JOSEPH, bapt. October 21, 1781.
 - V. ELIZABETH, bapt. November 16, 1783.
 - VI. MARY
 - VII. THOMAS
 - VIII. SALLY
 - IX. JOB
- } Under 16 in 1796

CARTER

JAMES CARTER, of Shirley, was the son of James Carter and Priscilla Whitney. James Carter, the elder, was born in Woburn, March 14, 1724, and married there on November 28, 1754. Beside his son James he had daughters Lois, Margery and Ruth. The Widow Priscilla (Whitney) Carter died about 1820, and at that time James Carter of Shirley, deeded land in Sudbury, her dower, to his two sisters, Ruth and Margaret, then unmarried.

James Carter was born in Sudbury on September 6, 1760. He married Olive Davis on August 29, 1784, and died in Shirley, March 16, 1834.

Children:

- I. OLIVE, b. November 27, 1784.
- II. ELIZABETH, b. October 26, 1785.
- III. ANNA, b. November 3, 1786.
- IV. RACHEL, b. January 11, 1791.
- V. SARAH HAPGROVE, b. October 16, 1794.
- VI. LYDIA, b. October 10, 1799.

For further information see the Carter Genealogy, 1909, page 237.

CONANT

JONATHAN CONANT, of Shirley, was born in Concord, February 3, 1723. He was the eldest son of Israel¹ Conant of Acton (Roger², of Beverly, Lot² of Marblehead, Roger¹ of Salem), and his wife, Martha Lamson. He was one of the expedition to Nova Scotia in 1745. He married Eunice Farwell of Shirley, whose father's farm lay along Patterson, Clarke and Hazen roads, and out of which four of our modern farms were made. About 1770, after a residence in Ashburnham, he came to Shirley, and settled in the house lately occupied by Leander S. P. Marsh, on Hazen Road. This was the northwest corner of William Farwell's farm. Mr. Chandler erroneously gives the name of the settler as William, but the deeds prove it to have been Jonathan. In 1790, he was of Reading, Vt.

Children:

- I. WILLIAM, b. August 17, 1765, in Ashburnham. He m. Sarah Phelps of Shirley, November 17, 1796, and lived in Shirley in his father's house. He committed suicide August 5, 1846.

Children:

1. *William*, b. May 2, 1797.
 2. *Sally*, b. December 3, 1798; m. Luke Woodbury of Bolton, Mass.; died December 30, 1832. She had issue.
 3. *Lucinda*, b. December 30, 1800, in Shirley; d. July 23, 1847.
 4. *Eunice*, b. March 20, 1802; m. 1, John Farnsworth; m. 2, Luke Woodbury of Bolton, May 21, 1840; d. November 27, 1843, in Bolton.
 5. *Lavinia*, b. July 3, 1803; m. 1, George Spaulding, October 3, 1830; m. 2, John Clement of Townsend, December 25, 1856; m. 3, Jonas Parker, of Townsend, May 5, 1868.
 6. *Jefferson*.
- II. JONATHAN, b. January 14, 1767; m. November 6, 1794, Hannah Shaw, of Reading, Vt. He lived in Reading, and had five children. (See Conant Family.)
- III. ISRAEL, b. October 3, 1768.
- IV. HENRY (?) who died about 1850.

DARLING

JOHN DARLING came to Shirley from Lunenburg, and lived in the Hazen house which stands on the right-hand side of Lancaster Road going toward Lancaster. He can have been the son of John and Ruth Darling or of Timothy and Joanna Darling of Lunenburg. He published his intent to marry Lydia Atherton, daughter of Amos of Shirley, on July 20, 1780. Neither Mr. Chandler nor the town records give them any children, but according to the census of 1790, they had two boys under sixteen and a daughter. The Darlings were still living in the same house in 1830.

Children:

- I. MARGARET (?), m. in Lancaster, Nathan Burdett, April 20, 1810.
- II. JAMES, who occupied the house on Lancaster Road in 1830. He married Olive Read of Lunenburg, October 8, 1801.
- III. A son, under 16 in 1790.

DEPUTRON

WILLIAM DEPUTRON, of Shirley, was born in Lancaster, June 27, 1758, the son of William and Sarah (Rice) Deputron. The elder William was taken by the British, August 27, 1776, at the battle of Long Island, and after a year's imprisonment enlisted in the British Army to save his life. He was sent to Canada by way of Halifax, and after four years

of service, escaped, and on November 4, 1781, warned the Americans of the British approach upon the fortifications on the Mohawk River. He was allowed £24 by the General Court for his services (Mass. Archives, Vol. 187, p. 329). He died in Lancaster, November 23, 1806, at the age of eighty three, "in a fit"; his widow died December 3, 1820, aged ninety three, of "old age."

William Deputron, of Shirley, married Mary Wyman of Lancaster, February 5, 1784, and had the children mentioned below. He married, second, Prudence Richards of Lunenburg, intention published April 18, 1818, and came to live in the first Centre Schoolhouse, then moved to the Little Turnpike. His wife died there November 4, 1826. She was best known in Shirley as "Prudy Deputrin" and her reputation was not of the best. The house was long known as the "Putrin House." He probably married, third, Rebecca ———, who died in Fitchburg, July 2, 1856, aged eighty two. She left a daughter, Sarah, who had married, first, ——— Battles, and, second, ——— Kempton, but who may not have been a daughter of William Deputron.

Children:

I. JONAS, of Athens, Vermont. He married Christina ———.

Children:

1. *Maranda*, m. Booth Bottomly, int. November 8, 1835. She was of Worcester, but she was published in Leicester, and there her seven children were born.
2. *Mariila*, m. Joseph Reed of Andover, July 30, 1843. She was then of Ware.
3. *Calvin W.*, a carpenter, of Athens, Vermont; he married Lorinda ———.
Children:
 - i. Ida M., b. July 18, 1856, in Fitchburg; d. 1865.
 - ii. Frederick E., b. May 12, 1862, in Lawrence.
4. *Martha A.*, m. David Parker of Fitchburg, July 22, 1848.
5. *Mary Jane*, b. 1833; m. Clark M. Parker, November 20, 1849, at Oakham.
6. *James*, b. 1836; d. March 7, 1841, at Leicester.
7. *Henry*, of Athens, Vermont. A soldier in the 3rd Regiment, 1861-1864.

II. REBECCA (?). Mentioned as occupying a house east of Fort Pond in 1879, in Marvin's History of Lancaster.

III. DOLLY (?). Had a child, Bradford Harris, b. March 21, 1825.

DIGGINS

JAMES DIGGINS, of Shirley, came from Lancaster in 1773 with two children. He was doubtless a member of the family in Windsor, Conn.

He married Lydia Hale of Leominster, the daughter of Ezra and Lydia (Frost) Hale, on June 1, 1769. James Diggins died before 1782, for on January 28 of that year Parker says "then I went to Amasa Hartwells for the Widow Digons for a nurse." She married Moses Ritter, of Shirley, December 8, 1791. Mr. Chandler substitutes Elizabeth Hartwell, sister of Amasa, for Lydia Hale, but the records of Lancaster, Leominster, and Shirley all agree upon Lydia Hale. It is hard to determine why she was at Amasa Hartwell's, as she was not there in an official capacity, and was not a relative. The widow married, third, Ezra Clapp. Mr. Clapp was buried December 24, 1812.

Children:

- I. SALLY.
- II. MOLLY, d. 1789.
- III. POLLY HALE, m. John Samson, pub. September 15, 1799, in Leominster.

DUNN

EDWARD DUNN, of Shirley, was born in Ireland, probably near Belfast, since in his will he mentions, beside his wife Elizabeth, his "sister Mary's son William Mattear of Belfast, Ireland," and his "sister Margaret Jordan in Ireland." He bought, in 1788, the farm in Shirley, now owned by Mrs. James P. Tolman. He died soon after coming to Shirley, and was buried June 8, 1796. His widow Elizabeth remained in Shirley until her death, January 12, 1820. James Parker's diary mentions her quite often, and twice he took her to Court at Concord or Boston for some reason.

Children:

- I. MARY, m. ——— Grey.
- II. NANCY, m. ——— Bell.
- III. ALEXANDER, under sixteen in 1790.
- IV. ANDREW, under sixteen in 1790. He married Mary Lawrence of Shirley on December 19, 1799. In 1802, he was a schoolmaster in Shirley. He lived on his father's farm but does not seem to have been able to retain it. In 1804, Parker's diary records "I at Dunn Vendue of his farm Sold off 1111 Dollars." Again the next year, December 6, 1805 "I at Andrew Dunn's Vendue." Later than 1805 there is no record of him in Shirley, for he moved Rockingham, Vermont. "May 11, 1806, Andrew Dun & Mary his wife preferred a Certificate from the Pastor that they were Members of the Church in Shirley Massachusetts & in Regular Standing." Andrew bought a pew in 1815 in the first church in Rockingham.

Children:

1. *Mary Ann Eliza*, baptized August 30, 1801; m. perhaps Jonas Parker, April 4, 1819.
2. *Clarissa*, baptized May 22, 1802.
3. ———, b. April 2, 1803.
4. ———, daughter, b. September 15, 1805.
5. *Andrew*, baptized February 4, 1809, in Rockingham, Vermont.
6. ———, baptized September 9, 1810.

ELLENWOOD

BENJAMIN ELLENWOOD bought land in the northerly part of town and lived here for a short time. He probably belonged to the Beverly family of that name. His wife's name does not appear on our records.

Child:

- I. DANIEL, bapt. September 7, 1783.

HALE

PAUL HALE, of Shirley, the son of Oliver and Sarah Hale, was born in Stow (Leominster Records), February 12, 1742. He came quite early to Shirley and married there Mary Little, the daughter of Thomas and Jean (Wallis) Little. He settled on land north of the Catacoonemug.

Children:

- I. PAUL (?), m. 1, Sarah Frost of Shirley; m. 2, Sarah Cunningham. Lived in Peterboro, N. H.
- II. OLIVER, bapt. February 9, 1766, in Shirley.
- III. THOMAS WALTER, bapt. July 3, 1768.
- IV. MARTHA, bapt. May 3, 1773.
- V. MOLLY, b. January, 1775, according to Mr. Chandler; bapt. October 23, 1775, in Concord; d. March 22, 1778, in Shirley.

HAMMOND

THOMAS HAMMOND, of Shirley, was descended from William Hammond of Lavenham, England, and Watertown, Mass. William married in England, June 9, 1605, Elizabeth Paine. Their son Thomas Hammond, born in Lavenham, September 17, 1618, married Hannah Cross in Ipswich, England. Again their son Thomas, who was born in Watertown, July 11, 1656, carried the line down. He married two wives, Elizabeth Noyes and Sarah Pickard. Thomas Hammond, his son, was born in Watertown in 1685, but became a resident of Waltham after he had married Mary Harrington, March 8, 1709. Their son Thomas, the fourth in succession, was born July 22, 1710, in Watertown. His wife was

Ruth Converse, whom he married March 29, 1732. Their son David, breaking the line of Thomases for one generation, was baptized in Waltham, January 23, 1737. He married Mary ——, and left the family homestead.

Thomas Hammond, of Shirley, son of David and Mary Hammond, was born in Harvard, August 19, 1766, and was baptized in Rindge, N. H., later in the same year. He returned to Harvard where he married Betsy Hapgood, May 26, 1795. She died of consumption, June 22, 1797, at the age of twenty five, leaving one little boy, David, under a year old.

Thomas Hammond then married Polly Loughton, May 9, 1799, in Harvard, and had five children. He moved to Shirley, and lived in the house afterward remodelled for Miss Jenny Little, on Parker Road. He died on November 15, 1818, and his wife, Polly, or Martha, on September 22, 1821, aged 52 years. Both are buried in the Centre Cemetery. His executor was William Jones of Lunenburg.

Children of Thomas and Betsy:

I. DAVID, b. October 17, 1796, in Harvard.

Children of Thomas and Patty:

II. BETSY, b. January 20, 1800; m. William Little, November 23, 1820; d. March 6, 1883.

III. MARY, b. August 14, 1801; d. unm., October 22, 1828.

IV. EPHRAIM, b. August 6, 1803; d. November 2, 1869.

V. SUSAN, b. April 30, 1805; m. 1, Calvin B. Hartwell, in Townsend, December 18, 1827; m. 2, Robert Fowle Shepard; d. January 11, 1881.

VI. MARTHA, b. June 17, 1808; m. Wallis Little, Jr., of Townsend, May 27, 1823; d. June 16, 1832.

HARROD

CAPTAIN NOAH HARROD lived for some time as tenant of the Reverend Phinehas Whitney, in his small house on Whitney Road. He was perhaps the son of Noah Harrod and Mary Sawbridge who were married in Boston, July 22, 1763. He was born in 1764. He married in Lunenburg, Eusebia Kendall, April 6, 1786. He died in Lunenburg, April 8, 1820, aged fifty six.

Children:

I. POLLY, b. June 24, 1786.

II. SALLY, b. June 19, 1788.

III. NOAH, b. August 18, 1790.

IV. WILLIAM, b. December 29, 1792.

V. BETSY, b. August 4, 1795.

- VI. JAMES CUNNINGHAM, b. January 27, 1798; m. Jane Turner of Lunenburg, February 6, 1823, being then of Boston.
- VII. HANNAH NEWELL, b. May 13, 1800; m. Thomas Barrett, June 11, 1820, in Lunenburg.
- VIII. ABIAH WOOD, b. September 28, 1802.

HENRY

WILLIAM HENRY, of Topsfield, a son of John Henry, freeman in 1689, was of Stow in 1735, and later removed either to Lunenburg or Shirley, but probably to Lunenburg. He brought with him three sons and a daughter.

Children:

- I. ROBERT, m. Eleanor ———, and settled on land in Shirley between the Little Turnpike and Whitney Road. He died in Shirley, in 1759. His widow lived in the house which was hers by right of dower for some years. She was warned from Princeton in 1767. In 1765 Elizabeth Henry was warned from Worcester. This was probably Eleanor, as there was no Elizabeth of Shirley. She finally died in Enfield, Conn., November 23, 1807, aged eighty four years.

Children:

1. *John*, b. January 8, 1742-3 in Stow; m. Mary Gager about 1766. He lived in Lebanon, Conn. (See Henry Record, p. 40.)
 2. *Sarah*, b. February 10, 1744 in Shirley; m. David McLeod of Shirley, q. v.
 3. *Anna*, d. April 3, 1747, in Shirley. Died early.
 4. *Robert*, b. April 10, 1749, in Shirley. Had issue, and lived in Bolton and Enfield, Conn.
 5. *Eleanor*, b. May 19, 1751; m. Abiel Fuller of Lebanon, Conn., 1770-2. She was said, according to the Whalley tradition, to be the great-granddaughter of the Regicide Whalley, who went by the name of William Henry to evade recognition by officers of Charles II. It was never proved, and was probably untrue. It would be necessary to add another generation at least.
 6. *Silas*, b. January 28, 1754 in Shirley; d. February 23, 1754.
 7. *Silas*, b. February 13, 1755, in Shirley; m. Relief Knight in Worcester and had issue; d. August 5, 1832, aged seventy eight, in Princeton, Mass.
 8. *Anna*, b. March 4, 1758, in Shirley; d. unm. in Lebanon, Conn.
- II. GEORGE, m. Elizabeth Kennedy, February 13, 1746. She died in Lebanon, Conn., June 10, 1799.

Children:

1. *William*, b. January 22, 1747, in Lunenburg; he m. Mary Conn on September 17, 1770, and settled in Chesterfield, Conn.

2. *Mary*, b. September 1, 1748, in Lunenburg.
3. *Hugh*, b. April 1, 1750; m. Elizabeth Martin, int. August 12, 1773; he was then of Worcester. They lived on Flat Hill on the "Plats Farm" which he had bought of James Gordon. He had at least seven children born in Lunenburg.
4. *George*, b. February 23, 1752.
5. *Frances*, b. February 24, 1754.
6. *Elizabeth*, b. March 13, 1757; m. Abel Holden of Shirley, by whom she had issue. (See Chandler's Shirley, p. 457.)
7. *Samuel*, b. May 6, 1759.
8. *John*, b. April 29, 1761; m. November 1, 1787, Elizabeth Hart, and moved to Shirley as early as 1789. He lived at first at "Mount Henry" in the extreme western part of town, near the Lunenburg line. At the end of the Mount Henry Road, the cellar hole may still be seen. Later he lived on Harvard Road near the cemetery, where he died in 1821.

Children:

- i. Abigail Hart, b. August 13, 1788; m. Joel Travis, June 8, 1817.
- ii. Betsy, b. April 5, 1790, in Shirley.
- iii. William, b. May 11, 1792, in Shirley; ship master in the China trade; m. Tryphena Tufts; d. in Shirley.
- iv. Jenny, b. June 15, 1794, in Shirley; m. John F. Pray.
- v. John, b. June 20, 1796; m. ——— Boutwell; no issue.
- vi. Mary, b. August 26, 1798; m. Sherman Willard, int. July 13, 1833, Children, Calvin, Mary.
- vii. Child.
- viii. Nancy, b. May 25, 1806; d. aged two years, seven months.
- ix. ———, son, b. November 2, 1807.
- x. Lucy, m. Major Daniel, of Boston.
- xi. Nancy, m. Scripture Frost, January 27, 1824.
- xii. Lucinda, m. ——— Faxon, of Boston.
- xiii. Fanny, died unmarried in Shirley.

III. WILLIAM, m. Mary Harper; int. October 2, 1753.

IV. MARY, m. September 7, 1757, William Cowdin, of Worcester.

HILDRETH

JOHN HILDRETH was born in Westford in 1738. He was the son of Ephraim and Mary Hildreth. Ephraim was the son of Joseph Hildreth of Westford, and Abigail Wilson of Woburn, and the grandson of Richard Hildreth, who with his wife Sarah came first to Cambridge about 1643. Richard and Sarah afterwards moved to Woburn and then to Chelmsford.

John Hildreth married, first, Abigail Parker and second, Betty Gates. Much later in life he married the widow Ruth Bicknell in Shirley on April 21, 1789, and through her came into possession of five ninths of the property of Lemuel Bicknell in Shirley.

Children of John and Abigail:

- I. JOHN, b. in Westford in 1763. He married Elizabeth Leighton and lived and died in Westford. He had ten children. (See History of Westford, p. 454.)
- II. ABIGAIL, b. in Westford in 1765. She married Zachariah Robbins, Jr.
- III. SARAH, b. in 1768 and d. in 1770 in Westford.

Children of John and Betty:

- IV. SARAH, b. in Westford in 1773. She married Joash Minot.
- V. SIMEON, b. in Westford in 1776. He married Ruth Bicknell of Shirley in 1798. There is but one Ruth Bicknell of Shirley and according to the records of Groton and Shirley she had been married to Phinchas Wait of Groton in 1796. Simeon is given in his father's will in 1810 as "of Shirley."

Children:

1. *Simeon*, b. 1799.
2. *Maria*, b. 1801; m. Abram Wright.
3. *Asa*, b. 1803.
4. *Nancy*, b. 1805; d. 1808.
5. *Betsy*, b. 1807; d. 1808.
6. *Amos*, b. 1809.
7. *Nancy*, b. 1811.
8. *Betsy Ann*, b. 1814.

- VI. STEPHEN, b. in Westford, 1777. He married Cynthia Brown of Shirley, March, 1801, and lived in the house, now gone, on Green Lane. He is the hero of the long law suit over the wall in Green Lane which James Parker describes so graphically. Stephen had four children, two only born in Shirley. His widow died in Marietta, Ohio, August 29, 1823.

Children:

1. *Calvin*, b. in Shirley, April 1, 1803. He married S. Eliza Maxon, December 20, 1830, and lived in Marietta, Ohio.
2. *Mary Brown*, b. February 10, 1805, in Bath, Me. She married E. D. Buel of Athalia, Ohio.
3. *Rebecca*, b. August 29, 1808, at Charlestown, Mass. She married Isaac Maxon, of Marietta, Ohio.
4. *Louisa*, b. August 4, 1811, in Shirley. She married Lewis Andrews of Marietta, Ohio. (For further information see Chandler's Shirley, p. 361.)

- VII. JESSE. Jesse Hildreth lived for many years in Shirley, and, it is probable, was also a son of John. He made and fulfilled contracts with James Parker in 1803 for "pine cole" to cure hops. His wife's name was Hannah. In 1814, he and his wife and other heirs sold land in Shirley to Elisha Gates, Jr., of Stow. It was the forty five acres which had belonged to Thomas Smith, deceased, and had a house upon it. It was the land afterward owned by Jephthah Lawton. No children are recorded in Shirley.

GEORGE HILDRETH lived for some years in Shirley according to the Orthodox Church records. He and his wife Lucy W. were dismissed to the church in Lunenburg in 1849.

Children:

- I. CHARLES HENRY, bapt. May 1, 1836.
- II. LUCY ANN FRANCES, bapt. May 1, 1836.
- III. JAMES, bapt. September 22, 1839.
- IV. MARY BROWN, bapt. July 4, 1841.
- V. MARTHA JANE, bapt. July 2, 1842.

JAMES HILDRETH. Dr. Benjamin Hartwell records the births of seven children of James Hildreth but unfortunately he never gave names.

Children:

- I. ———, son, b. March 6, 1830.
- II. ———, son, b. June 21, 1834 "in Carter house."
- III. ———, daughter, b. November 4, 1835.
- IV. ———, daughter, b. June 12, 1837.
- V. ———, son, b. May 29, 1839.
- VI. ———, daughter, b. January 30, 1841.
- VII. ———, daughter, b. October 24, 1842.

KENDALL

ENOCH KENDALL, of Shirley, was born in Wilmington, October 15, 1766. He was the son of Enoch Kendall and his second wife Patience. Enoch and Patience both lived to be very old; he died in 1815 in his eighty seventh year, and she in 1827, in her ninety third year.

Enoch Kendall, the younger, married Lydia Carter, February 19, 1795. They lived in the eastern part of Shirley all their lives. He died October 18, 1832, and his widow died July 18, 1842.

Children:

- I. ENOCH, bapt. March 2, 1801; m. Fanny Shurtleff of Littleton, March 23, 1820.

Children:

1. ———, son, b. October 12, 1820,* in Shirley.
 2. ———, daughter, b. November 11, 1821.
- II. HEZEKIAH, bapt. March 2, 1801.
 - III. LYDIA, bapt. March 2, 1801.
 - IV. JAMES, bapt. March 2, 1801; Mr. Chandler says that he was born September, 1800; d. February 21, 1801, aged five months.
 - V. PHEBE, bapt. November 7, 1802.

*Dr. Hartwell's Records.

VI. JAMES, son, b. May 13, 1803. (Dr. Hartwell.)

Child:

I. ———, daughter, b. September 24, 1831, in Shirley. (Dr. Hartwell.)

VII. ———, daughter, b. July 19, 1804.

VIII. REBECCA, bapt. November 9, 1806.

IX. STEPHEN, b. February 15, 1807. Devon, N. H.

X. ———, son } b. December 14, 1807.

XI. ———, son }

XII. ———, daughter, b. October 19, 1810.

XIII. SALLY, b. August, 1812; d. October 14, 1818.

REUBEN KENDALL was also a citizen of Shirley, and served on the government side during Shays's Rebellion. He was drafted on January 16, 1787. He married and had children all born in Shirley.

Children:

I. REUBEN, bapt. July 29, 1764; m. Hannah Francis, in Lunenburg, March 5, 1788.

II. SUSANNA, bapt. March 6, 1768.

III. ———, bapt. November, 1769.

IV. LUCY, bapt. April 14, 1771.

V. HANNAH, bapt. November 10, 1771.

VI. ELIZABETH, bapt. March 13, 1774.

VII. JONATHAN, bapt. March 17, 1776.

VIII. EBENEZER, bapt. June 28, 1778.

IX. EDMUND, bapt. February 17, 1782.

X. SALLY, bapt. January 15, 1785.

XI. NANCY (?), bapt. May, 1799.

KENT

ISAAC KENT was an early and transient citizen of Shirley. He was the son of Isaac and Anne (Barney) Kent, and was born April 17, 1730. His parents brought him to Groton in 1738. On May 4, 1749, he married Mary Mansfield in Bedford and came to Shirley, where he remained until 1757, when he was warned from Lunenburg, as a citizen of Shirley. His stay in Lunenburg must have been short as he left no record upon the town. The names of his children are taken from the Westford "warning" of 1759.

Children:

I. MARY.

II. ELIZABETH.

III. ABIGAIL.

IV. ISAAC.

KILLICUTT

THOMAS KILLICUTT, of Shirley, was born April 6, 1750, in Dunstable, N. H., the son of Thomas and Mary Killicutt. They must have come in the Scotch-Irish emigration, since the name is found nowhere else. As the name is so uncommon and so little can be found, all that is so far known will be inserted here as an assistance to those who may wish to hunt further. The elder Thomas and Mary had one daughter and five sons. The eldest child, *Submit*, was born September 14, 1744, in Dunstable. The second child, *Reuben*, born August 14, 1746. He was in Captain Daniel Wilkins' Company in 1776 and received £5:2:6, for his services. *Jonathan*, the third child, was born January 18, 1747. He may have died early. *Thomas* of Shirley was the fourth child, and *Charity*, a son, born July 3, 1752, the fourth. Charity, like Reuben and Thomas had a long war record. *Othniel*, the youngest child was born May 6, 1764. He married Silence Harris of Dunstable, February 24, 1789. There are three other records of marriages of Killicutts recorded in Dunstable, Levina to Jacob Colburn, both of Litchfield, June 22, 1792; Molly to John Harris, June 9, 1796; and Dorcas to Jonas Wood, Jr., August, 1820.

Thomas Killicutt of Shirley, was paid on July 16, 1776, being a private in Captain William Burrows' Company, "a Journeying to Exeter." In November of that same year he is recorded as having "set off home." In 1777, he was in a company whose roll was dated at Littleton. On January 17, 1778, he published his intentions of marriage with Sarah, daughter of James Hartwell. Killicutt is then called of Groton. He settled in Shirley, where at least three children were born. From Parker's Diary it would seem that he lived in the south part of the town near Scripture Frost, and that he and Frost were either partners or he was Frost's man. He was a shoemaker by trade and made shoes for James Parker in 1784. What became of the family later is a mystery.

Children:

- I. SARAH, b. February 18, 1779.
- II. THOMAS, b. January 29, 1781; d. January 19, 1782.
- III. NAOMI, b. November 6, 1783.

KINGMAN

NATHAN KINGMAN was born in 1752, the son of Captain David⁵ Kingman (David,⁴ John,³ John,² Henry¹) of Bridgewater and his wife Abigail Hall. He married Lenity or Lanata Thomas of Marshfield, sister of Japhet Allen's wife. He came very soon to Shirley and set up a blacksmith shop opposite the house now occupied by Mr. Crockett, and

lived in the house across the road. James Parker mentions him in September and October, 1774. October 18 "this day James Page came for some Boards for Nathan Kingman 653 new & old." He died in 1776, and David Kingman of Bridgewater administered his estate. His widow married Edward Hayford in 1779.

Children:

- I. NABBY, b. November 4, 1774, in Shirley; m. Uriah Brett, 1790.
- II. MARY, bapt. December 15, 1776, "father deceased."
- III. NATHAN, b. between October 18, 1774 and December 30, 1776. J. P.

MCINTOSH

ARCHIBALD MCINTOSH, of Shirley, was the son of Archibald and Rachel McIntosh of Raby, or Brookline, N. H. He and his twin sister Rachel were born March 23, 1758. Rachel afterwards became a Shaker in the Shirley family, where she died April 11, 1802. The elder Archibald was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill, and his name appears upon the tablets on the monument.

Archibald McIntosh, Junior, married Susanna Russell, in Hollis, on March 19, 1778. It does not now appear where his children were born, as the records of Brookline do not contain them, though the 1790 census gives him as still a citizen of Brookline. At the time of the census he had a son under sixteen, a wife and four daughters. In 1822, he bought an acre of land and a dwelling house in southern Shirley of Jonathan Farnsworth, which he sold or mortgaged to Benjamin Hastings in 1824. He died in Shirley, December 16, 1824. Parker writes of him "Old McIntosh lay dead," and records his burial on the 18th. David Kilburn of Lunenburg administered his estate, since neither James Bennett, Jr., nor Abigail McIntosh wished to do it.

Children:

- I. RACHEL, b. May 15, 1778, in Brookline, N. H.; m. David Kilburn, of Lunenburg, November 30, 1797.
- II. WILLIAM, b. 1779; m. Abigail Greenleaf, November 5, 1806, in Lunenburg. William McIntosh came to live, June 13, 1807, in Shirley Centre, first in the small house on Whitney Road, whose cellar-hole can still be seen, while he was building his house on Brown Road in what is now the new part of the cemetery. The house, moved, is now owned by Mrs. Grace E. Winslow. Parker writes of him 1804, June 16, "McIntosh helped Hands at work on the belfrey." When his son William lay dead Parker writes of him as "McTush." He was chosen sergeant in 1808, and ensign in 1812, though he was always known as Captain. In 1810 he began the manufacture of cut nails. He died in Shirley, October 14, 1823,

at the age of forty four. His widow married, second, Levi Houghton, October 15, 1830, and died November 25, 1844, aged fifty five. His inventory included among other things: a bass viol, \$7.00; a brass clock, \$20.00; books, \$2.50. Dr. Augustus G. Parker was appointed guardian of the minor children. The family Bible is owned by Mrs. Nathan A. Taylor of Littleton, Mass.

Children:

1. *Lucy*, b. October 16, 1807; m. William Henry Crossman, October 16, 1833, and lived in Archibald McIntosh's house at the Village.
2. *William*, b. July 24, 1810; d. May 2, 1814. Buried at Shirley Centre.
3. *Abigail*, b. August 20, 1816; d. September 6, 1838, aged twenty two years. Buried at Shirley Centre.
4. *Susanna*, b. August 20, 1816; m. Rev. George Proctor of Sterling, February 15, 1843. She d. January 11, 1870.
Children:
 - i. *Abigail Maria*, b. July 8, 1844; m. P. Merrick Harwood.
 - ii. *Sarah Frances*, b. March 2, 1856; m. Nathan A. Taylor.

III. ———, daughter.

IV. *Lucy*, b. April 19, 1784.

V. ———, daughter.

MCKENZIEY

RODERICK MCKENZIEY, of Shirley, was a resident of the town for many years. He and his wife, Polly, came from Lancaster about 1785, and, having been warned from town, settled down to a life of usefulness. McKenziey was the town tailor, and he made all kinds of fine clothes and uniforms for those who could afford them. James Parker's diary is full of references to him, but he mentions no children and none are recorded either in Lancaster or Shirley. He died on September 9, 1820, and was buried the next day. He lived longest in the house on the Horse Pond Road, formerly James Dickinson's Tavern. His wife died a pauper, August 17, 1838, aged eighty three years.

MCLEOD

DAVID MCLEOD, of Shirley, was born in Boston, May 16, 1740. He was the son of David McLeod, who, with his wife Mary, came to Boston before 1740, and had seven children, of whom David, of Shirley, was the eldest. David McLeod was evidently a sea captain, for on September 13, 1768, the item, "David McLeod, Sloop Ann from Hispaniola," appears in the sea news printed by the Record Commission of Boston.

David McLeod, the younger, married Sarah Henry "who was born in Groton, February 21, 1748." She was the daughter of Robert and Eleanor Henry, who lived near the Little Turnpike, on land afterward bought by the town for the Rev. Phinehas Whitney. He was for many years the schoolmaster of Shirley, and died there, October 31, 1789.

Children:

- I. THOMAS, b. December 28, 1772, in Boston. He married, May 29, 1796, Alice Wilder, in Lancaster. On November 2, 1800, he and his wife were dismissed to the church in Sullivan, N. H.

Children:

1. *David*, b. September 21, 1796.
2. *Patty Wilder*, bapt. October 14, 1798.

- II. WILLIAM SCOTT, b. March 5, 1776, in Marlborough.

- III. BRUCEY, b. March 10, 1778. Her marriage intentions were published March 3, 1799, to Timothy Vinton of Reading. She had issue; m. second, Nathan Woodcock of Leominster, March 8, 1821. The ceremony was performed by Jacob Wood.

- IV. MARY GILLESPIE, b. August 5, 1781. She married May 20, 1803, Joseph Bryant of South Reading.

MADDEN

JOHN MADDEN was a citizen of Shirley on Centre Road. He was born about 1718, and is said by the administration papers of his estate to have been a block maker of Boston. Later he is called of Lunenburg. He lived, however, on the land of Charles Perrin on Centre Road in Shirley, the land which is now Mr Frank J. Lawton's. The old cellar-hole, known as "Seth Walker's," still shows by the roadside just north of the driveway. In June, 1778, James Parker writes that he and others went over to raise a barn for "old Madding." He was of Irish extraction and according to his inventory was a man of substance. Madden died in Shirley, on September 4, 1778, aged sixty years. Charles Perrin administered his estate which amounted to £470: 16: 0. His inventory is an interesting variety among the ordinary ones of the day, and included items like these:

"Six white jackets.....	£5
Thirty one check handkerchiefs.....	£4—13
One small remnant black callamanco.....	.8/
6 leather bottom chairs.....	£6—0
Sundrie books.....	25/
7 y ^{ds} . white shalloon at 10/ pr. y ^d .	
2 diaper table cloths.....	£5"

It is probable that he kept a store in his house.

In the account with Charles Perrin are two items which refer to Madden's life in Shirley. Among the debts of Madden's estate appear:

"The affair with Mr^s. Madden & myself at the time when I settled with hir £4—10—0
to the use of my House Place £10—0—0."

Either the house commanded a high rent, or Madden had occupied it for a long time without paying his rent. Perrin was appointed guardian of the eldest son, William, who was seven years old at the time of his father's death, and Hannah, the widow, of the son John, four months old in October, 1778.

The younger child may have died for he was not mentioned on October 20, 1779, when Moses Ritter, one of the bondsmen of the estate, wrote to the Honorable Judge of Probate that "the widow Maddin so Called Appears to me, to be so Extravagant a Person that I Pray your Hon^r to order some method to secure the Childs Estate." One of the other bondsmen called attention to the fact that Charles Perrin's administration was not of the best and demanded that his actions be looked into. Unfortunately the sequel is lost in both cases.

Children:

I. WILLIAM, b. in 1771. He was apprenticed to Jonas Minot of Concord when "a minor over fourteen years of age," on November 14, 1782.

II. JOHN, b. June or July, 1778.

MOOR

HUGH MOOR, of Shirley, with John and Agnes Moor, who were either his father and his mother or his grandparents, settled on a farm in northeast Shirley, between Longley and Lawton Roads. His nearest neighbor was William Gordon, a Scotch-Irishman; and as Hugh Moor is certainly not related to any of the Moore families of the surrounding country, it is probable that he also was an immigrant. John Moor died May 8, 1758, aged ninety six, and was buried in the Centre Cemetery next his wife who had died July 23, 1757, aged eighty nine. Hugh Moor was born about 1714. He married Ruth Mitchell, of Scotch-Irish descent, in Lunenburg, December 28, 1743. Hugh was killed by the falling of a tree, just a month after John's death, June 22, 1758. He saved the life of his little son, Hugh, at the expense of his own. The family stayed upon the farm for some time. The widow Ruth Moor may have married William Dunsmoor of Lancaster in 1766.

Children:

- I. RUTH, b. December 22, 1744, in Lunenburg. She married Nathan Smith of Shirley. (q. v. Chandler's History.)
- II. MARY, b. in Shirley. She married Thomas Goss, and returned for a time to her father's farm in Shirley. Her son *William* was baptized in Shirley in February, 1788.
- III. AGNES, b. in Shirley. She married Captain Sylvanus Smith of Shirley. (q. v. Chandler's History.)
- IV. HUGH, b. about 1753, in Shirley. He married, 1, Sarah Holland of Shrewsbury, int. February 18, 1775, and 2, the widow Lucy Houghton, July 5, 1819. He died September 26, 1833, aged seventy nine. He lived in Boylston.

Children:

1. *Sarah*, b. September 19, 1775.
2. *Dolly*, b. March 17, 1777; m. Ephraim Gerry of Lancaster, January 28, 1800.
3. *Lucy*, b. January 21, 1779; m. Amaziah Ball, April 30, 1798.
4. *Olive*, b. April 22, 1781.
5. *Sophia*, b. June 21, 1783.
6. *William Holland*, b. July 5, 1785; m. 1, Clara Pearson, October 8, 1818; m. 2, Abigail M. Lamson, November 27, 1834. Issue. (See Vital Records of Boylston.)
7. *Polly*, b. November 4, 1789; m. John Hastings, November 16, 1813.
8. *Hugh*, b. December 12, 1791; m. Elsa Griffin, January 28, 1813.

NICHOLS

THOMAS NICHOLS, of Shirley, was published on August 27, 1774, to Elizabeth Boynton, of Lunenburg. Samuel Nichols was also of Shirley for he married the widow Elizabeth Bartlett-Patterson soon after 1759, and appears in the 1790 census of the town, though his family consisted of only himself and his wife. Thomas Nichols may or may not have been related to Samuel. The birth of his children is not entered on the records of the town, but Mr. Whitney records their baptism.

Children:

- I. BETTY, bapt. March 11, 1781, in Shirley.
- II. LYDIA, bapt. March 11, 1781.
- III. THOMAS, bapt. March 11, 1781.

PHIPPS

CHARLES PHIPPS, of Shirley, was born in Groton September 9, 1751, the son of Charles and Hannah (Pierce) Phipps, and grandson of Solomon Phipps, of Charlestown. Strangely he married Hannah Chase of Shirley (int. January 13, 1774) so that there were two Charleses and two

Hannahs. Charles Phipps lived at the foot of Green Lane on the Great Road on a long strip of land which paralleled the Lane.

Children:

- I. HANNAH, bapt. January 21, 1776.
- II. LUCINDA, bapt. December 17, 1777.
- III. JOHN PIERCE, bapt. November 18, 1781.

PORTER

WILLARD PORTER, of Shirley, was baptized in Ipswich, December 5, 1784, son of Samuel 3d of Wenham and Mrs. Anna Patch, of Ipswich. He married at Manchester, Mass., Lucy, daughter of Winthrop and Lucy Lee, published October 14, 1804. He came to Shirley in 1818, when he bought the farm on Town Meeting Road which had belonged to John Whitney and Francis Dwight. He was Selectman in 1825, 1826, and 1836. Mrs. Lucy Porter died in Clintonville, March 20, 1847. Mr. Porter married, second, Nancy, widow of Joseph Day, who had been Nancy Dike of Westminster. She died March 31, 1863, and is buried in the Shirley Centre ground beside her first husband. Willard Porter died in Shirley, October 3, 1860, aged seventy five. He is buried at the north end of the Shirley Centre Cemetery beside his first wife and children.

Children:

- I. ———, d. January 8, 1805, at Manchester.
 - II. LUCY, b. June 22, 1806, at Manchester, d. e.
 - III. ———, son, d. November 5, 1809.
 - IV. WILLARD, b. August 7, 1808, at Wenham.
 - V. SARAH ANN, b. August 10, 1810; d. February 5, 1821, in Shirley.
 - VI. ELBRIDGE, b. May 31, 1813 in Wenham; d. March 16, 1821 in Shirley.
 - VII. DAVID, b. September, 17, 1815; d. e.
 - VIII. ———, daughter, b. in Shirley, d. January 31, 1821.
 - IX. ———, daughter, b. February 24, 1821, in Shirley.
 - X. LUCY, b. January 4, 1824; m. Israel H. Spaulding of Townsend. The heroine of Abram Hartwell's "fire."
 - XI. JANE AUGUSTA, bapt. April 29, 1826; d. August 16, 1843.
 - XII. DAVID, bapt. July 4, 1830; m. Sylvia Adams. He was Selectman of Shirley eight times between 1855 and 1869, and Representative to the General Court in 1861.
- Child:
- I. *Lucy Lee*, b. cir. March 1, 1847; d. August 7, 1847.
- XIII. HARRIET ELIZABETH, bapt. July 4, 1830. Dismissed to the church in Harvard, April 9, 1848; m. probably William Emerson.
 - XIV. SARAH ANN, bapt. July 4, 1830; m. ——— Wyatt, of Lunenburg.
 - XV. ELLEN MARIA, bapt. September 4, 1842.

RANDALL

SAMUEL RANDALL was born March 11, 1750, the son of Samuel and Priscilla Randall. Samuel Randall the elder was a citizen of Shirley territory, being a dweller in Stow Leg when the petition of 1747 was signed.

Samuel Randall, Jr., married Mary Wilder of Shirley, the intention being published on August 3, 1775. His twin sister, Priscilla, married Ward Safford, at one time a Shirley resident. Samuel Randall lived for a time on the farm which he bought in 1776 from Isaac Solendine, and which he sold in 1788 to Edward Dunn. It is now owned by Mrs. James P. Tolman.

Children:

- I. IVORY, b. August 13, 1776, in Shirley.
- II. CYNTHIA, b. June 24, 1778. James Parker mentions her birth in his diary.
- III. SAMUEL, b. April 16, 1780.
- IV. EUNICE.

RICHARDS

CHARLES RICHARDS, of Shirley, married Jean Mitchell in Marblehead, February 23, 1729. He may have been the son of Elijah Richards who died there in 1697. Jean's brother Moses was "from Ireland" upon the records of Marblehead. Charles Richards came to Shirley about 1740, and bought a farm on the Lunenburg Line of about thirty acres. His farm later became the northern part of the farm owned by Jonas Parker, and in more modern times by the late John R. Holden whereon the "Pest House" stands. He sold this farm, in 1745, to James Gordon, and moved into a house on the Livermore farm on Benjamin Road. He lived on this farm until 1765 when he sold to Oliver Livermore of Watertown. He was twice Selectman of the town. Mr. Chandler says that both he and his wife died in Shirley, but there is no official recognition of the fact. He had a brother Edward Richards, yeoman, of Lunenburg, whose will was dated May 20, 1786. Edward's only heirs were his wife, Martha (Mitchell), whom he married September 7, 1782, and his brother, Charles, to whom he left two sheep. His inventory and accounts are interesting because they include "To a debt in England £60." He and Charles have always been considered to have belonged to the Scotch-Irish colony which took Lunenburg and Shirley by storm in the early eighteenth century; but they may have been merely English emigrants caught in the whirlpool of the Scotch-Irish. Worcester County Deeds give information concerning the migration of the Mitchell family.

Children:

- I. JOHN, b. January 13, 1730, in Marblehead; m. Elizabeth Mitchell of Lunenburg, October 17, 1757. He was still in Shirley or Lunenburg in 1781, for Parker says Richards helped him three hours on August 4. No children are recorded in Shirley or Lunenburg. Perhaps m. 2, Margaret Conn in Harvard, October 20, 1773.
- II. MARGARET, b. June 24, 1732, at Wenham; d. August 28, 1752, at Shirley.
- III. CHARLES, b. April 27, 1735; at Wenham; m. Anna ———.

Children:

1. *Charles*, b. September 5, 1757, in Shirley.
 2. *Mary*, b. August 20, 1759, in Shirley.
 3. *Daniel*, b. August 23, 1761, in Shirley.
- IV. MITCHELL, b. October 7, 1737, at Wenham; m. July 2, 1761, Esther Mitchell of Lunenburg, in Lancaster. Esther Mitchell was buried in Shirley on September 4, 1793, and Mitchell on December 5 of the same year. They spent their married life in town on a farm just north of his father's first purchase, which Mitchell bought of William Little.

Children:

1. *John*, b. September 18, 1762.
2. *Mitchell*, b. June 19, 1764; int. pub. to Lydia Davis of Harvard, December 23, 1785. Banns forbidden by Mitchell Richards, Sr. The marriage finally took place in Harvard on August 24, 1786. Lydia must have died quite soon, for he married, 2, Molly Darling, May 22, 1792.

Children:

- i. *Polly*, bapt. June 8, 1795.
 - ii. *James*, bapt. November, 1795.
 3. *Joanna*, b. January 4, 1768, in Lunenburg. Perhaps the Jane who m. Asa Miller Wyman in Lancaster, pub. September 9, 1785.
 4. *Esther*, b. March 11, 1773, in Shirley.
 5. *Elizabeth*, b. May 28, 1775.
 6. *Martha*, b. January 27, 1780.
- V. EDWARD, b. August 25, 1740, in Lunenburg; m. Mary ———, and lived in Lunenburg until 1779, when he and his wife and four children were warned from Shirley. They came to Shirley, however, under the auspices of Jonas Parker and there a fifth child was born to them. James Parker mentions them in his diary in 1781.

Children:

1. *Edward*, b. July 27, 1766, at Kingsbridge; d. e.
2. *Molly*, b. July 10, 1767, at Lunenburg; d. e.
3. *Edward*, b. May 1, 1768.
4. *Molly*, b. February 8, 1771.
5. *Gershom*, b. August 31, 1773; d. e.
6. *Aaron*, b. August 24, 1774; d. e.
7. *Eleanor*, b. September 21, 1775.

8. *Margaret*, b. May 21, 1778.
9. *Moses*, b. December 29, 1780, in Shirley.
10. *Stephen*, b. June 1, 1783, in Lunenburg.
11. *Charles*, b. June 13, 1784.
12. *Nancy*, b. May 30, 1787.

VI. ELIZABETH, b. February 22, 1743, in Shirley.

VII. MOSES, b. May 24, 1745; m. Ruth Willard in Harvard, February 18, 1768. In 1778, he sat in the "fore seat" in the side gallery in the church at Harvard.

Children:

1. *Lurana*, b. May 26, 1769 in Harvard.
2. *Anna Willard*, b. February 7, 1771.

VIII. ELEANOR, b. April 26, 1748.

IX. SURAINA, b. September 17, 1750.

RITTER

MOSES RITTER, of Shirley, was the son of Moses and Hannah (Jackman) Ritter of Lunenburg. He was born in Newbury February 17, 1742. He married September 5, 1771, Mary Goodridge. She died on December 15, 1785, aged thirty nine, and he married, second, Lydia (Hale) Diggins, the widow of James Diggins of Shirley (q. v.). Moses Ritter bought the Burkmar land in 1784, an acre and a quarter "with a Mansion house, Barn and shop thereon." Here he lived for some years, presumably until his death, April 20, 1810, aged sixty eight. His widow married, June 28, 1811, Ezra Clapp of Lunenburg and continued to live in the house with her third husband until she died September 5, 1822, at the age of seventy two. The house was so near to the Lunenburg Line that it must often have caused ambiguity in the minds of many. The road on which it stands was lately named Clapp Road from Ezra.

Children:

- I. MARY, bapt. April 24, 1774; m. April 9, 1795, Captain Isaac Spalding.
- II. ELIZABETH, bapt. May 22, 1774; m. July 12, 1801, William Pearson.
- III. PRISCILLA, bapt. February 4, 1776; m. 1815, Daniel Fisher.
- IV. MOSES, bapt. January 18, 1778; d. June 5, 1780.
- V. THOMAS, bapt. April 2, 1780; m. before May 26, 1803, Nancy Brown in Lunenburg; he lived part of his life on the farm belonging to William Bolton, Jr., on the Great Road, Shirley, and in 1812, bought twelve acres of the Bolton farm. He died September 20, 1820, aged forty one.

Children:

1. *Priscilla*, b. August 23, 1803; d. October 31, 1820.
2. *Mary*, b. September 4, 1805.

SHIRLEY

3. *Betsy Parsons*, b. August 26, 1807.
4. *Thomas Sullivan*, b. January 29, 1810.
5. ———, son, b. February 17, 1812, in Shirley.

VI. MOSES, bapt. January 20, 1782; removed to New York City.

VII. HANNAH, bapt. January 20, 1782; m. ——— Burr.

VIII. ZEBADIAH, bapt. July 1, 1789; d. e.

RUSSELL

WILLIAM RUSSELL, of Shirley, was born in Littleton, March 4, 1737-8, the son of Nathaniel Russell and his wife Marah, who was the sister of James Brooks of Shirley. He married on November 16, 1758, Lucy Goldsmith and had seven children, all born in Littleton. In 1772, they moved to Shirley, and were warned out by the selectmen in September of that year.

Children:

- I. LUCY, b. May 6, 1759; m. John Ivory, Jr., pub., March 14, 1778, in Shirley.
- II. WILLIAM, b. December 23, 1760.
- III. LYDIA, b. February 8, 1763.
- IV. HANNAH, b. March 23, 1765.
- V. PETER, b. October 16, 1767; d. April 1, 1768.
- VI. PETER, b. April 2, 1769.
- VII. RICHARD, b. June 8, 1772.

SHAVE

EDWARD SHAVE bought land in Shirley as early as 1761. He is then called of Newton, but it has not been possible to trace him there. He married, in Cambridge, December 1, 1756, Esther Seaver, who was born in Cambridge, November 13, 1712, the daughter of John and Sarah Seaver. They lived near the junction of Groton and Townsend Roads. Mr. Shave's name is very puzzling, as he was married as Edward Sheaff, he signed himself Shave, and his farm was mortgaged to Squiers Shove of Danvers, who belonged to a Dighton family. The Christian name of Edward is common both among the Sheaff family and the Shove family. The name also is varied into Shawe in the 1790 census. Mr. and Mrs. Shave had no children and so upon the death of her mother, they took Mrs. Shave's niece Elizabeth Seaver to bring up. She was the daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Seaver of Cambridge, born March 25, 1738. On June 16, 1768, she married Ephraim Burrige in Cambridge, and the young married pair came to Shirley, and passed the remainder of their life on the

Shave farm. They had two children, Andrew and Elizabeth, and probably John, as John Barrage is mentioned as in Shirley in 1790. Andrew Burrage was still living in Shirley in 1820. "I at vandue at Whitney's, Andrew Burridges, oxen, ploughs, hoops & other articles, a Number." J. P.

SIMONDS

WILLIAM SIMONDS, of Shirley, son of William Simonds of Billerica, was born November 4, 1707. The first ancestor of William of Shirley was William Simonds of Woburn who settled near Dry Brook in 1644. He married, in 1643, Judith Phippen, widow of James Hayward. Their son, Lieutenant Benjamin Simonds, was also of Woburn. His wife's name was Rebecca. Their son William, the father of William of Shirley, was born in Woburn, February 14, 1679. He married in Concord, Elizabeth Wilson of Billerica, who died September 5, 1712. His second wife was Sarah Baldwin.

William Simonds, of Shirley, published his intention of marriage to Mercy Page, in Lunenburg, March 13, 1755. She was, of course, not the mother of his children. He was a member of the Board of Selectmen the first two years of the town's incorporation. When he died on April 18, 1758, he left a widow, Mary, who the same year, December 19, 1758, married Samuel Larrabee of Shirley. They lived on the Simonds farm.

Children:

- I. ABIGAIL, bapt. July 14, 1737, in Groton; m. Ebenezer Going, April 27, 1757.
- II. WILLIAM, b. 1739; m. March 11, 1760, Abigail Larrabee, of Lunenburg; m. 2, March 21, 1765, Sarah Wilson, of Shirley.
- III. JOHN, b. about 1741; m. Susanna Butterfield of Pepperell, October 19, 1761; m. 2, (?) Widow Mary Stuart, in Leominster, May 2, 1782.

Children:

- 1. *Susanna*, bapt. December 11, 1763, in Groton.
- 2. *Joseph*, bapt. July 20, 1766, in Groton. (See Leominster Vital Records.)

IV. DAVID, b. about 1743.

- V. JOSEPH, b. January 30, 1746; m. Mary Martin of Lunenburg; int. October 17, 1767, being then of Fitchburg; m. 2, Mitty Cummings of Groton, October 10, 1770.

Children:

- 1. *Joseph*, b. September 25, 1771, in Groton; m. 1, Hannah Dodge, January 9, 1794; m. 2, Mrs. Esther (Maynard) Baldwin; m. 3, Susan Wright. Later of New Ipswich and Hancock, N. H.

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2. *Mitty*, b. March 23, 1774, in Groton; m. Peter Fox.
3. *Asa*, b. April 6, 1776. Dismissed from Groton Church, to Hancock, N. H.; m. in Hancock, Betsy Russell, 1805; m. 2, Clarissa W. Newhall.
4. *Melia*, b. October 24, 1778, in New Ipswich; m. Captain Jacob Ames.
5. *Charles*, b. March 23, 1785, in Hancock, N. H.; m. Sally Dennis, 1809.
6. *Lucy*, b. May 21, 1791; m. Charles Wasson, residence, Hudson; d. about 1850. (See Hayward's History of Hancock, N. H., p. 886 seq.)

VI. REBECCA, b. about 1748; m. (?) Josiah White of Charlemont, in Leominster, March 2, 1786.

VII. ELIJAH, b. about 1749. He married Abigail ———, about 1772, and lived in Gardner, Mass., where his children were born.

Children:

1. *Elizabeth*, b. April 7, 1774; d. June 29, 1776.
2. *Elijah*, b. January 28, 1777; d. September 10, 1777.
3. *Elijah*, b. November 14, 1778; m. Persis ——— and had

Children:

- i. *Asa Rolf*, b. February 6, 1812.
- ii. *Mary Jane*, bapt. November 3, 1816.
- iii. *Sumner Jackson*, b. February 13, 1817.
4. *Jonathan*, b. December 9, 1780.
5. *Ezekiel*, b. February 25, 1783.
6. *David*, b. March 6, 1786.
7. *Abigail*, b. July 11, 1788; d. August 5, 1791.
8. *Asa*, b. November 7, 1790.
9. *Abigail*, b. August 5, 1793.
10. *Lucy*, b. November 11, 1797. (See Vital Records of Gardner.)

VIII. MARY, b. about 1754; pub. November 12, 1774, to John Jupp, of Shirley; pub. 2, April 23, 1785, to Nathan Smith of Shirley (q. v.).

1773, July 13. "Thos Simons was reapin for me at the mill Pond." James Parker's diary.

SMITH

For a complete account of the Smith family, of Shirley, reference can be had to Volume LV, and page 267 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

SMYLIE

HUGH SMYLIE, * of Shirley, was the son of Francis Smylie, a Scotch-Irish settler of Londonderry, N. H. Francis Smylie was born about 1689,

*This material was given me by Mrs. Mary Lovering Holman.

and died March 16, 1763, in Windham, N. H. He married Agnes ——— before 1720. She died in Old Dunstable, now South Nashua, N. H., December 23, 1786, in her ninety ninth year.

Hugh Smylie was born about 1724. He married Mary, daughter of Alexander Park, between 1740 and 1744. Hugh Smylie, after serving in the French War from Londonderry, began the rovings which make him so difficult to trace. Before coming to Shirley he was of Windham, Exeter, Pelham, Wilton and Westford. In 1764, he bought land in Shirley of Asa Holden and Jerahmeel Powers. His house stood in the southeast corner of the crossroads of the Old Townsend Road, now Garrison Road and Groton Road. (No. 21.) In 1869, he added land which he bought of Obadiah Sawtell and Joseph Wilson. He sold his farm in Shirley to Benjamin Woodbury, and went to Vassalboro, Me., where he died some time after 1790.

Children:

- I. JOHN, probably son of Hugh, as a Francis Smylie prayer book contains the entry "to John from Mother Mary Smylie 1772." Hugh was the only Smylie of the time who had a wife Mary.

Children:

1. *William*, b. 1774; m. Anna Julia Lightall, February 12, 1793. Their son, Edward, born in 1794, married Elizabeth Hardie in 1816, and had eight children: Mary, b. November 28, 1817; Charles Edward, b. June 17, 1820; Mariah Theresa, b. June 12, 1824; Elizabeth, b. August 18, 1825; Charles Albert, b. June 17, 1827; William, b. August 7, 1829; Catherine, b. April 30, 1831; Edward Thomas, b. March 15, 1834. The prayer book spoken of above descended, William 1798; Edward Smylie, 1816; Charles A. Smylie, 1849, and is now in the possession of his son Dr. Arthur E. Smylie.
2. *Charles Albert*, b. 1775.
3. *Francis*, b. 1781, and others.

- II. THOMAS, In the 1790 census he had a wife, four daughters and a son under sixteen.

III. SARAH.

- IV. WILLIAM, b. November 12, 1751, in Windham, N. H.; d. November 6, 1756.

V. MARY.

- VI. DAVID. In the census for 1790, he had a wife, three daughters, and a son under sixteen.

- VII. WILLIAM. In the census for 1790, he had a wife, two daughters, and two sons under sixteen.

- VIII. ALEXANDER. In the 1790 census he had a wife, one daughter, and two sons under sixteen. In 1782 he petitioned to be made commander of the brigantine *Iris*, a privateer. The commission was issued.

SOLENDINE

JOHN SOLENDINE, of "Nonacoicus farm," was born in Dunstable, May 8, 1683, and came to Nonacoicus, now the western part of Ayer, but part of Shirley for many years, about 1718. He and Henry Farwell bought the farm from Jonathan Tyng, and settled there. He married Susanna Woods in 1718. Later was the holder of much land in Shirley, for he owned the farms now occupied by Mr. C. W. Marshall and Mr. Frank B. White, then and for many years known as "Solendine Meadows." He died in 1738, and his widow married John Haughton of Bolton the following year.*

Children:

- I. SUSANNA, b. February 11, 1718; m. Manassah Divol, of Lancaster, June 19, 1740.
- II. WILLIAM, b. April 23, 1721; d. e.
- III. JOHN, b. April 28, 1725; d. e.
- IV. SARAH, b. May 8, 1727; alive in 1757.
- V. JOHN, b. November 10, 1729; m. Dorcas Whipple in Groton on June 17, 1752. He built a house on "Solendine Meadows," and there spent his brief married life. Mrs. Solendine died in 1753, and he died April 17, 1766, in Lancaster.

Children:

1. *Dorcas*, b. May 23, 1753; d. August 18, 1753.
 2. *John*, b. May 23, 1753; m. Susanna Farwell of Shirley, pub. May 8, 1773; d. February 25, 1807, in Lancaster.
- Children:
- i. John, b. 1774; d. November 2, 1825.
 - ii. Susanna, m. Calvin Wilder, December 17, 1795.
 - iii. Manassah, b. 1780. He married Deborah Fairbanks of Bolton and had six children. His daughter, Adeline, came to Shirley and worked for James Parker. In 1825 she married Abraham Durant of Westford, the marriage taking place at the Parker house.
 - iv. Mary Ann, b. 1795; d. February 25, 1807.
- VI. ISAAC, b. April 18, 1732; he never married, but bought much real estate, particularly in Shirley. He owned and lived upon the farm now that of Mrs. James P. Tolman until 1762, when he followed his brother John to Lancaster. He died September 16, 1806.

WILSON

JOSEPH WILSON, one of the earliest settlers of Shirley, lived in the northern part of town, just west of the great Holden Grant. He was

*For a more extended account see the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. LX, p. 369.

in Shirley as early as 1731. Joseph and his wife Sarah were received into full communion of the church at Groton, May 3, 1733. Sarah died December 30, 1762. All their children were born in Shirley.

Children:

- I. JOSEPH, b. January 23, 1733-4; m. Hepzibah Warren of Groton, May 2, 1765.
 - II. SARAH, b. July 27, 1736; m. William Simonds of Shirley, March 21, 1765.
 - III. ELIZABETH, b. July 4, 1739; m. Stephen Bennett of Groton, int. October 5, 1774.
 - IV. JOHN, b. September 7, 1742.
 - V. DAVID, b. June 3, 1745; m. 1, Sarah Bolton, pub. February 4, 1780; m. 2, Martha Page, pub. March 21, 1784. David Wilson served through the Revolutionary war. On January 26, 1781, James Parker writes "David Wilson & Isaac Williams Inlisted for 3 years." He was in Shirley in 1790 when the census was taken and is credited with three boys under sixteen, a wife and daughter, though no births are recorded in Shirley.
 - VI. ESTHER, b. June 14, 1748.
 - VII. SUSANNA, b. August 14, 1751; m. Samuel Druery, pub. September 30, 1782.
1796. July 18. "Warren Wilson, Abner Pierce, by ye Mill Pond." James Parker's diary.

ABEL WILSON, of Shirley, from Dr. Benjamin Hartwell's Records.

Children:

- I. ———, daughter, b. May 21, 1820.
- II. ———, daughter, b. May 19, 1822.

ZWIERS

REUBEN ZWIERS, of Shirley, came from Lancaster to the southern part of town early in the nineteenth century. He was probably the son of Jacob and Abigail Zwiers, and grandson of Daniel and Margaret Zwiers, of Lancaster, and was born about 1775. He lived in a house just north of the Brick Tavern in Lancaster. About 1820, the house came into the possession of Squire James Parker and he records the fact that "Josiah Hazen's wife moved out of my Zweir house" in that year. In April of the same year Reuben Zwier and his family moved onto the Frost farm in Shirley, at that time owned by Parker, "to carry it on." Reuben married in Lancaster, August 20, 1798, Lovisa Phillips, and had six children, all born in Lancaster. He worked for James Parker in 1799. Zwiers evidently had money troubles, for, having lost his farm and moved to

Shirley, his difficulties seem to have continued. In October, 1820, Parker "went to Frost Farm with Swears to Save his effects." Reuben Zwiers died in October, 1822, and his widow married a second Zwiers, William of Townsend, on June 10, 1824. Before that Parker writes January 18, 1823 "the whole family moved off my Frost Farm."

Children:

- I. ARTEMAS, b. April 19, 1799; 1820, May 15, "Artimas Swears made my Garden." J. P.
- II. REUBEN, b. May 25, 1801; m. Nancy Newcombe Phillips, June 4, 1820. She m. Dexter Gleason in Lunenburg, April 17, 1823. He lived on the road through the Shaker Village about half a mile over the Lancaster line.
Child:
1. Nancy, b. July 25, 1822, in Lunenburg.
- III. CHARLES, b. August 17, 1803. Helped James Parker in May, 1824.
- IV. LEONARD, b. July 20, 1806; lived as a hired man with James Parker. 1823, January 16, "this day Leonard Swears went off."
- V. WILLIAM, m. Rebecca Dutton, in Shirley, September 10, 1828, by Thomas Whitney, Esq. He rented oxen of James Parker in 1825 (see page 36), and in April he and his wife moved onto the Frost farm.
- VI. SUSAN, b. March 17, 1819.

"PERSONS OF COLOR."

In the economic history of each town the necessity for cheap labor draws the most available to that locality. Early in our history the demand for linen called many Scotch-Irish to Lunenburg. The Littles, Richards, Moors, Gordons, McKenzeys and a few others overflowed into Shirley and were the first aliens to people our farms. About 1800, the great hop fever came to Shirley, as it did to nearby towns, and the call for cheap labor brought the influx of negroes whose history is here inadequately portrayed. James Parker and Wallis Little were the most prominent in those early days in hop growing, and that in some measure accounts for the fact that most of the negroes lived along the Great Road on Little's land, and the Smith land opposite, owned by Parker. Later Peter Tarbell was active in the same pursuit, and a few settled near him. After the hop growing had ceased, the remains of our negro population braided palm leaf hats for a living, which Major Brown of Lunenburg carried south and sold. The next migration to Shirley was of the Irish, who came with the Fitchburg Railroad between 1840 and 1850, but who proved a more permanent population than either of their predecessors. Some twenty years later, when the mills demanded more labor than our population could supply, the French Canadians began to come in to fill the need, and they have been lately followed by the Poles and Russians, whose names make the office of town clerk a nightmare.

BOSTON

PHILIP BOSTON, of Littleton, married at Littleton, Elizabeth Oliver, of Lincoln, February 4, 1762. Many of his children married and came to Shirley.

Children:

- I. ENOS, b. cir. 1764; m. Polly Parks, of Acton, January 7, 1786.
- II. POLLY, b. cir. 1765; d. February 16, 1792, aged twenty seven.
- III. PHILIP, of Raby, or Brookline, N. H., in the 1790 census. He had a wife and one child.
- IV. ELIZABETH, b. cir. 1766; m. Thomas Hazard of Shirley; q. v.
- V. LUCY, b. cir. 1778; m. Mentus Fageaus of Littleton, in Shirley, July 28, 1799.
- VI. PETER, b. cir. 1780. He married Hannah Moffett, and lived on Lunenburg Road in house No. 83, and there Dr. Hartwell visited him professionally many times.

Children:

1. *Hiram*, perhaps b. September 21, 1803; d. at Woodstock, Vt.
 2. *Nahum*, perhaps b. March 7, 1805; d. in Shirley.
 3. *Saloma Adeline*, b. December 2, 1806; m. 1, Solomon Harris, int. August 28, 1823; m. 2, Abel Shed of Lunenburg.
 4. *Caira*, b. 1806; m. 1, Emerson Hazard, June 24, 1829; m. 2, Benjamin Henesy. June 13, 1841; q. v. She died February 23, 1889, aged 83.
 5. *Oliver*, perhaps b. November 20, 1810; d. in Shirley in house No. 83.
 6. ———, son, b. May 14, 1814.
 7. *Lucy*, b. ———. 1820, August 7, "I carried Lucy Boston home and paid her off." J. P.
 8. *Louisa*, "Lovisy," m. Abraham Hazard, April 23, 1834; q. v.
- VII. ———, child, b. cir. 1789; d. April 29, 1792, aged about three years.

GIGER

DANIEL GIGER, of Shirley, was a Natick Indian, and probably the son of Daniel Speen, and Lucy (Partuck) Giger, and grandson of Nichodemus and Beulah (Speen) Giger. He was married to Almira Travis on June 14, 1828. Four years before, she and Hiram Hazard had had an unfortunate love affair. He died in Barre, Mass.

Children:

- I. DEXTER, b. December 21, 1828; m. Lizzie Freeman; s. p.; d. at Townsend Harbor.
- II. ELBRIDGE, m. Katy Phillis, daughter of Peter, in Townsend.

Children:

1. *Levi*.
2. *Gerry*.

- III. ELIZA, m. (?) Henry V. Hemenway, May 8, 1849. She was then of South Gardner.
- IV. DANIEL. A soldier in the Civil War. He never returned.

HASTENCLEVER

FRANCIS HASTENCLEVER. Mr. Chandler in his history of Shirley, mentions the singular name of Hasteneleven. It has been found that Francis was a colored man and that he married Phebe Wood in Lunenburg, January 5, 1791. The Lunenburg records give the name Hosenclever or Hostencleaver.

HAZARD

THOMAS HAZARD, of Littleton, married Elizabeth Boston, May 25, 1786, in Littleton. She was probably the daughter of Philip Boston, and a sister of Peter Boston who afterward settled in Shirley. He died January 10, 1839, in Littleton.

Children:

- I. PETER, who says he was born August 8, 1779. He died in Groton November 10, 1880, having celebrated his one hundredth birthday the year before. He was married to Roseanna Tuttle, October 21, 1813, by Thomas Whitney, Esq., of Shirley. His children were born in Shirley.

Children:

1. *Harry*, b. April 2, 1814. Died in the Civil War.
2. *Thomas*, b. January 28, 1816. Died in Leominster, Mass.
3. *Jane*, b. January 16, 1818. Married a southerner and had one son. They lived in Groton.
4. *Peter*, b. April 13, 1820; m. 1, Mahaly Lew, of Littleton, August 27, 1842; m. 2, Olive Freeman, May 9, 1849.
5. *Lindy*, lived in Lowell, Mass., and died unmarried.
6. *Luciny*, m. Daniel Corey of Lancaster, Mass.

- II. BETSY, m. Abraham Freeman, pub. November 24, 1805; she had twins, a son and a daughter, born in Shirley, August 14, 1806, and a son born November 14, 1807. They lived in house No. 66, the original Little house.
1829, January 5, "Freeman fetched his boy to live with me."
J. P.

Children:

1. *Abraham*.
 2. *Olive*.
- III. THOMAS, of Shirley. He married Betsy Jackson, sister of Jacob Mitchell's wife, and lived in Oliver Holden's birthplace in 1830. He died in Boxborough at the home of his son, Tower.

Children:

1. *Rufus*, b. May 7, 1803; m. to Mary Newell, a French girl, May 4, 1823, by Stephen Longley, Esq. He lived near Spectacle Pond in Littleton.

Children:

- i. Emerson, b. November 23, 1823, in Shirley.
 - ii. Francis N., b. March 17, 1834.
 - iii. James C., b. May 10, 1843. All three lived at Sandy Pond in Littleton and died without issue.
 - iv. Tower, m. Delina Clark, and d. in Ayer of consumption. s. p.
2. *Hiram*, b. November 19, 1805; he published his intention to Almira Travis, February 15, 1824. The banns were forbidden by his father, Thomas, because he was under 21 years. He married twice and had William, of Ayer, by his first wife, and James by his second.
 3. *Emerson*, b. October 15, 1807; m. Caira Boston, June 24, 1829; his widow married Benjamin Henesy (q. v.) June 13, 1841. He lived at first in the Oliver Holden birthplace on Squannacook road. His widow later lived on the slope of Flat Hill.

Children:

- i. Nahum Gardner, b. September 26, 1830; m. Harriet Phillis, daughter of Peter Phillis, of Pepperill. She d. January 15, 1892 aged 60 yrs. 7 mos. 6 days. He lived in Leominster until his death in 1912. He had nine children. His photograph hangs in the Town Hall at Shirley Centre, and a daguerreotype taken about 1861 is owned by the author.
 - ii. Betsy, b. August 25, 1832; m. Joseph Franklin Mitchell, s. p. Living at Townsend Harbor, 1914.
 - iii. Horace O., b. September 22, 1834; m. Josephine Berry, of Richmond, Va. She was half white, the daughter of a sea captain and born at sea. He d. June 25, 1895, aged 60 yrs. 9 mos. 3 days. Their daughter Betsy married Arthur Blood, a white man.
 - iv. Oliver, b. September 23, 1836; m. Betsey Messer, the daughter of the widow Betsy Messer who lived in the house west of Peter Tarbell's on Groton Road; they lived in Leominster and had three children.
4. *Abraham*, b. October 10, 1809; m. 1, Caroline Oxford of Boxborough, int. July 30, 1830; m. 2, Louisa "Lovisy" Boston, April 23, 1834. He had four children, all born in Shirley, the children of his second wife. He and his wife died in Shirley.

Children:

- i. Lucy, d. unm. At Pratt's Junction.
- ii. Theodore, d. in the war.
- iii. Henry, went to the war and died on his return.

5. *Mary*, m. Henry Henesy, November 4, 1829. They had four children, born on Longley Road, Shirley.
6. *Tower*, m. Catherine Freeman of Gardner. He lived in Boxborough.

Children:

- i. *Tower*. Lived in Harvard and had issue.
- ii. *Elizabeth*, d. in Harvard.

HENESY

JOHN HENESY, of Shirley, was married by the Reverend Phinehas Whitney, to Phyllis Temple on December 11, 1803. John Henesy was half Irish, and his wife Phyllis had been brought from Africa as a small child. Parker's diary for November 13, 1802, reads: "I dug and drewed stone. Jack Henesy Layd wall for me."

Children:

I. HENRY, b. 180-; m. Mary Hazard, November 14, 1829, in Lunenburg, and lived on Longley Road in a small house opposite where Howard Hatch now lives. He is said to have moved to West Boylston. He had four children, born in Shirley before 1836.

II. BENJAMIN, b. July 4, 1811, at Peterborough, N. H.; m. Caira (Boston) Hazard, the widow of Emerson, June 13, 1841. Benjamin Henesy had a thin, intelligent face and dignified bearing. He was elected selectman in Townsend in 1877, was very hard working and very proud of the office. He died in Townsend, December 8, 1887.

Children:

1. *Elmira*, b. July 8, 1842; m. John Gardner. Living in Townsend Harbor.
2. *John*, d. unm.
3. *Edward*, m. Emerline Williams who d. May 11, 1896 aged 37 years, and has two children, Mary and John.
4. *Mary*, b. July 11, 1843; d. August 18, 1865.
5. *Susan*, b. 1850; d. April 11, 1865.
6. *Amos Benjamin*, d. June 9, 1902 aged 49 years 6 months.

III. HARRIET, m. Charles D. Treadwell, November 1, 1827. They lived on Squannacook Road and had at least three children born in Shirley. The children who lived are Ann, Harriet, Susan, Charles, and Emma.

MITCHELL

ABNER MITCHELL, of Lunenburg, "mulatto," married Jenny Blackenden, of Lancaster, November 21, 1785. Their children worked and lived in Shirley.

Children:

- I. ABNER, mentioned many times in James Parker's diary. In 1814 he worked for John Rockwood at West Groton. He must have married and had children, for Parker mentions that he had a team load of household goods.
- II. JACOB, m. Mary or Polly Jackson of Westford, int. October 27, 1811. He settled on the Great Road on the farm known to James Parker as "My Smith farm," formerly that of William Bolton, Jr. In 1825, he lived in James Parker's "Sawtell house."

Children:

1. *Royal*, b. March 10, 1812. As a small boy he lived with James Parker; m. Maria Putnam, March 18, 1832.
 - Children:
 - i. George, b. July 17, 1832; d. at North Shirley.
 - ii. ———, daughter, b. March 17, 1834.
 2. ———, daughter, b. June 23, 1813.
 3. *Mary*, d. at Keene, N. H. unm.
 4. *Betsy*, d. e.
 5. *Henry*.
 6. *Laura*, b. February 10, 1825; m. George Williams of Boston and had two sons and a daughter; d. in Worcester.
 7. *John*, b. February 13, 1827; a sailor.
 8. *Charles*, b. December 20, 1828, a sailor, still living in 1914.
 9. *Fanny*, b. November 25, 1830; m. ——— Johnson, and had two sons; d. in Nashua, N. H.
 10. *Joseph Franklin*, b. June 13, 1829; d. September 19, 1906.
- III. JENNY or "Janey," m. Peter Phillis, of Pepperell, November, 1806. They had two daughters, *Harriet*, who m. Nahum Gardner Hazard, and *Sophia*, who m. George Waterman, of Fitchburg. She is mentioned by Parker among his hop pickers.
 - IV. OLIVE, m. Thomas Ransellaer, June 28, 1832. James Parker issued a writ against Ransellaer in 1814, as witness in the court martial of Captain Francis Dwight.

* The list of names was given by Mrs. Frank Mitchell of Townsend Harbor; the dates are Dr. Hartwell's, and they are put together as seems most likely.

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