

630. ESTHER ALMEDA ALVORD (*Isaac, Jehiel, Jonathan, Jonathan, Alexander*), born Westhampton, Mass., Aug. 20, 1820; died Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 30, 1897; married Westhampton, Mass., Oct. 3, 1849, Elnathan Wright Phelps, son of Timothy and Lois (Wright) Phelps. He was born Westhampton, Mass., Sept. 6, 1823; died Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 13, 1875. Res. Bridgeport, Conn. Children:

- a. Herbert Erwin, b. Florence, Mass., Dec., 1848; d. Bridgeport, Conn., Aug., 1893; mar. Delia Kirke.
- b. Ernest Hopkins, b. Florence, Mass., Sept. 25, 1850; res. Bridgeport, Conn., 1906; mar. Nov. 12, 1874 Ida Ketcham.
- c. Denzel Cram, b. Florence, Mass., Apr. 12, 1856; d. Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 26, 1904; mar. May 2, 1886 Libbie Stannard.

Elnathan W. Phelps was a mechanic.

631. JOSEPH DANA ALVORD (*Isaac, Jehiel, Jonathan, Jonathan, Alexander*), born Westhampton, Mass., Dec. 22, 1824; died Bridgeport, Conn., Aug. 29, 1877; married Chicopee, Mass., May 18, 1845, Ruth Rosella Starkweather, daughter of Gresham and Sally (Elmer) Starkweather. She was born Vernon, Vt., May 22, 1825; died Bridgeport, Conn., Mar. 16, 1896. Res. Springfield, Mass., Hartford, Conn. and East Bridgeport, Conn. Children:

- 1353. Josephine Sarah, b. Chicopee, Mass., May 17, 1846.
- 1354. Williston Isaac, b. Chicopee, Mass., Sept. 22, 1847.
- 1355. Charles Earle, b. Springfield, Mass., Sept. 2, 1849.
- 1356. Dana Joseph, b. Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 16, 1858; d. Dec. 8, 1861. . .

Joseph Dana Alvord was a mechanical genius. He learned the trade of a pattern-maker at Chicopee, Mass., and showed great skill in the construction of tools and fire-arms. He was, therefore, employed in the armory at Springfield, Mass., for eight years. From Springfield he went to Hartford, Conn., and took a contract with his friend, James Wilson, in the Sharp's Rifle Co., in which he so much increased his reputation as a skillful mechanic that the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co., of Bridgeport, Conn., offered Messrs. Alvord and Wilson a contract to manufacture certain parts of their sewing machine. This led to his removal to Bridgeport about the year 1857. Mr. Alvord continued with the company until his death, having at times several hundred men under him and holding a very lucrative position. He was unquestionably more essential to the success of the company than any other mechanic in its employ. Of a generous disposition by nature, Mr. Alvord indulged freely in benevolences and kindly acts. He treated everyone with gentleness