

He was a great business man, — kept a country store, owned large tracts of timber land, had a sawmill and dealt largely in lumber. He was the contractor and builder of the South Meeting-house in 1840.\*

He lived a very active life, and employed a great number of men. In 1847, at the age of 35, his health began to fail, and for several years he had occasional profuse hemorrhage from the lungs which produced complete prostration, but from the effects of which he would so far recover as to be about and oversee his business, which he did till near the time of his death in 1854.

Eli Greene married Elvira Dix, Nov. 5, 1835.

Their children, all born in Whitingham, were :

Elvira Melissa, born Aug. 13, 1838.

Eli Theophelas, born April 13, 1840 ; died June 22, 1875.

Newton Reuben, born Nov. 8, 1842 ; died Oct. 28, 1871.

Harriet Augusta, born Jan. 6, 1845 ; died Dec. 29, 1847.

Mary Ellen, born Feb. 4, 1847 ; died April 11, 1848.

Frank Ashton, born Jan. 15, 1849, unmarried, and now living in St. Joseph, Mo.

Eli Greene died Aug. 21, 1854.

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\*NOTE.—This meeting-house was dedicated Sept. 24, 1840; its location was about one mile southwest from the old meeting-house at the centre of the town, and near where Dr. Waters Gillett now lives, and within six rods of the spot where Nathan Greene (2), our grandfather, built his first log cabin in the early settlement of the town. This meeting-house was contracted for, jointly by the Universalists and the Methodists, a strange combination of religious principles, which may perhaps have worked to some "mysterious use," but as far as the building was concerned it certainly did not prove a very substantial or profitable investment, for after a few years it was abandoned as a place of public worship. For want of proper care the building soon showed signs of decay and was taken down in 1867 by Dr. Waters Gillett, and the material used in the construction of a barn. This may seem a little sacrilegious, but when the building ceased to be used as a place of public worship by the terms of the deed; the land reverted to the former owner. Thus in a period of less than thirty years, a new meeting-house which we saw erected and dedicated to public worship, has had its day and perished from the face of the earth.

Although this unique church, and the grand old church in the centre of the town have disappeared, there are at this date (1885) in the town of Whitingham four churches, two at Sadawga, one Baptist and one Methodist; two at Jacksonville, one Methodist and one Universalist.