

**EPSON  
MEMOIRS**

the  
writings  
of

*George H. Yeaton*

## *Preface*

*“Epsom Memoirs” is a collection of memories put to paper by long time Epsom resident George H. Yeaton between the years 1958 and 1965. The manuscripts used are part of photocopies and originals that are part of the Epsom Historical Association collection. It appears that Mr. Yeaton made several copies of many of his stories and recollections, some of whom he sent to various people to read. As he recopied them, he often added other items of interest as he thought of them, therefore the different copies vary slightly. In such cases they are in this collection twice to include all his thoughts and memories.*

*The collection also includes hand-written copies of old town records, lists of town teachers, and a wealth of other information. Since these items are not in narrative form, they are not included here.*

*Some of the photos are part of the George H. Yeaton papers, and are presumed to have been taken by him. The remainder of the photos and maps included here are available through the Epsom Historical Association, whom I thank for letting me copy them for this editon.*

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# Tales of South Pittsfield.

## THE BEAR THAT CHASED THE HUNTER

As told by one of the Barton Brothers, the winter of 1905.

This bear had made his winter home on the side of Catamount Mountain, which is in the town of Pittsfield, but not far from the Barton Farm.

The bears den was in some ledges and among some large rocks.

Two men, I have forgotten their names (G.H.Y.) decided to capture this bear and made their plans accordingly.

Now the snow was quite deep, and the two men were obliged to go on snow shoes. One man carried a long pole with which he intended to wake up the bear by poking the long pole into the bears den.

The other man, who carried a long handled axe, was to stand above and directly over the opening in the edges and when the bear came out of his den he was to hit the bear on the head, with the axe.

Well: everything went as planned except, when the bear did come out of his den he came with a rush, angry and growling at being awoken from his winters nap. The man with the axe was not quick enough to hit him on the head but, struck him near his tail, this only enraged the bear more and seeing the man with the pole, standing in front of him, started for that man. The man dropped the pole, turned, and started down the side of the mountain, running as fast as one can on snow shoes, with the angry bear in close pursuit but, the snow being very deep and not hard enough to bear the weight of the angry animal, without snow shoes on, he floundered in the snow, and the man barely keeping out the bears way finally escaped, at the foot of the mountain. Thus ended the bear hunt.

In the summer of 1961 I called on Everett A. Dow, who had lived in the town of Pittsfield, eighty-five years and when young lived at South Pittsfield.

I asked Everett if he had ever heard about the two men and the bear. He had not but; said that he knew about the bears den on the side of the mountain. He had visited the place and had crawled through the tunnel, into the den. The den, he explained, when one has crawled through the tunnel, is about eight foot square and about three and one half feet in height or possibly a little smaller.

I think that he told me also that sheep which were pastured near this den would make their way into it during a storm.

Everett also explained why the mountain was named Catamount.

In the early days of Pittsfield, two men were exploring this part of the town and at night they made their camp for the night, under a large tree on the side of the mountain.

In the morning when they awoke, what should they see up in the tree, under which they had slept, but a large *Catamount*.

Thus the name Catamount was given to this mountain.

The elevation of Catamount Mountain is 1334 feet.

## OLD TALES OF SOUTH PITTSFIELD NEW HAMPSHIRE

*By David and Albert Barton*

With later additions and statements which agree with the Stories told in the year 1905 by the Barton Brothers.

### **Candlemas Day in South Pittsfield.**

In the winter of 1905 Pennell Brothers were operation a lumber lot in Epsom near Chestnut Pond.

They had a two room camp moved onto the lot near the mill.

Two of us stayed at the camp nights, among those who worked at the mill and in the woods were: Thomas and Clarence Pennell, the two brothers who owned the mill and lumber lot.

Others were Ernest G. Green, Simeon P. Locke, Edwin L. Bunker, Harry E. Sherburne, Arthur C. Locke, Joseph Judkins and his father David, Albert and Lewis Barton (three brothers) Albert A. Ordway, George H. Yeaton and others.

Horace Bartlett hauled in some of his own lumber and had Pennell Brothers saw it for him. It came from a small lot of Mr. Bartletts close by. Mr. Bartlett lived at Northwood Narrows.

I think that the man who helped Mr. Bartlett was a Mr. Lewis a neighbor of his. During the cold weather many of the men would come into the camp pit then and eat their noon lunch, which they had brought with them.

One noon Albert Barton told the story about the man who lived on the Catamount Road and who on Candlemas Day went out of doors and leaning against a tree, opened his mouth, as wide as possible and let the sun shine into his mouth and down his throat. He was considered a little queer in his head at the time.

He laughed at the old Candlemas Day adage "Just so far as the sun shines in, just so far will the snow blow in." I will not try to finish the story as told by Albert Barton that day, as I cannot remember all that he said, but rather I will copy part of an article I found in the "Analecta" under the date of 1862, about the fatalities of South Pittsfield.

"In looking over the history of this place we find there have been eight persons accidentally killed in this part of the town and there may have been more."

"On a pleasant thawy morning in February 1862, Joseph Hoage left his home on Catamount to walk to Pittsfield village and started to return home in the afternoon, stopping at Mr. Doe's on his way home. The weather had suddenly changed the wind shifted to the north and large flakes of snow filled the air.

He became bewildered near the house of Levi Wiggin, left the road and wandered about in the field in sight of the residence of Mr. Wiggin (in Fair weather) but probably blinded by the snow, the light there was not seen. This must have been in the early evening, Mr. Wiggin heard a noise, probably the cries of the perishing man, and went to the door but heard no more of them. Mr. Hoage not returning to his home True Brown started to search for him but gave it up till next morning, when his body was found. Mr. Hoage had evidently wandered about till tired out and finding a tree, stood on the sheltered side with his back to the wind and froze to death. There was not a great fall of snow,

but it was terribly cold and windy.” (note by the writer) Mr. Hoage was found in the same position, leaning against a tree as he was the day he let the sunshine into his mouth and throat.

So don't laugh at that old adage.

Everett A. Dow one of the old inhabitants of Pittsfield, said he could remember about his Grandmother telling the story of this man and of his freezing to death.

By George H. Yeaton, In the year 1962.

September 2, 1962. With the death of Ernest G. Green, last Thursday August 30, there are only three of the crew of men who were at the mill in the year 1905.

Edwin L. Bunker, Clarke and myself, that I know of. G.H.Y.

Edwin L. Bunker, died May 9, 1964.

### **The Man who Went After the Cows**

David M. Philbrick was shingling his large two story house and late one afternoon a man who was well acquainted with the Philbrick family, came to the Philbrick home and seeing the men on the house roof came up where they were working.

It was quite evident by the mans talk and the careless way he moved about, that he had been drinking.

Mr. Philbrick and his sons were quite concerned about this man falling from the roof, so David M. thought how he might persuade him to leave the roof, so calling him by his given name said: Dexter: I wish you would go and get the cows for us.

The man who was familiar with the farm and being of an obliging nature said that he would go and get the cows.

So he clambered down to the main staging at the eaves of the roof, but!! instead of continuing down to the ground by using the long ladder which was there for that purpose, he deliberately walking off the end of the staging into thin air, now this house was quite high posted and the ground sloped away from the house, making it quite a distance to the ground.

David M. and his two sons were horrified at the way the man had left the roof and looked over the edge of the roof expecting to see a dead or badly injured man. Dexter was just gathering himself up, when they saw him and David M., said “What in the world are you doing down there?” Getting slowly to his feet and starting to walk away, Dexter said: “Why I am going after the cows.”

This incident was related to me by one of the sons who was present when it happened. (G.H.Y.)

### **Ebenezer Barton Kills a Bear on Nudds Hill**

Just over the Epsom town line in the town of Pittsfield is Nudds Hill. Elevation 853 ft.

Among the ledges and rocks on this hill, many years ago there was a bear's den.

The following story as told by John L. Clarke in the year 1961, when he was eighty-nine years old.

“According to the story as told to me by an old inhabitant, of this part of Pittsfield, when I was young.

There was a bear’s den on Nudds Hill where from time to time a bear was to be found. Ebenezer Barton, the first settler on the New Orchard Road, at this section of the town, came upon a bear on the hill near the den. He did not have a gun with him and the only weapon available was a large club. Seizing the club Ebenezer attacked the bear and after a furious fight he succeeded in killing the bear. Ebenezer Barton was past the prime of life and it is said that he was unable to do any hard work after the day he had the fight with the bear.”

One authority gives the elevation of Nudds Hill as 700 feet.

### **The Indian in the Well Two Versions**

The first version by E. Harold Young.

E. Harold Young in his History of Pittsfield tells of the Barton boys shooting an Indian in the dusk of the evening.

“It was not until the next morning when the family ventured forth to milk their solitary cow that they discovered the body of the Indian in their open well, thereby explaining his sudden disappearance.”

(Note) This story gleaned from the early tradition of the Barton family.

“It was assumed by one who later set the story down on paper that the Indian was merely looking for a chance to steal a drink of milk from their only cow.

### **Second Version**

Another version of the “Indian in the well” is that, Margaret Barton wife of Ebenezer Barton was making ready the bucket of meal in preparation to feed the hogs, after scalding the meal with boiling water, which was a common practice. She started for the well to add cold water to the mixture. As Mrs. Barton approached the well, an Indian suddenly appeared and made threatening gestures, perhaps trying to take the bucket of meal away from her.

But Margaret Barton being a young and courageous woman, quick as a flash of lightning threw a ladle of the hot meal into the Indians face and eyes. Blinded and surprised by this sudden move of Mrs. Barton, caused the Indian to stumble and fall into the open well. (Writers note) Perhaps Mrs. Barton, gave the Indian a little push which helped him into the well.

In those early days, wells were not equipped with platforms and curbs. Water was drawn from a well by means of a bucket attached to a long pole, or some other contrivance.

This last version of the dead Indian in the well, was told to me by a direct descendant of the Ebenezer Barton family.

## **Just a Few Words About Ebenezer Barton**

The New Orchard Road was first settled by Ebenezer Barton, at its upper end and where he planted the orchard which gave the road its name.

He was considered a resident of Epsom as the town lines between Epsom, Chichester and Pittsfield were not settled until the year 1811. Ebenezer Barton was constable in the town of Epsom, year of 1754 and in the year 1758 he was one of the Selectmen of the town. The other two members of the Board of Selectmen were: Samuel Blake and Ephraim Locke. On April 23, 1761 Ebenezer Barton was chosen "Surveyor of the road leading to New Orchard Road." Ebenezer Barton, died in the winter of 1781 or 1782, bequeathing to his wife Margaret: to daughters Sarah Marston and Hannah Barton: to son William Barton, "his old field" in Epsom, bought of William Odiorne: to son Josiah the homestead.

Two of the direct descendants of Ebenezer Barton are: Allan P. Barton of South Pittsfield and his brother Kenneth K. Barton of Epsom 1963.

### **The Foot Print in the Ledge Not Far from the Upper End of the New Orchard Road**

In the town of Epsom on the westerly side of the New Orchard Road in Epsom New Hampshire, there is a footprint in a solid ledge. The depression is about three inches deep and is the perfect imprint of a mans foot. It looks as if the person who made this footprint, was running as the impression shows that the one who made it put his foot down with considerable force. The next imprint does not show all of the foot and the heel. Of course these foot prints were made many centuries ago before the ledge became a solid mass of ledges. This ledge is quite prominent from the highway, it is less than one hundred feet from the main traveled part of the road it rises sharply to a considerable height and is too steep to ascend at this point but if one goes back to a gap in the stone wall it is a gradual ascent from there to the top.

The one who made this foot-print was either being pursued by another savage or by some savage beast, or it could be that they were chasing something or someone. Any way the footprints indicate that they were made by someone which was in a hurry.

I saw these footprints a number of times when a boy. The last time I can remember seeing them was in the year 1912. We were repairing the road near this ledge and at noon ate our lunch in the shadow of the ledges. While we were eating, I mentioned the footprints in the ledges, near where we were eating our lunch, the men did not seem much interested in what I said and by the smiles on their faces and their lack of interest showed quite plainly how much credence they had in my story. So after we had finished our lunch I said: Now we will go and see the foot-prints, which we all did. This convinced them that my story was the truth.

Over forty years later, I went to look at this ledge expecting to easily find the foot-prints, but time, pine needles, growing trees and bushes made them difficult to find.

I spent some time hunting for them, but without any success.

It could have been that I did not look at the right ledges as there are several ledges near together. Afterwards I remembered that when I visited the ledges as a boy and young man, that there was a small pile of stones on the ledge near the foot-prints.

I did not see any pile of stones this visit I made this last time in the year 1958. After all a persons

memory is apt to fade in a space of forty-six years.

At this same place, not far from the foot-prints there is a round hole in the ledge which was probably used by the natives for pounding their grain and roots they used for food.

George H. Yeaton, 1961

On September 17, 1963, I visited the ledges again. Now this time my son John was with me, someone had told him how and where one could find the foot-prints and he led me directly to them. G.H.Y.

### **The Large Black Turtles at Odiorne's and Chestnut Ponds.**

In the year 1961 I called on Everett A. Dow who had lived in the town of Pittsfield for more than eighty years.

As a boy and young man he lived in South Pittsfield near the Pittsfield Epsom town line.

He recalled some of the experiences of his early life. I will try and tell of these experiences as near as I can in his own words.

“I was fishing at Odiorne Pond years ago from a boat, I felt a tug on my line and as I pulled the line to the side of the boat a black turtle, as large as a bushel basket came to the surface and put his front flippers on the edge of the boat, as he did this the boat tilted so sharply that if I had not let him go he would tipped the boat over and I would have been in the pond with the turtle.

Another time, I was at Chestnut pond, and seeing a large black turtle near the shore, I grabbed a club thinking I could kill him with it. Well: the turtle started to go into the Pond and I jumped on to its back thinking I might stop him, but he continued to swim, or walk on the bottom of the pond and if I had not jumped from its back would have soon been in the water over my head.

We talked about black snakes and he said that he remembers of someone telling him about a black snake that was crawling across the road in front of them and his head was on one side of the road and his tail was on the other side. That was many years ago and the ordinary road in the those days would be about twelve feet from side to side, or wide enough for two teams to pass. Perhaps ten feet would be the width of a road in those old days. Another snake story. By Everett A. Dow.

I was at Odiorns Pond one day and seeing a large black snake crawling through the bushes I grabbed a club which was handy. I started chasing the snake, and when I had nearly reached the snake he suddenly turned and started for *me*, I turned and ran the other way he soon left off chasing me and I stood and watched him as he made his way through the bushes, swaying the bushes from side to side as he glided away. He was a large snake and a very strong one, as showed by the way he swayed the large bushes.

### **More About the Large Black Turtles at Odiorns Pond**

Two men were fishing from a raft on the Pond and feeling a steady pull on one of their lines they commenced to bring the line up to the raft but: instead of a large fish what should come to the rafts edge, but an enormous black turtle, and put his front paws or flippers, on the side of the raft in preparation to board the raft. As he brought his weight to bear on the side of the raft it canted it so

much that the men were frightened and quickly cut the line and the turtle slid back into the pond. In after years, one of the men who was on the raft at the time when the turtle was almost caught, said: "If they had not cut the line he was sure they would have been capsized." (Henry E. Dotey).

Another man who lived not far from the pond, as a young man, helped to capture the huge turtles, when they came from the pond into a large meadow near his home. (Henry C. Ames). He said that it would take two men to capture one of these big turtles. He mentioned of standing on the back of one of the turtles and that the turtle walked away with him on its back. (After the turtles head had been cut off.) As I remember the size of the turtles, from the conversation I had with the men about the turtles, I think they spoke of them as being as large as a tub or a bushel basket.

By Geo. H. Yeaton, In the year 1963.

### **The Old Bell on the Factory at Pittsfield New Hampshire**

Copy of an old letter found in Epsom New Hampshire by George H. Yeaton, in the year 1962.

I am unable to find who wrote the letter, about the old bell, as it is not addressed to anyone or signed by the writer. Another letter probably accompanied this one.

The writer, I would assume, was the one mentioned as "Johnny" in the letter. This history of the old bell was written in the year 1889, fifty-four years after the trip to Pittsfield village, to hear the old bell ring at seven-thirty in the evening. In making a copy of the letter I have had some difficulty, as it was written with a pencil and as one can see by the date it was written seventy-three years ago. But all names, dates and places I feel sure are correct.

### **The Letter**

Fremont, February 25 1889

Writing of Hampton reminds me of the old "Strawberry Bank" bell on the Pittsfield factory.

When I wrote to you last, I intended to give you a little sketch of it, as related by Great Aunt Nabby Philbrick and her sister Molly Marston, when visiting on the "Hill" when I was a kid but I had got my letter too near done, before I thought of it.

When I was seven or eight years old they came to Epsom one winter to see their brother Daniel ("King David's") father, who was in his last sickness. Staying a week or two and spent considerable of their time on the "Hill."

One evening they chanced to be out of doors and heard the bell ring and on coming in Aunt Nabby gave us its history, and once when I was twenty-two or twenty-three she told over again at Hampton. When Portsmouth was first settled (1623) the first log houses were erected near the banks of the Piscataqua and, its being summer, the strawberries were so plentiful in the vicinity that the new settlement took the name of "Strawberry Bank." In course of time a log church was built and was known as "Strawberry Bank" meeting house.

The congregation was called together by blowing a conch, a kind of sea shell. (I presume you know what they are) then this church was in time superceded by a frame building, but the settlement was then so large that a conch could not be heard to its limits so a bass drum was used to summon

the churchgoers. (Few people had a clock in those days)

After years increased the size of “Strawberry Bank” so much that the church building became overcrowded, another was erected with a tower.

The Bass drum was still used but some of the advanced thinkers in the congregation began to agitate the subject of having a bell like they had in *Boston*. (Kings Chapel had a bell for some years.) but the majority of the old Puritans, Congregationalist opposed it so much, as savoring of Popery, or the Church of England, that the project was abandoned. The minister opposed it also.

A few years afterwards the richest man in the settlement, an old sea Captain, whose name I have forgotten, offered to donate a bell if the church would agree to use it but this they refused to do.

The Captain was a crafty old fellow and he went around among the members of the church, and among the younger persons in the place, and others, offering five pounds Sterlin (\$5.00) a piece if they would make a profession of religion, join the church, and then vote in favor of a bell. Quite a number did so, and on his next trip to England he brought out a bell from Portsmouth England, that had previously been used as a fog alarm on the Isle of Wright.

In the meantime so many of the “bought” members of the church had back slid and been “read out” that on the arrival of the bell it was voted against once more. Then the “Portsmouth Idol” (as it was called on account of its coming from Portsmouth England) was left standing on the wharf quite a number of years, when the church got a new minister who was in favor of the bell and by his influence the members voted to accept it and it was accordingly hung in the church tower and the old Bass drum consigned to oblivion. The same trip that the bell came out, an ancestor, Col. Ayers, of Aunt Nabby’s grandfather, came out too from the north of England on the Scottish border.

He was then a young man and single, but afterwards married and settled in “Strawberry Bank” which place about that time took the name of Portsmouth, from the Portsmouth “Idol” I think, but am not quite sure, that the “Idol” was used on still another church building after this, but at any rate it was used as a church bell until after the war of 1812, when it was “turned out of the church” and sold to go to the little church at Gosport on the Isle of Shoals, but they failed to raise the money and it eventually found its way to Pittsfield N.H. At the time that she and Aunt Molly were visiting us, on the “Hill” she said one day that she wished she could be near the bell when it was ringing and see if it would sound to her, in her old age, as it used to sound to her when she was a “gall” and used to go to Grandmarm Agnes and go to “meeting” and stand on the “singing” seats and listen to it. So one night after an early supper mother harnessed up and took Aunt Nabby, Aunt Molly and “Johnny” into the big sleigh and started for Pittsfield, so as to be there when the bell “rings out” at half past seven. She left the team at Mary Pages in the East end of the village because the “old mare” was always frightened at the bell.

Then we walked down to Thorndike store. (Not Thorndikes Block), but a wooden building that stood farther west close to the pond, and when the bell began to ring Aunt Nabby seemed as animated as a child with a new rattle and when the bell stopped ringing she and Aunt Molly began to sing an old tune, Psalms such as they used to sing in the old “Strawberry Bank” Church. *This was the first time that I ever heard any such singing and it frightened me.*

As I had always been taught that it was a dreadful thing to sing out of doors. Aunt Nabby told me years afterwards that I looked as white as a ghost. As we started for home Aunt Molly said she wished she could see the old meeting house where “Brother Daniel” used to preach, and the graveyard where “Brother John” was buried, as she was so old that she never expected to see Epsom again.

So mother drove up the “Lane Road onto Catamount and we took a look at the old “Catamount” Meeting House unoccupied and inhabited only by mice, spiders, wasps and bats, a dilapidated old shell. (This old church stood at the four corners just north of Friends Cemetery), then we drove to the burying ground but the snow was so deep we could not go in.

After looking awhile we started for home. But on getting to Abram Greens (Reuben Lanes) we found there was no track from there to Friends meeting house. Rhoda Lollar? (Jame Lanes older sister) was popping corn in a long handled frying pan over the fire in the fire place.

We ate a little popcorn, drank some cider, got warm and then took our back tracks to the old meeting house. Went down the “Furber Road” on the east side of the mountain to Batchelders Corner then turned towards home. When we got to the “Rials Fogg” place (where Henry Jones lived last year) we found Cynthia Philbrick just starting out to go on foot to sit up with old Uncle Daniel. Eben Fogg lived there then, his wife was mothers cousin Minah Philbrick. Cynthia was another cousin from Hampton, who had come up with Aunt Nabby and Aunt Molly. She got into the sleigh and as we got to the pine woods all three began to sing. Aunt Nabby had a deep base voice, Aunt Molly a falsetto one and Cynthia a soprano. (I did not at *that* time know one kind of a voice from another) and the sound of the big old sleigh bells and their near and distant echoes among the trees, would accord fine with ones voice. And then another would occasionally give a tenor, or alto of their own, making what seemed to me then, the most beautiful melody imaginable.

I dreamed of it many times afterwards. When we got to Jake Peaslees Corner, mother thought that she would drive over to old Uncle Daniels and carry Cynthia, so we all went on.

When we got there Aunt Nabby and Aunt Molly concluded to stop there too. Thyphona Langley was there. I think she was (a niece of old Uncle John Pages.) and mother made arrangements with her to go over and do some spinning. (Stocking yarn) So we then Started for home going down by D. M. Philbricks across bear brook up to the road, then over the ledges, where a wood path had been broken, and got home about midnight to find all hands sitting up for us and grandmother quite frightened.

Father was broiling some pieces of fresh pork before the fire, for a lunch.

Your father then fifteen or sixteen years old was asleep in his chair leaning against the “boiler door” and grandmother was knitting.

As we had come from the west they had nor heard us. Mother took the broiling sticks and cooked some more meat and we all had a lunch and went to bed, but I could hear that singing and sleigh bell accompaniment all night long. So much for an old time aunt when I was a kid and mother was in her prime but, I shall never forget that music. Turn to the next page. (Note: By the writer G.H.Y.) This is the end of the old letter, below I have added some names, dates, and other records that might help one to understand the preceding pages. On the “Hill” was at the Thompson farm, later known as the William P. Babb Farm. Epsom, N.H. The boy fifteen or sixteen years old who was asleep in his chair leaning against the “boiler door” must have been Lewis Thompson, as he was born in the year 1819, and the narrative of the old bell and the trip to Pittsfield was in the year 1835 as that was the year that “Prophet Daniel” or “King Daniel” died.

Daniel Philbrick, son of Daniel Philbrick died in Epsom.

Arthur O. Friel, the son of Lucy L. Thompson, from on the “Hill”, was the mother of Arthur O. Friel. She married George W. Friel and lived at Detroit Michigan. Arthur O. Friel was born in that city, May 31, 1885. Died at Concord, N.H. January 27, 1959 age 74 years. His wife Bessie G. Friel

who survives him, lives in Concord, N.H. (1962). She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Knowlton of Manchester, N.H. Mr. Knowlton was a former Mayor of Manchester.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O. Friel did not have any children. Arthur O. Friel was a graduate of Yale University, Newspaper man, Author of a number of books, an explorer, Listed in Who's Who in America, taught at high school in Manchester after his graduation from Yale.

He was one of the first white men to explore the headwaters of the Orinoro River in South America. A member of the Explorers Club of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Friel lived in New York City for a number of years.

Arthur Friel went to school at the New Orchard Road, several terms. At that time he was staying with his Uncle Joseph and Aunt Lydia (Thompson) Locke. When his mother lived in Epsom, they lived in the cottage at Gossville. (Where I now live 1962 G.H.Y.)

At that time he attended the school at Gossville. Arthur and I were together a great deal as boys and one summer while he was at Yale University, he helped me with my haying, during his vacation, that must have been in the year 1906.

Arthur was on the roll of Honor in the years 1896–1897 at the Gossville school and in the year 1899 at the New Orchard Road School. He then left town to attend High School and College.

Arthur and I kept in touch with each other during the years. He gave me a copy of his book “The River of Seven Stars” a book which he wrote about his trip when he explored the Orinoro River.

He came to Epsom a few times and came to my home, two or three times, when here.

Mrs. Lydia *Thompson* Locke was a sister to Arthur's mother.

### **The Walter B. Chase home on the New Orchard Road From the Year 1776 to the Year 1965**

In the year 1776 Josiah Knowles settled on the New Orchard Rd., Josiah Knowles was born in the year 1754 and died in the year 1840.

The Josiah Knowles farm was in the third range of lots and the eastern half of lot number 101.

He was succeeded by his son Jonathan Knowles, born in the year 1788 and died in the year 1843. It was this Jonathan Knowles who built, or had built, the large colonial style house, which is still standing and in fine condition, a house which was built to last several generations and is a house to be proud of.

I understand that one of the former Governors of New Hampshire, thought of buying this house and farm, for his residence some years ago.

This house was probably built about the year 1815. Jonathan Knowles farmed on a large scale, he bought a barn from Deacon Cate and moved it to his farm and attached it to the east end of the large barn, already there.

In the hurricane of 1938 the old Cate barn was so badly damaged that it was torn down the following year.

This Cate barn was located on the east side of the New Orchard road in the corner of the field which is nearly opposite the Yeaton house of today 1965. Present owners George H. and John B.



**THE WALTER B. CHASE HOME ON THE NEW ORCHARD ROAD**

**PHOTOS BY GEORGE H. YEATON**



Yeaton.

Deacon Cate built a new barn on the west side of the highway.

A number of the Knowles family are buried in the cemetery on the west side of the highway opposite the Chase residence.

After Jonathan Knowles died in the year 1843, the farm was taxed to Jonathan A. Knowles, probably the son of Jonathan Knowles Sr. Later the farm was sold to Mark S. Moses. (Born July 7, 1808, died January 4, 1865.)

As to the date when he bought the farm the records show that Jonathan A. Knowles paid the taxes until the year 1850. Then Mark S. Moses paid them until his death in the year 1864.

From that date on it reads "Mark S. Moses Heirs of." In the year 1878 we find that Frank or Franklin D. Holt, who came from the state of Maine, paid the taxes. He may have been on the New Orchard Rd. before that date, as there are several years that the Epsom Town Records are not available at this time. What we do know is that Isaac G. Russ, a nonresident of Epsom, was taxed in Epsom, the year of 1878 for wood and lumber standing, on land of Frank D. Holt. Value \$125.00 & stock in trade \$350.00 a total of \$475.00.

Probably this last item was wood which had been cut, but not removed from the Holt land.

This large farm and buildings was taxed in the name of Frank D. Holt until the year 1886, then it was taxed to his son in law, Cyrus A. Lewis who paid the taxes until the year 1894 at that date M. Lewis sold the property to Silas B. Woodbury, who came from Massachusetts.

Cyrus A. Lewis, his wife Nellie M. (*Holt*) Lewis and their five sons: Frank W. Lewis, Harry D. Lewis, Stacy A. Lewis, Ernest E. Lewis and Walter C. Lewis, all went to Concord to live.

At this date (1965) there is only one left of the Lewis family who moved to Concord in the year 1894. The youngest son Walter C. Lewis, lives at 55 Noyes Street, Concord New Hampshire, Telephone No. 224-0029.

Silas B. Woodbury, died October 27, 1898, and the following year the place was sold to William E. Weston, from Reeds Ferry, N.H.

Mr. Woodburys widow, their son Fred who became an Optician and the grandson, Walter moved to Pittsfield, N.H.

Mr. Weston lived at the Holt farm until about the year 1907, when he sold to Joseph Stone, from the state of Massachusetts. Note: Silas B. Woodburys age at death 63 yrs. 3 mo. 17 days. He was the son of Ebenezer Woodbury and Hannah (Barker) Woodbury.

Mr. Woodbury was born in Londonderry, a stone cutter for many years.

Joseph Stone and his wife Addie Stone lived at the former, Knowles, Moses, Holt, Lewis, Woodbury and Weston place for a number of years.

After the death of Mr. and Mrs. Stone, their daughter Marion Stone kept it for her summer residence (Marion Stone was a school teacher).

In the year 1929 or 1930 the place was sold to Sarah E. Wilson and her sister Marion F. Brewer. They used the place for a summer residence.

## **A Visit to the New Orchard Road in the year 1892.**

Just an old memory story. By George H. Yeaton who lived on the road.

It is now the winter of 1963 and I am living in the village of Gossville. But in memory my thoughts take me back to seventy years ago, when as a boy of nine, I was living on the New Orchard Road, and of the families who lived on the road at that time.

Commencing at the turnpike at the southern end of the New Orchard Road, on its westerly corner lived Maurice C. Philbrick and his wife Mary P. (Cass) Philbrick.

They had been married on September 22, 1890 and moved to this house the following February 1891. At this time Maurice Philbrick was serving as Town Clerk of Epsom and in later years served as Town Clerk, continuously for more than forty years. On the opposite corner lived Mrs. Emily A. Hoyt. Mrs. Hoyt was the grandmother of Charles E. Cilley of Lockes Hill. The next place was the farm of James O. Fiske this farm was on the east side of the highway, at the foot of the long hill.

The Fiske family consisted of James O. Fiske, his wife Augusta A., a son Kidder C. and their son George V. Fiske who later became a medical doctor and practiced his profession in Manchester for many years.

Joseph P. Locke and his wife Lydia (Thompson) Locke, lived on the road at the junction of the New Orchard Road and the Range Road. The Locke buildings being on the west side of the New Orchard Road. Joseph P. and Lydia Locke did not have any children, but a nephew of Mrs. Locke, Arthur O. Friel, stayed with them at various times, when he was a boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Locke made shoes by hand and did some farming besides.

Henry W. Bickford, lived a short distance beyond the Locke home, and on the same side of the road. Their home was in the "Hollow" opposite the Old Tannery Pond. Mrs. Bickford was a sister to Joseph P. Locke, her name, Orilla H. Bickford. Mr. and Mrs. Bickford had a family of four children but at this time, their oldest son, James H. Bickford, had married Elma D. Fiske (The daughter of James O. Fiske) and were living out of town. An older daughter of Henry and Orilla Bickford, Alice, was married and made her home in Northwood.

Their daughter Annie B. and their youngest son Charles S. Bickford were living at the Bickford home, at this time.

Then next beyond the Bickford home lives the Samuel B. Stanley family. Their home was on the same side of the road, at the top of the hill. Mrs. Stanley was another sister of Joseph P. Locke, her name, Mandana C. Stanley.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley made shoes by hand, they also had quite a lot of land and did some farming. Their son Herbert S. Stanley (Bert) was at home with his parents not married at this date. Next we come to the Perley C. Giles home, just a few steps beyond the Stanley place, but on the opposite side of the road. Here lived Perley C. Giles, his wife Clarissa S. (Grant) Giles, their daughter Viola A., son Herbert P., daughters Nettie and Ella M. Giles, Perley C., and his wife Clarissa S. Giles, made shoes by hand.

This made three families where the husband and wife were shoemakers, all within a radius of one-fourth of a mile.

I can close my eyes, think of the old days and seem to hear the sound of the mallets and broad faced hammers which the men were using on the sole leather, before they were sewed and again

after sewing and turning the shoes. In the warm weather, when the windows at the shoemakers homes were open, the sound of these hammers would carry a long distance through the air and I can recall hearing them when quite some distance from the homes of the shoemakers.

In memory I can see the large fat hogs that Perley Giles had every fall, they would be in a small yard on the south side of his barn. They were so fat that they could hardly waddle up to the feed trough, when Mr. Giles came with their feed, and their eyes there was so much fat around their eyes that all one could see were slits, in the rolls of fat where their eyes were supposed to be. I guess the Giles family liked *FAT* pork.

My home was a short distance beyond the Perley Giles place but on the west side of the road, it was the original Cate farm.

Deacon John Cate settled on this farm about the year 1776. It was at this house where I was born, on a Friday morning at one o'clock, A.M., December 21, 1883.

I do not remember about it. All I know is what I was told in later years.

I lived at this home for over fifty years.

Our family at this date (1892) consisted of my father, James Yeaton, my mother Annie R. (Crockett) Yeaton, a brother John C. Yeaton, he was seven years older than I. My sister Helen E. P. Yeaton and my great Aunt Ruth E. Prescott.

My much older brother, Edwin R. Yeaton, who was born June 25, 1860, was married and living in a home on the turnpike.

We had at my home, Oxen, Steers, Cows, Young Cattle, hogs and hens.

Henry E. Dotey was living on the farm next above us. His farm was originally a part of the old Cate homestead.

Mr. Dotey, a Civil War Veteran, his wife Adelia, a daughter, Carrie M. and their son-in-law Everett B. Edmunds, (Carrie's husband). Everett and Carrie had a daughter, named Pearl Adelia. The above named of the Dotey family were living at the place at this date. Mr. Dotey, at one time lived in Dublin, N.H.

The Lewis family lived a little ways beyond Mr. Dotey's but on the opposite side of the highway.

Cyrus A. Lewis owned this large farm, previously owned by Franklin D. Holt, the father of Nellie M. Lewis. The wife of Cyrus A. Lewis.

I find that Franklin D. Holt was Prudential Committee of the New Orchard Road school, in the year 1885.

Cyrus A. Lewis was away from home on other business most of the time, and his wife Nellie M. Lewis and the five sons of Cyrus A. and Nellie M. Lewis carried on the farm. The sons names were: Frank W., Harry D., Stacy A., Ernest E., and Walter C. Lewis. I can remember of Harry Lewis taking the cans of milk to Pittsfield to the creamery in that town.

This Lewis farm was a large farm the land on the east side of the road extended from the New Orchard Road in an easterly direction to the Range Road. On the west side of the road there was a large tract of land. It was on this land that the "Old Swimming Hole" was located on the Odious Pond Brook. Also the steep side hill where we boys used to slide in the *summer time*. Using boards which were turned up at the front end, also making toboggans out of barrel staves, and in the meadow there grew sweet-flag, the roots we would dry and eat.

On the east side of the buildings there was a large apple orchard and on each side of the lane, which led to the cow pasture, there was "Square Field" on the north and the Long Field on the south.

There was a large cupola built on the ridgehold of the high barn, from which one could look in any direction. One could locate places in at least seven towns.

Now in memory I am sliding down the long hill which commenced near the Lewis home down the hill across the "little brook," where we got our drinking water for the school. Then across the "big brook," which was the outlet to Odiorne Pond, and here I am at the fork of the road, at my left is the New Orchard Road school house, which was built in the year 1884, it replaced the old school house on the Sherburne Road, nearly one-fourth of a mile beyond the new school house. Yes, Mayland Ames is coming down the Locke Road with his round tin dinner pail in his hand, there is something about the shape of the pail that makes one remember it. Mayland has on his felt boots this morning. Ernest and Walter were here when I arrived.

There now, Silas B. Paige is bringing Grace, Myrtie and Eva to school this morning.

The other scholars must be in the school house, Charlie Bickford, Bert Stanley, my brother John, my sister Elisabeth and the others.

There, the teacher Miss Ruth M. Mac Gown has just come to the door with the bell in her hand it must be none o'clock.

I received a Christmas card from Mrs. Ruth M. (Mac Gown) Stone, last year (1962) she is now living in Massachusetts.

Now I am leaving the school house, the scholars, the teacher and old memories.

The next home above the school house on the Sherburne, (or the Paige road) is the farm of Lucus S. Clark, almost one mile distant here lived Lucus S. Clark his wife Olive M. and their two daughters: Lizzie E., Sadie O., also a son John S. Clark. The Clark home was the former Constantine Woods farm, a large Colonial style house, on the west side of the road. The next place, a farm, was where Daniel N. Lewis now lived, this was the original D. Sherburne place, with the house on the east side of the road and the barn on the west side and with land on both sides.

Now we come to the Silas B. Paige farm situated on the west side of the road.

The Paige family, at this time consisted of Silas B., his wife Emma A. (Glines) Paige, their four daughters: Grace E., Myrtie H., Eva M., and Bulah Adelaid, also a son Harry L. Paige.

The farm was formerly known as the J. Paige place, as shown on a map of Epsom, published in the year 1858. The Paige farm at this writing, is the farm and home of Lloyd E. Kimball and his wife Ruth H. (Yeaton) Kimball (1963). The farm next beyond the Paige farm was the old Ebenezer Barton farm, some of his descendants were living there at this time (1892), or at least they owned it.

Now I am thinking of the Locke Hill road which commenced at the end of the Sherburne or Paige road, and at the school house. As I started up the Locke Hill road the first family on the road was the family of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Grant, Mr. Grant was a Civil War Veteran and a brother of Mr. Perley C. Giles.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant did not have any one living with them at this time.

Mr. Grant had a large fruit orchard and did some farming. In the winter months he would drive a large pair of oxen for his neighbor, Albion Locke.

This farm was at the foot of Lockes Hill, with the buildings on the east side of the road.

It was a long climb to the Albion Locke homestead, here lived Albion Locke, his wife Mary Anna Locke and their married daughter Ada L. (Locke) Cilley, her husbands name was Charles E. Cilley. He lives there also.

The Locke home was on the west side of the road, large and well kept buildings.

There was a large fruit orchard on this farm, one of the largest in Epsom at this time. Albion Locke and his son-in-law, Charles E. Cilley did a great deal of farming, shipping their milk on the train each morning, from the Epsom Depot.

It was a wonderful view from Locke Hill. (And still is 1963) No children at the home at this time (1892) but a daughter, Helen Mary Cilley was born, May 21 1896. Her parents Charles E. and Ada L. Cilley.

The next farm was the home of Alden M. Tilton, the grandson of Levi Locke, who was one of the original three brothers to settle, Lockes Hill in the year 1798 to 1800.

The Albion Locke farm being another of the Locke Brothers homes.

It was some ways to the home of Henry C. Ames where he, his wife Ella O., and his mother Harriet O. Ames, the widow of Charles Ames who died in the year 1887, lived.

It was at this home that Mayland P. Ames, the boy previously mentioned, wearing the felt boots and carrying the round lunch pail, lived being the son of Henry C., and Ella O. Ames.

This farm where the Ames family lived was the original William Odiorne farm.

In later years Mayland P. Ames lived at this farm with his last wife, Ada C. (Wheeler) Ames, and their children.

Mayland P. Ames, died at his old home, July 16, 1950. Age 70 years. 10 months and 3 days.

Mayland P. and Ada C. (Wheeler) Ames were the parents of four children, three daughters and one son. Mrs. Ada C. Ames, lives in Concord N.H. at this date 1963. I am now leaving the Ames farm with its maple sugar orchard, the memory of going fishing, at Odiorne Pond with Mayland, seventy years ago, the maple sugar he gave me one day at noon time, at the New Orchard Road school, taking it from his odd shaped dinner pail, of going blue-berrying with Alden M. Tilton. But memory takes me back to the home of Joseph P. Locke, and the southern end of the Range Road.

I will let memory take me up this road by the "Red Gate." The "Jo. Marden Place," the "Leaning Rock" the "Devils Den," the Leaning Birch," the old Lamprey Farm," the "Lamprey Ledges," the "Spring," Odiorne Pond and the "David Field." Then taking the winter path at the foot of the hill I soon come to the Amos P. Barton farm buildings.

The next farm was the Warren E. Hilliard and other of the large farms of Epsom. This farm was situated on the west side of the Range Road. The next place was at that time the Lowell Brown farm. Later owned by Albert Barton, who married Mary Genella Knowles of Epsom. Her father Henry S. Knowles who owned and operated the store and grist mill at Epsom. The next farm was the home and large farm of David M. Philbrick. This is the last farm on the north end of the R.R.

## **The Knowles Family of the New Orchard Road, Epsom New Hampshire**

We have living here in Epsom, at this date 1965, a direct descendant of the Josiah Knowles family, of the New Orchard road.

Josiah Knowles came to Epsom in the year 1776. He was the son of Jonathan and Sarah Knowles of Hampton, N.H. and Little River.

The name of this descendant is Madaline R. Knowles.

Below are the names of her ancestors of the Knowles line.

(1) Jonathan and Sarah Knowles, of Hampton N.H. and Little River.

Their son:

(2) Josiah Knowles, of the New Orchard road

married first: Esther Blake.

married second: Martha Cate.

The son of Josiah and Esther Knowles

(3) Jonathan Knowles, of the New Orchard road

married first: Peggy Locke

married second: Ruth Philbrick

The daughter of Jonathan and Ruth Knowles

(4) Ruth M. Knowles, of the New Orchard road

married Samuel D. Nutter.

Their daughter:

(5) Ella A. Nutter; married Charles Roberts

Their daughter:

(6) Addie E. Roberts, married Ernest G. Greene

Their daughter,

(7) Madaline R. Greene, married George W. Knowles of Epsom. June 18, 1927.

Josiah Knowles father's and mother's names were Jonathan and Sarah Knowles.

Josiah Knowles married for his first wife Esther Blake.

His second wife was Martha Cate.

Esther Blake was born October 27, 1761.

Her father was: Samuel Blake

Mother's name: Sarah Blake, the second wife of Samuel.

The children of Josiah and Esther Knowles, recorded by Michael McClary, Town Clerk Epsom, N.H.

Jonathan Knowles, born September 24, 1788.

Jonathan Knowles, the son of Josiah and Esther (Blake) Knowles, married Peggy Locke for his first wife, married for his second wife, Ruth Philbrick.

Nutter: In the Knowles cemetery on the New Orchard road.

Esther Nutter, wife of Samuel D. Nutter, died in the year 1835.

Nutter: Charles B. son of Samuel and Ruth died in the year 1843 age 2 yrs. 8 mo.

The children of Jonathan Knowles and his wife Peggy Locke were: Samuel Knowles born September 23, 1811.

Josiah Knowles, born August 23, 1809.

Listed below are the names of members of the Knowles family, who lived on the New Orchard road, at the Knowles residence many years ago, and are buried in the cemetery on the west side of the highway nearly opposite the residence of Walter B. Chase. (1965)

Ruth Knowles, wife of Jonathan died in the year 1850 age 63 years.

Jonathan Knowles, died in the year 1843 at age of 54 years.

Josiah Knowles, died year of 1840 age 85 yrs.

Esther Knowles, wife of Josiah died in 1822 age 61 yrs.

Martha Knowles, wife of Josiah died in 1859 age 84 yrs.

Sarah Knowles, the daughter of Jonathan and Ruth died in the year 1833 age 4 yrs 7 mo.

Samuel P. Knowles, son of Samuel and Oliver, died in the year 1843, age 1 yr.

Martha Knowles, died in 1840 at the age of 3 yr. 8 mo., she was the daughter of Samuel and Oliver.

Josiah Knowles, son of Jonathan and Martha died the year of 1837 at the age of 27 years.

In the cemetery at Center Hill.

Rev. Jonathan A. Knowles, born Jan. 14 1824 died Jan. 24, 1894.

Susan G. Bickford, the wife of Jonathan A. Knowles. Died January 22, 1909, born February 25, 1824.

J. Ayer Knowles, died Jan. 27, 1890 age 66 yrs.

Ida W. Knowles, died year of 1893 born in the year 1851. The daughter of Rev. Jonathan A., and Susan G. Knowles.

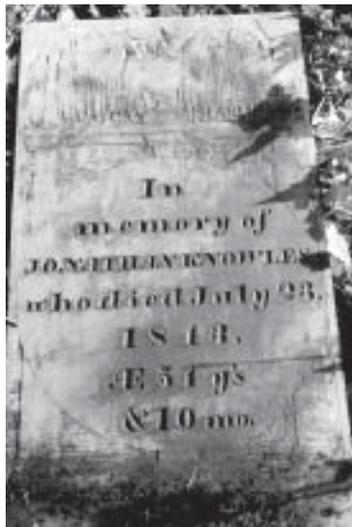
Grace V. Snow, the daughter of Jonathan Knowles and his wife Susan Bickford, died September 20, 1925, age 80 yrs. 11 mo. 15 days. Mrs. Snow was the last one of the Knowles family of the New Orchard Rd.

After the death of Mr. and Mrs. Brewer, Sarah E. Wilson (the sister) kept the place for a number of years coming there every summer.

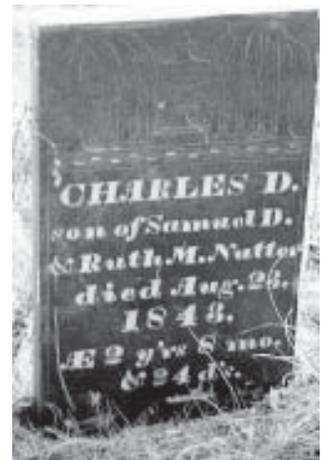
Mrs. Wilson sold the place to Joseph Young in the year 194-, Mr. Young cut or sold the lumber from the farm and then sold to Walter B. Chase, the present owner, 1965.



### INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE KNOWLES CEMETERY



THE CEMETERY IS IN POOR CONDITION WITH ONLY A COUPLE STONES STANDING



### **A Visit to the New Orchard Road in the Year 1858.**

As the group left the Concord to Portsmouth turnpike and started north on the New Orchard Road, they found that Dr. Leonard W. Peabody lived in the house on the westerly side at the corner of the road and directly opposite, on the easterly corner was the home of Benjamin L. Locke.

Leaving these houses they up a long hill, across a flat and came to the "Shop Hill" where in past years a shop had stood but was now gone; then a short distance down hill to the home of D. Brown.

At this point the Range Road commenced, branching a little to the right and continuing on in a northerly direction. At this time it was decided to continue on up the New Orchard Road, coming back later and going up the Range Road.

So down a hill, crossing the brook at the old Tannery mill pond, then up the hill to the home of J. Sherburne. His house was at the top of the hill and on the westerly side of the road; a short distance beyond but on the easterly side of the road lived the M. Sherburne family.

Now around a curve in the road, up a small hill and they came to the J. S. Cate farm; this farm was settled about the year 1776, by Deacon John Cate. Deacon John Cate built a saw mill on the Odiorne Pond brook, just in back of the Cate home, the mill was in operation at this time.

After leaving the Cate farm and a short visit at the saw mill, the group came to the home of J. J. Moses, this was also on the west side of the road, and at an earlier date had been a part of the original Cate farm.

This was the house, where in later years, Walter Cox, the greatest horseman of his generation was born.

After the Cox family left the New Orchard Road farm and moved to Manchester, Charles E. Cox, the father of Walter Cox, in later years was appointed Warden of the New Hampshire State Prison, he served in this position for nine years; he then resigned and returned to Manchester to live. His son Walter Cox was one of four sons Guy W. Cox became president of the John Hancock Life Insurance Company, his brother Louis S. Cox was appointed Judge of Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

Another brother Channing H. Cox, was elected Governor of Massachusetts for two, two year terms 1921–1924. After the group left the J. J. Moses farm they came to the home of Mark S. Moses, this was a large farm and the house was a large colonial style house that a former owner, Jonathan A. Knowles, son of Josiah Knowles, who settled at this place about the year 1776, built.

It was on this farm that the "Old Swimming Hole," was located.

Some of the last ones to use the "Old Swimming Hole," were; Arthur O. Friel, who left the New Orchard Rd., in the year 1899 to attend high school and later Yale College. He became in after years an Explorer, Author of a number of books, Newspaper man and at one time taught in a high school.

Another boy was Walter A. Woodbury, whose father was an optician in Pittsfield.

The third one who spent many hours with these two was, George H. Yeaton. Another a Massachusetts boy, who came to Lockes Hill with his parents summers, and afterwards became a physician and lived in California, came to my home here in the village of Gossville, in the year 1962, and said that he also used to go swimming with Arthur and Walter in the same place, many years ago.

Mark S. Moses bought this farm about the year 1850. Fifteen years later (1865) Mark S. Moses died at age 57 years.

His son John M. Moses, was only ten years of age when his father died, but his mother; who was a woman of wide reading and intellectual interests, lived to see her son, John M. Moses, a graduate of Dartmouth College. John M. Moses taught for a time, at Coe's Academy, in later years he devoted much of his time to writing articles for the Granite Monthly and working on the genealogy of different families.

He was a man of much strength but only used it in emergencies.

In the year 1900, when I was a student at Coe's Academy, there was a fire near the home of Mr. Moses in Northwood. One building was a large two story house the other building which burned was a school house.

When the school house caught fire and there was no way to save it, John M. Moses went into the building and grasping a combination seat and desk in each hand wrenched them free from the floor, they were fastened to the floor with screws, carried them out of the burning building, then returned for two more. I saw the piles of seats and desks, after the school house had burned.

As the group left the Mark S. Moses homestead they went by the family cemetery, on their left down the hill, across the two brooks the bridges and came to the Locke Hill road which branched to the right, they left this for later in the day and went up the "School House Hill" and soon came to the *OLD* New Orchard Rd. school house, this building was on the east side of the road.

It was quite some distance beyond the school house to the home of David Brown who lived at the top of the hill, his house was also on the east side of the road.

A short distance beyond the David Brown house was the home of L. Brown, this house was on the west side of the highway.

Then they came to the Constantine Wood place, another of the Colonial style houses, on the west side of the highway, with a stone wall between the highway and the door-yard, a gateway and short driveway led to the house, which stood on a slight elevation. Just beyond and on the same side was the W. B. Perkins home, then a short distance, but on the other side of the highway, was the D. Sherburne place.

Next to the D. Sherburne home was the J. Page farm, but this was on the west side of the road.

Now they came to the home of Albert and David Barton. This was the original Ebenezer Barton homestead before that date.

At the time that Ebenezer Barton came and settled here this part of the town was considered a part of the town of Epsom and Ebenezer Barton was Constable in the year 1754 and Selectman of Epsom in the year 1758. In the year 1761 he was Surveyor of the New Orchard Rd., (Taken from the Old Epsom Town Records)

It was many years after these dates that the town lines were established. At the time of this visit, in the year 1858, the house was on the Pittsfield side of the Epsom-Pittsfield town line. Note: the New Orchard Road derived its name from the apple orchard that Ebenezer Barton planted when he came to town. The orchard was somewhere between his home and that part of Pittsfield, known as "Smokey Hollow."

This is the legend that came from an old inhabitant of South Pittsfield, as told by him when he was 89 years old.

At the time of this visit the old Ebenezer Barton farm was owned and used by some of the direct descendants of his family.

The group now retraced their way to where the Locke Hill road leaves the New Orchard Rd. Starting up the Locke Hill road, they crossed the Odiorne Pond brook, then up the hill to the home of Daniel Buzzell, he lived on the east side of the road, as you came to the top of the hill.

Now a long climb to the original Locke homestead, built on the west side of the highway, here lived Deacon David Locke and his son-in-law Albion Locke.

Just before they came to this home, which was another of the colonial style houses, they saw, on the easterly side of the road, the well and foundations of another set of buildings, this was where one of the three Locke Brothers lived at one time. A short distance beyond and on the west side of the highway was the home of Simeon Prescott Locke, son of Levi.

This was another of the old colonial style houses. They did not go beyond the Simeon Locke place as there was no one living at the William Odiorne farm, which was on the east side of the highway, the land extending to the shore of Odiorne Pond.

So returning to the New Orchard Rd., they went back to the D. Brown home and turning sharply to the left, started up the Range Road.

The first place on this road was the Jo. Marden place, no one living there at this time. The Jo. Marden place was nearly opposite the "Red Gate," then on to the old Lamprey farm, on the west side of the road at the foot of the Lamprey Ledges hill.

The Lamprey Ledges were on the east side of the road, here at the foot of the ledges was a small field and the spring of wonderful water that gushed forth from a bed of white sand. Then on the same side was the "Devils Den," "The Leaning Rock," and the Ledges, which one must see to appreciate their look of strength and beauty.

Then directly opposite the ledges, was the Lamprey farm buildings with the orchard nearby.

There was a short steep climb to the top of this hill, a short ways from the top of this hill, on the east side of the Range Road, was the "Davis Field" and on their west, a short distance from the road, they could see Odiorne Pond.

In the old days it was wonderful fishing at this pond, Pickerel, Horned Pout, White and Yellow Perch, Eels and large Black Turtles.

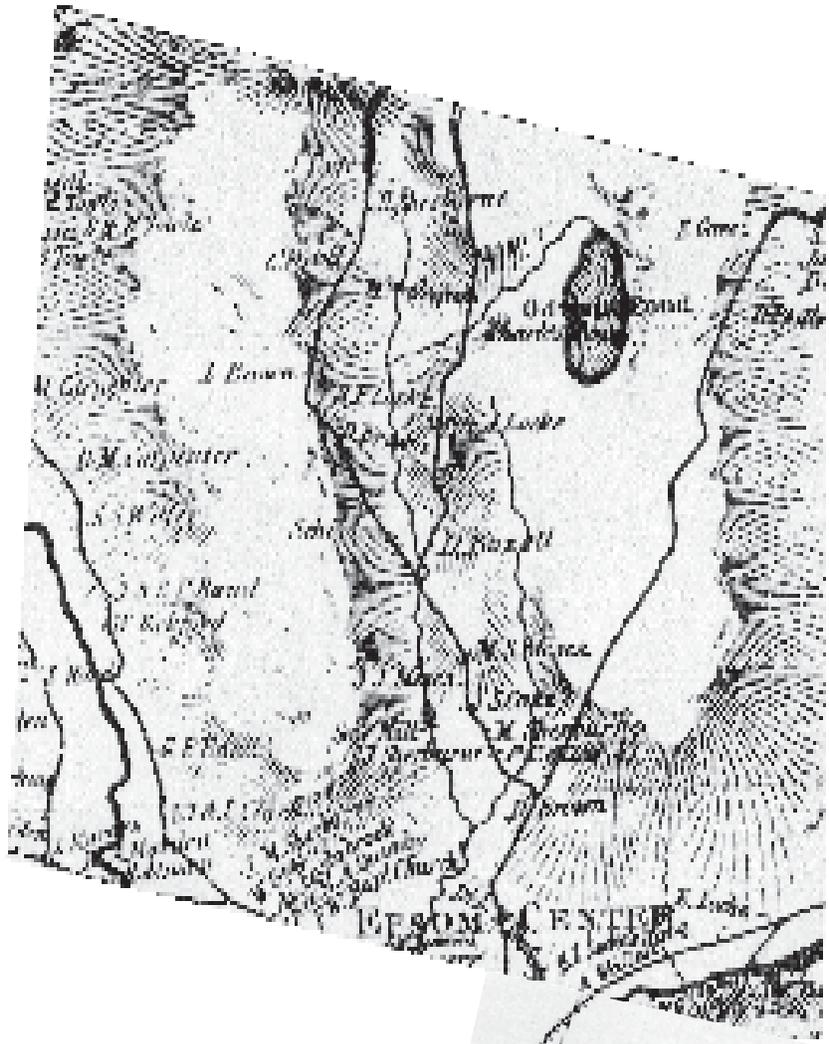
Now they came to the David Philbrick farm this was one of the large farms in Epsom, David Philbrick's daughter Mary Elizabeth, married Amos P. Barton, of the New Orchard road, who was the son of David L. and Mary (Miller) Barton, a descendant of the original Barton of Epsom, (Ebenezer Barton) of the N. O. road.

The next place was the E. S. and E. Gove farm, this was on the west side of the highway and to reach the house and other buildings it was necessary to go up a lane, leading from the highway. This was another of the large farms of Epsom and a few years later, the home and farm of Warren E. Hilliard.

The buildings were situated on a high elevation and from the door-yard one had a wonderful view of the surrounding hills and valleys, with the Suncook Lake in the distance.

Then back to the highway, around a curve in the road, down a hill, to the home of S. Brown, this place was not far from the Epsom and Pittsfield town line.

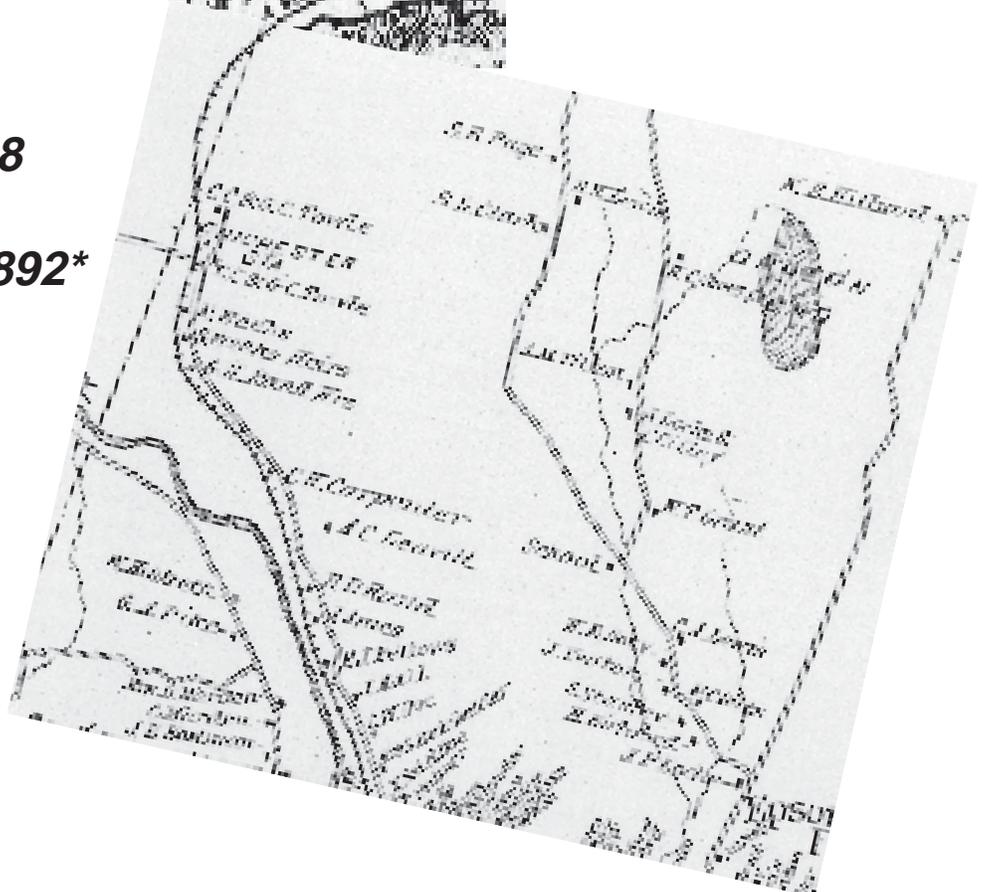
The house of S. Brown was another of the old style houses and another of the large farms in Epsom.



# New Orchard Road

**Top Map 1858**

**Bottom Circa 1892\***



\*from Hurd's Atlas

At the corner of the house there was a gate and to reach the last house on the Range Rd., one must open the gate, go some distance across the field of S. Brown, open another gate and here stood another of the old style houses, this was the home of Daniel Philbrick and his son David M. Philbrick (the reason for the two gates was: one must cross the field of S. Brown to reach the Philbrick farm.) It is said that David M. Philbrick, owned at one time, a horse that would unlatch these gates as they came to them, when he drove through this road.

(In the year 1878, the town of Epsom paid Lowell Brown, one hundred dollars, "land damage for new road," and D. K. Foster "surveying road from David M. Philbrick's to Lowell Brown's \$2.00." Taken from the Epsom Town Records for the year 1878. This ended the necessity of the two gates used in reaching another of the large farms in Epsom.)

The group now started on their return trip, opening and closing the two gates, up the hill around the curve in the road, by "the gate" down another hill, by the Davis Field," one last look at Odiorne Pond, down the "Lamprey Ledges Hill," leaving the "Jo. Marden Spring" and the Red Gate behind them. They soon reached the New Orchard road and in a short time were at the turnpike where they had started their trip, in the morning.

It was now nearly dark as this was in the days that we used the horse and buggy.

On the way to their homes they talked, among many other interesting sights, of the large white birch tree that grew in the form of an arch, over the highway on the Range Road and instead of regular branches, three trees of perfect shape grew from the top of the arch directly over the highway.

The dates, names, locations and the descriptive part are authentic.

The trip itself is imaginary, written by George H. Yeaton, of Gossville, N.H., formerly of the New Orchard Road, May 10, 1961.

### **A Visit to the New Orchard Road in the Year 1892. 34 Years Later.**

It is now the winter of 1963 and I am living in the village of Gossville, but in memory my thoughts take me back to seventy or more years ago, when as a boy of nine, I was living on the New Orchard road and of the families who lived on the road at that time.

Commencing at the turnpike, at the southerly end of the New Orchard road, on its westerly corner lived, Maurice C. and his wife Mary P. (Cass) Philbrick.

They had been married September 22, 1890, and moved to this house the following February 1891. At this time M. Philbrick was serving as Town Clerk of Epsom and in later years served continuously as Town Clerk for more than forty years.

On the opposite corner lived Mrs. Emily A. Hoyt, Mrs. Hoyt was the grandmother of Charles E. Cilley of Locke's Hill.

The next place was the farm of James O. Fiske, this farm was on the east side of the highway at the foot of the long hill. "Fiske's Hill"

The Fiske family, at this time, consisted of James O. Fiske, his wife Augusta A., a son Kidder C., and a son George V. Fiske who later became a medical doctor and practiced his profession in the city of Manchester for many years.

Joseph P. Locke and his wife Lydia (Thompson) Locke, lived on the road at the junction of the New Orchard and the Range roads.

The Locke buildings being on the west side of the New Orchard Road.

Joseph P. and Lydia Locke did not have any children, but a nephew of Mrs. Locke, Arthur O. Friel, stayed with them at various times, when he was a boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Locke made shoes by hand did some farming besides.

Henry W. Bickford lived a short distance beyond the Locke home and on the same side of the road, their home was in the "Hollow" opposite the Old Tannery Pond. Mrs. Bickford was a sister to Joseph P. Locke, her name was Orilla H. (Locke) Bickford.

Mr. and Mrs. Bickford had a family of four children but at this time, their oldest son, James H., Bickford had married Elma D. Fiske (the daughter of James O. Fiske) and were living out of town.

An older daughter of Henry and Orilla Bickford, Alice who married Fred Giles and was living in Northwood Narrows.

Their daughter Annie B. and their youngest son, Charles S. Bickford, were living at the Bickford home at this time.

Then next beyond the Bickford home was the Samuel B. Stanley place, this was at the top of the hill and on the same side of the road as the Bickford and Locke places. Mrs. Stanley was another sister of Joseph P. Locke, name, Mandana C. (Locke) Stanley. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley made shoes by hand, they also had quite a lot of land and did some farming.

Their son Herbert S. Stanley *Bert*, as he was usually called, was at home with his parents, not married at this date.

Next we come to the Perly C. Giles place but on the opposite side of the road, here lived, Perley C. Giles his wife Clarissa S. (Grant) Giles, their daughter Viola A., son Herbert P., daughter Nettie and Ella M. Giles. Perley C. and his wife Clarissa S. Giles made shoes by hand. This made three families where the husband and wife were shoemakers, all within a radius of one-fourth of a mile.

I can close my eyes, think of the old days and seem to hear the sound of the mallets and broad-faced hammers that the men were using on the sole leather, before they were sewed and again after sewing and turning the shoes. In the warm weather, when the windows at the shoemakers homes were open, the sound of these hammers would carry a long distance through the air and I can recall hearing them when quite some distance from the homes of the shoemakers.

In memory I can see the large fat hogs that Perly Giles had every fall, they would be in a small yard on the south side of his barn. They would be so fat that they could hardly waddle up to the feed trough when Mr. Giles came with their feed, and their eyes; there was so much fat around their eyes that all one could see were slits, in the rolls of fat where their eyes were supposed to be.

I guess the Giles family like *fat* pork. My home was a short distance beyond the Perly Giles place, but on the west side of the road, it was the original Cate farm. Deacon John Cate settled on this farm about the year 1776. It was at this house where I was born, on a Friday morning at one o'clock, A.M. December 21, 1883. I do not remember about it, all I know is what I was told in later years.

I lived at this home for over fifty years, our family at this date (1892) consisted of my father James Yeaton, my mother Annie R. (Crockett) Yeaton, a brother John C., (he was seven years older

than I) my sister Helen Elisabeth and my great Aunt Ruth E. Prescott. My much older brother (23 yrs. older) Edwin R. Yeaton who was born on June 25, 1860 had married a sister of Charles Eastman (of Concord) and was living on the turnpike near the Epsom Town Hall.

We had at my home, oxen, steers, cows, young cattle, hogs and hens. Henry E. Dotey was living on the farm next above us, his farm was originally a part of the old Cate homestead.

Mr. Dotey was a Civil War Veteran, his wife's name was Adelia Dotey, they had a daughter named Carrie M., who married Everett B. Edmunds. Carrie M. and her husband Everett B. Edmunds had one daughter who they named Pearl Adelia Edmunds. Henry E. Dotey, at one time lived in Dublin, N.H.

The Lewis family lived a little ways beyond Mr. Doteys, but on the opposite side of the road, this was a large farm colonial style house, a long shed connecting the two barns (the two barns were end to end.) One of them had been moved from the Cate farm and placed on the east end of the other barn, or the barn on the west end had been built onto the old Cate barn.

The Lewis family consisted of Cyrus A. Lewis, his wife Nellie M. Lewis and their five sons, named: Frank W., Harry D., Stacy A., Ernest E. and Walter C. Lewis.

Ellen J. Holt was the daughter of Samuel Harmon and his wife Eunice Johnson. Ellen J. Holt was born in Hartson Maine in the year 1825.

Franklin D. Holt died suddenly in the year 1885. He was Prudential Committee of the New Orchard Road school. Mr. Holt came from the state of Maine about the year 1878 and bought this farm. (Now the Lewis farm) His widow Ellen J. Holt, married for her second husband, on August 27, 1888 at Windsor Vermont, Hill E. Ober, born in the year 1816, the son of Benjamin Ober and Elvira (Kimball) Ober.

Cyrus A. Lewis sold the farm in the year 1893 and the Lewis family moved to Concord, N.H.

The Franklin D. Holt or Cyrus A. Lewis farm had an acreage of 176 acres in the year 1886.

The new owner of the Lewis farm was: Silas B. Woodbury, who died five years after he bought the farm. His widow, their son and the grandson all went to Pittsfield to live.

The son, Fred Woodbury was an optician in Pittsfield for a long time. Now in memory I am sliding down the long hill (the Lewis Hill) down the hill across the "little brook," where we got our drinking water for the school, then across the "big brook," which was the outlet to Odiorne Pond, and I am at the fork of the road. At my left is the New Orchard Road school house, which was built in the year 1884, it replaced the old school house on the Sherburne Road, nearly one-fourth of a mile beyond the new school house.

Yes Mayland Ames is coming down the Locke road with his round tin dinner pail in his hand, there was something about the shape of the pail that made one remember it.

Mayland has on his felt boots this morning, Ernest and Walter were here when I arrived.

There now, Silas B. Paige is bringing, Grace, Myrtie and Eva to school this morning. The other scholars must be in the school house, Charlie Bickford, *Burt* or Herbert Stanley, my brother John, my sister Elizabeth and the others. There: the teacher has just come to the door with the bell in her hand it must be nine o'clock.

Now I am leaving the school house, the scholars, the teacher and old memories.

The next place some distance above the school house on the Sherburne road is the farm of Lucas

S. Clark, almost one mile distance. Here lived Lucus S. Clark his wife Olive M. and their two daughters: Lizzie E., Sadie O., and a son John S. Clark.

The Clark home was the former Constantine Woods farm, a large colonial style house on the west side of the road.

The next place, a farm, was where Daniel N. Lewis now lived, this was the original D. Sherburne place, with the house on the east side of the road and the barn on the west side with land on both sides of the road.

Now we come to the Silas B. Paige farm situated on the west side of the road.

The Paige family at this time consisted of Silas B., his wife Emma A. (Glines) Paige, their four daughters, Grace E., Myrtie H., Eva M. and Bulah Adelaid, and a son Harry L. Paige.

This farm was formerly known as the J. Paige farm, as shown on a map of Epsom published in the year 1858.

This farm at the date of this writing, is the farm and home of Lloyd E. Kimball and his wife Ruth H. (Yeaton) Kimball, and family.

The farm next beyond the Paige farm was the Ebenezer Barton farm, some of his descendants were living there at this date (1892) or at least they owned it.

Now I am thinking of the Locke Hill road which commenced at the end of the Sherburne road at the school house.

As I started up the Locke Hill road, the first family on the road was the family of Mr. and Mrs. William T. Grant, (a Civil War Veteran) and a brother of Mrs. Perley C. Giles.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant did not have any one living with them at this time.

Mr. Grant had a large fruit orchard and did some farming. In the winter months he would drive a large pair of oxen for his neighbor Albion Locke.

The Grant farm was at the foot of Lockes Hill with the buildings on the east side of the road.

It was a long climb to the Albion Locke homestead, here lived Albion Locke, his wife Mary Anna Locke and their married daughter Ada L. (Locke) Cilley, her husbands name, Charles E. Cilley.

The Locke home was on the west side of the road, large and well kept buildings. There was a large fruit orchard on this farm, one of the largest in Epsom at this time. Albion Locke and his son-in-law Charles E. Cilley did a great deal of farming, shipping their milk on the train each morning from the Epsom Depot.

It was a wonderful view from Locke's Hill (and still is 1963) No children at this home at this time but a daughter, Helen Marie Cilley, was born May 21, 1896.

The next farm was the home of Alden M. Tilton, the grandson of Levi Locke, who was one of the original three brothers to settle Locke's Hill in the years, 1798 to 1800. The Albion Locke farm being another of the Locke Brothers homes.

It was some distance to the home of Henry C. Ames where he, his wife Ella O. and his mother Harriet O. Ames, (the widow of Charles Ames) lived. Charles Ames had died in the year 1887.

It was at this home where Mayland P. Ames, the boy previously mentioned, wearing the felt boots and carrying the round dinner pail lived, being the son of Henry C. and Ella O. Ames.

This farm where the Ames family lived was the original William Odiorne farm.

In later years Mayland P. Ames lived at this farm with his last wife, Ada C. (Wheeler) Ames, and their children.

Mayland P. Ames, died at his old home, July 16, 1950, age 70 yrs. 10 mo. 3d.

Mayland P. and Ada Caroline Wheeler, the daughter of Frank P. and his wife Lillian C. (Hilliard) Wheeler, were married in Chichester September 3, 1932. They were the parents of four children. Three daughters and one son. Mrs. Ada C. Ames, lives in Concord, N.H. (1963)

I am now leaving the Ames farm with its maple sugar orchard, the memory of going fishing at Odiorne Pond with Mayland, seventy years ago, the maple sugar he gave me one day at the New Orchard Rd. school, taking it from his odd shaped dinner pail. But memory takes me back to the home of Joseph P. Locke and the southern end of the Range Road.

I will let memory take me up this road, by the "Red Gate," the Jo Marden Place," the "Leaning Rock," the "Devils Den," the "Leaning Birch," the "Old Lamprey farm," the "Lamprey Ledges," the "Spring," Odiorne Pond and the "Darrs Field." Then taking the winter path at the foot of the hill I soon come to the Amos P. Barton farm.

This was the original David Philbrick farm and was the first of the four large farms near the north end of the Range Road.

At this time the Barton family consisted of: Amos P. Barton, his wife Mary E. (Philbrick) Barton and their five children.

Children of Amos P. and Mary E. Barton were:

Ruth M. Barton, who married, True Osgood. children

David Barton, who married Virginia M. Batchelder. No children

Louis M. Barton, who married Harriet Williams.

No children

Mary Barton, who married George Fred Richardson. Children

Albert Barton, who married Mary (Molly) G. Knowles. Children.

The next farm was the farm of Warren E. Hilliard, another of the large farms of Epsom, this was on the west side of the Range Road and to reach the farm buildings one went up quite a long land.

The Hilliard family at this time were: Warren E. Hilliard his wife Sarah A. (Dow) Hilliard and some if not all of their nine children: another (one had died in the year 1890).

Children: Harleon L., Clara, Ada M., Orah L., Frank R., Lillian E., Oscar A., Ralph R., Grover P., and Harold C. Hilliard. Harold C. Hilliard is now the only one left of the Hilliard's ten children, Aug. 20, 1964.

The next place was the Lowell Brown farm, some distance down the hill from the Hilliard farm and around a sharp curve in the road.

The Lowell Brown farm and buildings became the property of Albert Barton in the year 1904 or 1905, as he married Mary Genella Knowles of Epsom August 16, 1905 and moved to this place soon afterwards.

Mary G. Knowles was the daughter of Henry S. Knowles (the storekeeper) and his wife Genella

(Cate) Knowles.

At the Lowell Brown house there was a sharp turn in the road and to reach the last house on the Range Rd. one went in a southerly direction.

This was the home and large farm of David M. Philbrick and at one time this was probably the largest or one of the largest farms in Epsom.

This farm had an acreage of six hundred acres or approximately, that number of acres.

At the Philbrick home (1892) lived David M. Philbrick, his wife Sarah A. (Stearns) Philbrick and some of their eight children: Clara J., Daniel, David, Mary A., John S., Susan, George H. and Augustus T. Philbrick.

The David M. Philbrick farm home is now owned by his granddaughter, Eunice S. Philbrick, who lives there alone. She is the daughter of George Henry and his wife Amy E. (Lull) Philbrick.

Amy E. Lull came from Concord, N.H.

The children from these four large farms, near the northerly end of the Range Road all went to the school at South Pittsfield (at one time a few went to the North Road school) in the old days.

This school was known as "Union School District Number 6."

In the year 1841 a Pittsfield School District and Epsom School district number 6 were united to form "Republican School District." Merrimack County, State of New Hampshire.

Taken from the records of the New Hampshire General Court.

The Range Road: from its junction with the New Orchard Road to the driveway of the David Barton farm is now closed.

This is all wrong, for if any one wishes to visit the upper end of this road they must go through the town of Pittsfield or if they chose to go by the way of the North Road they still must go through a part of South Pittsfield to reach the Range Road. There are other reasons why this road should not be closed. First: if a fire was raging on the New Orchard or the Locke Hill road, traveling towards the east, there would be no way to get fire trucks and men up the Range Rd. to make a stand and extinguish the fire. A dirt or gravel road makes a wonderful place to stop a fire.

Second: if a fire was being driven by an east wind from the North Road the difficulties would be the same.

Third: now in the case of a house fire at the upper end of the Range Road, as it happened in December 1961, in which three lives were lost in the fire. The fire trucks and men must now go by way of Pittsfield, or down towards Northwood, to the end of the North Road, then up the North Road, through South Pittsfield to reach the northerly end of the Range road, making several miles of extra travel.

The Range Road, being closed for travel, we can only visualize the rustic and scenic beauty of this road, that saw so much travel in the old days.

Today January 1963, among nearly one hundred people who were living on the New Orchard, the Sherburne, Locke Hill and Range roads, back in the year 1892, there are only seven of us left.

One lives in Chichester, one in Epping, one in the State of Florida, two in some western state, one in Concord and one in Epsom. Of the old families only five are represented on these roads, of the original families in the year 1892. Two on the New Orchard road, and three on the Range road.

But: everything is changed, the school on the New Orchard road, and the one at South Pittsfield, have been closed these many years.

The Suncook Valley Rail Road, to which many of the farmers brought their milk to the Epsom Depot to be shipped to Boston, is a thing of the past. The State of New Hampshire has destroyed all of the native fish in Odiorne Pond and stocked it with Bass.

I spent many happy hours fishing at Odiorne Pond, in the days now long gone.

All that is left of the Amos Barton farm buildings is the long barn, all the other buildings are gone, the long sheds connected with the barn have been demolished and the house and large shed connected to it were destroyed by fire in the year 1961.

After reading this memory story over and seeing the mistakes I have made in spelling and in composition, I am wondering: why do I try to put these old memories down in writing, for others to see?

To be sure I find much pleasure in searching the old records and in thinking of the ones who were here in the days now long gone. But: there is a feeling of sadness associated with this pleasure and as I think of the changes in the families, the old homes, the way they lived and the way they did things in the old days, then: when I compare the way we live and do things, in this ever changing world of ours, at this present time, it makes me keep wondering: were the people happier in these old days or are we the happier ones in this modern and high tension way of living.

I was born in the year 1883 and it is now the year 1963.

### **The Bear at the New Orchard Road School House in the Year 1893**

One day the teacher, at the New Orchard road school, had some of the scholars at the blackboard doing their arithmetic problems.

One of the scholars was Charles S. Bickford and instead of doing what he was supposed to do, at the blackboard he was gazing out of the window which was beside the blackboard.

The teacher was quick to notice him and said, "Charlie what are you so interested in outside the school house?" Quickly Charlie replied, "There is a bear outside the school house."

"Then you had better go out and kill it," the teacher said.

Charlie obediently went outside, pausing only long enough to grab a broom.

We scholars in the school room could hear him pounding, with the broom under the window, soon he came back into the school room and said: "I have killed the bear."

By George H. Yeaton, one of the scholars, at the time, Charlie killed the bear, in the year 1893. It is now the year 1963.

Of course there was no bear in the school yard.

### Some of the Old Records of the New Orchard Road School

Commencing in the year 1878. At this date the school-house was situated on the Sherburne Road, quite some distance beyond the one at the junction of the Locke Hill Road and the Sherburne Road, which was not built until the year 1884.

The one on the Sherburne Road was on the east side of the road while the one built in the year 1884 is on the west side of the New Orchard Road.

The record for the year 1878. District number 5. Albion-Locke Prudential Committee.

The teacher was Miss Luella J. Cilley. Wages \$19.00 per month. Length of school; Summer term. 6 weeks. Fall term 5 weeks, number of scholars. Summer Term 11; Fall term 11.

Report for the year of 1879. Miss Lucy F. Morse. teacher for the year. Wages per month \$20.00 Length of schools: Summer term 7 weeks: Fall term 9 weeks. Number of scholars. Summer term 8. Fall term 5.

Report for the year 1880. Miss Sarah N. Wallace, teacher of both terms. Wages per month \$20.00. Summer term 7 weeks scholars 8. Fall term 6 weeks, scholars 8.

Report for the year 1881. Henry C. Ames Prudential Committee. Miss Edith L. Towle of Deerfield taught both terms. Wages per month \$20.00 Length of each term 6 weeks. Number of scholars 8 each term.

The voters of this district owe it to themselves and to the scholars that belong to it, to vote money to tear down the present school-house, and building another more in keeping with the advanced ideas on education, which prevail at the present time.

D. Gilman Chesley. Superintending School Committee.

Report for the year 1882. Henry C. Ames. Prudential Committee.

Miss Arabella Chesley taught both terms. Wages per month \$20.00 each term. Length of school, summer term 6 weeks Fall term 4 weeks. number of scholars, summer 4, winter 5.

On the Roll of Honor.

First term: W. F. Lewis, Bertie S. Stanley, John C. Yeaton.

Report for the year 1883.

Henry C. Ames, Prudential Committee. Miss Sarah N. Wallace taught both terms. Wages \$20.00 each term.

Length of school, summer six weeks.

Fall term seven weeks.

Number of scholars, summer term ten.

Fall term nine.

If the parents in this district would visit the school in any of the adjoining districts, and see the comfort that scholars take sitting in their new seats, and then visit their own school, they would not be long in deciding that they should vote to raise money to build a school house more in keeping with the advanced ideas on education which prevail at the present time.

D. Gilman Chesley, Superintending School Committee.

### On the Roll of Honor

First term, Annie B. Bickford, Alice P. Bickford, Frank W. Lewis, Stacy A. Lewis, Herbert S. Stanley, John C. Yeaton.

Second term: Viola A. Giles, Elizabeth P. Yeaton, Herbert P. Giles, John C. Yeaton, Stacy A. Lewis.

Report for the year 1884.

Franklin Holt, Prudential Committee.

Summer term: Whole number of scholars attending school eight, length of school  $7 \frac{3}{5}$  weeks.

Fall term: Whole number of scholars attending school, nine length of school eight weeks.

Winter term: Whole number of scholars attending school, ten, length of school seven weeks; Wages of teacher \$20.00 per month each term.

Miss Carrie B. Tilton, of Deerfield, N.H. taught through the year. The district has this year built a very neat comfortable and tasty school-house, in which the last two terms have been taught. (1884)

### On the Roll of Honor.

First term: W. Frank Lewis, Bertie S. Stanley, Harry D. Lewis, Stacy A. Lewis.

Second term: John C. Yeaton, Elizabeth Yeaton, Frank Lewiston.

Third term: John C. Yeaton.

Report for the year 1885.

There were two terms in this district, both taught by Miss Clara S. W. Lake of Chichester, N.H.

This school does not require much of the teacher's attention to keep the scholars out of mischief. They come from home ready disciplined and strive to make the most of their short schooling. Result, good order and good progress.

### On the Roll of Honor.

First term: Helen E. Yeaton, Frank W. Lewis, John C. Yeaton.

Second term: Frank W. Lewis, John C. Yeaton, Helen E. Yeaton.

Report for the year 1887.

The school teacher for first two terms was Lena M. Yeaton, third term was Olive E. Freeze.

### On the Roll of Perfect Attendance.

Second term: Helen E. P. Yeaton, John C. Yeaton, Stacy Lewis.

Third term: Harry D. Lewis, Stacey A. Lewis, Ernest E. Lewis, Bertie S. Stanley, John C. Yeaton, Helen E. P. Yeaton.

The members of the school board were: D. G. Chesley, Samuel Martin, James H. Tripp. Paid Lena M. Yeaton \$76.00

Report for the year 1888.

The teacher for the first term was Emma Philbrick, Second term: Emma Philbrick, Third term: Olive E. Freeze.

## NEW ORCHARD ROAD SCHOOL 1892 or 1893



District No. 5

Front Row: Mayland P. Ames, Charles S. Bickford, John C. Yeaton,  
Grace E. Paige, Myrtie H. Paige,

Teacher Miss Ruth M. McGown

Back Row: Walter C. Lewis, Ernest E. Lewis, George H. Yeaton,  
Eva M. Paige

Paid Nellie M. Lewis Board of Teacher \$20.00 (year of 1887 \$18.00)

Paid Emma Philbrick \$81.00

Paid Olive E. Freeze \$35.00

Roll of Honor

First term: John C. Yeaton.

Second term: John C. Yeaton, Ernest E. Lewis.

Third term: Harry D. Lewis, Stacy A. Lewis, Ernest E. Lewis, John C. Yeaton.

1888 Report for the year. School board members were: D. Gilman Chesley, James H. Tripp, Annie M. Wells.

Report for the year 1889.

The teacher for the first term at the New Orchard Road school was: Mabel W. Chandler. The second term May A. Wilson. The third term, F. W. Chapman and E. Georgie Batchelder. Mabel Chandler \$27.00 Mary Wilson \$44.00 Flora W. Chapman, \$5.50 E. Georgie Batchelder \$44.00.

For board of teachers: Nellie M. Lewis \$22.50

Roll of Honor year, 1889.

John C. Yeaton, 2, Helen E. P. Yeaton 2, Ernest E. Lewis, George H. Yeaton, Stacy A. Lewis, Walter C. Lewis.

Members of the school board

James H. Tripp, Annie M. Wells, Cyrus O. Brown.

Report for the year 1890.

The school teacher for the first term at the New Orchard Rd. school was: Effie Osborne. The second and third term Winifred M. Brown. Paid school teachers: Mattie Osborne, \$49.50, Winifred M. Brown \$109.50

Perfect Roll of of Honor

At the New Orchard Rd., year of 1890.

Harry D. Lewis, John C. Yeaton, Ernest E. Lewis, Walter C. Lewis, Gracie E. Page, Myrtie H. Paige, Helen E. P. Yeaton, George H. Yeaton.

School report for the year 1891.

First term: Ethel G. Brown.

Second term: Lillian L. Merrill.

Third term: Olive E. Freeze.

School board members.

Cyrus O. Brown, James H. Tripp, Mrs. Clara C. Woodman.

Paid Ethel G. Brown \$49.50 Lillian L. Merrill \$54.00. Paid Clara C. Woodman \$49.50.

Roll of Honor for the year 1891.

Helen E. P. Yeaton, 2, Grace E. Paige, Myrtie H. Paige, Eva May Paige 2, Ernest E. Lewis (\*the whole year) Walter C. Lewis, (\*the whole year) John C. Yeaton, George H. Yeaton.

Report for the year 1892.

The first term at the New Orchard Road School the teacher was Josie B. Shaw. Second term Josie B. Shaw \$126.00. Third term Ruth M. McGown, \$58.50. The school board members were: James H. Tripp, Clara C. Woodman, Daniel G. Chesley.

On the Roll of Honor.

Helen E. P. Yeaton, George H. Yeaton, Walter C. Lewis.

Report for the year 1893.

School board, D. G. Chesley, Daniel Yeaton. The school teacher, first term: Cora M. Brown, second term: Emma F. Griffin. Third term: Cora M. Brown. Amount paid teachers: Cora M. Brown for two terms \$70.00 & \$58.50 = \$128.50. Emma F. Griffin, \$65.00. Roll of Honor. Helen E. P. Yeaton. Pearl A. Edmunds, Harry L. Paige, Eva M. Paige.

School report for the year 1894. N. O. Rd., School.

School board members: D. G. Chesley, Daniel Yeaton, M. L. Wallace.

The school teachers were: First term: Evelyn M. Winkley. Second and third terms: Lizzie M. Warren. Amount paid teachers, Evelyn M. Winkley \$56.25. Lizzie M. Warren two terms, \$117.00.

Honor Roll for the year 1894. N. O. Rd. School.

Walter Woodbury, George H. Yeaton, Sadie O. Clark, Lizzie E. Clark.

Report for the year 1895.

School board members, Daniel Yeaton, Mary L. Wallace, John H. Dolbeer.

School teachers, Helen E. Yeaton, first term, Mary L. Wallace, second and third terms. Amount paid: Helen E. Yeaton; \$24.00 per month. Mary L. Wallace \$27.00 per month.

Roll of Honor

George H. Yeaton, Myrtie E. Paige, Sadie O. Clark, Harry L. Paige, Lizzie E. Clark.

School Report for the year 1896.

The school board: Mary L. Wallace, John H. Dolbeer, James E. Philbrick.

The teachers: Mary L. Wallace, first term. Second and third terms was Lizzie M. Warren. Amount paid the teacher. First term \$27.00 per mo. Second term, \$26.00 per mo. Third term, \$26.00 per mo.

Roll of Honor year of 1896.

Myrtie H. Paige, Sadie O. Clark, Walter A. Woodbury, George H. Yeaton.

Report for the year 1897.

School board members, John H. Dolbeer, James E. Philbrick, Emma F. Griffin. Teacher for all three terms: Helen G. Green. Paid her \$26.00 per month.

On the Honor Roll. N.O. Rd. School.

Myrtie E. Paige, Beulah A. Paige, Eva M. Paige, Lizzie E. Clark, Sadie O. Clark.

Report for year of 1898.

Member of the school board, James E. Philbrick, Emma T. Griffin, John H. Dolbeer. School teacher, Delia F. Demers, taught the whole three terms, salary \$26.00 per month.

Honor Roll.

Lizzie E. Clark, Sadie O. Clark, John S. Clark.

Report for the year 1899.

School board members for the year 1899, Emma F. Griffin, John H. Dolbeer, D. G. Chesley. The school teacher for the entire year was: Maggie D. Waterhouse, salary \$26.00 per month. Roll of Honor, Arthur O. Friel.

At the end of the school year in the year 1899, month of June, the New Orchard Road School closed until the year 1910 closed again in the year 1928 opened for two years in 1929 closed in June 1930 for ever. In later years the town sold the school house, at public auction. It was purchased by George H. Yeaton.

The New Orchard Road, in the early days, started at the turnpike and ended at Webster's Mills, now a part of South Pittsfield. After the Sherburne family's settled at the upper end, or near there, that section of the road, commencing at the fork of the road at the new school house commenced to be called the Sherburne Road.

### **My First Day at Coes Northwood Academy in the Year 1900. By George H. Yeaton of Gossville, N.H.**

A few days before Coe's Academy was to open its fall term, my mother and myself went to Northwood Center. Our first stop was at the home of Albert B. Moore, my mother was acquainted with him and had confidence that what he told her she could depend upon.

I did not pay much attention to what was said all I remember was that we were to call at Cogswell Hall and talk with the Head Master Professor Edwin K. Welch.

Arrangements were made with Prof. Welch whereby I was to room at Cogswell Hall, having my noon meal with other students at the same house.

The school was to commence the next Monday morning and I was told to come to school early and would be assigned a seat.

My father brought me to Cogswell Hall on Sunday afternoon and early the next morning I started for the academy, as I reached the end of the driveway that leads to the academy and started up the hill I could see standing on the top step at the entrance a group of strange young ladies, not strange in looks but, strangers to me, for up to this time I did not know any one at the school except Prof. Welch, well I walked up that driveway many times after that first morning and in later years marched up the hill playing in a band, on Memorial Day but never did the hill seem as long as it did on this first morning. I did not hurry hoping all the time that the group of girls would be gone before I reached the steps but no: when I arrived they were still there and I thought to go quickly by the girls and perhaps they would not even notice me, then just as I reached the top step and was about to place my foot on it what did one of the young ladies do but, turn, and looking far away into the sky

step directly in front of me, now was I frightened for sure, I lost my balance and nearly fell over the side of the steps, I reached out wildly with one hand thinking to grasp something and thus save myself from a fall but all I succeeded in doing was to draw my finger nails across the back of the young ladies hand tearing the skin so that she had to wrap it in her handkerchief, I made excuses as well as I could in my upset condition and then hurried up to the assembly room to find Professor Welch and my seat.

### **Being A Town Officer is Not Always a Pleasant and Enviaible Position**

The first year that I was a member of the Board of Selectmen, which was in the year 1913, Mr. George W. Pierce drove into my door-yard one day and the first thing he said was “My wife hung herself this morning.”

It seems that she went out back of their home about four o'clock in the morning and hung herself in one of the apple trees in the orchard. Vivian L. Pickard who worked at John A. Dows mill, saw her hanging by the neck when he got up and looked out of the house window, where he was staying, which was the house next to George W. Pierces. Mrs. Pierce was forty-seven years old Edith (Smith) Pierce, she was the mother of two children, a son and daughter.

### **Don't Speak to Me**

About the year 1906, three men, neighbors, lived on the New Orchard Road, not far from each other.

We will designate them as, Mr. B., Mr. L., and Mr. W. Mr. L., would not speak to Mr. B., Mr. B., would not speak to Mr. W., Mr. W., would not speak to Mr. B., Mr. B., would not speak to Mr. L., myself: I was on speaking terms with each of them. I recall that we four all went to help a neighbor thrash his grain.

We worked together and came home together a distance of about one mile, walking together in a group. Mr. L., would not speak to Mr. B., Mr. W., would not speak to Mr. B., Mr. B., would not speak to Mr. L., Mr. B., would not speak to Mr. W., but we conversed on the way home. Mr. L., would talk with Mr. W., Mr. W., would talk with me, Mr. L., would talk with me. Mr. W., would talk with Mr. L., Mr. B., would talk with me. I would talk with all three, Mr. B., Mr. W., Mr. L. I helped in arranging the men, we placed them so that the ones who did not speak to each other, would be next to each other on the thrashing job. When Mr. B., would mention Mr. L., he would say “Old Picked Head,” and Mr. L., in referring to Mr. B., would say “Old Herb.” But after a time they recovered from this and became talking neighbors again. At the time they did not talk together they were probably about sixty years old, and two of them were brothers-in-law. Geo. H. Yeaton, 1962.

### **What Day of the Week Is It?**

The story, as told to me by Mr. Dotey when he lived on the New Orchard Road in the year 1900.

“One Sunday morning as I was harnessing my horse in preparation to attending church service, my neighbor Mr. W.\_\_\_\_, who had been shingling some of his buildings, came hurrying into my yard and said, “Dotey are you going down to the village this morning?” upon my reply that I intended to, Mr. W.\_\_\_\_ said “Well: will you get me some shingle nails at Silver and Halls? I will not have enough to last me all day.”

My answer to this last question was, “I doubt if I could, as you know, Silver and Hall do not keep their store open on Sunday,” “What? said Mr. W.\_\_\_\_, “is today Sunday I thought it was Friday but my wife said it was Saturday.”

(G.H.Y. 1961)

### **The Time That I Sat on the Young Ladies Hat. It Happened More than Sixty Years Ago. G.H.Y.**

One afternoon after school was out for the day Carroll King and myself went for a boat ride on Harvey Lake, we rowed about the lake for a time and as we were passing near the shore at the westerly end of the lake we noticed two young ladies trolling along by the shore. Carroll said he thought we should ask them to go to a boat ride I agreed, so we invited them to a boat ride, they graciously accepted our invitations, we rowed to the shore and helped them into the boat.

After rowing about for some time, and as it was nearly dark we brought the girls back to shore, we escorted them to the home of one of them who was a sister of a senior at the Academy, the other was the school teacher of the district school at Northwood Center.

The ladies politely asked us to come in, which Carroll and I did, they showed us into the front room, or parlor; now by this time it was nearly dark inside the house, the girls left us for a moment, probably to bring a lamp as this was before electric lights were used in the country towns, I saw the outline of a sofa and as I was always ready for a comfortable seat quickly availed myself of this one. Carroll seated himself in a chair. In a few minutes I overheard the older sister saying to her mother “they have gone into the parlor and are sitting on the sofa where my best hat is.” Well: I did not know whether I was sitting on her hat or not, but I wished that I was back at Cogswell Hall or some other place, her mother’s reply sort of helped a little, her reply was, “That is no place for you to leave your hat” we did not stay long after overhearing that conversation.

I am wondering to this day, if I did sit on Maud Kelley’s hat, some how I sort of shied away from asking that question.

Geo. H. Yeaton, 1900–1902

### **Capturing the Horse Thieves in Epsom, N.H.**

In the early 1890’s a family lived in Epsom, on a road long since abandoned, one member of this family was wanted for *horse stealing*.

The Constable of Epsom, at that date, was Daniel C. Ayer, Mr. Ayer had a suspicion that the wanted man might be in hiding at his home, so acting on this assumption he formed a posse and went, in the dead of night, to the home, the posse, well armed with various weapons ranging from old pistols to muzzle loading shotguns, surrounded the buildings, then Constable Ayer rapped on the

house door demanding admission, they readily let him come in together with his men.

They searched the house and other buildings thoroughly, but no trace of the wanted man.

It was later learned that the inmates of the house were well aware that the posse was outside the house before Constable Ayer came to the door.

The posse left as they had come, empty handed, but Constable Ayer was not convinced that the man they were after was not some where in the house, he watched the house at a distance, for several days and was at last rewarded for his vigilance by seeing the man come to the door of the house, that night he again gathered his posse and using more caution than on the previous night, took the inmates by surprise, there was a short delay before he gained admittance to the house, but as before the man he wanted was not to be found.

After searching and researching the house they still felt sure that the wanted man was somewhere in the house.

They commenced to examine the walls and closets measuring around the chimney they found that between the chimney and the doorway more space than was used for the chimney.

They procured a pole of some sort and commenced to poke into what appeared a vacant place beside the chimney and sure enough after a few pokes with the pole a man called out. They then took a section of the lathes away and there he was in a space next to the chimney just about room for a man to stand up in.

They asked the family if he was not there the first time they came. "Not in that place" was the answer," but down cellar in an apple bin that had a false bottom." You came so quietly tonight that you were at the door before we knew that anyone was about, and did not have time to get him to the cellar."

Among those that helped to capture the horse thief there were, with Constable Ayer, Edwin R. Yeaton, Ansel Heath and Hosea L. Hilliard, there were others but I do not know their names. After the house was deserted and left to fall down I called and saw the hiding place near the chimney.

Geo. H. Yeaton

### **Horse Thieves Captured in Epsom, N.H. (continued)**

The second horse-thief to be captured in Epsom was about the year 1896.

He came into town over a little used road and coming to the Judge Walter H. Sanborn farms, which at that time were only occupied in the summer months, he went to the large barn and put the horse and carriage inside.

This set of buildings are a short distance off the main road.

After leaving his team in the barn he then entered the house and made himself at home there. Now it so happened that James Burnham, the one who looked after the farms of Judge Sanborn, went to see about some hay he was selling and found the horse in the barn.

He did not go near the house but went directly to Constable Ayer, this was in the afternoon. (either in the late fall or early spring). That night Constable Eyer gathered together another posse and went to "Sanborn Hill," late at night. They quietly approached the house and could detect a faint light at one of the windows in a corner room, Constable Ayer had the key to the house, Mr. Burnham

had given him a key, so with as little noise as possible they entered the house and made their way to the room from which the faint light was seen. They opened the door quickly and there was a man lying on a couch with a shotgun and box of ammunition close at hand. (The gun and ammunition he had found in the house) As they opened the door the man who had evidently been fast asleep, started up and reached for the gun.

But Constable Ayer had his own gun leveled at the man and said, "leave that gun alone." The posse entered the room and secured their prisoner with hand-cuffs. The shades in the room had been fastened tight to the sides of the window cases to keep the light from the lamp, that was burning in the room from showing on the outside.

After securing the man they left one of their number to guard him while the others searched the rest of the house, to make sure that he did not have someone with him.

William H. Knowles was the one left to guard the prisoner, after a few minutes the man asked for a drink of water. Mr. Knowles turned to get the water and as he glanced over his shoulder he saw the man coming toward him with his manacled hands above his head ready to strike him. Mr. Knowles quickly pointed his gun at the prisoner telling him to get back, which he did.

The prisoner told the men who captured him that he saw Mr. James Burnham that afternoon near the buildings, but did not know that he had found his horse in the barn, so thought it safe to spend the night there. He told the men of the posse that he would be back some day in the future and settle with them for capturing him.

He made no effort to escape that night, but a few days later when in the court room at Concord he made two attempts and nearly succeeded in his last try. His first try was made by jumping over the rail while in the prisoners dock, and running swiftly out into the corridor, but a man, I think it was a Deputy Sheriff, captured him.

His next try was made by jumping out of a window and he nearly made his escape.

### **Charles H. Carpenter**

Charles H. Carpenter, was born in Chichester, N.H., December, 18, 1818. He was a direct descendant of William Carpenter who came from England, in the year 1638 and settled in Weymouth Mass. He had a son Joseph. The next record I have is Josiah Carpenter the grandfather of Charles H. Carpenter, the subject of this brief sketch.

Josiah Carpenter was born in Strafford, Conn., October 6, 1762. He became the pastor of the Congregational Church in Chichester, on November 2, 1791, and was there for nearly forty years when he died.

Josiah Carpenter married April 13, 1790, Hannah Morrill of Canterbury.

Their children were six in number. David Morrill their second child was the father of Charles H. Carpenter. David Morrill Carpenter, born in Chichester November 16, 1793. His wife was Mary Perkins the daughter of Jonathan Chesley Perkins who lived in London, N.H.

The children of David Morrill and Mary (Perkins) Carpenter were: Charles H. Josiah, Clara A., Sarah L., and Frank P. Carpenter. Two daughters who died in early life. David Morrill Carpenter died in Concord where he was living at the time December 9, 1873. His wife Mary P. Carpenter died November 4, 1866, at age 68 years.

William Goss moved the house, in which he and his father Jonathan Goss, were born in, from “Jug City” to the *now* village of Gossville. The house is now owned and occupied by Millard J. Yeaton and family, 1963.

The original cattle and hay barn, at the Goss farm was located parallel to the present highway, that leads to the Gossville General Store, 1963.

It was a long barn, one hundred feet, or more. Large double doors at each end.

A large barn yard on the southside, between the barn and the highway with a large water trough in it, one end of which extended outside the fence.

This made a convenient place for the teams passing, to water their horses. The barnyard fence was painted red. The horse stable was where the present barn, now a storage for automobiles, 1963, is located, attached to it was the carriage house and machinery shed.

This is as I remember it, as a boy, more than seventy years ago.

Geo. H. Yeaton

February 12, 1964

Mr. Robert H. Fischer

Pittsfield, N.H.

Dear Mr. Fischer:

Perhaps you have not yet reached the age where you are much interested in the history of your ancestors and the old days associated with them, but I am sending you some material relating to the Goss family. I thought that you might find something in it that you do not already know about the family.

I hope that I have written it clearly so that it is understandable, but as you look it through please remember that the writer is eighty years old.

If there are any corrections or additions that should be made I would welcome any that you might make. There are blank pages in the back of the book.

Do not make a special trip to return this book, just wait until it is convenient.

Sincerely

George H. Yeaton

### **The Original Goss Homestead in Epsom New Hampshire**

Some members of the Goss family came to Epsom, shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War. He bought land and settled in the south west corner of the town.

The first one to own land at this place was Joseph Goss, who later sold land to his brother Samuel Goss.

The old Goss homestead was owned and occupied for many years, by members of the Goss family: Joseph, Samuel, Jonathan and William Goss.

About the date of the beginning of the Civil War, the farm was sold to James Yeaton, who with

his family lived for a number of years, until the death of his first wife in the year 1869. Shortly after her death, he left the farm.

In later years, after William Goss had moved the house to the village at Gossville, James Yeaton owned this original Goss house.

I have no knowledge that he ever lived in it when it was at Gossville, all I can remember is his telling me that he sold it to a Mr. Wescott, a wheelwright who lived in the village and operated a shop there.

The land at this date (1963), on which the buildings stood in the old days, when it was a large and fertile farm, is now all contained in a large pasture. Owned by Yeaton and Cutter.

### **Goss Family of Epsom, N.H.**

Jonathan Goss the youngest child of Samuel and Abigail (Lucus) Goss, was born in Epsom, July 16, 1793, he was a farmer and blacksmith also a soldier in the war of 1812, from Epsom. Jonathan Goss, married Sally Yeaton, born 1793 and died 1864, on November 28, age 71 years. She was the daughter of William Yeaton, and his wife, Hannah (Towle) Yeaton. (William Yeaton, was my great-grandfather)

Geo. H. Yeaton

William Yeaton, died June 14, 1831, born 1756 in Rye, N.H., the son of Joseph and Susannah (Lang) Yeaton. (Their oldest son) He served in the navy during the Revolution.

Hannah (Towle) Yeaton was born in 1762 in Rye, N.H., she was the daughter of Jonathan Jr., and Elizabeth (Jeness) Towle of Rye, died December 22, 1843.

William Yeaton and Hannah Towle were Married September 17, 1780.

Jonathan Goss, died June 18, 1872 age 78 y 11 mo. Jonathan and Sally (Yeaton) Goss were the parents of seven children. Noah, William, Hannah Y., Nancy L., Sally, Mary C., and Andrew J. Goss. William Goss their second child was born in Epsom July 13, 1820, he married first on June 2, 1846, Maryetta Abbott of Pembroke, N.H., the daughter of William and Esther (Fowler) Abbott.

The original cattle and hay barn at the Goss farm was located parallel with the present highway, that leads to the Gossville General Store (1963).

It was a long barn, one hundred feet or more, with large double doors at each end where they hauled in the large loads of hay, with oxen, on the two wheel ox hay racks.

Many other happenings, in the old days, come to my mind, as I think of the old Goss farm, here in Gossville.

Like the time that Augustus Philbrick and Isaac Hall yoked the two *large* bulls, which had never been yoked before.

I can remember many of the stories told to me by my father, when I was a boy.

About his helping Squire Carpenter haul the long ship masts out of the big woods, and the difficulties they had doing it.

Benny Allen, the hornets and the horses on the mowing machine.

How they got the wood across the river.

The two Goss boys who did not do the work they were told to do.

The man that chose to rake the hay in the old "Mill Field." and "It is hard work to make something out of nothing."

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How they got the wood across the river.

The two Goss boys who did not do the work they were told to do.

The man that chose to rake the hay in the old "Mill Field."

### **The End of the Goss Farm in Gossville**

There was a large meadow, in the north east end of the old Goss pasture, on which the hay was cut and hauled down to the barn in Gossville for a great many years.

Different owners continued to hay this meadow for a long time after the death of William Goss.

The last two years that the hay was cut I hayed it myself, as the owner, C. S. Hall gave me the privilege. That would be as late as the year 1908. This meadow was quite close to our old home farm on the New Orchard Rd., the Goss pasture joined, my fathers, afterwards my field, on its west side.

Today the old Goss farm is no more, only memories, the barn is now owned by Huckins Garage, the fields and interval lands now owned by different persons, the large pasture, originally containing, three hundred and fifteen acres, is owned by some one in another state.

I bought a small tract of the old farm, which joined the land of my present home, here in Gossville, on the north.

### **Oxen**

And as I think of these old happenings it brings to my mind the several pairs of oxen, owned by Charles H. Carpenter of Chichester, that were killed by a bolt of lightening, while in a pasture on the New Orchard Road, many years ago.

## Apples

In this same pasture near the highway there was a small apple orchard. A man who lived on the New Orchard Rd., thinking that Mr. Carpenter would not have the apples picked, procured a long ladder, basket, etc., and commenced to pick apples. Suddenly he heard a man say, "How do you do Mr. Locke," and looking down, the man picking the apples, saw Mr. Carpenter.

Well: the man in the tree was quite upset offering to pay for the apples, but Charles H. Carpenter was very nice about the matter and made no trouble for the man, even refusing to accept the money from Mr. Locke.

Mr. Carpenter said that he was intending to have the apples picked and came to the orchard that day to see if they were ready to be harvested.

The original cattle and hay barn at the Goss farm was located parallel with the present highway, that leads to the Gossville General Store. (1963)

It was a long barn, one hundred feet or more, with large double doors at each end where they hauled in the large loads of hay with oxen, on two wheel ox hay racks.

A large barn yard on the south side, between the barn and the highway with a large water trough in it, one end of this water-trough extended outside the fence.

This made a convenient place for the teams passing to water their horses.

The barnyard fence was painted red.

The horse stable was where the present barn, now a storage for automobiles (1963) is located, attached to it was the carriage house and machinery shed.

This is as I remember it, as a boy, more than seventy years ago.

Geo. H. Yeaton, 1964.

The children of David Morrill and Mary (Perkins) Carpenter were: Charles H. Josiah, Clara A., Sarah L., and Frank P. Carpenter. Two daughters who died in early life.

David Morrill Carpenter went to Concord, N.H. in the latter years of his life where he died, December 9, 1873. His wife, Mary P. Carpenter died November 4, 1866, at age 68 years.

When Charles H. Carpenter was twenty-one years of age he went to live with his uncle Jacob Perkins, a brother of his mother. Mr. Perkins was a wealthy man and besides operating his large farm, his principal business was buying cattle in Vermont and the northern part of New Hampshire.

These cattle would be driven over the Old Indian Trail, by Baker's River and through Pemigewassett Valley, then along the highways to Brighton, Massachusetts, where they were sold.

Charles H. Carpenter would walk behind these droves of cattle from beyond Montpelier Vermont to Brighton, Massachusetts.

Charles H. Carpenter married on October 28, 1841 to Joanna Maxfield, the adopted daughter of his uncle. She died July 5, 1882. Charles H. and Joanna (Maxfield) Carpenter were the parents of five children: namely, John T., Mary J., Electa A., Sally P., and Clara A. Carpenter.

### **A Few Words about Charles H. Carpenter**

Charles H. Carpenter, was born in Chichester, N.H., December 18, 1818. He was a direct descendant of William Carpenter who came from England in the year 1638, and settled in Weymouth Massachusetts. He had a son Joseph.

The next I find is Josiah Carpenter the grandfather—of Charles H. Carpenter, the subject of this brief sketch.

Josiah Carpenter was born in Stratford, Conn., October 6, 1762. He became the pastor of the Congregational Church in Chichester, on November 2, 1791, and was there for nearly forty years when he resigned.

Josiah Carpenter married April 13, 1790, Hannah Morrill of Canterbury, N.H.

Their children were six in number, a daughter named Clarissa, who married David P. Shaw. David P. Shaw, born May 27, 1797, the son of Benjamin Shaw and his first wife Abigail Paige. They were residents of Chichester.

Their second child, David Morrill Carpenter was the father of Charles H. Carpenter. David Morrill Carpenter, born in Chichester, N.H., November 16, 1793. His wife was Mary Perkins, the daughter of Jonathan Chesley Perkins, who lived in Loudon, N.H.

### **The Goss Family**

John Goss came from England about the year 1630 as he was a freeman in Watertown Massachusetts May, 18, 1631. John Goss died February 16, 1644. He was one of the first settlers of Watertown, Mass. He married Sarah—and they were the parents of seven children.

Philip Goss may have been a son of John and Sarah Goss, he lived at Muddy River or Roxbury. Philip Goss married Hannah Hopkins and had children, Philip, Hannah, Mary and probably others.

A Philip Goss died at Lancaster, Massachusetts. Administration on his estate granted May 26, 1698.

Philip Goss (ed?) was born in Lancaster Massachusetts in the year 1720 moved to Winchester, New Hampshire.

He married Hannah Ball of Bolton Mass. about the year 1748. Hannah Ball was born in the year 1727. Philip and Hannah Goss had for children: John: Hannah, Philip, Abel, Levi, Mercy, Sarah, David, Nathaniel and Samuel.

Abel, the fourth and third son of Philip and Hannah Goss, was born in Winchester New Hampshire March 31, 1763, he lived in Vermont and died May 20, 1825. He married May 3, 1787, Irene Sprague who was born February 16, 1763 and died October 5, 1853, age 90 or 91 years of age. The children of Abel and Irene Goss were: Mehitabel, Otis, Milo, Zenas, Richard, Irene, Abel, Charles, and Zebina.

Their fifth child and fourth son, Richard Goss was born March 29, 1794 in the town of Waterford. He lived most of his life in Waterford, and part in the town of Littleton, N.H.

He married first, June 1817. Betsey Buck of Waterford. She died in Littleton, N.H., November 22, 1850. He married (second) Mrs. Eliza (Wells) Luce, of Barnet; she died in August 1880. The

children all by his first marriage were: Ayro, Ashley, Richard O., Horace S., Levi Silas Buck, Lyman B., Abel Brown, Reuben C., George W., Charles, Betsy Jane, and Laura Ann. Richard Godd died February 12, 1883.

Abel Brown Goss the seventh son of Richard and Betsey (Buck) Goss, was born Waterford Vermont October 24, 1828, and died in Waterford Vermont August 24, 1896, age 68 years. Able Brown Goss married Lucy Stoddard Ross, on October 1, 1856. Lucy Ross was born in Waterford Vermont February 21, 1837, daughter of Royal and Eliza Maron Ross and a sister of Jonathan Ross of St. Johnsbury Vermont. Lucy (Ross) Goss died January 5, 1895. Her children were: Herbert Irwin, Harlan Page, Eliza Mason, Edward Raymond, Ethel Abby, and Mary Lucy.

Herbert Irving oldest son of Abel B. Goss and his wife Lucy S. (Ross) Goss was born December 4, 1857 at Waterford Vermont.

He married Agnes Rooney on October 8, 1886. She was born May 29, 1870 at Leeds in the Province of Quebec the daughter of James Rooney and wife Elizabeth (Shepard) Rooney. They were the parents of five children namely: Ethel Elizabeth, born February 16, 1888. Irvin James, born October 6, 1889.

Herbert Abel, born December 26, 1891.

Philip Henry, born October 10, 1895.

John Arthur, born February 21, 1899.

Nathan Goss late in life moved to Epsom, N.H. where he married Deborah Wiggin and had Joseph and Samuel, probably others. Samuel Goss the son of Nathan and Deborah Wiggin Goss was born in the year 1756, left Greenland and came to Epsom and bought land of his brother Joseph who was living in Epsom. This land is known as the Goss homestead in Epsom.

He married in 1779, Abigail Lucas of Pembroke who was born in the year 1759.

Samuel Goss and his wife had for children: Daniel, Nathan, Susan Jane, Deborah, Samuel, and Jonathan Goss.

Samuel Goss, died February 7, 1831 age 75 yrs. Abigail (Lucus) Goss wife of Samuel Goss died, November 21, 1824, age 65 years, both are buried in the Cemetery at Gossville N.H. Jonathan Goss, their youngest son was born in Epsom July 16, 1793. He served in the war of 1812. He married on September 1816, Sally Yeaton the daughter of William and Hannah (Towle) Yeaton. Sally Yeaton was born July 30, 1793. Jonathan and Sally Goss were the parents of seven children: Noah, William, Hannah Y., Nancy L., Sally, Mary C. and Andrew J. Goss. William Goss their second child was born in Epsom, July 13, 1820. He married first June 2, 1846, Maryetta Abbott of Pembroke, N.H., the daughter of William and Esther (Fowler) Abbott. She died May 3, 1873.

William Goss married for his second wife on December 23, 1873, Sally Rebecca Randall the widow of John K. Crockett.

By his first marriage he had four children John A. Goss who married on June 15, 1869, Electa Ann Carpenter of Chichester born Aug. 2, 1847, the daughter of Charles H., and Joanna (Maxfield) Carpenter.

John A. Goss was born in Epsom, August 26, 1847 and died in Pittsfield February 3, 1903 age 56 yrs.

## **The Nathan Goss Family Line**

Nathan Goss with his son Joseph belonged to the Stratham militia.

The Revolutionary records of New Hampshire, on the return of Captain Joseph Persons Co., on Great Island, November 5, 1775, gave Nathan Goss as second lieutenant.

The name of Nathan Goss is on the payroll of Captain John Dearborn's company. Colonel Jonathan Moulton's regiment of militia, which marched from Hampton, New Hampshire, and joined the army under General Gates near Saratoga, October 1777. His date of entry into the service was September 30; date of discharge October 10; time of service four months, five days: allowance for travel to Saratoga at three pence a mile out, and two pence home: distance two hundred and fifteen miles: and allowance four pounds, nine shillings, seven pence.

Nathan Goss was selectman of Rye, N.H., in the years 1775 and 1781. "December 9, 1775 it was voted that Nathan Goss should represent the parish in the General Assembly."

"May 16, 1775 it was voted Nathan Goss should go to Exeter to Congress."

Late in his life Nathan Goss moved to the town of Epsom, N.H.

He married Deborah Wiggin. They were the parents of Joseph Goss and Samuel Goss and probably other children.

Samuel Goss the son of Nathan and Deborah (Wiggin) Goss was born in the year 1776.

The name of Samuel Goss, corporal, is twentieth on the roll of those of Captain Mark Wiggin's company. Colonel Long's regiment, who receipted for pay received at Portsmouth, January 14, 1777.

In another roll he is described as on those of that company "who are fit to march to Ticonderoga, being for one month's advance pay from the seventh of January to the seventh of February 1777." He is said to have served three years in the Revolution, he moved from Greenland to Epsom, and bought of his brother Joseph, the land now known as the Goss homestead.

He married in the year 1779, Abigail Lucas, of Pembroke, N.H., who was born in the year 1759. Their children were: Daniel, Nathan, Susan Jane, Deborah, Samuel, and Jonathan. Samuel Goss died February 7, 1831, age 75 yrs. Abigail (Lucas) Goss his wife died November 21, 1824 age 65 yrs.

They are both buried at Epsom in the Cemetery at Gossville, N.H.

## **Goss Family of Epsom**

Jonathan Goss the youngest child of Samuel and Abigail (Lucas) Goss, was born in Epsom July 16, 1793, he was a farmer and blacksmith and a soldier in the war of 1812, from Epsom. Jonathan Goss married Sally Yeaton, born 1793, died 1864, November 28, age 71. She was the daughter of William Yeaton (my Great great grandfather, G.H.Y.) Sally Yeaton's mother was Hannah Towle.

William Yeaton, died June 14, 1831, born 1756. Hannah (Towle) Yeaton December 22, 1843, born 1726. Jonathan Goss, died June 18, 1872 age 78 y. 11 mo. Sally (Yeaton) Goss, died November 28, 1864 age 71 yrs. Jonathan and Sally (Yeaton) Goss had seven children: Noah, William, Hannah Y., Nancy L., Sally, Mary C., and Andrew J. Goss.

William Goss, their second child was born in Epsom, July 13, 1820, he married first on June 2,



William Goss moved the original Baptist Church which became the second story of what was later the GAR Hall above the store of Silver and Hall. At the same time he was one of the prime movers in constructing the new building (below in an early photo) around 1861.



1846, Maryetta Abbot of Pembroke, N.H. the daughter of William and Esther (Fowler) Abbott. She died May 3, 1873, age 50 years.

William Goss died May 2, 1887 age 66 y 10 mo. William and his wife Maryetta (Abbot) Goss had four children: John Abbott Goss, was born in Epsom, August 26, 1847, and died in Pittsfield, February 3, 1903, age 56 years.

He married June 15, 1869, Electa Ann Carpenter, born August 2, 1847 the daughter of Charles H. Carpenter and his wife Joanna (Maxfield) Carpenter of Chichester.

John A. and Electa A. Goss had three children,

(1) Charles Carpenter Goss, who was born February 9, 1871 in Epsom.

His parents moved to Pittsfield in the year 1876. Charles C. Goss married, June 26, 1895, Winifred Lane. She was born in Pittsfield April 30, 1875, the only child of Charles H. Lane and his wife Lorena A. (Perkins) Lane.

They had a son born February 24, 1903, name, Charles Lane Goss. He married June 16, 1928, Constance Woodworth, of Concord, two children Georgia & Lane W.

(2) The second child of John A. and Electa A. Goss was a daughter named: Clara Helen Goss, who married Herbert B. Fischer of Boston. Mrs. Clara Helen (Goss) Fischer died September 22, 1906. Herbert B. and Clara H. Goss had one son, name Robert Hathaway Fischer. Clara Helen Goss, was born July 11, 1874. Her son Robert H. Fischer was born in Pittsfield May 1905.

(3) The third child of John A., and Electa A. Goss was a son: name William Abbott Goss, born January 8, 1888 in Pittsfield. He married October 1, 1913, Elizabeth Thompson Pike of Epping. They reside in New York City and have three sons John William, Robert and Richard Goss, their 3 sons.

Maryetta Goss, wife of William, died May 3 1873, age 50 yrs.

William Goss, died May 2, 1887, age 66 yrs. 10 mo. William and his wife Maryetta Goss had for children:

(1) John Abbott Goss born in Epsom August 26, 1847 and died in Pittsfield, February 3, 1903 age 56 yrs.

He married June 15, 1869, Electa Ann Carpenter, born August 2, 1847, the daughter of Charles H., and his wife Joanna (Maxfield) Carpenter of Chichester, N.H.

John A. and Electa A. Goss had three children (1) Charles Carpenter Goss, who was born February 9, 1871, in Epsom. His parents moved to Pittsfield in the year 1876.

Charles C. Goss married, June 26, 1895, Winifred Lane, who was born in Pittsfield April 30, 1875, the only child of Charles H. Lane and his wife Lorena A. (Perkins) Lane. Charles and Winifred had a son born February 24, 1903, name Charles Lane Goss.

He married, June 16, 1928, Constance Woodworth, of Concord, N.H., they have two children, Georgia and Lane W. Goss.

(2) The second child of John A. and Electa A. Goss was a daughter, named: Clara Helen Goss, who married Herbert B. Fischer, of Boston, born August 2, 1847, the daughter of Charles H. Carpenter and his wife Joanna (Maxfield) Carpenter of Chichester. John A. and Electa A. Goss had children.

They were the parents of three children:

Charles Carpenter Goss, who was born February 9, 1871, in Epsom. His parents moved to Pittsfield in the year 1876.

Charles C. Goss, married June 26, 1895, Winifred Lane. She was born in Pittsfield April 30, 1875 the only child of Charles H. and Lorena A. (Perkins) Lane. They have a son born February 24, 1903 name Charles Lane Goss.

(2) Elizabeth J. Goss, born in Epsom, September 2, 1849. She died May 22, 1924, age 74 yrs. 8 mo. 20 d. She married January 2, 1870, Alfred Porter Bickford of Epsom.

Alfred Porter Bickford, the son of Nathan and his wife Eliza W. (Dickey) Bickford was born in Epsom, 1846 died in Epsom January 26, 1931, age 84 yrs. 10 mo. 18 days.

Alfred P. and Elizabeth J. Bickford were the parents of five sons.

William P., born February 15, 1871, died April 2, 1946 age 70 yrs. 8 mo. 24 days.

Nathan A., born July 17, 1872, died July 16, 1918 age 45 years 11 mo. 29 days.

Alfred G. born February.

(2) The second child of William and Maryetta Goss was a daughter, born September 2, 1849. She died May 22, 1924, age 74 years, 8 mo. 20 days.

Her name was:

Elizabeth J. Goss, born in Epsom and married January 2, 1870, Alfred Porter Bickford of Epsom. Alfred Porter Bickford, the son of Nathan and his wife Eliza W. (Dickey) Bickford, was born in Epsom, 1846, died in Epsom January 26, 1931, age 84 years. 10 months. 18 days.

Alfred P. and Elizabeth J. Bickford were the parents of five sons.

1. William P. born February 15, 1871, died April 2, 1946, age 70 yrs. 8 mo. 24 days.

2. Nathan A. born July 17, 1872, died July 16, 1918, age 45 years 11 mo. 29 days.

3. Alfred G. born February 4, 1875, died October 28, 1945. Age 70 yrs. 8 mo. 24 days.

4. Harry M. born May 1883, died -

5. John G. Bickford born - died Mar. 13, 1962 age 76 years.

John A. and Electa A. Goss had three children Charles Carpenter Goss, Clara Helen Goss and William A. Goss

2. Elizabeth J. Goss born September 2, 1849 married Alfred Porter Bickford of Epsom.

3. Noah William Goss, born July 12, 1861 married Clara Jackson.

4. Nathan Jonathan Goss, born, Sept. 13, 1863 married Ida M. Leighton. They were the parents of three children: 1st Ethel M. Goss born in Epsom September 12, 1887. Married William E. Davis Aug. 3, 1931, Ethel M. (Goss) Davis died Aug 20, 1963. Ethel and William Goss had 1 son 1 daughter perhaps more.

2. Maryetta Rebecca Goss born Jan 23, 1893 died Nov 14, 1893 age 76-11-8.

3. Nathan Jonathan Goss Jr. born April 7, 1898, died in Los Angeles Cal. March 9, 1938 age 39 yrs. He was a Postal employee, not married, brought to Epsom for burial as was his father Nathan J.

Goss Sr., and his mother Ida M. Goss, who died Dec. 6, 1947, age 82 y. 1 m. 23 d. Nathan J. Goss died Feb. 1910 age 46 yrs. 5 m. 12 d.

William Goss, moved the house, in which he and his father, Jonathan Goss, were born in, from "Jug City" to the village of Gossville.

The house is now owned and occupied by Millard J. Yeaton. (1963)

John G. Bickford the fifth son of Alfred P. and Elizabeth J. (Goss) Bickford, married July 27, 1907, Abbie W. Sanborn of Chichester, N.H. She was the daughter of Charles R. Sanborn and Ida L. (Ordway) Sanborn.

They had for children: (1) Clara May, born August 26, 1907, (2) Goldie Adelaid, born October 19, 1909. Their daughter Clara May, married Everett Ashley, living in Tacoma Washington in the year 1962.

### **More About the Elizabeth J. Goss and her Husband Alfred P. Bickford, Family**

Their third son Alfred Goss Bickford, married October 6, 1928. Helen M. Brown or (Moran) born in Walpole, N.H. The daughter of James E. Brown and Mary S. Chesley of Chichester.

They had for children: Alfred Goss Bickford Jr., born January 30, 1933, who married, July 2, 1954, Joyce V. Allen, of Newmarket, N.H. She was the daughter of Howard F., and Florence V. Allen. Their children are: (2) Mary J. Bickford born June 4, 1955. (3) Mark A. Bickford, born June 21, 1957.

Another son of Alfred G. Bickford and his wife Helen M. Bickford is: William H. Bickford born November 23, 1934.

Married June 5, 1954, Jacqueline L. Buzzell from Loudon, N.H. She was the daughter of Arthur F. Buzzell and Marguerite E. (Morrill) Buzzell.

The fourth son of Alfred P. and Elizabeth J. Bickford: Harry M. Bickford: married Helen Randall of Pittsfield, N.H. who died October 19, 1962 at Manchester, N.H.

Harry M. and Helen (Randall) Bickford have a daughter living at Livingston California and a son at Lafayette Pa. and four grandchildren.

3. The third son of William and Maryetta Goss: Noah William Goss was born July 12, 1861. Noah Goss, married Clara Jackson.

4. Nathan Jonathan Goss was the fourth child of William and Maryetta Goss, and was born September 13, 1863. Married Ida M. Leighton the daughter of Charles W. and Eliza Jane *Bickford* Leighton. They were the parents of three children: (1) Ethel Goss born September 12, 1887, died Aug 20, 1963 Ethel Goss married William E. Davis, Aug. 3, 1913 age 76 yrs. 11 m. 8 d. They lived in California had children. Ida May (Leighton) Goss, died December 6, 1946 age 82 yrs. 1 mo. 23d. Nathan J. Goss died February 25, 1910, age 46 yrs. 5 mo. 12 days.

(2) Maryetta Rebecca Goss, died November 14, 1893 age 9 mo. 22 days, being born January 23, 1893. She was the daughter of Nathan J. and Ida M. Goss.

(3) Nathan Jonathan Goss, born April 7, 1898, the son of Nathan J. and Ida M. Goss.

Nathan J. Goss, Jr. died in Los Angeles Cal. March 9, 1938, age 39 years. He was a Postal Emp. not married. Brought to Epsom for burial as was his mother and father.

### **Goss Family of Epsom, N.H.**

William Goss was received June 10, 1848 to become a member of the Free Will Baptist church at Epsom, after baptism, which took place June 25, 1848.

He was also a member of the Church Society. Among the many houses that William Goss built, is the cottage in which I now live 1964. George H. Yeaton.

*In the cemetery at Gossville, we find that;* Jonathan Goss, Williams father, died June 18, 1872, age 78 years, 11 mo.

Sally (Yeaton) Goss, Williams mother, died November 28, 1864, age 71 years.

Betsey C. Goss, second wife of Jonathan Goss, died May 16, 1882, age 77 years.

Noah Goss, son of Jonathan and Sally Goss, died February 15, 1819, age 21 mo. 15 dys. Samuel Goss, died February 7, 1831, age 75 yrs. Abigail Goss his wife died November 21, 1824 age 65 years. The parents of Jonathan Goss. William Goss, died May 2, 1887, age 66 y 10 mo. Maryette Goss, his first wife, died May 3, 1873, age 50 years.

Sally Rebecca Goss, his second wife, died May 22, 1894, age 67 yrs. 5 mo.

William Goss, the son of Jonathan and Sally (Yeaton) Goss, after the death of his wife Maryette Goss, married Sally Rebecca (Randall) Crockett.

Mrs. Crockett had by her former marriage, one daughter Annie Rebecca Crockett, who married James Yeaton, of Epsom.

They were the parents of three children: John C., born May 19, 1875. Helen E. P. born July 22, 1878, and George H., born December 21, 1883.

The second wife of William Goss, was a native of Deerfield, but spent many years of her life in Concord, N.H.

After the death of her first husband, she taught school in the city of Concord for many years.

S. Rebecca Goss, died, May 22, 1894, age 67 yrs. 5 mo. She was the daughter of Hon. Frances D. and Betsey (Sanborn) Randall.

William Goss and S. Rebecca Crockett were married December 23, 1873.

William Goss died May 2, 1887.

James Yeaton, died June 12, 1906 age 74 y. 5 m. 1 d.

Annie R. Yeaton, his wife, died May 26, 1915 age 62 y. 1 m. 26 d.

Sally Yeaton, who was the mother of William Goss, was a sister to John Yeaton *3d*. John Yeaton *3d*, was my Great grandfather, my fathers grandfather.

The Brothers and Sisters of William Goss.

Noah Goss died in infancy.

Hannah Y. married Nathaniel Edmunds of Chichester. They were the parents of five children.

Nancy L., married, first Edward Edmunds.

One child. Second she married Jeremiah Mach, no children, third Jonathan Marden, no children.

Sally, married Jefferson Edmunds of Gossville, six children.

Mary C., married George Morse, of Loudon, N.H. No children.

Andrew J., a graduate of Dartmouth College, studied medicine but his health forbade his choosing this profession.

He went to Saint Augustine Florida and for many years was collector of customs, at St. Augustine Florida.

The last years of his life were spent in the State of Arizona, as he suffered greatly with asthma and the climate of Arizona was favorable to a person affected with asthma.

### **William Goss**

At the time when William Goss was living on the farm, at Gossville he had the misfortune to break one of his legs. In those days a person with a broken leg must lie in bed for a long time.

It was at this time that James Yeaton, my father, took over the management of the farm and the help.

My father and mother lived in the ell on the west end of this old tavern, and my older brother, John C. Yeaton, was born in that part of the house. He was born in the year 1875. Geo. H. Yeaton.

William Goss, moved the house, in which he and his father, Jonathan Goss, were born, from "Jug City" to the *now* village of Gossville.

The house is now owned and occupied by Millard J. Yeaton and his family. (1963)

### **The Old Tavern at Gossville New Hampshire from the Year 1796 to the Year 1963**

Colonel Daniel P. Cilley, the son of General Joseph Cilley, of Nottingham, N.H., was born in the year 1768, died December 4, 1842 age 74 years. He married Hannah Plummer a sister of Governor William Plummer.

Hannah (Plummer) Cilley was born in the year 1770 and died February 19, 1850 age 80 years. Colonel Daniel P. Cilley and his wife Hannah (Plummer) Cilley are both buried in the McClary cemetery at Center Hill, Epsom, N.H.

They moved to Epsom about the year 1796 as the first year that Colonel Cilley's name appears on the tax list was in the year 1797, taxed that year for 131 acres of land and livestock, but in the years 1802 and 1803, he was taxed for much more land and livestock, also there was a substantial increase in valuation on his buildings. This increase in valuation on the buildings commenced in the year 1800 and reached its peak in the year 1803, so we can assume that Col. Cilley built the large

house at Gossville, (now Sherwood Inn), in that period 1800–1803. In the spring of 1803 Colonel Cilley was issued a license to keep open tavern, in the town of Epsom.

It was about the year 1800 that the first official turnpike, built in the State of New Hampshire, was completed from the Merrimack River at Concord, to the Piscataqua River in Durham.

The Cilley family operated this large farm and tavern for many years.

Colonel Daniel P. Cilley died in the year 1842, his wife in the year 1850, and in the month of March 1855 the entire estate was sold to William Goss.

Mr. Goss continued to operate the farm and tavern, besides this he dealt in real estate and cattle, had a number of houses built in the village, moved several houses additional, bought the old Baptist Church building, moved it into the village and converted it into a store.

The old church building was built in the year 1834. Mr. Goss was the prime mover in forming the Epsom Shoe Factory Company and owned 50 percent or more of the stock in the company.

They built a dam across the river near the present Baptist Church building, and built a two story building.

The factory employed about seventy-five hands, men and women.

In the building of the new Baptist Church in the year 1861, Mr. Goss was one of those that would not give up the project and through his energy, perseverance and persistence saw the building completed.

Mr. Goss was a promoter of the Suncook Valley Rail Road.

In this way Mr. Goss helped in building up the village of Gossville.

The village of Gossville was so named in honor and appreciation of and to William Goss. Mr. Goss, served two terms in the New Hampshire Legislature.

William Goss, died May 2, 1887 age 66 years 10 months. The Goss farm continued to be operated after his death, as well as the tavern, by members of the Goss family. The Goss farm at that time had an acreage of 540 acres. On May 22, 1894, the widow of William Goss died, Mrs. Sally Rebecca Goss. After her death the farm was sold to Chapin H. Osgood. (Sally Rebecca Goss, was my grandmother. G.H.Y.)

About a year after Mr. Osgood had bought the place a fire destroyed the large cattle barn including a large herd of milking cows, together with the large horse stable, carriage house, and the attached machinery shed.

Mr. Charles J. Brown had leased the tavern including the smaller stable attached to the last end.

Mr. Brown operated a stage line from East Northwood to Epsom Depot, he also had the U.S. Mail contract.

The stage made two round trips daily six days per week, this required a number of horses, eight or more.

Mr. Brown operated a livery stable in conjunction with the tavern.

At the date that Charles J. Brown operated the Tavern or Hotel, it was known by the name of the Suncook Valley House, as it had been so named when William Goss purchased it from the Daniel P. Cilley heirs, in the year 1855.

When owned and operated by the Cilley family, it was known as "Cilley's Tavern." After Mr. Brown terminated his lease of the hotel it was rented to Ed White who operated the hotel and livery stable for some time. At the date that Ed White leased the hotel a new stable was built as the old one had been destroyed by fire.

Meanwhile the entire property, farm and hotel had been purchased by Charles Summer Hall, who built a new barn.

(Note by the writer: my wife is the daughter of Charles J. Brown)

About that date the hotel name was changed again, at this time it became known as the Gossville Hotel.

When Ed White gave up the operation of the hotel and livery stable, the new owner, Mr. C. S. Hall moved the ell on the west end of the hotel, a short distance and converted it into a home, present owner, Doris E. Huckins.

After removing this section, Mr. Hall built an addition to the main house.

Mr. Hall, with the assistance of his nephew and wife, operated the farm and hotel until his death, on September 20, 1925.

After a time the hotel became the property of Mrs. Dorothy Hayes, the farm was purchased by M. C. Ford, after a few years he sold to Charles Doherty.

Mrs. Hayes gave the hotel the new name of "Pine Grove Inn," which name it was called for a long time until it was purchased in the year 195?, by William Smith.

Mr. Smith made some changes and repairs, he also changed the name to Sherwood Inn.

The old tavern is now the property of Mr. and Mrs. William Magwood, as a home and a private home for elderly ambulatory people as of 1963.

The old "Cilley Tavern" is now known by the name given it by William Smith in the year 195?

### **The Sherwood Inn**

About a year after the fire, which destroyed the large cattle barn, the stable close by the carriage house and machinery shed, a bolt of lightning struck the livery stable that went with the hotel destroying the stable completely.

Thus the stable on the east end of the hotel has only been built about sixty-five years. Before the Suncook Valley Rail-Road was built in the years 1868 and 1869, there was much travel and teaming through the town of Epsom, to and from Portsmouth, Exeter, Dover, Newburyport and Concord.

At one time the mailstage went from Concord to New Market, the drivers were, the Willey Brothers and Charles Dearborn, passing through Epsom each trip.

The stage carrying the mail, express and passengers would leave Concord on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday returning to Concord on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The first store in Gossville was in the year 1862, the post office at Gossville, was not established until the year 1882. Therefore the old tavern was the stage stop for many years, it being the only

place in this end of the town of much activity and importance at that date.

The Shoe Factory was built in the year 1881. Destroyed by fire in the year 1916.

Seated in my home here in the village of Gossville, I can glance to my right and look at the picture of my grandfather, William Goss, hanging on the wall and just below it is the cane that he used the last years of his life. And my memory takes me back to seventy years ago and I can picture the long table with the farm help and some of the men boarders, who worked at the Shoe Factory, seated around this table eating their evening meal.

The women boarders and transients would eat in an adjoining room.

Then in memory I can see the large fireplace, in the front room, used as the office, just off the kitchen, also the set kettle and dutch oven in the back room, the long veranda on the front of the house, and many other recollections come to my mind, like the large corn barn that was on the opposite side of the highway, the long neck gander who chased me and of other happenings in the days now long gone, when I was a small boy.

I can remember standing near the large stove in the tavern kitchen, watching my Aunt Elisabeth frying the rye crullers in a kettle of deep fat.

But now: the long veranda is gone, the old fireplace has disappeared and many changes have taken place since the old days of my boyhood, and today, October 1963, as far as I know, I am the only one left that was familiar with the old tavern of seventy years ago.

Geo. H. Yeaton, October 1963

And my memory takes me back to more than seventy years ago and I can picture the long table with the farm help and some of the men boarders, who worked at the Shoe Factory, seated around this table eating their evening meal.

The women boarders and transients would eat in an adjoining room.

Then in memory I can see the large fireplace just off the kitchen, also the set kettle and dutch oven in the back room, the long veranda on the front of the house and many other recollections come to my mind, like the large corn barn that was on the opposite side of the highway, the long neck gander who chased me and of other happenings in the days now long gone, when I was a small boy. I can remember standing near the large stove in the old tavern kitchen watching my Aunt Elisabeth frying the rye crullers in a kettle of deep fat.

But now: the long veranda is gone, the old fireplace has disappeared and many other changes have taken place since the old days of my boyhood, and today January 1964, as far as I know, I am the only one left that was familiar with the Old Tavern of seventy or more years ago. George H. Yeaton, January 1964.



Above, The Gossville Hotel as it appeared about 1900

Below, Same structure in 1997, formerly the Sherwood Inn



# The Ghost Town in Epsom, New Hampshire

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## **PREFACE, THE GHOST TOWN BY GEORGE H. YEATON 1960**

After one has read about the old families who lived in this part of Epsom in the days now long gone, go with me to a spot not far from the original Benjamin Hall homestead and gaze out over the green valleys, with their background of hills and mountains and you will say to yourself, why did the settlers of this place, of such scenic beauty, leave their ancestral homes? Who knows the reason.

I wonder if in later years they even asked themselves the same question: But when we look at the old records of Epsom we find that in the year 1830 the town had a population of 1418 and in the year 1920 the population of the town was only 655 a decrease of 53 4/5 percent in 90 years but in the last forty years the population has increased to over 1000, an increase of 34 and 1/2 percent, so perhaps some time in future years these hills and valleys may again become dotted with farms and homes. Some history is in cycles, some of a long period of years.

From the Population Reference Bureau, Washington, D.C. comes the following information January 30, 1968. "If present United States population growth rates were to continue unchanged in just 800 years each citizen would have but one square foot of living space."

## **THE GHOST TOWN IN EPSOM N.H. THE ALMOST FORGOTTEN PART OF THE TOWN AND THE FAMILIES THAT LIVED IN THIS PART OF EPSOM, MANY YEARS AGO**

On the old Canterbury road and on what was once known as East Street, as you came to the foot of the hill and at the place where Ms. Isabella McCoy was captured, on Aug. 21, 1747 by the Indians, one comes to the Mountain Road, this road which joins the Canterbury Road leads in a southerly direction and to what was at one time one of the most important sections of Epsom.

This was the part of the town known as "new Portsmouth," a thrifty and prosperous community of farms and homes.

There were one or more mills built on the mountain brook, and at one time twenty to forty children came from this part of Epsom to attend the school at Center Hill, four from New Portsmouth graduated from Dartmouth College, others studied and became professional men. In time of war men from this community left their homes and families to fight for their country; one or more were soldiers in the Revolutionary War, at least three served in the War of 1812, and seven or eight were soldiers in the Civil War, the names of some of the families were Hall, Grant, Allen, Tarleton, Coffran, Dowst, Goss, Griffin, Foss, Babb, Wells, Langley, Appleton, Dickey, Hill, Nelson, and Joel Ames, the blacksmith.

Tradition tells us that at one period in the early history of this settlement, there were forty yoke of oxen kept on these farms. I was told by a descendant of one of the old families, that when he, as a boy, went to school there were twenty children who came from New Portsmouth to attend the school at Center Hill, this would be as late as the years 1873 to 1880.

Some of the names used in referring to parts of this settlement were: The Sand Hill, Grants Hill, Allen Hill, Tarleton Meadows, Simeon's Gully, Mountain Road, Tarleton or Grant Road and Mountain Brook; these were all familiar names, when referring to this section of Epsom, in the days long gone.

After the close of the Civil War there were fifteen or twenty families living in the New Portsmouth area but since that time the community has gradually grown less and less until today April 1963 there are only three houses, suitable to live in, that are left standing and only one of these three are occupied, this one by a man and his wife both well advanced in years; their only livestock a dog and a few hens.

It was in this part of Epsom that the Indians had a lead mine where they obtained the lead that they traded with Sargent Blake. (The location of the lead mine is still a secret [1963])

The rest of this area, which was once covered with farms and homes is now dotted with old cellars, wells, springs, one Indian burying ground, one or more family burying grounds and small clearings that were once large fertile fields, scattered in the valleys and on the slopes of Fort and McCoy Mountains.

### **The Benjamin Hall Farm.**

The Benjamin Hall farm was in Range 1 Lots 19 and 20.

Benjamin Hall, married first Polly Wells, they had a son named Hollis who died Feb. 23, 1854, age 17 yrs, 5 mo. 8 days.

Polly (Wells) Hall, wife of Benjamin Hall, died November 24, 1877 age 57 yrs, 6 mos.

Benjamin Hall, who was born in England was the son of ? He died in Epsom January 10, 1884. Age 79 years 8 mo.

Charles Henry Hall, the son of Benjamin and Polly Hall was born in Epsom and died in Epsom October 30, 1904 age 73 yrs, 6 mo. 14 days. He served in the Civil War, Co. E. 11th Reg. N.H. Vols. married Lucy Jane Langley, the daughter of True Langley and his wife Mehitable (Dow) Langley.

Lucy Jane Hall, died December 28, 1912 age 77 yrs, 10 mo. 26 days. She was born in Deerfield N.H.

Charles H., the son of Charles H. and Lucy J. Hall died May 24, 1893, age 21 yrs, 5 mo. 23 days.

Henrietta, their daughter, died February 19, 1858. Age 2 yrs, 2 mo. 6 days.

Charlie, their son; died January 2, 1861 age 1 yr. 9 mos. Their son Hollis Hall who was born in Epsom, December 23, 1866, died in Epsom, January 8, 1938, age 71 yrs, 15 days. He married Mabel Sanders who was born in Epsom, September 18, 1870, the daughter of William T. Sanders and Drusilla (Ewer) Sanders.

Mabel Hall, died February 17, 1901 age 30 yrs, 4 mo. and 30 days.

Flora D. Hall, the daughter of Hollis and Mabel (Sanders) Hall was born in Epsom, April 14, 1895. (A direct descendant of Benjamin Hall of England) married Arthur H. Sullivan the son of John F. Sullivan and Martha O. (Edmonds) Sullivan. John F. Sullivan, born in Deerfield, Martha O. Edmonds, born in Northwood.

Flora D. Hall and Arthur H. Sullivan, were married at Northwood by the Rev. L. A. Coony of that town, on December 25, 1912.

They live in the house built by her father, near the home and on the farm of her grandfather, Charles Henry Hall.

If one were to go up the mountain road about one-fourth of a mile distance, from the home of Flora D. (Hall) Sullivan the great granddaughter of Benjamin Hall, of England, they would find a small field on the west side of the highway it was at this place that Benjamin Hall lived. It has been handed down from his son Daniel H. Hall (Co.E, 11 Reg. N.H. Vol. Civil War) to his son Benjamin Hall and is now owned by the son of Benjamin, Max Hall.

All that is left to show where the original Benjamin Hall farm was, in the early days of the settlement of "New Portsmouth." is the house cellar partly filled. The remains of the foundation where the barn stood and the large lilac bush near the house cellar, in the small clearing.

At the date when this farm was one of the fertile and prosperous farms in this community, it consisted of twenty or more acres of land where the building were, together with eighteen or more acres on the opposite side of the highway, mostly field land in the eighteen acre tract.

#### Hall Family Births

Benjamin Hall, born May 11, 1805. (In England)

Polly (Wells) Hall, born February 28, 1807.

#### Their Children

Charles Henry Hall, born March 14, 1831.

Andrew Hall, born April 23, 1834

Hollis Hall, born September 15, 1836.

The second wife of Benjamin Hall, was: Mary Dowst, who was born May 26, 1821.

#### Their children

Lucy A. Hall, born July 20, 1846.

Daniel H. Hall, born February 1, 1847.

Mary F. Hall, born November 24, 1851.

Ellen M. Hall, born May 19, 1854.

Caroline L. Hall, born September 6, 1855.

Hannah M. Hall, born July 9, 1859.

Emer Hall, born August 3, 1862.

Charles Henry Hall, married Lucy J. Langley born February 2, 1835.

#### Their children were:

Sarah Jane Hall, born January 14, 1852.

Henrietta Hall, born December 13, 1855.

Charles Anderson Hall, born April 27, 1862.

Ella Etta Hall, born July 19, 1865.

Hollis Hall, born December 23, 1866.

Charles H. Hall, born December 1, 1871.

### Grant Family

John Grant, A Revolutionary soldier was in Epsom in 1789, and bought lot number 19 in range no. 1, note, (this would be on the old Mt. road or the Grant Road) his wife Dorothy, born in 1753, died in 1843 age 90 years, having bequeathed in 1838 to her sons, Simon, John (1790–1864) and Ebenezer, and to daughters, Sally, Libby, Polly, wife of Ephriam Foss, and Dorothy wife of Nathan Goss.

John Grant Jr. had sons George and Andrew. Captain George Grant was the father of William T. Grant, a Civil War soldier, who lived on the New Orchard Road at the foot of Lockes Hill. William T. Grant son of Captain George and Sally (Foss) Grant, was born in Epsom, died in Epsom July 20, 1895. Age 66 years 2 mo. 2 days. A sister of his was Clara S. Grant who married Perly C. Giles. They lived on the New Orchard Rd. just south of the Deacon John Cate farm now owned by George H. and John B. Yeaton (1961). The Perly C. Giles place is now owned by Walter C. Chase (1961) John Grant Jr. died August 17, 1864, Age 83 yrs. 9 mo. 0 days. Hannah M. his wife died September 11, 1828. Age 43 yrs, 9 mo. 0 days. Sally (Foss) wife of Capt. George W. Grant, died December 21, 1855 age 59 yrs. Sally Cate, wife of Andrew M. Grant, died December 16, 1847, age 22 yrs. 4 mo.

There was a Thomas Grant, who served in the War of 1812, From Epsom. Clara S. Grant, sister of William T. who married Perly C. Giles was the mother of two sons and three daughters. One son Herbert P. Giles married on October 17, 1898, Lyla Belville. One daughter Ella M. Giles married on Nov. 30, 1901 Charles A. Parker, Nettie: married a minister they lived in Strafford or Farmington. I think he was a Congregationalist. The other daughter Viola Giles, never married, I do not know what their oldest sons name was.

John Grant, a Revolutionary Soldier 1776. Thomas Grant, Soldier in the War of 1812. Corporal William L. Grant, Civil War, 1863.

In the year 1847 on the Selectmen's Invoice of Resident tax payers of Epsom, the names of the following Grant names appeared: John Grant, George W. Grant, Simon, and Andrew M. Grant.

In 1855 the following names: John Grant, Simon Grant, George W. Grant and William T. Grant are taxed in Epsom.

William T. Grant, born in Epsom, year 1829, died in Epsom July 20, 1895, age 66 yrs. 2 mo. 2 days, the son of George W. Grant and his wife Sally (Foss) Grant. William T. Grant lived in Epsom and died in Epsom, his father born in Epsom his mother in Strafford, N.H. Sally C. Cate, wife of Andrew M. Grant, died December 16, 1847, age 22 yrs. and four months.

THE BIG BLACK SNAKE, that lived at the Grant farm, as narrated by William T. Grant, who lived at the Grant farm, as a boy and young man. The date that he told the story was around the year 1893.

#### The Story

“The men were cutting the grass on the Grant meadow and as was customary at that time, one of the small children would bring from the house, in the forenoon, a lunch and some fresh drink for the

men haying, this forenoon the men suddenly heard a girl screaming and looking saw a girl running toward them with a large black snake chasing her, they ran surrounded the snake and killed it; when it was dead they laid it across the hay rack, it reached from the ground on one side up over the wheels across the rails and the other end of the snake touched the ground on the other side.” This black snake must have been about twelve feet long.

### **Allen Family**

The first mention of the Allen’s of Epsom is found in the Epsom Cemetery records. Josiah Allen, born 1744 died 1821, A Revolutionary Soldier, buried in a cemetery near the Epsom-Allenstown town line, in what was once an old field, it is on the northerly side of the highway that leads from “New Rye” road in Epsom to the town of Allenstown. In more recent years called the “Wing Road,” reason: this road turns abruptly towards the east. Bathsheba Nelson, wife of Josiah Allen, was born in the year 1755 died year 1850. The monument on this cemetery lot, erected by their son, Josiah Allen.

The next record in the year 1846, Greenleaf Allen is on the Selectmen’s tax for that year, buildings and land, also a Joseph Allen and John L. Allen in 1847.

In the year 1855 Bathsheba Allen was the only one on the list, buildings and land, the same for a number of years.

Later Benjamin Allen’s name appears on the Selectmen’s records.

Two sisters of Benjamin Allen, lived at Gilmanton Iron Works, N.H., one married a Mr. Nutter, they had two sons, living there in 1890.

Bathsheba Nelson who married Josiah Allen, was the daughter of James Nelson, she had five brothers, their names were: James, Mark, John, Jacob and Nicholas Nelson. Mark Nelson, one of the sons, married Polly or Mary Allen. Mark Nelson went from Epsom, N.H. to the state of Vermont in the year 1802.

Mrs. Elsie Carrish 46 East State Street, Montpelier, Vermont is a direct descendant of Mark Nelson. She called at my home, October 3, 1961.

On the list of names of those that signed the Association list in the town of Epsom is the name James Nelson.

Ezra Allen, War of 1812.

Jude Allen taxed in Epsom, on old records.

### **Appelton Family**

In 1853 Thomas Appleton paid a tax in Epsom. On a map of Epsom compiled in 1858 Thomas Appleton, lived a little to the south of C.H. Hall.

Thomas Appleton paid taxes in Epsom, 1862

Thomas Appleton paid taxes in Epsom, 1853 to the year 1864, that year it read Thomas Appleton, Heirs of.

## **The Langley Families of Nottingham, Deerfield and Epsom, New Hampshire**

There is not much known about the first Langley, Adalad Langley, except that he was among the first settlers of Nottingham, N.H. he was fond of hunting and fishing and spent much of his time with the Indians who lived near North Pond and North River.

North River came from North Pond passing through Tuttle's Corner.

History states that his wife was a beautiful Indian girl, and that she was an excellent wife and mother.

A son of Adalad Langley and his wife was named Benjamin Langley and lived on Peavey Hill, near Langley Pond, he married and was the father of Thomas and Joseph Langley also four daughters: namely, Sally, Lovey, Judith, and one other.

His son Thomas died in the year 1854 at the age of sixty years, his wife's name was Lois and was born January 9, 1797, she was the daughter of Samuel Emerson.

Thomas and Lois Langley had for children Mary Jane born April 8, 18917; Josiah: and Joseph Longfellow Langley.

Their first child, Mary Jane Langley, married Joseph E. Tilton, who died in the army year of 1862. Their children were: (1) Frank who died near Benton Roads before his father died, he was also in the war.

Their son George, married Dulcine French of Newmarket and a daughter Sarah, married Albert Smith, they had a daughter named Effie. (2) Josiah, second son of Thomas and Lois Langley was born October 18, 1818 and married the daughter of William Small of Northwood, N.H. The daughters name Susan Small.

Josiah and Susan had for children: John Langley and a daughter, Mary S. Langley. Josiah Langley, was with the Boston and Maine Railroad for fourteen years after serving his connection with the railroad he lived on his farm in Nottingham.

(3) Joseph Longfellow the third child of Thomas and Lois Langley, was born August 20, 1834, and married August 9, 1856, Elizabeth Templeton of Laurence Massachusetts, born March 12, 1831. Joseph Longfellow Langley was with one railroad ten years (The Boston and Maine) and a railroad man for sixteen years.

On June 3, 1793, Joseph Langley and Sarah Freeze were married by the Rev. Ebenezer Haseltine, minister of the Gospel in Epsom, N.H. Josiah Langley and Sarah Freeze were from Deerfield, N.H.

Josiah D. Langley, who was born in Deerfield, N.H., February 25, 1832, the son of True Langley and his wife Mehitable Dow, both his father and mother were born in the town of Deerfield, N.H., this Josiah D. Langley also had a sister by the name of Lucy Jane Langley, who married Charles Henry Hall of Epsom, Lucy Jane Hall died Dec. 28, 1912, age at death 77 yrs, 10 mo. 26 days.

Charles H. and Lucy Jane Hall were the parents of three sons and one daughter.

The above named Josiah D. Langley married Elma J. Locke, the daughter of Thomas D. M. Locke and Eliza Cass. Thomas D. M. Locke was the son of Levi Locke of Locke's Hill. (Epsom)

Josiah D. Langley was a soldier in the Civil War, Co.E. 11th, N.H. Vol. from Epsom, he died May 20, 1896 in Epsom age 64 yrs, 2 mos. 25 days.

Josiah D. and Elma J. Langley had for children

Charles A., born Dec. 9, 1853.

Josiah T., born Mar. 22, 1856.

Eliza J., born Mar. 26, 1860, died June 18, 1866.

Emma B., born Apr. 25, 1863.

Maurice L., born Mar. 16, 1868.

Hettie E., born May 17, 1872.

Timothy B., born June 17, 1873, died Aug. 16, 1951.

Nellie G., born March 26, 1876 died Feb. 11, 1962.

Elma J. Langley, wife of Josiah D., died Jan. 28, 1889 was born October 18, 1834.

Langley

Emma E. Langley, of Chichester, N.H., was born December 23, 1853 married January 14, 1876, James Otis Sanborn of Chichester, the son of Albert Sanborn and his wife Elmira Jane Drake, James Otis Sanborn was born June 2, 1851. James Otis and Emma E. Sanborn had children:

(1) Bert W. born July 22, 1877.

(2) Bertha W. born (twin to Bert) died 1878.

(3) Vernon A., born May 31, 1881.

Andrew Langley, of Deerfield, N.H., married Lois Sanborn, the daughter of Jacob and Mary Sanborn N.H., she was born October 4, 1807. Of Chichester N.H. as were her parents.

Timothy Bryant Langley and his first wife Bertha T. Cotterell were the parents of a daughter named Marion Agnes, Born January 2, 1902.

Laura A. Haines, second wife of Timothy B. Langley, married for her first husband, Alonzo Batchelder of Epsom. They had a daughter named Doris A. Batchelder, who married Ellsworth B. Philbrick. They have a son, Maurice C., born September 1, 1933.

Josiah D. Langley and members of his family are buried in the McClary Cemetery Eliza Langley, the wife of True Langley born 1814 died in the year 1853. Rosetta L. Langley the wife of Moses I. Libbey born 1841, died May 1, 1935 age 93 yrs 11 mo. 23d. She was born in Deerfield, N.H. the daughter of True Langley and Eliza (Dowst) Langley. True Langley born in Deerfield Eliza Dowst born in Allenstown.

Amos Langley War of 1812. From Epsom.

Bertha T. Cotterell, first wife of Timothy. Bryant Langley, died March 21, 1903. Age 27 yrs 9 mo. 22 days. She was the daughter of John T. Cotterell and his wife Clara A. Sanders. John T. Cotterell, born in England. Clara A. Sanders born in Chichester.

Laura A. Haines, second wife of Timothy B. Langley died in Epsom December 17, 1947. Age 80 yrs. 1 mo. 10 days, she was born in Bedford and was the daughter of Jonathan P. Haines and his wife Abbie (Maloon) Haines.

Nellie G. Langley, married a man by the name of Wallace. Lived in or near Concord, N.H.



### **Coffran Family**

Surdin N. Coffran, born in 1868 died 1883 buried in the McClary Cemetery.

Malcolm W. Coffran, born in 1874, died Jan. 30 1959. Struck and killed by an automobile in Pittsfield, N.H. by someone from Northwood. His age at death 85 years.

In the history of Pittsfield a picture of the Pittsfield "Second Grammar School" on the front porch of the old wooden Academy building. In the year 1888, Malcolm Coffran's name is on the list of students.

Sarah Elsie Cofran, born in Epsom, died March 31, 1911 age 57 yrs. 4 mo. 18 days. Her father was Robert Cofran, born in Londonderry, her mother born in Epsom, maiden name Sarah D. Yeaton, married Robert Cofran. Sarah Elsie Cofran, married John E. Chesley. He was the son of Jonathan S. Chesley and his wife Abigail Hoyt, born in Northwood. John E. Chesley, born in Epsom his father Jonathan S. Chesley born in Epsom.

John E. Chesley was the station agent at the Epsom R.R. Station for a long time.

### **Ames Family of Epsom, from 1772 to 1960**

Joel Ames, a blacksmith lived in Epsom West of the McCoy's mountain on the "Hill Road." He was there in 1772 to 1791, had a large family in 1790.

A Samuel Ames and Samuel Ames Jr., both were living in Epsom in the year 1774.

Amos Ames, married Susan Moses in the year 1816, they had two son's, Charles and Thomas Ames.

Charles Ames who was born in Epsom year 1817 died in Epsom February 4, 1887 age 70 yrs, 2 mos. 20 days.

He married Harriot Oliver Hill of Nottingham N.H., she was the daughter of Joseph Hill and Lydia (Blaisdell) Hill. She died December 11, 1908, age 79 yrs, 4 mo. 7 days. She was born August 4, 1830.

Charles and Harriot Ames lived on the Locke Hill road. New Orchard District at or near where William Odiorne owned a farm in the year 1776, not far from Odiorne Pond. Charles and Harriot Ames had a son, born in Epsom, his name, Henry C. Ames, who died in Epsom June 14, 1926, age 73 yrs. 10 mo. 13 days. He married Ella O. Winslow, born in Northwood and the daughter of Charles E. Winslow of Pittsfield and Hannah (Watson) Winslow of Northwood.

Ella O. Ames died in Epsom February 20, 1936. Age 78 years, 1 mo. 2 days.

Henry C. and Ella O. Ames had one son, named Mayland P. Ames who was born in Epsom, July 16, 1950 he died being age 70 yrs, 10 mo. 3d. Mayland Ames, married first in 1900, Martha A. Staniels (no children) married second, Mildred M. Little, date of marriage December 2, 1922. (they had an adopted daughter named Harriot.) Mayland Ames married for his third wife in the year 1932, Ada Caroline Wheeler, the daughter of Frank P. Wheeler and his wife Lillian C. Hilliard. Children of Mayland and Ada Ames, were:

1st Barbara Verona, born in Epsom, December 7, 1932. 2nd. Dorothy Harriot, born in Epsom January 16, 1934. 3rd. Marjorie Pauline, born in Epsom, January 26, 1936. 4th a son Robert Ames,

born in Epsom, August 18, 1937.

The widow of Mayland P. Ames lives in Concord, N.H. (1960).

Martha A. Staniels, Mayland's first wife, graduated from Pittsfield High School in 1896, taught school in Epsom, North Road District years 1898 and 1899.

In the year 1792 Joel Ames made a clock for Samuel Cass, which in the year 1927 was still running and keeping good time.

Thomas J. Ames, Co.D. 15th Reg. N.H. Vols, *Civil War*.

Joel Ames (the blacksmith) in making this clock made the tools as he needed them for his work on the clock.

Mr. Samuel Cass sold a yoke of oxen for sixty (\$60) dollars to pay Mr. Ames for the clock.

Thomas Ames, the brother of Charles Ames son of Amos and Susan (Moses) Ames, was born in Epsom. He died in Epsom April 15, 1901 age 71 years, 6 mo. 23 days. Thomas Ames married Martha J. Bickford, the daughter of William and Polly (Rand) Bickford. She died March 4, 1893. Age 58 years, 7 mo. 20 days. They lived on the main road in Epsom village a house on the south side of the road near the river at the mouth of the Odiorne Pond brook, the house was later owned by Charles W. Leighton, later by Walter H. Quimby.

In the year 1888 Thomas Ames was taxed for forty acres of land with buildings in Epsom. He is thought to have been living on the Rand or Gaborough road at the time.

Their children were: son, George R. who died December 16, 1889, age 20 yrs. 7 mo.

A daughter, Helen E. who died February 16, 1862. Age 3 yrs, 6 mo. No one living in Epsom by the name of Ames in 1960.

Thomas Ames wife was a sister of Henry W. Bickford, who lived on the New Orchard Rd.

### **Tarleton Family 1846 to 1873**

In the years 1846 and 1847 on the Selectmen's tax list appeared the following persons by the name of Tarleton.

1847 William Tarleton, William Tarleton, heirs of Thomas S. Tarleton.

1846 William F. Tarleton, William Tarleton, Thomas S. Tarleton.

1869 William Tarleton and Charles W. Tarleton.

1871 William Tarleton, Charles W. Tarleton and John B. Tarleton.

1873 William Tarleton, Charles W. Tarleton and John B. Tarleton.

In the year 1853 William Tarleton, Joseph W. Tarleton and Henry C. Tarleton, each paid a tax in Epsom.

Joseph K. Tarleton, was born at Kent's Hill Maine year of 1860. He was the son of Joseph W. and Betsey S. (Dutton) Tarleton, his age at marriage to Evelyn M. Butler was 38 yrs. Evelyn M. Butler, was born in N. Brunswick. She was the daughter of Charles T. Butler and Betsey (Cameron) Butler. Her age was 28 yrs. They were married in Epsom and lived here.

Joseph K. Tarleton died in Epsom February, 14, 1917, age 56 yrs.

In the year 1980, Charles W. Tarleton, A.M. taught school in Epsom at the New Rye District. In the year 1881, Superintending School committee in Epsom.

He taught school in the years 1881 at Center Hill at Short Falls years 1883 and 1884.

Charles W. Tarleton served in the Civil War, Co.E. 11th Reg. New Hampshire Vols.

Rev. Joseph W. Tarleton, born February 19, 1817, died February 26, 1883.

Betsey S. Dutton, his wife was born December 6, 1815, died October 18, 1896. She was born in Hooksett the daughter of Roger Dutton and his wife Mary (Sawyer) Dutton.

William Tarleton, died October 2, 1886 age 91 yrs. 10 mo.

Rhoda Berry, his wife, died January 27, 1892, age 86 yrs. 0 mo.

Ellen H. Tarleton, born February 23, 1854 died May 9, 1875.

Joseph W. Tarleton, graduated from Dartmouth College in 1844 or near that date, became a minister. Preached at Hooksett and later in Massachusetts.

Charles W. Tarleton graduated from Brown University, Providence, Rd. Taught at Worcester Massachusetts.

Charles W. Tarleton paid poll tax in Epsom year 1886.

In the year 1878 William Tarleton owned and paid taxes in Epsom, on 185 acres of land, Cattle, one horse and sheep.

In the year 1886, Charles W. Tarleton paid taxes on 185 acres of land also building and livestock of considerable value.

In the year 1895 Joseph H. Tarleton was taxed in Epsom. The same year Charles W. Tarleton paid on 195 acres of land, buildings and stock in trade.

In the year 1903 Joseph W. Tarleton paid a small tax in Epsom.

It has been a great many years since any one by the name of Tarleton has lived in Epsom.

Another of the old families that have disappeared from Epsom.

### **Dickey Family**

David Dickey of Chester, N.H., bought of Aaron Burbank in the year 1782, what was afterwards the Tarleton place of 120 acres.

He deeded in 1794–1800, to Hanover, Robert and John Dickey, probably his sons, the same land.

Hanover Dickey had for children, born from the year 1803 to the year 1816, as follows:

Eleanor, David, Hanover, Abraham, Sally, and Lydia.

Robert Dickey had children, born from the year 1804 to the year 1817, as follows:

Morrill, Eliza, Samuel, Sarah, Robert and Hannah.

David, Hanover and Abraham Dickey all graduated from Dartmouth College, they taught school in Epsom for a time. Later David Dickey, became a lawyer. Hanover Dickey a medical doctor, he

was also a Dentist.

In the year 1846, David Dickey and Hanover Dickey & Co. paid taxes in Epsom.

In 1847 David Dickey, and Hanover Dickey's heirs, paid a tax.

In the year of 1860, David Dickey Jr., and Robert O. Dickey, paid in Epsom.

Year of 1869, it was David Dickey, Morrill Dickey, Morrill Dickey, 2d. and James M. Dickey who paid.

In 1853, David Dickey Jr. heirs of Hanover Dickey.

In 1871, David, Morrill, Norris and Morrill 2d. Dickey. Four by the name of Dickey.

Year of 1876, Melvin Dickey, the only one.

Hanover Dickey Jr., M.D. died in Lowell Mass. May 29, 1873, age 64 yrs. buried in McClary Cemetery.

At McClary Cemetery the following inscription on stones reads L. D. Married Hayward, had two daughters, Frances Hanover and Isabella Osgood, Infant daughters of Rev. W. H. and L. D.

Rachel Dickey, wife of Morrill Dickey, died February 11, 1837, age 23 years. Buried McClary Cemetery.

David Dickey, died June 26, 1884, age 79 yrs. and 5 mo.

Lucinda M., his wife, died December 5, 1899, age 85 years.

Melissa D., died October 11, 1892, age 45 yrs, born in Epsom and died in Epsom (single) buried at the New Rye Cemetery. She was the daughter of David Dickey and his wife, Lucinda Cass. Both of her parents born in Epsom.

Sarah P. Dickey, wife of Charles W. Whitney died Sept. 22 1864, age 24 yrs. 7 mo. buried in the Gossville Ceme.

Buried at the Gossville Cemetery

Robert Dickey, born 1782 died 1862.

Hannah Dickey, his wife, born 1784, died 1867.

Morrill Dickey, born 1804, died 1877.

Betsey Dickey, his wife from 1811. Died 1905 A. 87 yrs.

Her name before marriage, Betsey Tuttle, died June 17, 1905 at Marblehead, Massachusetts.

Madison Dickey, son of Morrill and Betsey Dickey born 1841 died 1864.

Mason, their son born 1845 died 1868.

Munroe, their son born 1838 died 1900.

Melvin W. Dickey, died in Salem Massachusetts June 9, 1930, born in Thornton, his father Morrill Dickey, born in Epsom, mother Betsey Tuttle, born in Strafford. Melvin W. Dickey age at death 75 yrs. 4 mo. 11 days.

Morris C. Dickey, died March 25, 1876 age, 26 yrs.

Elvira K. Dickey, (wife of George F. Pease) died June 11, 1912, age 67 yrs. 10 mo. 7 days, her

father was David Dickey. In Epsom Town Reports for 1912 the name is spelled "Alvira." At New Rye Cemetery.

In the year 1878, David Dickey paid taxes in Epsom. From 1886 to 1895 a tax was paid by the heirs of David Dickey.

The name of Dickey has long been unknown in the town of Epsom. (1960)

Eliza W. Dickey, married May 12, 1823. Nathan Bickford of Epsom, N.H., the daughter of, Robert and his wife Hannah (Osgood) Dickey.

### **Babb Family 1759 to 1962**

Aaron Babb, born in 1759, died March 9, 1813. Age 54 years.

Hannah Babb, his wife, born in 1767, died October 17, 1848 age 81 years.

John Babb, born 1767, died July 10, 1831 age 64 yrs.

Anna Babb, his wife, born 1777, died June 20, 1841 age 64 yrs.

John Babb, born 1802, died September 21, 1868, age 66 y.

Solome (Rand) Babb, his wife, born 1805, died May 7, 1870 at age 65 years.

John Babb, born in Epsom, Salome Babb in Chichester.

Their son: William P. Babb, born in Epsom May 9, 1828, died June 14, 1911, age 83 yrs. 15 days.

Rebecca J. Heath, his wife, born in Epsom August 25, 1834, died February 9, 1908, age 73 yrs. 5 mo. 15 d. She was the daughter of Andrew M. Heath and Jane C. (Cass) Heath, both born in Epsom.

Thomas Babb, lived in Epsom in the year 1799, on the turnpike, opposite the Cass Pond. In later years the farm was owned by Walter J. Philbrick.

There is no one living in Epsom 1960 by the name of Babb.

A daughter of William P. and Rebecca J. Babb lives in Pittsfield, N.H. she married Everett A. Dow. Her maiden name Elbra M. Babb, she was on the roll of Honor in 1884, at the North Road school. Grace E. Drew, from Pembroke was the teacher, William P. Babb, Prudential Committee.

The following year the Prudential Committee was Charlie W. Babb, an older brother of Albra Babb.

In the year 1853, William P. Babb, only paid a poll tax in Epsom, John Babb taxed for 100 acres of land buildings.

Philip Babb, taxed for 134 acres with buildings. Both John Babb and Philip Babb were taxed on livestock.

In the year 1855 John Babb only paid a Poll tax. William P. Babb, paid the tax on the 100 acres of land and buildings. (same amount as John Babb paid on in previous years.)

In the year 1888, William P. Babb was taxed for 180 acres and buildings together with livestock, total tax he paid \$46.13 which was one of the more than average tax, at that date.

Dr. James Babb, studied medicine with Dr. Josiah Crosby of Epsom, and succeeded him in his

practice in this town.

He lived for a time in the parsonage home at Center Hill, he then built the house that was owned by Hosea L. Hilliard (1885) the present owners are James and Mary Colorusso, 1960. Dr. James Babb moved to Manchester about the year 1840. His wife was the daughter of Captain Bickford Lang. A John Babb was in Epsom in the year 1846.

A Philip Babb was in Epsom in the year 1846.

A widow Hannah Babb was in Epsom in the year 1846.

Same names in 1847, were on the tax list for those two years, 1846 and 1847.

Hannah Babb could have been the widow of Aaron Babb who died March 9, 1813, at age 54 yrs. Hannah Babb October 17, 1848 age 81.

The John Babb could have been the John that was born in 1802 and died September 21, 1868, age 66 yrs. who was the father of William P. Babb. In the year 1864 John Babb was taxed for 44 acres and buildings.

In the year 1869 no tax against John Babb or Philip Babb.

William P. Babb was the only one by the name of Babb on the Selectmens tax list, (1869).

A news item dated December 1876, "Andrew M. Heath, second, of Epsom, proposes to erect a hotel on Railroad Square next spring." (Pittsfield News). In 1884, "A larger yield of wheat than was reported last week was harvested by William Babb. He had sixty bushels." (South Pittsfield News Item)

January 4, 1884, "Grace Babb is suffering from neuralgia in the face." (Same paper) "Charles Babb has changed his milk route and will run to Pittsfield depot during the summer.

Elizabeth Babb, born in Barnstead year of 1816, the daughter of Benjamin and Sally (Penny) Babb, died in Epsom, December 22, 1893 age 77 years 7 mo. 24 days. She was the wife of Lemuel F. Hanscomb, born 1817 died 1886. Buried at Short Falls Cemetery.

Annette Babb, daughter of William P. and Ruhumah Babb, died May 27, 1862 age 8 mo. and 27 days.

McClary Cemetery.

Lydia A. Babb, the daughter of John and Salome (Rand) Babb, died June 24, 1903, age 66 yrs 10 mo. She was the wife of Daniel T. Cilley. She was born in Epsom, died in Epsom, buried at McClary Cemetery.

Philip Babb, died April 2, 1883, age 75 yrs 7 mo. at McClary Cemetery.

Susan A. Babb, wife of Philip Babb, died December 30, 1891 age 76 yrs 2 mo., Susan A. (Morrill) Babb. Ann Susan Babb, their daughter died August 5, 1891, age 48 yrs. 9 mo. 22d. She was the wife of Robert C. Brown.

John H. Babb born in Epsom September 27, 1851, the son of Philip Babb and his wife Susan Morrill. John H. Babb, died in Deerfield (his mother was born in Northwood, N.H.) his age at death, 64 yrs 2 mo. 20 days. Date of his death, December 17, 1915. John H. Babb, married?

Buried at McClary Cemetery Babb Family

William P. Babb, born in Epsom May 9, 1828, died June 24, 1911 age 83 yrs 15 days. He was

the son of John Babb, and his wife Salome Rand. John Babb born in Epsom, Salome Rand, born in Chichester.

Rebecca J. Heath, wife of William P. Babb, was born in Epsom August 25, 1834. Died in Epsom, February 9, 1908, age 73 yrs. 5 mo. 15 days. She was the daughter of Andrew M. Heath and his wife Jane C. Cass, both born in Epsom.

George P. Babb, son of James and Hannah M. Babb died February 11, 1831, age 1 yr. 10 mo.

Hannah M. their daughter died March 29, 1826 age 4 yrs. 11 mo. 19 days.

John Babb died September 21, 1868, age 66 yrs.

Salome (Rand) Babb, wife of John, died May 8, 1870 age 65 yrs. He was born in the year 1802 in Epsom. His wife Salome born in the year 1805, in Chichester.

Martha Ann, their daughter, died August 6, 1835 age 5 years.

John Babb, died July 10, 1831 age 64 yrs, born in 1767.

Anna Babb, his wife died June 20, 1841 age 64 yrs.

Betsey Babb, died October 31, 1878 age 74 y. 5 mo.

Aaron Babb, died March 9, 1813, age 54 y. Born in 1759.

Hannah Babb, his wife died Oct. 17, 1848 age 81 yrs. Born 1767.

Staria Babb, died May 23, 1852 age 54 yrs.

Joseph Babb died November 14, 1827 age 24 yrs.

Samuel Babb, died September 22, 1815 age 45 yrs.

When William P. Babb, died June 24, 1911, the name of Babb, in Epsom, died with him. Anna S. Babb married Robert C. Brown, of Epsom. They lived on the North Road, their children were: Thomas M., John C., Alfred W., Simon W., and Sybil H. Brown, who married Edward M. Kelley.

Rachel Babb, married Philip Wallace, they were the parents of Alonzo Wallace of Epsom, who died January 27, 1889 age 68 yrs, 1 mo. 7 d.

Eliza Babb, married Lemuel E. Hanscomb both of Barnstead, N.H. The parents of Abbie A. Baker, who died in Epsom March 30, 1923, age 86 y. 1 mo. 18 days.

Lydia A. Babb who married Daniel T. Cilley were the parents of Luella J. the wife of Joseph Laurence, who died Dec. 26, 1926, age 66 y. 3 m. 9 days. Their daughter Eva A. Lawrence, married John W. Cox. Eva A., died Dec. 10, 1933 age 50 yr. 1 mo. 21 days. Her father Joseph Lawrence died September 17, 1933 at age 75 yrs 4 mo. 15 days.

News item of 1872 reads: Joseph L. Swain, recently found on the site formerly occupied by the store of James Babb, in Epsom a Spanish coin dated 1725.

News item 1883. Reads: During the shower of the 13th lightning ran down a fork handle in the field of Archie Brown. It also struck a tree in the pasture of William Babb.

Children of William P. Babb and his wife Rebecca Heath.

Charles Babb.

Grace Babb.

Died January 16, 1919, age 49 years.

Married: Eugene P. Hill, lived in Pittsfield.

Buried in Northwood, N.H. Cemetery at Northwood Center.

Eugene P. Hill and his wife Grace (Babb) Hill were the parents of two sons, Carroll and Eugene Elliott Hill.

Elbra M. Babb, married Everett A. Dow. They have a daughter, named Marguerite E. Dow who married, Mr. Willard.

Everett A. Dow, died February 11, 1962 age 85 yrs.

Everett A. Dow the son of Elijah P. Dow and Hattie A. (Lane) Dow, was born in Pittsfield, N.H. February 17, 1877. His sister J. Louise Dow, born July 28, 1880 married Arthur Berganson. In the year 1922 she is listed in the old family records, as a widow with two children.

Everett A. Dow and Elbra M. Babb were married January 2, 1901. Her age at that time 23 years. J. Louise Dow, born in Northwood, N.H.

On October 4, 1899 Louise M. Babb, age 22 years born in Hollis living in Pepperall Massachusetts at time of marriage. She was the daughter of John C. Babb, who was born in Hebron, her mother was Rosana Moulton, born in Tamworth. Married Eddie S. Baker of Epsom, born in Epsom the son of James Baker, born in Pembroke and Abbie A. Hanscomb, born in Barnstead. Eddie S. Baker age at time of marriage 30 years.

Eugene P. Hill who married Grace Babb of Epsom, was the son of Ivory B. Hill and his wife Eliza A. Fogg, who was born October 22, 1835. The daughter of Jeremiah Fogg, son of Jonathan Fogg, born September, 11, 1796, died July 4, 1883. He married on September 7, 1826, Abigail Hill, born March 22, 1807, died May 6, 1881.

Their children were:

(1) Enoch Place, born September 6, 1827 died Oct. 1899: married Lydia Parsons.

(2) Vienna H., born August 22, 1829: married William Chapman: children: Oscar and Chapman.

(3) John C., born July 19, 1833: died November 8, 1894: married first Adelaid Watson: second Sarah J. Young: children: of first wife were: Frederick and Frank. Of second wife: Karl D., and Aline E.

(4) Eliza A., mentioned above.

Children of Ivory B. Hill and his wife Eliza A. (Fogg) Hill were: (2) Dr. Roscoe Hill, married Flora Holt, of Pembroke, N.H., they had one child (Howard) who died young.

Dr. Roscoe Hill was born October 9, 1859, died July 5, 1925.

Flora J. Holt, his wife, was born August 22, 1857; died October 2, 1926, she was the daughter of Thomas R. Holt and his wife Esther (Parker) Holt, of Pembroke, N.H.

Their son, Howard P. Hill was born November 22, 1899: died January 20, 1900.

Dr. Hill practiced medicine in Epsom for many years.

(1) Eugene P. Hill, born December 3, 1858, married Grace Babb, have two sons.

(3) Clarence I. Hill, born July 22, 1860.

(4) Alice Hill, born December 26, 1861.

After the Governor of the State of Alabama barred two Negro students from entering college, it brought to my mind the Negro family who lived at New Portsmouth at one time.

The name of this colored family was: Wentworth. Harrison Wentworth, his wife, Margaret and their children. The Wentworth family were good neighbors and never caused any trouble.

A lady who lived near this family, who as a child of six years, lost her mother, said that Mrs. Wentworth was very kind and motherly to her, after her mothers death.



**John and Salome (Rand) Babb**

## FORT MOUNTAIN

Fort Mountain in Epsom is the highest mountain in New Hampshire, East of Kearsarge and south of Gunstock Mountains.

There are two versions why it is names Fort. One that in time of danger from the Indians the inhabitants of Epsom would signal from this mountain to the fort in Portsmouth, the other version which has the most evidence is that in approaching the mountain from the north side its towering precipice of granite might well suggest the walls of Louisburg. (Louisburg is on the east coast of Cape Breton Island, and was captured by the English Colonies in America, from the French, June 16, 1745.)

The entire summit of Fort Mountain is a mass of ledges and rocks, which rises well above the trees of the surrounding slopes.

From the top you have an unobstructed view in all directions.

As to the height of Fort Mountain one authority gives the height as 1,428, another 1,410.

Now let us go back two hundred years or more, and vision some fearless citizen of Epsom climbing Fort Mt., in the darkness, to signal with pitch-pine torches, to the Fort at Portsmouth, not knowing at what moment an Indian war party might attack him.

What is known is that the first point of land seen by ships approaching Portsmouth harbor is Fort Mountain.

From the summit on a clear day smoke from steamers and the sails of sailing vessels, on the Atlantic, can be seen with the naked eye. In the early 1800's or earlier there was erected, on the summit of Fort Mountain, a beacon, that ships approaching land could more easily see this land mark. (Fort Mt.)

If you should visit Fort Mt., you would find holes drilled in the ledges and a number of iron rods driven in them, their use was to secure the tower that the beacon was mounted on. As late as 1865 remains of the beacon could be seen lying on the ledges.

There are other smaller mountains in Epsom. I will give the height of mountains and high hills in the town taken from the United States Geological Survey made by the War Department, dated September 1928.

Fort Mountain: - 1410 feet

McCoy Mountain: - 1200 feet

Nats Mountain: - 1000 feet

Epsom Mountain: - 900 feet

Brush Hill: - 900 feet

Sanborn Hill: - 900 feet

Bartons Hill: - 800 feet

Mountains School House Hill: - 800 feet

Locks Hill: - 600 feet

Some of the places to be seen from the summit of this mountain are listed here.

Parts of the cities of Concord and Somersworth, the villages and lakes of Northwood and Strafford:

Mountains: - Agamenticus in York, Maine. These are small mountains, the highest 673 feet. Another in North Berwick Maine. Barney Beg. of the three summits the highest one is 729 feet. Moose Mountain, height 1,404 feet, this in the town of Brookfield, and in the same town is Cropple Crown, 2,100 feet.

In New Durham, Mount Bet, Devils Den Mountain and Mount Molly, these three mountains are from 1,000 to 1,200 feet high.

In Effingham, Green Mountain about 2200 feet high. Kearsarge or Pequawket in Bartlett, height 3,251 feet:

Ossipee Mountain, 2,361 feet in two parts. Mt. Washington (first sighted by white men in the year 1524) height 6,293 feet. Mt. Carterm 4,860 feet. Gunstock Mountain is 2,364 feet in the town of Gilford, looks very near, there are three points, look in the direction of New Orchard Road.

Whiteface, 4,007 feet, this mountain is in the town of Waterville.

Passaconaway, 4,200 feet, also in Waterville.

Sandwich Domb, 3,999 feet. Mt. Cannon, 4,017 feet.

The Haystack Range of which Lafayette, 5,329 feet and Lincoln 5,098 feet are the highest. Mt. Kinsman 4,200 feet, Mt. Car, in the town of Warren is 4,000 feet.

Sanborntons Mountain 2,300 feet, look over Gossville to see this one. Another is Mossilauke, Benton, 4811 feet.

In Orford we can see Mt. Cube, height 2,927.

Ragged Mountain 2,256 feet in Andover.

In Orange we can see a part of Cardigan Mountain, height 3,156 feet. Kearsarge Mountain 2,943 feet high is in the town of Warner, look north of Concord, very prominent.

Sunapee Mountain is a long mountain 2,683 feet in height. Lovells Mountain 2,480 feet is in the town of Washington.

In Windsor, Vermont, a part of Ascutney is visible, a high mountain 3,816 feet.

Toward the south is Crotched Mountain, 2,066 feet. This Mt. is in the town of Frankestown, a long mountain, look in the direction of Allenstown.

Monadnock Mountain is 3,186 feet is in the town of Jaffrey, very pointed at the top. Peterborough Mountain, 2,289 feet. Also Temple, Kidder and others at the left of Peterborough Mt.

Waschuset Mountain is in Princetown, Massachusetts, height 2,018 feet, with no other mountains near it.

Uncanoonics, this mountain is in the town of Goffstown, it is really two mountains very close to each other, on the eastern peak there was the Uncanoonuc Mountain Hotel (1910). This hotel was less than ten miles from Manchester, and from its broad veranda one could see portions of four states and under favorable atmospheric conditions, glimpses of the Atlantic Ocean.

## **Nat's Mountain**

Nat's Mountain is about one-half mile from Fort Mountain.

It was given the name of Nat's Mountain because Nathaniel, one of the McCoy children became lost while hunting for the cows. It is said that he was lost for quite a long time and lived on berries; and that when he was finally found he was afraid other the ones who discovered him.

## **Fort Mountain in Epsom**

Just a few more words about our mountain.

Seven years ago my father told me that as a young man, my father was born in the year 1832, he visited the mountain and saw quite a large hollowed out place in one of the ledges near the summit, where the Indians in the early days were supposed to have ground their corn and roots that they used for food.

Arthur H. Sullivan, who lives in the part of Epsom, near Fort Mountain, tells me that he has seen the same thing.

At the date of my fathers first visit to the Mt. and saw the old stone mortar, a stone was lying near by which showed by its shape and appearance that it must have been the old pestle that the Indians used.

In later years, when he again visited the mountain the old stone pestle was not there. It was my father who told me about the remains of the old beacon lying on the ledges.

Then there is the legend of the cave that is in the side of the mountain, which in the old days the Indians made much use of. So instead of traveling long distances to visit places of historical interest, let us commence at home, in Epsom and places nearby.

Visit Fort Mountain, then the ledges on the New Orchard Road, with the foot prints in the now solid ledge; the bear den on Nuds Hill, just over the Pittsfield town line.

This was the place where Ebenezer Barton had a terrific fight with a bear.

On the old Range Road are the Lamprey Ledges, the Devils Den and the leaning rock nearby. Then there is the bears den on Catamount Mt., in South Pittsfield, in which the bear lived who chased the hunter.

The spot at Epsom, Old Center, where Mrs. Isabella McCoy was captured by the Indians August 21, 1747. The first cemetery in Epsom. The spot where the Epsom Block House stood. The old muster field. The old McClary House. Where the first church in Epsom stood. "Yeaton's Tavern" where the Toll-Gate was located and where they came from Pittsfield, on horseback, to pick up the mail for that town, where the stage from Portsmouth to Concord dropped it off.

The first official turnpike built in the State of New Hampshire passed through Epsom by way of Yeaton's Tavern. At "Yeaton Four Corners."

Then come with me to the old McClary field where Major McClary left his plow in the furrow and leaping on his horse started for Nottingham, and then on to Cambridge, Massachusetts, when the news reached Epsom of the battle of Lexington. There are many old houses in Epsom that have a history connected with them.

Homes that have been built 175 to 200 years.

Then one might call at Mr. and Mrs. Knights and ask to see the old Indian grinding stone, which came from the home of Mrs. Katherine Knight, where she lived when a girl in the town of Deerfield. This old stone mortar is made in a rock which is three feet in length, two in width and one foot in depth. The cavity is seven inches deep at its lowest point gradually becoming less and less until it reaches the outlet, the cavity is fifteen inches in width and sixteen in length.

There is in Rochester, N.H., at the home of John S. Clark, who formerly lived in Epsom and Pittsfield, a similar stone, which I think came from "Nuds Hill" just over the Epsom-Pittsfield town line, on the Pittsfield side.

These two old Indian relics are very similar to the one on Fort Mountain, except that I understand the one on the Mt. is made in a solid ledge.

There is a small one in a large rock at the outlet of the "Wallace" or "Gulf" brook.

I wish that at these old historical events and records could have been written in a more attractive and interesting manner.

*George H. Yeaton, at Gossville, in 1962*

There are three Indian places in Epsom that history tells us were much used by the Indians for camping grounds.

There is one on the Little Suncook river near where the present, Baptist Church stands at this date 1963. This was an ideal location, here they could catch all the fish they wanted, some to eat daily, other fish they would dry and keep for use in the winter months, the poorer kind would be used for fertilizer, burying a large fish in each hill of corn when planting.

As late as the year 1870 a small patch of Indian corn would be found growing on the shore of the river on the south side, seeding itself from year to year.

Another favorite camping place was on the Wallace brook, evidence of the Indians using this spot for camping hunting and fishing is that near the mouth of the brook, where it empties itself into the river, there is a large rock with a place made in it to pound corn into meal.

Then there is the strong evidence that Indians lived at or near Fort Mountain. The cave in the side of the mountain, the large pounding bowl made in a ledge, and it was near this mountain, so history tells us, that the lead mine was located from which the Indians obtained the lead which they traded with Sergeant Blake, which he made into bullets.

If you should visit Fort Mountain, and while you are looking at the old Indian pounding mill, just picture to yourself a small group of Indian women standing stolidly nearby, waiting their turn at the corn mill, and after they have finished pounding their corn into meal, silently and in single file leaving the mountain for their camp nearby, each with a small leather pouch filled with corn meal.

## THE EPSOM BAND OF EPSOM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

The first organization was formed about the year 1883. There is not much known about the band, except that it built a building in the village of Gossville (Town of Epsom) in which they held their rehearsals. They also built a band stand nearby.

A record of the Memorial Day observance in Epsom for the year 1885, Reads, "The services of the Gossville Cornet Band were obtained for the day."

The next organization was formed in the year 1890 or 1891 with twenty-five members, which included the Leader or Director, and the Drum Major. The Director was Albert L. Sanders (Mr. Sanders died in the year 1921). This band continued to function until the year 1922. In the year 1929 a band was organized in Epsom. John W. Cox Manager, George H. Yeaton Secretary and Treasurer. Edward H. Burnham (from Pittsfield) was the Director. In later years John O. Bellerose from Suncook became the Director.

This band had about thirty members and continued to function for many years.

In the year 1956, Mrs. Eleanor Briggs became our Director. As several of the Epsom Band members played with the Northwood Band, in the year 1957 the Epsom and Northwood Bands became one band, with Charles L. Buzzell of Northwood as Director. This Band was known as the Northwood-Epsom Band.

This present band is now known as the Epsom Band and has been for several years. After Charles L. Buzzell resigned as the Director, Charles Downs of Rochester became the new Director, John B. Yeaton, Manager and George H. Yeaton, Secretary and Treasurer. After two years Mr. Downs resigned and the present Director is Wadsworth Winslow.

The Epsom Band in the past few years has played in Epsom on Memorial Day, given concerts at Wolfeboro, Alton Bay, Barnstead, Northwood, Gilmanton, Pittsfield and Epsom, New Hampshire.

The Epsom Band meets each Friday night during the winter months for their regular rehearsals. There is an average attendance of thirty-five band members. During the rehearsal season a number of the junior band members come to the rehearsals. This increases the number at the rehearsals to nearly fifty players.

At the time when Mr. Buzzell was the Director of the band, he worked hard to have more of the musicians in the nearby communities play with the band and in this way Mr. Buzzell added a number of players to the band. Mr. Buzzell deserves much credit for enlarging the membership of the Epsom Band. The Epsom Band does not hold any rehearsals during the summer months as they are kept quite busy playing at special day observances and giving concerts.

On Memorial Day this year, the Epsom Band played at Epsom and at Deerfield, in the P.M.. On the Fourth of July at Wolfeboro. Old Home Day, Observances at Gilmanton and at Epsom, besides the many concerts which they put on in different towns.

Wadsworth Winslow, the present Director of the Epsom Band is a fine musician and the organizer and Director of several school bands: Pembroke Academy, Epsom Central School and in some other towns.

In the past years the Town of Epsom has had other musical organizations.

They have had several Drum Corps and numerous orchestras.

In the year 1908 The J.O.U.A.M of Epsom organized a band from its members. It was known as the Junior Order of United American Mechanics Band. Charles E. Cilley was the Director.

Epsom is a town with a musical background.



**THE EPSOM BRASS BAND IN 1902**

**GEORGE H. YEATON IS STANDING BEHIND THE TROMBONE PLAYER**

# The History of Epsom Schools

## THE DISTRICTS IN 1878

In the year 1878 there were eleven school districts in the Town of Epsom.

District No. 1 - Epsom Center

District No. 2 - Cilley, now Gossville

District No. 3 - Mountain

District No.4 - Short Falls

District No. 5 - New Orchard Road

District No. 6 - Union with Pittsfield

District No. 7 - North Road

District No. 8 - Fowler

District No. 9 - New Rye

District No. 10 - Marden

District No. 11 - Union with Chichester

### District No. 1

The first school house in Epsom, N.H. was at Center Hill. It was later replaced by the present building, which was closed in June 1955. It is now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Luker.

District No. 2

In the year 1840 the original school building at Gossville was located on the Goborough Road near where the Huckins Oil Company is now. It was then known as the Cilley District.

After a time a new building was erected at the present site. This later building was sold to Benjamin M. Towle in the year 1894. He moved it to his home on the Black Hall Road for use as a stable.

The present building was built the same year (1894). In 1923 it was enlarged and made a two-room school and was used until the new Central School was completed in 1955.

District No. 3

The Mountain District School was closed in 1911. The building was sold in the year 1920 or 1921 to the Mountain School Club for \$15.00. It was opened for one year of school in 1926 and 1927.

District No. 4

The Short Falls School closed in 1955 when the new Central School was opened. It now belongs to the Elwdood O. Wells Post, American Legion.

District No. 5

The New Orchard School House was built in 1884. It replaced the old building that was one-fourth of a mile north. This school was closed permanently in the year 1930. It was later sold to George H. Yeaton.

District No. 6

Union with Pittsfield. In 1841 a Pittsfield School District and Epsom School District number 6 were united to form "Republican School District." (taken from N.H. Manual for the General Court)

District No. 7

The North Road School closed in June 1935. Later the building was sold to John P. Yeaton.

District No. 8

The school house in the Fowler District is gone. It is understood that it was moved from there and later destroyed in a fire. The last time school was kept in the building was the year of 1888. At that time or during the school year of 1889 the Fowler District united with Short Falls District.

District No. 9

The school house at New Rye closed in June 1942 and later sold to the New Rye Congregational Church.

District No. 10

The Marden District school house was located on "Brimstone Hill" where Russell Johnson has built his house. The building was sold to George H. Burnham about the year 1893 and moved to his mill yard for use as a blacksmith shop. At present it is owned by George E. Huckins and used by him as a shop.

The Marden District was united with the Gossville School in 1886.

District No. 11

Union with Chichester

District at Jug City

At one time there was a school house on the Jug City Road at the top of the long hill on the west side of the road near some ledges. This was about the year 1830. Sometime after that date it was taken to the Short Falls District and used to enlarge that school building.

In the year 1853 a school house was built to replace the one at Short Falls District No. 4. It is assumed that was when the Jug City Road school house was used at Short Falls.

### **SCHOOLS IN EPSOM, N.H.**

The division of the town into districts for school purposes was by common consent or an occasional vote of the town until May 19, 1808, when the selectmen were instructed to make such division, "and affix meter and bounds to the same, and make a return thereof to the clerk to be by him recorded," and was substantially as follows:

District Number 1, contained all that is now comprised within its limits: also that portion of diistrict No. 7 on the turnpike, below Warren Yeaton's and from Yeaton's to Deerfield line. District Number 2 contained all on the turpike from from the east side of the New Orchard road to Chichester line, and all north of the turnpike; all north of the trunpike; also from the shoe factory to "Cyder Brook" (so called) just south of the house of John Spurlin. District Number 3 was composed of what is now Districts Number 3 and 9 (New Rye and the Mountain) and extended to the corner at Short Falls.

District Number 4 contained all on the west side of the Suncook River lying southerly of the turnpike and from Short Falls bridge to the Mountain District near the Short Falls post office. District Number 5 contained that portion of the "North Road" District northerly from the turnpike, and on the turnpike from the Northwood road to the mile-post near Henry Knowles' house, and also what is now united with Pittsfield in forming No. 6.

District Number 6 was the New Orchard District very nearly as it now exists.



District 1 Epsom Center\*



District 2 Gossville



District 3 Mountain\*



District 4 Short Falls\*

## EPSOM ONE ROOM SCHOOLS



District 5 New Orchard Road\*



District 6 Union w/Pittsfield\*



District 7 North Road\*



District 9 New Rye\*

*\* Geo. H. Yeaton  
Photos 1963*



District 10 Marden\*

Sometime later the Districts were renumbered about the year 1830-1841. In January of 1833 the school house in District Number 3 was burned, and the following season the district was divided forming the New Rye and Mountain Districts, the former taking Number 9, the "Fowler District" having been taken off of Number 4 a few years before and numbered 8. In 1851 District No. 10 "Marden's" was taken from Number 2, and there are two union districts - one with Pittsfield, Number 6 and one with Chichester, known as the Union District. In the year 1885 there were nine school houses in Epsom. This made eleven school districts including the two union districts.

In January of 1833 the school house in District No. 3 (Mountain District) was burned and the following season the district was divided, forming the New Rye District (Number 9). The New Rye school house was built in 1833 or 1834. This was the first school house built at New Rye. It was built at a cost of \$220.00 and paid Bickford Lang \$4.00 for the land. The present building was built in 1879 at a cost of \$669.87. Paid Eben S. Dutton for land \$25.00. Closed June 1942 and later sold to the New Rye Union Congregational Church.

From old Epsom Records: March 17, 1784. it was "Voted to raise forty-five pounds for the support of a school," In March, 1782 it was "Voted to raise one hundred silver dollars for the support of schools."

## **THE ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE**

In these few brief words about the obsolete, and soon to be forgotten One Room School Houses of Epsom, one cannot forget or be unmindful of the progressive and intellectual citizens of the past and present generations who made and are making this growing and progressing town what it is today, a town to be proud of. Of these only a few will be mentioned.

The persons selected for this sketch, we have reason to believe, were all associated in some degree with the one room school house, in the seven districts you are most familiar with. It's interesting to learn that a nineteen sessions of the New Hampshire State Senate one of its members at each session was from the town of Epsom, and at two sessions the President of the Senate was from Epsom.

Of this number, seventeen went to the Center Hill School, which was the oldest school district in town. One other Senator received his early education at the Mountain District school. Of four other men who became Medical Doctors three went to the Center Hill school and one to the Short Falls school.

We have three Lawyers to our credit, two were pupils at Center Hill school and one at New Rye. One who began his education at the Center Hill school later became Judge of United States Circuit Court of Appeals. Another that went for a time to the Gossville school, later to New Orchard school, who after graduating from Yale University became a High School teacher, an author, Newspeperman and Explorer. As an explorer he was one of the first white men to explore the headwaters of the Orinoco River in South America. As an Author, one of his books "River of the Seven Stars" was for many years a standard text on the Orinoco River. he was also the Author of several other books. A member of the Explorers Club of New York, and has been listed in Who's Who in America.

At one time a family lived in the New Orchard Road District and, although it is not known how many of the family went to that school, it is known that in later years one of the sons became Governor of Massachusetts, one a brilliant Judge, one President of the John Hancock Life Insurance Company, and the other son was the greatest horseman of his generation.

There were many excellent school teachers who attended our rural one room schools, one of these from the Fowler District, after graduating from Pembroke Academy and Plymouth Norman School taught schools in New Hampshire more than fifty years.

In the year 1823 there were seven school districts in Epsom. The town appropriated that year \$500.00 for the seven schools. In the year 1959 Epsom appropriated for schools \$46,295.64.

### **NAMES OF THE PERSONS MENTIONED IN THE ARTICLE "THE ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE"**

From 1784 until 1878 the State Senate members were elected for one year terms. In 1878 the Senate was doubled in size by a constitutional amendment and the State divided into twenty four districts, equal in wealth. The term of office was doubled also, making it two years.

A List. State Senators from Epsom, the year 1784 to year 1934, and terms served.

John McClary, served three terms and was President of the Senate at two terms.

Michael McClary, served six terms.

James M. McClary, served one term.

Josiah Sanborn, three terms.

John McClary, one term 1819-1829 (age 36 years, killed at a barn raising by the falling of a large timber, Dec. 15, 1821)

Henry F. Sanborn, two terms

James B. Tennant, one term

Walter H. Tripp, one term

Charles M. Steele, one term

Noah Martin, Governor of New Hampshire 1852-1854, was a native of Epsom, N.H. - lived in Dover when Governor.

Hon. Walter H. Sanborn, Judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals

General John B. Sanborn, Lawyer.

Edward P. Sanborn, Lawyer.

Henry Dowst Jr., Lawyer.

Daniel L. Locke, Medical Doctor.

A. Palmer Chesley, Medical Doctor.

George V. Fiske, Medical Doctor.

Robert Dowst, Medical Doctor.

Arthur O. Friel, Author, Explorer, Newspaperman.

Miss Ida M. Fowler, School Teacher. 52 1/2 years, has the longest record of any, in years of teaching in N.H.

Channing H. Cox, Governor of Massachusetts 1921-1924

Walter Cox, Owner, Breeder and driver of harness horses

Louis S. Cox, Judge of Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court

Guy W. Cox, President of John Hancock Life Insurance Co.

The father of these four was Charles E. Cox, appointed Warden of the New Hampshire State Prison for nine years, he then resigned and retired home in Manchester, N.H.. Warden 1896-1905

Note: John McClary of Epsom Councilor 1780-1785, a member of the executive council which consists of five men who advise and act with the Chief Executive. At the time Meshech Weare of Hampton Falls and John Langdon of Portsmouth were Governors. Four years with Meshech Weare as Chief Executive and two years with John Langdon as Governor.

The following list comprises the sons of Epsom who have received a college education or have become professional men:

Dr. James Babb, studied with Dr. Josiah Crosby and succeeded him in his practice. He lived for a time in the parsonage house on the hill, and then built the house now owned by Hosea L. Hilliard (1885) in "Slab City." He left town about 1840 and moved to Manchester, N.H. He married Marie Lang, the daughter of Captain Bickford Lang.

David Dickey graduated from Dartmouth College and studied law.

Hanover Dickey graduated from the medical college at Hanover, and practiced in his native town until 1845 when he went to Lowell, Massachusetts, where he died in 1873, and was brought to Epsom for burial. Date of death May 29, 1873, age 64, died at Lowell, Mass., buried in the McClary Cemetery at Center Hill, Epsom, N.H.

Abram Dickey, was a graduate of Dartmouth Medical School, studied dentistry also, and practiced in Lyme for a time, then moved to Worcester, Massachusetts.

John M. Steele graduated from Dartmouth Class of 1844, became a minister and went West. He died in the year 1857 in New York.

Joseph W. Tarleton, graduated from Dartmouth in 1844 or near that date. He also became a minister. Preached a few years at Hooksett, then went to Massachusetts and preached there. He died February 27, 1883 at Waverly, Massachusetts. He was sixty-six years old when he died.

Daniel P. Cilley, was a Free-Will Baptist minister. Lived at Farmington in his old age.

Jonathan A. Knowles, after living on the home farm several years, attended Methodist Biblical School at Concord, N.H. and was ordained a Free-Will Baptist minister. He preached at Manchester, Lake Village, Danbury, and other places in New Hampshire.

Silas Green was a prominent Methodist minister. Was at Manchester, Rochester, Salmon Falls and Candia. he died November 10, 1874 in Candia, N.H..

John Malvern came to Epsom when a boy from England. He attended school and became a minister. In 1854 he was the Pastor of the Free Baptist church at Lunn, Massachusetts.

Oren S. Sanders, became one of the leading physicians of Boston, Mass. His brother Henry Sanders studied medicine and went West.

Frank H. Wallace, graduated from Dartmouth College and practiced medicine at Boston, Mass.

Andros P. Chesley, a graduate of Dartmouth College became a medical doctor and settled in Concord, N.H. We think and speak of him as A. Palmer Chesley, M.D.

Noah Martin, M.D. was born in Epsom, N.H., July 26, 1801. He died May 28, 1863. Dr. Martin was a graduate of the Medical Department at Dartmouth College Class of 1824. Dr. Martin was considered one of the best physicians and surgeons in the State in 1835. In politics Dr. Martin was a Democrat. He was a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives in 1830, 1832 and 1837; New Hampshire Senate in 1835 and 1836; New Hampshire Senate in 1835 and 1836; In 1852 and 1853 he was elected Governor of the State of New Hampshire. He was elected a member of the Strafford District Medical Society in 1835, and was the president in 1841 and 1842, became a member of the State Medical Association in 1849. He was one of the founders of the Dover Medical Association, its first president in 1849, re-elected in 1850. Dr. Martin was elected to membership of the New Hampshire Historical Society in 1853, and New England Historical Genealogical Society the same year, became vice-president of the same for New Hampshire in 1855.

He was one of the organizers of the Dover Library and its president in 185-1852 and 1853. He was a member of the board of trustees of the New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane in 1852 and 1853, and member of the board of trustees of the House of Reformation for Juvenile and Female Offenders in 1855. he was one of the incorporators of the State Agricultural Society and was vice president of the Society in 1851. He was president of the Savings Bank for the County of Strafford in 1844 which office he held until 1852 when he declined to serve another term. A director of the Dover Bank 1847 to 1855, which he resigned from. A director of the Strafford Bank, 1869 until his death on May 28, 1863 at the age of 62 years.

He held other offices of trust. Member of the Order of Odd Fellows and of the Masonic fraternity. Dr. Martin was the uncle of Samuel Martin, who was born in Epsom, January 28, 1828, died February 25, 1916, age 88 years. Samuel Martin like his Uncle, Dr. Noah Martin was a Democrat. As such he represented Epsom in the Legislature of 1868-1869. Like his Uncle, he was elected to many offices of trust; he served as selectman for twelve years, town treasurer nine years, served as town auditor and moderator many years. He was a farmer and lumberman. Owned a large farm in Epsom and land in Allenstown (200 acres).

Edwin B. Harvey, graduated from Wesleyan College of Middleton, Conn., became a practicing physician in Westboro, Massachusetts. Was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature from Westboro.

Charles W. Tarleton, graduated from Brown University of Providence, R.I., taught in Worcester, Mass.

Andrew J. Goss, Class of 1861 at Dartmouth College, went to Florida, later to San Diego, California.

Charles A. Towle graduated from Dartmouth College in 1864; studied at Andover and Chicago, preached at Sandwich and South Chicago, Ill., later at Monticello, Iowa.

Almon F. Cate went to college the same time as Walter H. Sanborn. He was an architect, contractor and builder in Manchester, N>h>

Edward P. Sanborn graduated from Dartmouth in 1876 and went to St. Paul and became a member fo the law firm with his uncle and brother.

Harry F. Towle also graduated in 1876. He taught in scschools at Hollis, N.H., Abington, Mass and Younkers, New York. Perhaps at other places.

Samuel O. Griffin was a successful physician in Pascoag, R.I.

John M. Moses graduated from Dartmouth, taught at Coe's Academy, Northwood Center, N.H. at one time.

John B. Tarleton graduated from Cornell Institiute, studied architecture, went into business at Detroit, Michigan.

Thomas L. Steele was a graduate of Dartmouth in the year 1847 studied law, practiced in New York, later moved to Monreal, Canada.

Albert L. Marden graduataed from the Medical School at Dartmouth, practiced in the State of Vermont. Sumner D. Marden graduated from the Medical School at Dartmouth, settled in Concord, N.H., practiced his profession in that city.

Daniel Lincoln Locke, the son of Captain Arthur C. Locke, took his degrees from a medical school in Vermont.

Willie F. Wallace, son of William Wallace, went west, was a teacher and editor, later returned to Epsom, N.H. and practiced medicine in Epsom, Loudon and Milton.

Edward J. Burnham went to Bates College in Maine. he did not graduate and learned the printers trade, had an important position on the editorial staff of the Manchester Union at Manchester, N.H.

Charles H. Griffin, son of Nathan Griffin, died October 15, 1859, age 22 yrs. 9 mo. 5 days while a student at Dartmouth College.

Edward H. Sanders, the son of Edward T. Sanders, died while a student at Dartmouth College, November 11, 1862, age 24 ys, 7 mo, 0 dys.

Henry F. Sanborn and his brother John B. Sanborn, sons of Deacon Frederick Sanborn, entered Dartmouth College but did not finish the course. Henry F. returned to the homestead on Sanborn Hill and became a successful farmer and prominent in town affairs, represented the town in the Legislature and was a member of the State Senate two years: Superintending school committee a long time, taught school several terms. One of the trustees of Coe's Academy. His brother John B. Sanborn. studied law went west settled at St. Paul, Minn., where with his two nephews had an extensive and profitable practice.

There were many others in later years who began their education in the "one Room School Houses" in Epsom, and in later years became successful and prominent citizens of Epsom and other places.

There is one other who I will mention: Dr. George V. Fiske, who lived on the New Orchard Rd., when a boy and young man. He attended the "one Room School house" at Center Hill District. After graduating from Coe's Academy in 1894 he went to a medical school or college and became a

successful Medical Doctor and practices his profession in the City of Manchester, N.H. for many years.

In reading over the old Epsom School records I find that in the year 1841, the Pittsfield school district at Dowboro and District Number 6 in Epsom were united to form Union School District Number 6.

The Epsom school records show that a sum of money was appropriated each year for this school district by the town of Epsom. In the year 1875, the amount of the appropriation was \$44.50. In the year 1880 it was \$58.00. In 1881 - \$46.09, number of scholars from Epsom that year, ten.

The largest appropriation I am able to find was in the year 1884, the amount that year \$59.19, the number of scholars from Epsom was eleven.

The last date when this Union School District Number 6 operated was in the year 1886.

The following year (1887), the town of Epsom paid Warren E. Hilliard eight dollars for conveyance of scholars. The same in the years 1888 and 1889. In the year 1890, Warren E. Hilliard was paid the sum of seven dollars, Conveyance of scholars and the following year (1891) four dollars.

I assume that it was at the North Road School where he conveyed the scholars, as in the school report for the years 1888 and 1889 the following names appear on the Roll of Honor at the North Road School.

The names are as follows: Lilliam Hilliard, 2 terms, Ralph Hilliard, two terms, Ora Hilliard, two terms, Ada Hilliard, two terms, Clara Hilliard, one term, M. Evangeline Brown, two terms, Gertrude Chase, E. Christie Yeaton and David Buffum, one term each, Willie Brown, two years.

On the Roll of Honor for the year 1892, were the following names: Ada Hilliard, Ralph Hilliard, Ora Hilliard, Clara Hilliard and Oscar Hilliard at the North Road School, by the name of Hilliard. In the year 1893, Ada Hilliard was the only one of the Hilliard family on the Honor Roll.

The New Orchard Road School closed in the month of June 1899 and the following year the scholars who lived on the Sherburne Road (in Epsom) attended school at South Pittsfield.

In the year 1900 the town of Epsom commenced to pay the town of Pittsfield Elementary School tuition and have continued to do so since that date. The amount of money paid by the town of Epsom to Elementary Union number 49, Pittsfield, N.H. in the year 1963 was \$1300.00 and the amount paid Harvey Marston for transportation of Elementary scholars from Epsom was \$500.00 making the total cost for scholars from Epsom, who attended the Pittsfield Elementary school in the year 1963, \$1800.00

The New Orchard Road School closed in the spring of 1899. Opened in June 1910, closed again in the year 1928, opened for two years in the year in 1929 and closed June 1930 for ever.

As near as I have been able to learn, the school at "Dowboro" South Pittsfield closed its doors for all school purposes, in the month of June 1934 and a short time later, sold the school house to some organization formed by the citizens of that part of town and is now used as a Community House, at this date 1963.

## A DREAM OF A WINTER MORNING SEVENTY YEARS AGO

*BY GEORGE H. YEATON 1892-1962*

It is now a winter morning in the year 1963 and I am looking at the view from the north window of my home here in the village of Gossville, the snow covered hills, the trees and the huge drifts of snow.

But in memory I am living seventy years ago and as a small boy of nine, I am sliding down the long "Lewis Hill" across the "Little Brook" where we got our drinking water for the school, then over the "Big Brook," this is the one that comes from Odione Pond, and here I am at the New Orchard Road School house.

Looking up the "Locke Road" I can see Mayland Ames coming to school, in one hand he has his odd shaped dinner pail and this morning he is wearing his felt boots. Looking up the Sherburne Road, Silas Paige is at the top of the school house hill with a horse and sleigh, bringing his three girls to school, Grace, Myrtie and Eva.

It is a long walk from the Paige farm to school and Eva is quite a small girl.

There: Ernest and Walter Lewis have just come into the school year, my brother John and my sister Elisabeth, Charlie Bickford and the others must have come early and are already in the school house. Oh Dear: there is the school teacher, Ruth McGowne at the door ringing the bell and I must hurry into the school house. But: instead of hearing the old school bell ring, it is some one at my door ringing the door bell, and I am once more at my home in Gossville gazing out of the window.

I am thinking now of the ones that are left who were at the school seventy years ago, on that winter morning.

Miss Ruth M. McGown, the school teacher, is living in Massachusetts, her name now Mrs. Ruth M. Stone. Walter C. Lewis is living in Concord, New Hampshire and as far as I know we three are the only ones left, at this date (1963).

Henry C. Ames who lived at the upper end of the Locke road, was at my old home on the New Orchard road, many years ago and glancing around the room said "when I was a small boy I went to school in this room. Mrs. Cate who lived here then was the teacher."

The room we were in at the time was the Northwest room on the ground floor.

Henry C. Ames was born in the year 1852.



