

blacksmith work; also of a great variety of other articles. Whenever an account was "balanced," both the debtor and the creditor put their signature to the settlement, thereby furnishing us with the autographs of all that generation who lived in the vicinity. There are charges for pigeons, 1749 and 1750, at 3s. per dozen, in 1760 4d., 1761, "without picking," 8d. The first was when the pay was "old tenor," a depreciated currency. 1762 he charges Bildad Phelps, a lawyer, who lived at the William<sup>9</sup> Hayden place, "for Samuel<sup>24</sup> 1 day 1s 6d" (a fourteen-year old boy) "for Aaron<sup>25</sup> 1½ days 2s." (a twelve-year old boy). He also credits the said lawyer: "Aug 1763 By going down [Hartford?] and pleading a case between Joseph Winchel and Augustin<sup>21</sup> [Sam's son] 5. s." 1758, he charges his brother Nathaniel<sup>24</sup> "for pulling a tooth for Levi<sup>21</sup> 5d." This was my grandfather, aged eleven years. The next year he charges Samuel Denslow "for pulling two teeth for your wife 8d." There are other instances of tooth-pulling. The dentists had not been born at that time. There are no charges made in Torrington. It is said that he was largely occupied during the Revolution in repairing guns. The account book of Sergeant Sam<sup>23</sup>. 1733-1765, the journal kept by his son Augustin<sup>21</sup> in the French and Indian war, 1758 and 1759, the lieutenant's commissions of Daniel<sup>9</sup>, 1698 and 1699, and other valuable papers which had been preserved by a daughter of the late Cicero<sup>26</sup> Hayden of Torrington, were recently committed to my care. If all the account books of "the first three generations of Connecticut Haydens," had been preserved they would now be invaluable. Oh, that our grandmothers had had more reverence, or more room for "rubbish," or had been less tidy housekeepers.

As evidence of the progress reached in the art of needle and fancy work by the young ladies of 150 years ago, I cite the following from a letter dated Sept. 2, 1885, which I received from Collin<sup>227</sup> M. Hayden of Concordia, Kan.: "In a letter from my Aunt Laura<sup>144</sup> Andrews, 1868, I received a piece of Lace over 4 inches in length, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch in breadth. I would not exchange it for a yard of the best Lace in Concordia. It was the work of my great grandmother [Sergeant Sam's<sup>23</sup> wife], Abigail Hall of Somers, Conn. It is a little discolored, but of exquisite workmanship. I am sure no lady of my acquaintance would attempt to duplicate the work."