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Henry Roger Jones

SKETCHES

—OF THE—

PEOPLE AND PLACES

—OF—

NEW HARTFORD

—IN THE—

PAST AND PRESENT.

SECTION 1.

NEW HARTFORD, CONN.
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INTRODUCTION.

The writer of the following "Old Times" articles began the publication of them in the New Hartford Tribune as an experiment, upon taking the proprietorship of that paper. For several years, he had been collecting material relative to the early history of the town, following his own desire to learn all that could be gleaned concerning the pioneer settlers, and the localities which their memory has made sacred to the heart of every loyal descendant. Strange to say, no one had ever before attempted any perpetuation of the old time memories which were fast passing into oblivion, until the writer and another member of his family commenced the work. A partial result of that research has been given to the public in the Litchfield county volume, in which the history of New Hartford is given in general outline, from the earliest steps which led to its settlement until the present time. That was but the outline, of which these homely sketches may be called the filling. Limited space admitted of no anecdote or family details in the former, while these form the greater part of the matter collected in the following pages.

The articles put forth as a venture, proved a success, and that a long silent chord in the popular heart was touched, was abundantly proved by the scores, perhaps hundreds, of letters and expressions of interest received by the writer from representatives of New Hartford families both at home and far away, who read with pleasure the records of those they knew in childhood, and lived over again their own youth in these traditions of the fathers, and wanderings among the hills and valleys of the old town. Had some one begun this work fifty years ago, what treasures of local history now buried forever in the silent breasts which respond to no human questioner, might have been preserved. The oldest inhabitant of the town is now of the third or fourth generation from the early settlers, and since these articles have been in preparation, a number who contributed of their early recollections to the author's note book, have been removed by death.

The demand for back numbers of the papers containing the "Old Times" articles has so far exceeded the supply, that it has been thought best to re-publish them in pamphlet form, this has been done with a careful revision, and additions and corrections have been made in many places, where subsequen information received seemed to render such change necessary.

It seems fitting that a brief sketch of the first settlement of the town, and its initiatory steps, should be given as a prelude to the newspaper articles.

In 1686, the General Assembly of Connecticut, fearing their colonial charter would be annulled, and the unoccupied lands of the colony sequestered, made a hasty conveyance in trust to the proprietors of Hartford and Windsor of the lands "bounded north by the province of Massachusetts, east by Farmington and Simsbury, south by Woodbury and Mattatuck, and butting west on the Ousatunnack river." When the trouble with England was over, and the colonial government again re-es-

tablished, Hartford and Windsor were loth to give up the western acres which they had come to consider their own, and after much litigation and disturbance in the matter, the General Assembly, for the sake of peace, made a compromise, and divided the lands in controversy with the claimants, Hartford and Windsor getting the eastern or more desirable portion, and the colony taking the western portion. In 1732, Hartford and Windsor divided the spoils in a deed of partition which gave to Hartford the territory now embraced in New Hartford, Winchester, Hartland, and the eastern part of Harwinton. The south-east portion, now New Hartford, was valued by the proprietors at fifteen shillings an acre, and then contained by estimation 23,942 acres. Winchester and East Harwinton were valued at ten shillings, and Hartland at only seven shillings and sixpence an acre.

Each tax-payer of Hartford on the list of 1720, or his heirs, was proprietor of an undivided share in some one of these townships, in proportion to his list. New Hartford fell to the share of one hundred and eighty-two proprietors. A committe was appointed to set off lands to such as wished to settle thereon, and all who entered their names for settling were obligated, "in two years next ensuing their agreement with the committee, to build a tenantable house of sixteen feet square on said land, and break up two or three acres of said land, and in one year more after said two years are expired, personally to inhabit by themselves or family on said land, and to be obliged to continue inhabiting on said land for the space of three years longer, after the first three years are expired."

It was decided by surveyors sent out from Hartford to view the land, that Town Hill and its immediate vicinity afforded the most suitable locality for a settlement, accordingly, home lots were laid out, half a mile in length, and twenty rods wide, on the easterly and westerly sides of a highway sixteen rods wide, also short lots eighty rods long, where suitable land could be found, near the hill. In May 1733 the General Assembly passed an act, giving the township the name of New Hartford, and in December of the same year the home lots were drawn by the proprietors, the rest of the land was laid out in divisions, and drawn from time to time, the last drawing being in 1742.

According to the records, highways were laid out, taxes levied, and lands surveyed with as great dispatch as possible, considering that the country was an unbroken wilderness, infested by wild beasts and Indians. The summer of 1734 probably saw the settlers busily at work breaking ground, and building their "tenantable houses, sixteen feet square." New Hartford was the only one of the four townships colonized by the original proprietors. The pioneers of the town were, with very few exceptions, either proprietors or sons of proprietors, members of respectable and well-to-do families in Hartford, hence the peculiar propriety of the name New Hartford. The first settlers, as accurately as can be ascertained, were heads of families, viz: Stephen Kelsey, Jonathan Marsh, Martin Smith, Zebulon Shepherd, Samuel Douglass, Eleazer Goodwin, Cyprian Watson, his son Zachariah, John Watson, Thomas Olcott, Noah Merrill, Joseph Merrill, John Merrill, John Andrus, Israel Loomis, Matthew Gillet. These were soon followed by John Seymour, Elijah Flower, Isaac Kellogg, Joseph Gilbert, Daniel Persons, Samuel Wells, John Spencer, Samuel Benham, Jonah Richards, David Ensign, William Steel, John Edgecomb, Thomas Bidwell, Daniel Shepherd, Jonathan Merrill, and others.

The proprietors in Hartford took a fatherly intest in the little colony. They gave them a very liberal highway grant, most of which was sold from time to time for the benefit of the town, or exchanged for more convenient highways; also eighty acres for the support of a "gospel minister," and eighty more for the support of a school; also twenty acres as a gift to the first minister who should settle in town, and a gristmill privilege. The settlement steadily grew and prospered, and in 1738 was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly.

New Hartford, March 23, 1883.

NEW HARTFORD.

ITS PEOPLE AND PLACES

—IN THE—

PAST AND PRESENT.

NUMBER ONE.

In this series of articles upon the town of New Hartford, and its inhabitants of many years ago, it seems fitting that we should commence on Town Hill, where in 1733 the first settlers of the town made their homes, and where for many years centered the interests of the township.

The Town Hill church, which has been abandoned as a place of worship since the death of Rev. Cyrus Yale in May 1854, was built in 1829. The original edifice, owing to the straitened circumstances of the settlers, was ten years in building, from 1739 to 1749, and stood just its width to the north, and its length to the east of the present church, and according to the ancient records of the town, was "fifty-five foots in length and forty foots in bredth."

It was set by the compass, and fronted the south, a door on that side opening directly into the audience-room. There were three aisles, or alleys then called,—one in the centre and one on each side, with a row of narrow pews next the wall. There were also doors,—one on the east and one on the west side,—which led by short passages into the side aisles. The high pulpit, with its overhanging sounding board, fronted the south door; on the right of the pulpit was the pew for the minister's family, on the left the widows' pew, while the deacons sat just under the droppings of the gospel on the left of the center aisle. Two immense square front pews, one on each side of the broad aisle, were occupied by prominent citizens and their families, while the rest of the congregation were accommodated in pews of various sizes and shapes. Two inclosed pews near the centre of the house, which could be reached only by narrow passages from the side-aisles, were irreverently called "eel-pots." The galleries were on the east, west and south sides, the latter being the singers' gallery, and the stairs were in the southeast and southwest corners of the audience-room.

The old "meeting house," originally a high building, was taken possession of by the town, cut down a story and converted into a town house, and for many years used for holding town and elector's meetings. The building was cut down by stationing a chopper at each of the posts which were cut off a little at a time, letting the building settle by degrees until it had dropped low enough for the purpose sought. In November 1848, the citizens of the town desiring to hold their meetings in North Village and the Center, (now Nepaug) it was voted to sell the old building, which was accordingly done, Capt. John C. Smith and Major Sanford Brown being the purchasers at the price of $50.

Its massive white oak timbers, seasoned by the suns and storms of more than a hundred years, were used in the building

of looms for the Greenwoods Company's cotton mills.

In the old church no chimneys were ever built, the worshipers carried foot stoves and remained all day every Sunday to attend both morning and afternoon service. Some of those who were able to do so, built near the meeting house small buildings which they called "Sabbath day houses." These were rough but comfortable, and provided with conveniences for heating and cooking. Those who came from a distance could start a fire in the Sabbath day house and thaw out, preparatory to a long session, listening to a protracted sermon. Here they could resort between the services and indulge in a hot cup of tea and a cold lunch. One of these old Sabbath day houses is still in existence. It was purchased by Grove S. Marsh in 1834, and removed north to about opposite the Yale homestead, and used by him to dress leather in. Mr. Marsh sold the building to Julius Harris who, about 1837, removed it farther north, down the hill to the cross road, where it now stands on the corner, the property and home of Hiram J. Harris, the son of Julius.

It is an interesting fact that during the one hundred and twenty years, from the ordination of its first minister to its disbanding, the church on Town Hill had but four settled pastors,—Rev. Jonathan Marsh, from 1739 until his death in 1794; Rev. Edward D. Griffin, D. D., from 1795 to 1801; Rev. Amasa Jerome, from 1802 to 1813, and Rev. Cyrus Yale, from 1814 to 1854, with an interim of three years.

Opposite the church, a little to the north, is the house which was built by Abram Kellogg 3d, about 1804, and occupied by him as a residence until his death, which occured about 1812. He was the greatgrandson of Esq. Isaac Kellogg one of the pioneer settlers of the town, and the father of four daughters and two sons, Maria, Jerusha (Benham), Sarah (Bailey), Amanda (Morse), Publius and Col. Abram G. now living in Winsted. After Abram Kellogg's death, the property came into the possession of Roswell Marsh, and was occupied as a tavern several years by Daniel Johnson. Luther Loomis bought the place in 1820 and lived there until 1844, when he built the house now owned and occupied by Grove S. Marsh. In this house Mr. Loomis' five daughters were born, viz: Eliza, Mary Ann, Caroline, Esther and Sarah. John P. Kellogg purchased the place and lived there until May 1879, when he died. His widow and her brother Eli J. Merrill now reside here.

Opposite this place was the house of Stephen Chubb, a blacksmith, who came to this town from Barkhamsted in 1755, and who was probably the first white man who ever had a home in the latter town. The house was afterwards occupied by Plato King, who lived there until he moved away from town. After King, the house was occupied by the widow of Shubael Crow, and later by Elijah Northrup and Douglass Williams. The latter sold the old house to Henry A. Kellogg, who occupied it as a residence several years when he removed to his present residence and tore down the old one. Mr. Kellogg still preserves a portion of the old "King house" which is attached to his barn and used as a cow house, some of the lath and plastering still remaining upon it.

On the opposite side of the street was the place of Col. Earles Thorp, who commanded a regiment of militia. His regiment paraded on Town Hill in the fall of 1806. The neighbors turned out and prepared the ground for the parade, blasted out rocks, leveled off, etc. This place was afterwards owned and occupied by Dr. Andrew Abernethy, a practicing physician, who came here about 1806. Some years later, the place was owned and occupied by Douglass Wiliams, and then by Virgil W. Kellogg, a brother of Henry A. Kellogg. The place is now owned by Mrs. Julie P. Smith, the authoress, and used as a dwelling by her farm overseer. It is on the corner of Town Hill street and the cross road which leads over to West Hill. Just south of this house there was a house oc-

cupied by Solomon Kellogg, but it was destroyed several years ago. In 1818 stones were taken from the walls of the old cellar and laid in the cellar walls of the house where Daniel Royce now lives.

On the opposite side of the cross road is Esperanza, the beautiful home of Mrs. Julie P. Smith, a description of which will appear in the next article of this series.

NUMBER TWO.

The place on Town Hill now known as "Esperanza" was built by Rev. Amasa Jerome, the third pastor of the Town Hill church, who had charge from 1802 until 1813, when he resigned on account of failing health, though he continued to reside there until his death, in 1832.

Mr. Jerome came to New Hartford from West Stockbridge, Mass. His first wife was Lucy the daughter of Governor Treadwell of Farmington; she died in the Dr. Abernethy house, mentioned in last number, two years after Mr. J's settle ment, leaving a son George T., who was one of twins, the other having died immediately after birth.

Mr. Jerome's second wife was Roxy L. Hodges of Torrington, who survived her husband until 1857, when she died in Bloomfield at the house of her son. By his second wife Mr. Jerome had five children, Lucy T. married Rev. Josiah Brewer, who was a missionary to Turkey. She is now a widow, and lives most of the time in Bloomfield.

Amasa H., died in Bloomfield several years ago. Emily died when six years old. Emily W., married Chas. M. Owen and now lives in Bloomfield. Timothy G., remained in New Hartford with his mother some years after his father's death; he now lives in Bloomfield. Sarah Elizabeth married Norman B. Merrill and now lives in the south part of the town. After Mr. Jerome was dismissed from New Hartford, he was settled at Wadsworth, Ohio, but being taken sick soon after, never removed his family to that place. His son George T., died at Cape Vincent, N. Y., about ten years ago.

After Mr. Jerome's death, the place was occupied by his widow and children until 1849, when it was purchased by Rufus Rood, who lived there until his death, July 4th, 1859. During Mr. Rood's ownership of the place the house burned down, but was immediately rebuilt. Mrs. Julie P. Smith the authoress, purchased the place in 1872 of Frederick Lyman, since which time it has been her residence, except during the coldest months of winter each year. Mrs. Smith has under her own personal supervision completely metamorphosed this farm and buildings. The house has been added to from time to time, until it scarcely bears a resemblance to its original appearance. In the reception room on the first floor is retained the old fireplace, and above it in ancient characters is inscribed this legend, "The ornament of a house are the friends who frequent it." Small buildings or lodges have been erected in different parts of the grounds and painted in unique but tasteful colors. Summer houses are placed here and there, and even the old scraggy apple trees support observatories reached by steps and ladders. Stone walls have been handsomely laid to serve as fences, and the grounds thoroughly drained at great expense. To the south and west of the house, on the West Hill cross-road, a troublesome swale has by the inventive mind of the gifted owner, been transformed into a fairy-like lake, surrounded by every known variety of lilly and water flower, while a majestic maple grove hard by, well supplied with tables and benches, serves for a delightful resort where croquet and picnics may be indulged in by the hosts of visitors who are entertained every summer at the mansion. The wide space left by the pioneers of 1733 on each side of the street fronting "Esperanza" has been beautified by Mrs. Smith, rocks having been dug out, the grounds leveled off, and young trees,—maple, elm, pine and hemlock,—have been thickly set, so that in another generation the entire frontage will present the appearance of a well planned grove.

Immediately opposite "Esperanza", but a few years ago, stood the house occupied for more than twenty years by Mrs. Prosepina Goodwin, the widow of Jeduthun Goodwin, and the mother of Judge Hiram Goodwin now living in the village of Riverton formerly Hitchcocksville. This house in its day was considered the handsomest residence on Town Hill. The house was built by Capt. William Cook, who was a blacksmith, and forged every nail used in its construction upon his own anvil. Captain Cook sold the place to Rev. Edward Dorr Griffin, D. D., the second minister of the Town Hill church. Dr. Griffin was afterwards president of Williams College. From 1814 to 1822 this house was occupied by Rev. Cyrus Yale, the fourth and last pastor ever settled on Town Hill,and in it Mr. Yale's two eldest sons were born. Mrs. Goodwin, or "Aunt Pina" as she was affectionately called by her neighbors and friends, was the sister of Plato King mentioned in number one of this series, and like her brother was a person of more than ordinary intelligence and education. She died in 1860 at the age of 85, and was buried in the Town Hill burying ground. The house was painted white, two stories, and had directly in front a well, over which was built a covering with a tall peaked roof. Mrs. Goodwin was the last occupant of the house, for in 1866 it was torn down, and all trace of it is now extinguished.

On the opposite side of the road a short distance to the north, we come to the fine old "Yale homestead," which has the appearance of a quiet and elegant retreat. The house, on which additions and improvements have been frequently made, still retains to an outside observer its appearance of thirty years ago, probably by the special design of Mr. Yale's children who make it their summer home, and wish to preserve from change so far as possible the home of their childhood. It stands well back from the road, surrounded by stately shade trees, the grounds in front are well cared for, with seats placed here and there in shaded localities. The house was built in 1822 for Rev. Cyrus Yale by Captain Norman Merrill. "Father Yale," as he was reverently and affectionately titled by those who knew him best, came to New Hartford in 1813, and continued until 1834, when he resigned and went to Ware, Mass., remaining there until 1837, when he was recalled to the Town Hill church, and remained in its pastorate until his death in 1854. On the ground where the house stands was the house of Selah Merrill, an old-fashioned linten dwelling. It was torn down when Rev. Mr. Yale built the present one. Selah Merrill was the son of Dr. Eldad Merrill, a practising physician in town in the last century.

Rev. Mr. Yale was a native of Lee, Mass., he married Asenath Bradley of the same place. Their children were, Cyrus now of New York city; John who for many years has been a practising physician in Ware, Mass.; J. Bradley who died in New Hartford in 1853; Jane Maria died at the age of 13; Elisha died in infancy; Richard H., now of New Orleans, La.; Mary E., and Martha R., twins, the former died in 1852, the latter is now living in Philadelphia the widow of Rev. Elias R. Beadle, D. D., an eminent divine, and Lucy T., who married Mr. Horace W. Pitkin of Philadelphia, she died at the old homestead July 9th, 1880.

The house now owned and occupied by Samuel A. Hawley, was built by Lieut. Isaac Steele for his son Roderick, who a few years after its erection removed to the "Genesee country," New York state. Lieutenant (pronounced in those days "Light'n't") Steele lived in a house which stood about five rods north of the house now owned and occupied by the widow of Isaac P. Steele. He was a man of considerable property, and had two sons and eight daughters. His second son, Isaac P. Steele, was for twenty years tax collector for this town. He was the father of Hubert A., the late R. Gaylord, Catherine, (Mrs. Woodward of Wolcottville) Angeline, and Mrs. Seth C. Paine. He died Jan. 27, 1857.

The next house, on the opposite side of

the road, now owned and occupied by Daniel Royce, was built by Jonathan Rossiter in 1818. This was the place upon which Rev. Jonathan Marsh, the first pastor of the Town Hill church, lived and died. His house stood just back of the present one, the foundation of the old house may still be seen, the cellar having been filled up with the walls standing. When the original house was raised (about 1740) Rev. Mr. Marsh said to the men present that they must cut away the white birches between there and Mr. Israel Loomis' house before they could have anything to eat or drink, as he wanted to see his nearest neighbors' house. They fell to, and cut the way clear, when the refreshments, including a goodly supply of rum, were forthcoming. It was the universal custom in those days to provide rum for all extraordinary occasions, religious, political, or social.

Rev. Jonathan Marsh was the son of Rev. Jonathan Marsh, long the honored pastor of the church at Windsor, and of Margaret Whiting, his wife, who came of an eminent colonial family. He was born at Windsor, 1714. He graduated at Yale College in 1735. After completing his theological studies he accepted the call to New Hartford, where he was ordained, December, 1739, where he spent his life, and where he died, in 1794, aged eighty years. He was twice married, first to Elizabeth Sheldon, of Hartford, Februry 26, 1740-41, who died, after bearing him six children, May 20, 1749. On May 27, 1751, he married Mariana Keith, a young widow with two daughters, sister of John Lawrence, treasurer of the colony, a lady of many accomplishments, whose friends opposed her burying her graces in the wilderness of New Hartford. This wife, who survived her husband, was always called "Madame Marsh" by his parishioners; she also bore him six children. The following pen-portrait of him is from Rev. Frederick Marsh's recollections:

"Mr. Marsh was above the medium height and size of men, well proportioned, grave and venerable in appearance, of a social turn of mind, and accustomed to wear a large wig. He was settled on the half way plan; was Arminian in his theological views. In his preaching, as I remember him, when about fourteen years old, was not animated, and, as it seemed to me, never earnest and rousing. I remember to have been seriously affected on seeing and hearing him address the people on funeral occasions."

Of Mr. Marsh's twelve children, seven daughters and five sons, all but one, Jonathan, lived to attain the age of maturity. The daughters were all married, Ann to Zeb. Seymour of Hartford; Jerusha to Joseph King of Middletown; Elizabeth to Jerijah Merrill of New Hartford, she is buried in the cemetery on Town Hill; Margaret to Luke Cooley; Fanny to John Collins; Mary to Abner Beach of Goshen; and Hannah to Caleb Watson of New Hartford, from whom she was separated, and afterwards became the second wife of William Ellery of Hartford.

The oldest son Joseph Whiting, was the first graduate of Yale College from New Hartford, he married Elizabeth. daughter of Jonathan Marsh of Town Hill, went to the West Indies, probably on the Havana expedition, and died there in 1764 at the age of twenty-one. Daniel settled in New Hartford; Isaac married Lucy, daughter of Deacon Martin Smith, removed to Tyringham, Mass., and died there in 1792; John Lawrence married Lucy, the widow of Isaac, they were married in Barkhamsted in 1796, by Col. Israel Jones, Jr., Justice of the Peace.

Rev. Mr. Marsh had a negro slave who did the work about his house and farm. The negro's name was Moses. About forty rods south-east of the house was an orchard of some fifty apple trees which were set by this slave; it was always called "Moses' orchard." At the south-east corner of the orchard were potash works, probably owned by the Rev. Mr. Marsh. In 1825, probably fifty years after this "potash" was destroyed, leached ashes were taken from the spot, spread upon the land, and proved an excellent fertilizer. Jonathan Rossiter bought this place in 1814 of Asa Goodwin, for

many years town clerk, and who is well remembered by many now living. Mr. Goodwin, who lived here from 1806 to 1814, purchased the place in 1806 of William and Samuel Lawrence, relatives of the widow of its original owner.

In "old times" a little stimulant was considered essential to health, as well as pleasing to the appetite, and in haying time, especially, it was customary to provide it for laborers on the farm. Father Marsh was a careful man, and knew that cider brandy sometimes "biteth like a serpent." One day he presented his man Moses with a bottle containing a moderate quantity of the aforesaid article, and with the intention of diverting the negro's attention from the quantity to the superior quality of the liquor, told him that it was a good many years old. Moses took the bottle, held it up to the light, and with a disappointed look in his eye, replied: "Yes, Massa, but berry small of his age."

NUMBER THREE.

Having left the Daniel Royce place, we will cross the road, and a few rods to the north come to the old Loomis place. This may well be designated "old" as it is said to have been the first "home lot" upon which a house was built by the pioneers of 1733. The original dwelling stood where the old house is now going to decay, and was built by Israel Loomis, one of the first settlers of the town. Mr. Loomis was a comparatively young man, 29 years of age, when he came in 1733 to the wilds of New Hartford. In 1737 he was married to Sarah Simmons. His children were Mary, Israel, Laura, Joseph, Israel, Abigail and Ashbel. The first named Israel, Ashbel and Abigail died in early childhood.

Lieutenant Loomis, as he was then called, seems to have been a man of military tastes, he was lieut., of the first company or trainband ever organized in town in 1752, and from a reference in the records to powder taken by him from the town stock in 1758, it is inferred that he commanded a detachment of men from this town at the attack on Ticonderoga. He died September 10, 1781, in the 78th year of his age. In the record of his death he is called "Deacon Israel Loomis," though there is no other authority for so designating him. It is probable that he was a godly man, and sometimes officiated in the capacity of deacon during the absence or illness of the regular church officer. His wife Sarah died November 1791, in the 80th year of her age.

His son Joseph was married in 1786 to Mary Crise. Their children were Mary, Joseph, Israel, Luther and Abigail. He was a cooper by trade, and held the position of town clerk from 1789 to 1805. The habitable house now standing on the Loomis place, was built by him. This property remained in possession of Joseph Loomis' descendants until shortly before the death of Frederick Loomis, Dec. 8, 1881, when it was sold by his conservator to Calvin Barrett. The family of Israel Loomis, Jr., will be mentioned in another number.

A short distance down the hill, to the north, on the east side of the road, we arrive at the farm originally owned by Jonathan Marsh, one of the proprietors and first settlers of the town. His dwelling stood about ten rods south of the present house. Here he lived and died, and succeeding him, the place was owned and occupied by Jonathan Marsh, Jr. The present house was built in 1800 by the grandson of the former and son of the latter, Ashbel Marsh, Sr., who died there in 1815. The large beautiful maple trees in front of the house were set by him, five of them when the house was first built, but two of which are now living, those are the ones nearest the house. The others were taken from East mountain and brought there bound in a bundle, and to the yoke of a pair of cattle, by withes, there were about twenty-four trees of them in all. This was about 1808. Jonathan Marsh, Jr., died in the new house in 1802. In 1776 Ashbel Marsh and his uncle Joseph Marsh had the only two carts on Town Hill. In those days ox sleds were used for all farm work. These

two carts were in constant demand by the neighbors, who borrowed them. Mr. Eliphalet Austin, who lived in the old yellow house which stood opposite the depot of the Hartford & Conn. Western Railroad, once hired Ashbel Marsh's ox cart to go to Farmington. These carts were made by Jonathan Marsh 3d, the brother of Ashbel. About 1776, a strip of land running entirely across from road to road on the cross way, opposite Hiram Harris' house, about twenty-five acres in all, was offered by Daniel Marsh (a son of Rev. Jonathan) to Ashbel for his ox-cart, and refused.

The wife of Ashbel Marsh, Sr., was Abigail Ward, their children were Esther, the widow of Luther Loomis, now living in New Britain; Chloe, widow of Samuel Hotchkiss, now living with her son Corrill in Collinsville; Ashbel, George, who died in Killingworth, December 20, 1879; Grove S. and James W. The three living brothers are now residents of New Hartford. The youngest of the above is now 77, and the oldest 91 years of age, and the combined ages of the five is four hundred and twenty-six years, or an average of 85 +.

There was on this old farm once a tannery, which stood east of the house about twenty-five or thirty rods. Four vats of this tannery still remain. At the death of Ashbel Marsh, the farm and homestead fell to his son, Ashbel Marsh, Jr., (now living) who resided there until 1878, the place having descended from father to son for four generations.

The place nearly opposite, though a little to the north of the old Marsh home stead, was owned by Capt. William Cook, who came to the town from Harwinton about 1786 and purchased the property of Jeremiah Dart in 1795. Capt. Cook was a blacksmith, and had his shop three or four rods south of his house towards Town Hill. Between his house and shop there formerly ran a road to West Hill which came out near Herman Holcomb's old barn. Capt. Cook was a prominent man in his day, and represented New Hartford in the legislature from 1813 to 1818. His wife was Theodosia, the daughter of Theodore Gilbert, to whom he was married February 14, 1788. He was the father of William Cook who died here Dec. 13, 1871, and the grandfather of Miss Ada J. Cook now living here. His other children were Laura, who married a Mr. Newell, and afterwards a Mr. Hotchkiss; Theodosia married Harlow Spencer, removed to St. Louis, Mo., where she died March 11, 1878; Delia, who never married; Calvin, who was a practising physician in North village, where he died September 27, 1841; Richard, a graduate of Yale College, and a lawyer of unusual ability for one of his years, died at Toledo, Ohio, November 13, 1839. The place was afterwards owned for many years by Ralph Merrill, who died November 7, 1874. The house was burned a few years since, but has since been rebuilt by Daniel Royce whose son Bradley now occupies it.

Some little distance below, on the same side of the road, is the place formerly owned by Deacon John Brown, who came to New Hartford from Canton about 1800. Deacon Brown was a very upright man, intelligent and influential. When he was young he studied for the ministry. He took a great interest in education, being for many years school visitor, and was an interesting speaker. An old man who lived near him for many years, says he was a kind-hearted, generous neighbor. He was deacon of the Town Hill church, and from its organization in 1829 until his death in 1849, he was a deacon of the Cong. church in North village. He married for his second wife the widow of Elisha Case, who for many years prior to his death in 1824, was one of the most prominent business men in this town. Before Deacon Brown, this place was owned and occupied by Asahel Jones, who removed to West Hill upon the farm where William Markham afterwards lived. This Mr. Jones afterwards removed to the West. After Dea. Brown, the place was owned for a number of years by Robert Henderson, during whose ownership the house burned and was rebuilt. Mr. Hen-

derson died upon the place, and the property has since been purchased by Martin Wilcox, whose son Frederick now lives there.

Opposite the Deacon Brown place, there was formerly a house occupied for many years by Daniel Marsh, the son of Rev. Jonathan. He sold the place to Ashbel Marsh, Sen., many years ago, and moved west. His son Sheldon, married Lydia, daughter of Theodore Gilbert, who died in Paris, N. Y., in 1853. Asa Gilbert lived in the house afterwards, and after him Stephen Russell, who was the last occupant. The house was two story; it was torn down about 1805 by Ashbel Marsh, Sen., who used the stone from the cellar to lay the wall in front of his own place.

NUMBER FOUR.

The place on the corner of the cross way leading over to the "Steele road" is that of Hiram Harris. His dwelling is the old "Sabbath day house" moved there from Town Hill by his father, Julius Harris, who now lives with him. The ground, about two acres, upon which the house stands was given to Mrs. Harris by her father, Chauncy Mix. An account of the removal of this "Sabbath day house" from near the Town Hill church has been given. Before the present building was moved on to this place, there stood upon it an old house, occupied many years ago by a man by the name of Merrill.

The next place on the cross road was the farm of Capt. John Merrill who was a thorough going farmer, he gave his place to Chauncy Mix for taking care of him in his old age. He died in 1812, or thereabouts. The present house was built by Chauncy Mix, Jr., who lived there several years, and sold the place to Alvin Shepard who gave it to Luzern Wells. It is now owned by Hiram Harris.

Just beyond Capt. Merrill's was the house and farm of Chauncy Mix. The house is now torn down and removed, but the cellar remains surrounded by lilac bushes, which blossom every spring in great profusion. Mr. Mix's wife was a sister of John Merrill of Barkhamsted. They had six daughters and one son, as follows: Polly married Henry Kilbourn; Laura married Matthew Gillett; Lavinia married William Hart; Chauncy married Lucy Cook; he died on Cotton Hill where he lived a few years. Betsey married Rufus Harris, and is now living with her son Luman in Pine Meadow; Amanda married Norris Seger, and is now living at Whitesville, N. Y., and Sophie married Julius Harris. Mrs. Julius Harris and Mrs. William Hart have both died in this town within a few years, and in the "Sabbath day house" on the corner—Mrs. Hiram Harris being the daughter of the latter. There was no other house on the cross road, as near as the writer can learn, within the recollection of any one now living.

We now return to the Town Hill road, and a short distance to the north on the west side of the way, we come to the modern white house which is on "Cherry Farm." This place was formerly owned by Joseph Marsh, who died in 1812 at the advanced age of nearly ninety-four years. He was a bachelor, and gave the place to his nephew, Jonathan Marsh, 3d, who married Damaris Pitkin June 29, 1780. They were the parents of Rev. Frederick Marsh of Winchester, who died in 1873 at the age of ninety-two years; Wyllys; Lucy, (Mrs. Chas. B. Richards); Electa, Cynthia and Jonathan Pitkin. The latter was a prominent man, and is well remembered by many now living. He was the father of Elizabeth Marsh, an accomplished woman and the first wife of the late R. Gaylord Steele; she died Feb. 28, 1865. Jonathan P. Marsh died in Dec. 1837. The present house was built by his widow, Mrs. Temperance Marsh, in 1850. The old house of Jonathan Marsh 3d still stands upon the place, and is used as a barn, the interior having been altered for the purpose, though it retains its original shape. The place was recently sold by Arthur G. and Vara E. Steele, grandchildren of Jonathan P. Marsh, to Mrs. Roxana Metcalf

of Riverton, who leased it to Morton Sanford, keeper of the town poor.

The next house, which stands on the east side of the road, a few rods to the north, known as the Wyllys Marsh place, was built by Nehemiah, Dennis and Jared Andruss who lived there several years. Nehemiah was the father of Leonard and Willard Andruss, both well known about here, the latter now living in Barkhamsted. Wyllys Marsh was the son of Jonathan 3d, and lived upon this place many years. He died March 26, 1867. After his death, the place was sold to John Boyle who died there April 7, 1877, and though his family still live in the house, the farm is owned by Henry M. Gates of North Village.

Immediately after leaving this place, the road begins curving to the east, and at the foot of a steep pitch, about a hundred rods distant, we come to the junction of the Town and West Hill roads. At these forks formerly stood a small unpainted house, which was built in the fall of 1819 by Elihu Webster, the father of Mrs. Wm. Cook, who died Jan. 10, 1879. This place has been owned and occupied by different ones from time to time—among whom was Corrill U. Hotchkiss, now of Collinsville. The house was burned August 9, 1879, it being owned and occupied at the time by Mrs. Mary Munson, (or Barrett,) and the present one which stands some 20 or 30 feet to the north and east, was built the following autumn, and is now owned and occupied by Riley Stillman, who purchased it in the spring of 1882.

The house of H. H. Stone was built by Edward F. Marsh about 1844. It was afterwards owned and occupied by Samuel Hotchkiss, a son-in-law of Ashbel Marsh, Sr. Mr. Stone purchased the farm in 1864 and has lived there ever since. Just above Mr. Stone's house there once stood the first school house of the North End district. It was converted into a dwelling house and was occupied by different families. It was torn down about seventy years ago.

In 1845, Archibald Marsh built the house on the south side of the road now owned by the children of Michael J. Buckley. Archibald Marsh was the son of Wyllys; he sold the farm to D. Byron Hoskins of whom it was purchased by J. S. Hallock, and sold by him to Timothy Buckley, the uncle of Michael J. Buckley.

This farm was originally known as the "Moody place," having been owned by Adonijah Moody, one of the early settlers of the town, and afterwards by his son Ebenezer. Peletiah Allyn, the first settler of Barkhamsted, married Sarah Smith Moody, widow of Adonijah, and daughter of Deacon Martin Smith, and in this connection we quote a clause from the published history of New Hartford. "The present line of highway from Town Hill to Spruce Brook was purchased of Peletiah Allyn and Sarah (Moody) Allyn, his wife, in 1757. It runs through what was once the Moody farm. This road was again altered within the memory of old inhabitants, from the house of H. H. Stone. It formerly described a southerly curve, avoiding a steep hill above the brook."

The "Moody house" stood below the present house several rods in the field—the old cellar place may still be distinguished. Here was taught the first select school ever held in New Hartford, by Harold Wyllys, of Hartford, in 1812. Anson Brown of Colebrook, and Dr. Thomas Brinsmade each taught this select school. Capt. Friend White lived in this old house for many years, he was the father of Friend and George White, still well remembered by many. Capt. White had one daughter, the wife of Andrew Driggs, and mother of Martin Driggs, who died here July 22, 1881.

We have now arrived at the small bridge which crosses Spruce Brook, just above which, is the road which has for many years been known as "Johnny Cake Lane." We will pause here, and in the next number lead our readers over a new field, intending before this series is finished, to return to Town Hill and give many additional historic facts relative to that interesting portion of New Hartford.

NUMBER FIVE.

Having approached North Village as far as the junction of "Johnny Cake Lane," formerly the Albany turnpike, and Town Hill road, we will retrace our steps to the forks of the Town and West Hill roads, taking the latter we will renew our journey. Before reaching any house, we come to a road branching off to the right, towards the north. Immediately ascending a steep hill, we find at the top, the house and farm of Lyman Moulthrop. This was formerly known as the Newton place, it having been owned and occupied by Israel Newton who purchased the place about 1798 of Gustavus Kilbourn, who is supposed to have been its original proprietor. Mr. Newton died in 1799. He was the father of Francis Newton, a surveyor, who, with his sister Betsey, lived in the house until 1862, when he sold the property to Mr. Moulthrop and removed to Barkhamsted. Francis Newton had two brothers, Erasmus and Clark, and three sisters, Lina, Betsey and Clarissa. He studied surveying himself without any instruction, went to Hartford, bought his books, and applied himself until he mastered the science. He was a very accurate and reliable surveyor, and a quiet, unassuming man. He died in Unionville October 2d, 1881. Mr. Moulthrop tore down the Newton house and built the present one on the old cellar in 1863. He also built the small house just north, for his son George L. in 1878.

The next house on this road, about a quarter of a mile north, in the hollow, was built by Aurora, George and Consider Hopkins, more than 80 years ago. Afterwards, the place was owned and occupied by John Skinner. After Mr. Skinner, the place was owned by Asa Crane, who in 1819 built a cider mill just back of the house. He had a large family, all of whom died of consumption, a long row of graves, towards the eastern boundary of the village cemetery, indicates the resting place of this family. Mr. Crane was a good citizen, universally respected. He used to shave shingles, John Blakesley lived with him when a boy, and learned of him the trade of making shingles. In those days, from 50 to 80 years ago, all the shingles used were rived out and shaved by hand. They were far better than those of the present day, the grain not being crossed, they would last twice, perhaps three times, as long as modern shingles sawed or cut by machinery. Mr. Tertius Wadsworth bought this place afterwards, and a man by the name of Clark Rice lived there. One night, after Mr. Rice and his family had retired (several small children being in the trundle bed in the room with their parents) one of the little ones was awakened by a cat or something in their bed, so the youngster called out, "Pa, there's something in the bed." No, there is not," said Rice, "lie still and go to sleep." Soon all the occupants of the trundle bed set up an outcry, "There's something in the bed." Rice, wishing to quiet the children, but skeptical about there being sufficient grounds for the disturbance, got up, turned down the coverings and there espied a black and white cat nestled down with the children. He seized the intruder by the tail, when whew! he found the monster to be a pole cat. The consequences were too fragrant to be described. The place has ever since been known as "Skunk Hollow," and the hero of the story was ever afterwards called "Skunk Rice." The place was afterwards owned by Timothy Buckley, and at the present time by Daniel Mulcunry. For several years the house was unoccupied as a residence, though now a colored man by the name of Adams lives in it.

On this road, about half a mile north, where the ground is much higher, there were many years ago two houses, owned and occupied by Stephen and Elisha Rust, the latter was the father of Ralzemon, Elisha, Norman, Truman, Obed and Cyprian, the last named was killed at the battle of Antietam while fighting for the Union as Sergeant in Co. C, 8th Conn. Volunteers. He was also the father of Mrs. Homan Seger and Mrs. Austin Messenger both now living, the former in

Canton, the latter in Southington. Elisha Rust removed to Barkhamsted and died in that town. Stephen moved to Pennsylvania. These two houses were never occupied afterwards, they went to decay or were taken down. There were no other houses in New Hartford on this road, which comes out near Uriel Spencer's stone house in Barkhamsted, on the old North Country Road.

We will now counter-march until we arrive at the West Hill road, and in the next number continue our journey towards West Hill.

NUMBER SIX.

The road from the place formerly known as Skunk Hollow enters the West Hill road in two branches, diverging at the top of a steep pitch, one branch winding down to the west, the other to the east. These form a considerable angle which is open and unoccupied. Directly opposite this angle was a small shop and dam on Spruce brook. This mill privilege was built by Samuel E. Judd in 1837 for the manufacture of saw handles, etc., and was used for that purpose about fifteen years, but finally became useless. The site of the dam is still distinguishable. About ten feet above the bridge which crosses the brook near where the "new road" branches off from the West Hill road, many years ago stood a saw mill. This was one of the oldest water privileges in town. It was abandoned before the recollection of the oldest living citizen, and no discernible trace of it remains. A few rods above is the house now owned and occupied by Richmond Burrows. This house was built by Samuel E. Judd in 1838. Mr. Judd sold his property in New Hartford and removed to Ohio in 1842. The place has since been owned by Samuel Hotchkiss, Joseph Marsh, Edward Marsh, and Lovitt Stimson, the last of whom sold it to the presest owner.

The next house, which stands on the opposite side of the road, was owned and occupied for a great many years by Elijah Strong, Jr. Mr. Strong was a carpenter and joiner, and came to New Hartford from Windsor with his father, who lived in Pine Meadow. Mr. Strong (Elijah, Jr.,) had two sons, Edward and Thomas, and four daughters, viz: Irene (Hubbell), Elizabeth (Strong); Mary married Samuel E. Judd, previously mentioned. She is still living in Hudson, O., where her husband is a prominent man. Jane married Geo. F. Sadd, her cousin. These, of whom but one is now living, were the children of Mr. Strong's first wife, Mary Sadd, a sister of Harvey Sadd, who will be mentioned in a future number. Mr. Strong's second wife was Lavinia Barber, who for a number of years lived in the family of Esq. Wm. G. Williams. She never had any children. Mr. Strong was a singing teacher, and his family were all musicians. He died Sept. 1, 1850. The old house was built by the brothers Aurora, George and Consider Hopkins. It was owned for a number of years by Mrs. Sophia Eggleston, who had two sons, Horatio and Philander, soldiers in Co. "F", 2d Conn. Heavy Artillery. These young men both died in the service of their country. They are buried side by side in the village cemetery, one tombstone marking the two graves. The place is now owned by Calvin Barrett, who lives there.

Before another house is reached, the road leads off to the north towards the Jesse Dutton place, now owned by his son Frederick Dutton. This is the only house now standing on this road in the town of New Hartford.

Beyond this place, about 40 rods, there was, many years ago, a log house in which lived Joseph Drake, the father of Warren Drake of Pine Meadow, who had a large family. Ralph Seymour, the father of Carleton Seymour of Pine Meadow, married two of Mr. Drake's daughters. There was also another log house on this road before the town line is reached. An orchard near where this house once stood is called the "Granny White Orchard."

Mr. Dutton was a blacksmith, and formerly lived further on up West Hill where

Lafayette N. Barrett now lives, and had a shop near by. He died in August, 1850. Upon this road, many years ago, there stood a house just to the right, about a quarter of a mile before reaching the Dutton place, which was the home of Mr. Markham, the father of the late William Markham. Before Mr. Markham, William McNary lived in this house. Mr. McNary was the father of Capt. George McNary, whose widow lived for many years on the place now the residence of Bentley W. Frazier. He was the grandfather of Mrs. Ira Howd and Miss Julia McNary, both now living in the South East district. William McNary died suddenly in the field one day, and Mr. Markham married his widow. After Mr. Markham died, the widow again married Captain Friend White.

Returning to the main West Hill road, and continuing on about a quarter of a mile, we arrive at the small farm house for many years known as the Friend Holcomb place. Friend Holcomb, who died April 20, 1850, was the father of Candace, who now as the widow of James Langdon, lives in Quincy, Illinois; of Henry Holcomb now living in North Village;of Caroline,Mrs. Franklin Watson who lives near Bakerville; of Fidelia, Mrs H. G. Loomis of Hartford; of Frederick who committed suicide in Southington, in 1858; and Robert Holcomb, now of Southington. These were the children of Mr. Holcomb's first wife who was Lydia Roberts, she died Dec. 18, 1837. Mr. Holcomb's second wife was Susan Beach of Winchester. Her children are Harriet, now living in Winsted, the wife of Peter De Mars; Hubert F. the present owner and occupant of the place; Clarissa, who died at the age of fifteen; and James now living in Bloomfield. Mrs. Holcomb, the widow of Friend, is now living with her daughter Mrs. De Mars, in Winsted.

The house was built by Phineas Holcomb in 1809 or 1810. He was the brother of Schuyler, Herman and Friend, he died in Granby many years ago, leaving a widow and two children, viz: James H. Holcomb, a lawyer of Hartford, who for several years has resided in Europe; and Mrs. Harvey B. Elmore, who died in Chicago about 1847. The latter was the mother of Sergeant Edwin Harvey Elmore who was killed at the battle of Antietam while gallantly fighting with his company ("C," 8th C. V.) in the defence of his country. The widow of Phineas Holcomb married Esquire Roger Mills of North Village.

The house (after Phineas Holcomb's death) was owned by a man by the name of Rowley, and then by John Roberts who came from Litchfield. He was the grandfather of Cephas Roberts, now of North Village. and the father of the first wife of Friend Holcomb, to whom he sold the place.

Beyond this house nearly half a mile, on the top of the steep hill, lived Phineas Holcomb, Sen., who, beside the sons named, was the father of several daughters—as follows: Betsey, married Esq. James Thorp. Susan married Addison Thorp; Julia, Deacon James Merrill; Harriet, Shubael Crow; and Sophronia, Douglass Williams. The old house upon this farm (which stood upon one of the most sightly eminences in the town) was taken down by Herman Holcomb who built the house on the opposite side of the road, where with his son Herman A. he now lives. This farm, as conducted by its present owner, is one of the most productive in New Hartford; in addition to a large dairy, Mr. Holcomb raises great quantities of strawberries and other small fruits for the Hartford, Winsted and home markets.

Having now reached the summit of West Hill, with Town Hill to the south and East Mountain beyond, with the hills and mountains of Barkhamsted and North Canton, dotted with their churches, farm houses, wood lots and cultivated fields, stretching far away to the north and east, we will rest here and journey onward towards the lovely lake in another number.

NUMBER SEVEN.

Journeying westward from the Herman

Holcomb place, the first house we come to is a small one on the right hand side, which was built about 1810 by Luther Loomis and Shubael Crow for a carpenter's shop, and was for some years used by them for that purpose. It was converted into a dwelling by Ebenezer Goodwin, the father of Horace Goodwin who lives near by. Mr. Goodwin and his wife both died in this house. This dwelling was occupied for many years by Luther Barrett, who died in 1863.

The large brick house, which stands on the corner of this road and one leading to the south, was built in 1832 by Edward Seymour, a son of Sylvester Seymour. Its owner and builder died suddenly Oct. 21, 1879, and his family (wife, son and two daughters), now reside there. Upon the same site, there was formerly an old house owned and occupied by Michael Olmsted, who removed with his family to the west many years ago.

Passing on to the west a few rods, there is a road leading to the north. A few rods from the corner, many years ago, was a small house occupied by Elias Seymour and wife. He was the son of John Seymour, the first of the name who settled in this town and who lived in this house, and undoubtedly built it. He was the father of twenty children, the majority of whom came with him, it is supposed about 1750. Six of his sons settled in New Hartford as follows, William, Uriah, Elias, Hezekiah, Elijah and David. His daughters married into the Steele, Flower, Marsh, Smith, Andruss, Moody and Kellogg families, so there must be many of his descendants still living here, besides those of the Seymour name. John Seymour, Sen., (the father of this John, who died in Hartford in 1748,) was one of the original proprietors of the town, and bequeathed his property here to his son.

Beyond this place nearly half a mile, on the left side, stands the brick house built by William Markham in 1832. Mr. Markham was the father of nine children, viz: William, ex-Mayor of Atlanta, Ga., Willard, Sidney, Lester, Jeremiah, Olive, Harriet, Caroline, (Mrs. W. E. Thompson, of North Village), and John H.—the two last named are the children of his second wife, who was the widow of Calvin Bushnell, of Hartland,—these children are all living except Willard and Sidney. An old house occupied by Mr. Markham previous to his building the present one, stood a few rods north. After Mr. Markham's death, May 4, 1856, the place was sold to Timothy Tucker. It is now owned by Ernest Poly, who lives upon it.

Returning to the main highway, a short distance on, we come to a house which stands in the forks of the road. Here seventy-five years ago, lived Jesse Dutton. After him, Samuel Markham, who was the brother of William Markham, lived here. It has since been owned and occupied by different persons. The present owner is Lafayette N. Barrett.

Passing on to the right of these forks, the first place reached is the farm of John S. Burwell, who purchased the property in 1867 of Harvey Tucker, the grandson of Benjamin Tucker, who owned and occupied the place seventy-five years ago, and who died upon it in the year 1855. Benjamin Tucker raised a family of four sons and two daughters; one of the latter married Allen Jewett of Winsted. The other daughter married George Sanderson, after whose death she married Cyprian H. Rust, previously mentioned as having been killed in battle. As his widow she now lives in North Village, and draws a pension from the government on account of her husband's services. The sons were Leonard, who lived in Barkhamsted; Benjamin, Jun., who will be mentioned hereafter; Edwin, who never married, and Nelson, who married a daughter of Elisha Rust, and continued to live upon the old homestead, when he was killed Dec. 20, 1863, by falling from a ladder upon which he was at work. He was the father of several children, one of whom is the wife of J. Henry Merrill. The original of this name in New Hartford, was Ephraim, father of Benjamin Sen. He also lived and died upon this place. Ephraim Tucker, had a harrow, made by himself, of peculiar shape and workmanship.

One day, while at work in the field with this implement, Rev. Jonathan Marsh called upon him, and being struck with the singular appearance of the drag, he told Mr. Tucker, he thought it could be no sin to worship the contrivance, as it was "like nothing in the heavens above, or the earth beneath." Ever after it was common among the inhabitants to call anything which was queer and strange, "as odd as Tucker's drag."

The Tucker family of West Hill were well-to-do, industrious people. An amusing anecdote is told of one of them who, many years ago, was a member of a militia company in this town. Training day in old times, like election, was a great event. Each member of the company was required to arm and equip himself, and of course when the training was over, took his musket as well as other equipments home. Rum was freely indulged in by both soldiers and spectators, and it was to be expected that some, if not all, would be more or less influenced by the free indulgence which was considered perfectly proper upon training day. Mr. Tucker, the hero of the story, was one of those who upon this certain occasion imbibed freely, and after the day's marching and parading was over, while in one of the stores at this village where were congregated the young men and boys, brim full of fun, he fell asleep. The boys captured his gun and in it, over a good charge of powder, they rammed a wad of punk, and on this inflammable wad they put another charge of powder, then punk and powder alternately, until the gun barrel was filled to the muzzle. Mr. Tucker upon awaking, threw his gun over his shoulder and prepared to start upon his journey for West Hill, but not before the boys had managed to set fire to the first wad of punk which commenced burning slowly. The militia man set his face towards the setting sun; when about half way up the first rise of the hill, near the cemetery, the first charge of powder ignited and bang! went the gun. Mr. Tucker turned in amazement, examined the smoking muzzle, concluded the old thing had "hung fire" from the last volley, tossed it back upon his shoulder and marched on. About where Chloe Lankton now lives, the old flint lock asserted itself again with a still more pronounced bang! "Well," said Tucker, "that is the d—dest gun," but thinking there must be some mistake, he again came to a "right shoulder shift" and marched a few rods farther, when bang! went the musket again. This was too much for endurance, he gave the old thing a toss over into Capt. McNary's field, exclaming, "D—n the gun," and walked on. The gun spoke out again, and Tucker, with eyes beginning to "bung out," accelerated his steps, but soon heard a final salute from the old firelock. Thinking the devil must have got into it, lest he might be overtaken by his satanic majesty, he struck a dead run, which he kept up until the heights of West Hill were reached, when turning, he shook his fists in defiance of North End and all its imps. The youngsters had been witnesses to the workings of the whole plot, and for many years a laugh could be raised at the merest mention of "Tucker's gun."

Walking up a small hill a short distance from Mr. Burwell's house, we come in full view of the beautiful lake, commonly known as West Hill Pond. This natural sheet of water must have a history most interesting could it be told complete. Some facts can be given in regard to it, and another number will contain them.

NUMBER EIGHT.

The sheet of water in the north western part of the town was called Wonksunk-munk, or Wonksunk-a-mug, by the Indians before the place was inhabited by white settlers. In the early records of the town, at the time of its survey for home lots and highways in 1734, this is referred to as "a large pond called by the Indians, Wonksunk-a-munk."

Daniel Shepard who came from Farmington in 1738, in 1748 removed to the east shore of the lake and was, so far as known, the first white settler on its banks.

His farm in this vicinity comprised 48 acres, more or less, and his dwelling was situated not far from the farm now owned by Joseph and J. Henry Merrill, farther north, and on the west side of the road. He died August 18, 1784. He had a son and a grandson who bore his name, and other descendants who remained for many years dwellers near the lake. From this family came the name "Shepard's Pond" which was for years the local designation of the sheet of water. As the Shepard family removed from the neighborhood, and gradually ceased to be identified with it, the name of "West Hill Pond" came into common acceptation. After all these changes would it not be well to call this beautiful lake by its original name, Wonksunkmunk?

The origin and meaning of this name has remained buried in the obscurity of some old Tunxis tradition. Dr. Trumbull, who has published a volume on Indian names, gives this one no satisfactory meaning. There is a legend that an old Indian Chief by the name of "Sunk-a-mug" once lived hereabouts, and was buried on Pike Island, near the present residence of Frederick Merrill. From him the lake may have taken its original apellation, but this can be at the best, only conjecture.

Some sixty years ago, Hiram Driggs and William Hart, (father of Truman Hart), carried a chain on the ice and measured the lake, which is a mile and a half in length, and a half mile at its greatest width, while seventy-two feet is the deepest known sounding. Loon Island, near the western shore, now nearly submerged, formerly had an area of a half acre, and some fifty years ago there was a building upon it, erected by Alpheus Spencer for a shop in which he made clock pins of ivy or laurel wood. It was afterwards used as a hunting and fishing lodge for the accommodation of those who visited the place in quest of game. The building was afterwards removed to Eaton Hill and a dwelling made of it.

Wild geese, ducks and loons abounded here, and the waters were well stocked with pickerel, perch, suckers and bullheads. About sixteen years since, black bass were introduced into the lake, and for three years the catching of them was prohibited. It was thought, by some, that the bass would exterminate the pickerel, but such has not been the case, the latter, being a quicker fish in their motions than the bass, are still abundant in their old haunts.

A steam saw mill was built on the west side of the lake in 1864 by Horace F. Merrill, and about one hundred acres of land were cleared. The mill was burned and the land, now covered with a thick new growth, is one of the best blackberry fields to be found. So far as is known there was never a person drowned in the lake. About thirty years ago, Augustus Tyler, now of Colebrook, broke in while fishing on the ice, and was rescued in an exhausted condition by Luther Barrett who heard his cries while passing.

In the summer season, the thick groves on the shores of the lake are the most beautiful resort imaginable, and are frequented by fishing and picnic parties from far and near.

In 1880, there were no less than forty-seven boats on the lake, most of them to let by those who had summer lodges on the shores to accommodate pleasure parties. There are several private boat houses, owned by citizens in town,—among these is one belonging to the authoress, Mrs. Julie P. Smith. So clear is the water, that objects are visible to a great depth, and Truman Hart relates that once while hunting from a boat, he dropped his rifle, and diving twenty-two feet, pulled it up by main strength from the bottom where it had lodged. "Sucker Brook," sometimes called an inlet, is only a connecting link with a swamp lying near on the west shore. The outlet of the lake is "Pond Brook," which empties into Morgan river near the Paul Roberts place, now owned by Aaron Lane.

In 1864, the Greenwoods Scythe Co. purchased the right to dam this outlet, to compensate the Greenwoods Cotton Mills for water used during the months of June,

July and August, when by terms of agreement, they (the Scythe Co.) were debarred from using the water from the Greenwoods pond. When the Greenwoods Co. bought out the Scythe Co.'s works, they took this privilege, and in 1876, for safety, at an expense of $1,200, put in a permanent stone bulk-head at the outlet of the lake. This raises the surface of the water nine feet, thereby submerging Loon Island. The Greenwoods Company have a gate about twenty-four inches square, by which they draw the water in case of exigency, when their Otis reservoir fails to furnish sufficient extra supply. A gate-keeper remains in charge of the outlet. When this nine feet of water has been exhausted, the springs will not again fill the basin, but it must remain in its lowered condition until heavy rains or melting snows restore the needed supply.

NUMBER NINE.

Approaching lake Wonksunkmunk from the east, about a quarter of a mile before the lake is reached, a road runs north and south. Turning to the north, a few rods from the intersection, there stands an old-fashioned farm house, occupied by the sons of Captain Norman Merrill, Joseph and J. Henry, and their sister Kate. Captain Merrill, who died May 5, 1874, will be mentioned more fully in a future number. His widow, Mrs. Anna Merrill, died in this house, Oct. 30, 1882, at the age of 93. This place was formerly owned by her father, Roswell Marsh, who married Anna Crow, the house having been built by Job Marsh, the father of Roswell. Mrs. Merrill was born in this house, as was her father. She was the oldest of five children, one son and four daughters. The son was drowned when quite young by falling into a tub of apple juice in the cider mill near the house. This old cider mill is one of the relics of a former generation. The apples are thrown in a circular trough, within which a large wheel, made of heavy timbers, is rolled by horse power, thus crushing them to a pomace which is removed to a press near by. Many years ago this kind of cider mill was common, now this is the only one left in town. Roswell Marsh died Sep. 26, 1843, at the age of 83.

Maria, the second daughter married Ira Seymour; Fanny married Truman Kellogg, and is now living on the road between Town Hill and Nepaug. She is the mother of Mrs. Orvis Griggs, and of Frank Kellogg, her nearest neighbor. Sabrina was the first wife of the late James F. Henderson, Esq., a merchant and manufacturer in the village of Nepaug. Job Marsh, the builder of this house, was the second son of the original proprietor and settler Jonathan, by his second wife. He died Sep. 22d, 1822, at the age of 93.

Beyond this place, about 30 rods to the north, was a house owned and occupied by Ely Andruss, who moved away, and the place was bought by Roswell Marsh. The house is now torn down, though a portion of the chimney is still standing. A few rods north of the Merrill place, on the opposite side of the road, was the place of Daniel Shepard, mentioned in the last number of this series as having given his name to the lake.

The next house beyond Daniel Shepard's was that of Samuel Kelley, whose wife was Polly Ward, a sister of the wife of Ashbel Marsh, Sen. They removed to the west many years ago. A little beyond this, was a small log cabin, in which lived a family by the name of Foote. A short distance from there, was another log cabin occupied by Israel Griffin, and still farther on another, in which Lomer Griffin lived.

Turning back towards the south, after passing the Capt. Norman Merrill place, just beyond the road to the east, was, many years ago, a house owned and occupied by John Marsh, the older brother of Job. He had four children—Nathaniel, James, Caleb and Harriet. Mr. Marsh removed to Bridgewater, N. Y., with his son James. in the latter part of the last century; he died there in 1805, at the age of 78. The house was torn down in 1849.

The house at the south end of the lake, where Henry J. Tucker now lives, was built by Asa Andruss about 1824. After the death of Mrs. Andruss, about 1830, the place was bought by Richard Hopkins, who died Nov. 4, 1867. After the death of his minor son, William B. in 1874, the place was sold to the present owner.

In a house at the south of the lake, off in the lots, lived Job Marsh Jr., who died in 1835, at the age of nearly eighty-nine years. His wife was Salome Beach of Goshen, who died six years later, nearly seventy-eight years of age. They had eight children, viz: Patty, Candace, Miles, Ebenezer, Elisha, Eliza, Hiram and Hila.

A few rods further along was a house near the road, occupied by Amos Marsh, who also was a son of Job Marsh, Sen. Elijah Marsh, another son, was, during the war of the Revolution, a mariner in the navy, and was captured on board the Snake by the vessel of war, Nancy Wanton, and was paroled at Saint Christopher in the Caribbee Islands, Dec. 29, 1779, by Wm. Matthew Burt, Esquire, Governor-in-Chief and Captain General. He returned home and died upon the old homestead unmarried.

The house and farm now occupied by John M. Andruss was formerly owned by John Roberts, who had a son John. Mr. Roberts sold the place to Chauncy Eaton, who died in 1871, the property still belongs to his estate. We are now very near the Torrington line,and scarcely half a mile from the point upon which rest the corners of the four towns—New Hartford, Barkhamsted, Winchester and Torrington.

Now let us retrace our steps, passing to the south of the lake, and the house of Henry J. Tucker, near which are the picnic grounds and boat houses for the accommodation of hunters, fishermen and pleasure seekers. These grounds are in a grove at the extreme southern end of the lake, where its whole length and breath can be readily seen from the banks.

The first place east of Henry Tucker's is that of his father, mentioned in Number Seven as Benjamin Tucker, Jr. He married Rosolia Avery, and they have had five children, viz: Ann married Warren A. Jones, and is now living in Bakerville; Sophia married Geo. H. Clark, she died in Forestville, in 1859; Betsey married her cousin Leonard Tucker, Jr., and is now living in California; Frank and Henry J.

Mr. Tucker died Sept. 2, 1882, at the age of 76. His widow still resides upon the place. The house, which is an old-fashioned red one, was formerly owned and built by Nehemiah Andruss, the father of Asa, previously mentioned. He died in 1828 at the age of eighty-five, and afterwards his son Isaac lived there.

A few rods beyond this house, in the hollow, is located the West Hill school house, which stands near School House brook. This is probably the second school house, as it was built in 1816. The first school house was located further along, near the old Lankton place, and was probably built not long after 1770, when the West Hill district was set off by a vote of the town. In the early days of the district, schools were held in the houses of inhabitants designated by a committee appointed at town or society meeting.

About half way up the hill which rises from the brook, stood, until the fall of 1881, the small house of Joseph Lankton, the father of Chloe, who is known far and near as the patient sufferer. Mr. Lankton was a tall, large man, good natured and full of anecdote. He was a shoemaker. He died in this house March 7, 1858, only three months after his wife. They were each 82 years of age, having lived together 61 years, lacking but one month. In this house Chloe suffered from 1829 to 1865, when she was removed to her present residence near North Village, which was formerly the North End district school house.

Chloe was born in Burlington Feb, 26, 1812. In 1821 she came with her parents from Torringford, where they had lived six years. When she was 17 years of age, with some of her school-mates she

went from the school house to the brook to wash her slate. While thus occupied she slipped and fell, hurting her spine. This injury, aggravated by hereditary scrofula, brought on the disability from which she has been a helpless invalid for half a century. For two or three years by the aid of a staff, she could get about a little. When she was twenty years old she was confined to her bed, from which she has hardly risen since. In July it will be fifty years since she has stood upon her feet. Her mind is clear and in disposition she is always cheerful. In a reclining position she sews and works all manner of useful and ornamental articles, and in little drawers, cupboards, nooks and crannies near the head of her bed, she is surrounded with innumerable little convenient and pretty articles which she has made with her skillful, busy fingers, or which have been presented to her. Of the six daughters of her parents, Chloe is the only one remaining—three having died of scrofulous consumption and two of cancer.

Joseph Lankton purchased this house of Esquire William Battel. Elisha Rowley had previously lived there, as had Asa Baker, the father of William Swayze Baker. Mr. Baker was a shoemaker. The house was for some years occupied by another shoemaker, Israel Gross, who removed to Torringford. Mr. Gross went about from house to house making and repairing shoes, which was the custom seventy-five years ago.

On up the hill, nearly a quarter of a mile, are the ruins of the house, formerly the Captain Sylvester Seymour place. This in its day was a handsome house, with a large piazza on two sides, occupying a very sightly position, and was regarded as one of the finest places in town. Capt. Seymour was the grandson of John Seymour, of whom an account was given in Number Seven. Capt. Sylvester Seymour was considered one of the best farmers in this region, and gave much attention, among other things, to sheep raising. He was also a road contractor, and by this means made a great portion of his property. Capt. Seymour, who died in 1828, at the age of sixty-two years, married Lucretia Cook. She died in 1849 at the age of seventy-five. Their children were Henry, Edward, Mary Ann, who married a Mr. Herrick of Pennsylvania; Electa never married; Sylvester, who died in New York; William, who died in Markezan, Wis., a few years since; Nancy never married; Thomas, who died in Meadville, Pa., and Elizabeth who never married. All these brothers and sisters are now dead. The old house, which had gone to decay, was taken down in the spring of 1882. The chimney is still standing to mark the spot where once stood the residence of one of New Hartford's most prosperous farmers.

NUMBER TEN.

Lieut. Uriah Seymour, mentioned in the last number, lived about six rods to the north of his son, Sylvester. The house disappeared many years ago, though an indentation in the ground shows plainly where the cellar has been filled and leveled off, the outline of the foundation being still distinct. An old well, very near, yet remains partly open. Uriah Seymour was a man of intelligence and influence in town matters. He commanded as Lieut. a detachment of mounted men who volunteered for the relief of Charlestown in 1775. He was a son of John Seymour previously mentioned.

A few rods directly east of these two old Seymour places, is the house and farm owned, 75 years ago, by Esquire Chauncey Seymour, another son of Uriah. He, like his father, was a man of intelligence and influence, and held various offices of honor and profit in the town. He represented the town in the legislature in 1810, '12 and '13. He took a lively interest in education, and for many years was acting school visitor. He was also Justice of the Peace, and held other offices in the gift of his townsmen. Like his brother, "Captain 'Vest," as he was familiarly called, the 'Squire was a very

thorough-going farmer, and was noted for keeping the best of stock.

In an old account book of Rev. Jonathan Marsh, the first minister settled in New Hartford, (presented to the writer by Mr. J. S. Watson, of Hartford), is found the following somewhat curious entry: "June 3, 1785, Chauncey Seymour, Dr., to marrying you—6 s." He was the father of three sons and six daughters, of whom, Nancy married Warren Wheeler; Ira was mentioned in the last number; Polly married Tertius Wadsworth, Esq., a prosperous business and public man in North Village; Lovisa married Perry Moore, now living in New Britain; Eliza and Sally married in succession Royal I. Watson, well known a few years ago in the south part of the town; Chauncy, Jr.; Isabella never married, and Sedgwick who lived upon the place and died in 1859. The latter was the father of Mrs. H. H. Stone of this town, and of Hudson M. Seymour who, with his mother, now lives upon the place. The house, though built many years ago, has been well cared for, and still presents a thrifty, well-preserved appearance. Its original owner died in 1839.

The next place on this road is that of the late John Blakesley, built by him in 1842. His wife, who survives him and still lives on the place, was the daughter of William Hart, a shoemaker, well known about here not many years ago. Mr. Blakesley was an industrious, honest man, and although he had but an acre and a half of land, he always found enough to do upon it, and his place, for neatness and high culture, could not be excelled in Litchfield County. It was by many considered a treat to look his little place over, so nicely was everything kept. He raised celery, garden vegetables and some tobacco, and from his own exclusive production made very good cigars. He died suddenly of heart disease while working in his garden July 4, 1881.

Arriving now at the forks of the road where L. Barrett lives, we will return to the Captain Seymour place, and going directly south half a mile, we come to the place where stood the house of Roger Olmsted. He removed to the West, and the place was bought by Esq. James Thorp who died there in November, 1849. Esq. Thorp who was a son of Col. Earles Thorp, was a man of more than ordinary intelligence. He studied medicine with Dr. Abernethy on Town Hill, but never practiced as a physician. In his younger days he taught school. He was Justice of the Peace, represented the town in the legislature from 1832 to 1835, and filled other offices in the town. He had two daughters, one of whom, Monimia J., married Horace Goodwin, the other died unmarried. This place has been owned by different persons since Esq. Thorp's death, among whom were Col. Birdsey Norton of Goshen, and Samuel Allen. The old house was burned in the spring of 1865. The house now standing on the farm was built by Bartholomew Finnan, its present owner.

NUMBER ELEVEN.

From the Esq. Thorp place, the road curved gradually to the east, and on about half a mile, is reached a fine-looking white farm house, which was built about 1815, by Captain Norman Merrill. Before this house there stood, almost upon the same ground, though a few feet to the west, an old house which was occupied several years by Capt. Merrill before he tore it down to make room for the new one, This old house was occupied by Benjamin Henshaw. Col. Earles Thorp once owned the place and removed from it to Town Hill. Joshua Cady also owned the place. Mrs. Anna Merrill, the widow of Captain Norman, said she had heard the old house was built by Ashbel Andruss. Captain Merrill purchased the place of his father-in-law, Roswell Marsh, and lived there until May, 1846, when he removed to the R. Marsh place near Lake Wonksunkmunk—his son R. Marsh Merrill removing to it from the latter place in transfer. In this house nine of his eleven children were born, of whom seven are still living,

as follows: Candace, the widow of Gordon W. Henderson; Frederick, Norman B., Augustus, (now of Thomaston), Joseph, J. Henry, and Kate. Those who have died are R. Marsh, Fayette, Frank and Anna, (Mrs. Shubael H. Henderson). Captain Merrill, who commanded a horse company during the palmy days of Connecticut militia, was for many years a selectman, served several years in the legislature, and held other town offices. He was an enterprising man, and made a good deal of money by contracting for the building of roads, dams and bridges. He died May 4th, 1861, instead of 1774, as was erroneously stated in No. 9 of this series. Roswell Marsh Merrill, the oldest son of the latter, resided upon the place until his death Oct. 10, 1865. His widow, two sons and a daughter, continued residing there until 1875, when they sold the farm and removed to Hartford. Herman Clark now lives upon the place, though the property is owned by William Chapin of Sheffield, Mass. The cider mill, a few rods to the east, was built in 1832, by Captain Merrill. It stands near where the road turns off to the Captain Pitts Goodwin place.

About a quarter of a mile south, on the west side of the road, an old cellar-place has, for many years, marked the spot where once stood the Chapman place, so called. This Mr. Chapman had three daughters; one married Jesse Gilbert. one a Mr. Colton, and another Mr. Neal.

A few rods below, on the opposite side of the road, remain the marks of what was known as the Stevens house. Nearly opposite, once stood a house called the Filly house. Very near this spot still remains an old well which was dug with a wooden shovel by Mrs. Merrill, the mother of Mrs. Filly and Dr. Eldad Merrill.

A few rods from this, stands a small white house, built in 1851 by Augustus Merrill. The house stands upon the cellar of the old Jesse Gilbert place, which was torn down in 1840. Mr. Gilbert bought the place in 1794 of Benjamin Henshaw. The old house was occupied many years by Giles Cone, whose wife was an adopted daughter of Jesse Gilbert. Some distance below, on the opposite side, was an old house occupied, many years ago, by "Deacon" Filly. He was the brother-in-law of Dr. Eldad Merrill, and had a son Eldad.

The large red house, now owned and occupied by Frederick Merrill, a short distance from the old Deacon Filly cellar, is one of the historic places of the town. It was built, probably about 1746, by Lieut. Joseph Merrill, who was the oldest son of Joseph Merrill, the pioneer settler. His son-in-law, the late Rev. Frederick Marsh, of Winchester, in a manuscript record, (now in the possession of Mr. Marsh's grandson, Geo. M. Carrington, Esq., of Winsted), writes of him: "Joseph Merrill, Jun'r., was an industrious and respectable farmer and mechanic (shoemaker) and lived one and one-half miles S. W. of the meeting house on Town Hill." His wife was Lydia, daughter of Elijah Flower, who lived in North village in the house which was torn down thirty or forty years ago by Wilson B. Spring, who built upon its cellar the house which stands to the north of, and opposite, the H'f'd & Conn. Western depot. Joseph Merrill, Jr., died in March, 1821, at the age of seventy-six, and his wife died the month previous, at the age of seventy-two. They raised a family of four daughters, of whom Lydia married Harvey Sadd; Sylvia, Rev. Moses Gillett; Parnal, Rev. Frederick Marsh; and Jerusha, Daniel Lyman. After Lieut. Merrill died, his son-in-law, Harvey Sadd, lived there.

During the small pox epidemic of 1792 this house was used as a hospital, and many stricken with this dread disease were taken there for treatment. The house is still in an excellent state of preservation, presents a good appearance outside and is well kept and comfortable inside.

The present owner of the place, Frederick Merrill, son of Capt. Norman, purchased it forty-five years ago, and fitted it up for his bride, Elizabeth, daughter of Schuyler Holcomb. Here they were mar-

ried in 1838, and have spent their wedded life. Mr. Merrill was for many years a school teacher in this and adjacent towns, and is remembered and respected by large numbers of men and women now in the prime of life, as a successful and dignified master, who ruled the most turbulent spirits by the wand of affection rather than the too common birch-rod.

We have now arrived at the cross-roads where a bridge spans West, or Carter, brook. In the southeastern angle of these roads stands a red house, which was built by Joseph Merrill for Harvey Sadd, who lived there until the death of his father-in-law. Mr. Sadd was a silversmith, and had a shop and water power on the brook just north of the house. Mr. Ashbel Marsh has a couple of solid silver spoons made by Mr. Sadd in this shop. He also had an iron foundry there which was in operation within fifty years. In this foundry he made stoves, pots, kettles, etc. Mr. Sadd was the first man to bring stoves into New Hartford, he bought them in Canaan and sold them to several of the inhabitants. This was before he commenced making them. In those days, the old-fashioned fire-places were the only means of heating houses or cooking food.

Harvey Sadd came to New Hartford from East Windsor. In 1829 he removed with his family to Austinburg, Ohio, where he died in 1840 at the age of sixty-four years. His wife died in 1843. They had eight children, of whom Geo. F. Sadd, now of Geneva, O., who married Jane Strong, mentioned in Number six was the youngest. The place is now owned by N. B. Merrill, and has been occupied by different families for the past twenty years.

Further on to the southeast, near the house now owned and occupied by Norman B. Merrill, was an old house occupied seventy-five years ago, by Capt. Wm. Newell, who was a blacksmith, and worked near by. Mr. Ashbel Marsh tells of a scythe made by him on his anvil, for Mr. Marsh's father, upon which could be seen every blow of the hammer. It was rough in appearance as compared with scythes of the present day, but was excellent to cut. Capt. Newell had three sons, of whom William Jr., removed to the west; Henry married Capt. Cook's daughter Laura, he died south while peddling; and Roger, who went to Scott's Swamp, Farmington. He also had two daughters – Nancy and Dolly. The old house, which was built between ninety and one hundred years ago by Bildad Merrill, an uncle of the late Martin Merrill, was taken down by the present owner of the place, who built the one now standing in 1863. Norman B. Merrill is a son of Capt. Norman, and like his brother Frederick, has been a successful school teacher. He has been for several years secretary of the Board of School Visitors; has represented the town in the legislature; for several years Town Clerk, and has held other offices of trust. His wife is the youngest daughter of Rev. Amasa Jerome. They had a family of three sons and one daughter, all of whom, but one, have gone away from home to live.

On the corner of this road, leading due east across to the Town Hill road (now abandoned and grown up to bushes), was a house built by Elisha Pettibone who removed to Barkhamsted. The place was afterwards known as the Bristol Dawson place, a man by that name having lived there. After Bristol Dawson, this house was occupied by Chester Douglass. Benajah Douglass, oldest son of the latter, served an apprenticeship with Wm. Dawson, son of Bristol, confectioner, in New Haven. He now has a large establishment, and sends out four-horse teams all over the state with his candy, etc. Abraham Hemmingway lived in the house afterwards. The house was torn down about forty years ago.

Beyond here, where the Town Hill road forks in, opposite the Truman Kellogg place, was a house occupied by Isaac Cadwell, but it was torn down many years ago by Deacon James Merrill. The house now owned by the widow of Truman Kellogg, was owned, seventy-five years ago, by Abijah Moore. He had four sons—Abijah, Orrin, Allen and Perry. The first

three removed to the West, and the last went to New Britain, where he now resides. Mr. Moore had six daughters. Abigail married John Strong, Phœbe married a Benham, Sarah married Aaron Henderson, Triphenia married Jeduthun Wilson, Almira married Andrew Winslow, and after his death a Mr. Burdick; Lucretia married Wm. Smith of New Britain, and Nancy, Joseph Cowles—they were the parents of Mrs. Hiram F. Smith, now living in the south part of the town.

This number has taken us away from West Hill, where we shall return some future day and finish up the ground in that pleasant region.

NUMBER TWELVE.

At the Truman Kellogg place corner, we turn to the northeast towards Town Hill, and the first house we come to is the one now owned by Deacon James Merrill, though not occupied by him. Dea. Merrill married for his first wife Julia, the daughter of Phineas Holcomb, of West Hill. He has one son, Marshall, now living in Winsted, and four daughters. The daughters are Emeline, who married the late Ira Merrill; Harriet married the late James Kellogg; Frances married Leonard W. Kellogg of New Haven, and Julia A. married John Polly, a lawyer, now living in Chicago. The present owner of this farm, who now lives with his daughter, Mrs. Harriet Kellogg at Nepaug, is the son of Capt. Phineas Merrill. The latter built the house about 1825, and lived upon the place until his death, March 31, 1828. He was married in 1781 to Anna Buell of Litchfield, a descendant of John Buell, the first white settler in that town. She died in this house, September 4, 1855, at the age of ninety-eight. They had two daughters—Candace, who married Joseph Gilbert, and removed to Michigan, where she died; Harriet, who married Roger Mills, Esq., a lawyer, who lived for many years and died in North Village; the three sons—Norman and James, both previously mentioned; and Henry. The last named died when a child. Captain Phineas Merrill was an officer in the war of the Revolution. He held the rank of Captain and Conductor of teamsters, under the command of Col, Jeremiah Wadsworth of Hartford, Commissary of the State of Connecticut.

The next house, on the same side of the road, some twenty rods to the north, was built in 1855, by Marshall Merrill, son of Deacon James. It stands a few feet back of where a house once stood, which was the home of his great grandfather, Joseph Merrill, Sen., one of the pioneer settlers of New Hartford. This old house was probably one of the very first dwellings erected in the town. Here the old settler lived, and here he died Oct. 13, 1788, aged eighty-two years. He had three wives; the first, Mary, probably died before he removed from Hartford in 1734. His second wife was Abigail Stone of Guilford, and the third wife was Martha, the widow of David Chapins, a soldier who lost his life in the expedition against Havana, under Gen. Lyman, in 1762. A detachment of sixteen young men from New Hartford went in this expedition, of whom but one, Benjamin Merrill, lived to return.

It is to be regretted that the names of all of these young soldiers cannot be preserved. A diligent search among the records at Hartford, discloses the following, which are all that can be found, viz: Michael Merrill (son of Joseph), Eliakim Merrill, David Chapins, Zebulon Shepard, Joseph Watson, Nathaniel Wilcox, Gideon Smith, John Miller and Joseph Whiting Marsh. The last named was the son of Rev. Jonathan Marsh, and the first New Hartford graduate of Yale College.

By his first wife, Joseph Merrill had one daughter—Clemence, or Clement, who married Deacon Noah Kellogg; by his second wife, to whom he was married "March ye last day, 1742," he had four sons and four daughters. Joseph, Jr., of whom some account is given in last number, died upon the Havana expedition Sept. 5, 1762; Phineas; and James, who lived at Sandisfield, Mass., and at Ballston Spa, N. Y.; Mary married Ichabod

Merrill, (the father of Deacon Joseph and Eli, Sen.;) Abigail married Eli Andrus; Mercy married Captain Titus Watson of Norfolk, an officer of the Revolution; Prudence married Asahel Humphrey, Esq., of Norfolk; Joanna married Jonas Safford, and lived in Poultney, Vt., from whence they removed to Gallipolis, Ohio. His wife Abigail, died May 3d, 1768, and lies buried by his side in the Town Hill burying ground. By his third wife, he had one son Michael, who studied medicine, and practiced his profession in Great Barrington, Mass. This Joseph Merrill Sen., was the son of Deacon Abraham Merrill of Hartford, one of the proprietors of New Hartford, and grandson of John Merrill Esq., also of Hartford.

Just beyond the Joseph Merrill homestead, on the east side of the highway, seventy-five years ago, was a house occupied by Benjamin Skinner, who was a weaver, and afterwards removed to North End, and worked as miller in a grist mill which stood on Spruce Brook, just below what is known as the Simons place. This house was once struck by lightning, Mr. Skinner was prostrated but not killed. The writer has been unable to learn who owned this house, or when it was built.

A little further on, about where Marshall Merrill's barn now stands, was, many years ago, a house occupied by Dr. Josiah Hatch, who married Elizabeth, sister of Moses and Elias Kellogg, and after several years practice in New Hartford, removed to Granville, Mass.

Some twenty-five rods above the last named place, on the east side, at the angle of the road, once stood a house occupied by Moses Marsh, a shoemaker, son of the proprietor, Jonathan Marsh. He died more than eighty years ago, but his daughters lived there years after his death. He had a numerous family, three of whom died young; the others were—Sarah, who married David Covil, removed to the West; Anna, married Allen Goodwin, and was the mother of Horace Goodwin, a silversmith in Hartford; Amy, married Eli Seymour, of West Hartford; Lucy, (twin to Amy), married Theodore Lee; Lois, married John Seymour; Hannah; Moses, who died in Hartford, a young man. Afterwards, Eliphalet Eusign bought this place, and with his wife lived there until they both died, then the house was torn down. There is but little left to show where the last three mentioned houses stood, yet it seemed necessary to mention the fact of their former existence.

We are now approaching Town Hill, concerning which locality additional interesting facts will be given.

NUMBER THIRTEEN.

Approaching Town Hill from the Joseph Merrill farm, the first house reached, is the small white one, now owned and occupied by James Dugan. This house was built by its present owner, a previous dwelling having burned upon the place. The original house is supposed to have been built by Dea. Noah Kellogg for his son-in-law, David Wheeler, who lived there. Titus Woodruff once owned the place, and with his three sons and six daughters, lived upon it. His sons were Solomon, John and Wareham, the latter now living in Griffin, Georgia. His daughters were Caroline, who married William Steele the son of Zadoc; Orrill, who married Chas. D. Kellogg; Flora, who married Simeon Loomis, and is now living in New Britain; Abigail, who married Ammi Wilcox; Fidelia, who married David Benjamin, and Ellen, who married Chester Deming of Canaan. These are all dead except Flora and Wareham. Mr. Woodruff removed to Goshen, about 1847, where he died, and William Wedge became the purchaser of the place. It was owned for several years by John Woodruff, above mentioned, who died there in 1868. He was the father of Walter C. Woodruff, who with his mother lives in North Village. After his death, the place was sold to the present owner.

Nearly opposite the last mentioned place, stands a modern white house, owned and occupied by Mrs. Emeline Merrill.

This house was built in 1850, by Mrs. Merrill's husband, the late Ira Merrill, and his brother Eli J. The house stands near the spot where formerly stood the residence of Dea. Noah Kellogg, who married, "November ye 18th, 1754," the eldest daughter of Joseph Merrill, mentioned in the last number of this series. He was the son of Isaac Kellogg, an early settler of the town. Rev. Frederick Marsh, in his manuscript account of the early inhabitants of New Hartford, says of him: "This Mr. Kellogg appeared to me, "in my youthful days, to be a very grave, "serious and exemplary man, less cheerful "and social than his brother Abraham." He lived, brought up his family, and died upon this place. He had three sons and six daughters. Of these Noah, Jr., Jesse, Clemence, (Hurlburt), Anna (Thrall), and Hulda (Norton), removed West; Miriam married Noah Seymour; Sarah married Daniel Sandiforth; Michael, the father of George Kellogg of Winsted, and Clarissa, who married David Wheeler, previously mentioned. Dea. Kellogg, who was a carpenter and joiner, died in 1806, after which, his son Michael lived upon the place

On the north side of the road, some ten or twelve rods from the Ira Merrill place, was an old house occupied by Segur Steele, and afterwards by a blacksmith named Hibbard. His shop which stood near by, was afterwards removed by Eliphalet Ensign, and converted into a place for weaving.

A very old dilapidated house, well to the west as the road turns to the north, indicates the former residence of Eli Merrill, Sen., and his uncle, Joseph Merrill, 2d. The latter, who was for years Deacon of the Town Hill church, and town clerk from 1778 to 1783, was the son and successor upon the farm to Noah Merrill, one of the earliest settlers of the town. Noah Merrill was the first man appointed Town Clerk of New Hartford, though he never acted in that capacity, having died before he took the oath of office. He died in 1739, his having been the first death among the pioneers. It is supposed that he was taken to Hartford for burial. After his death, his wife rode horseback to Hartford and gave birth to a child, afterwards returning to her home in the wilderness, where she lived many years and raised her family of four children, viz: Ichabod, who lived on West Hill; Joseph 2d; Mehitable, who married William Seymour; and Noah, Jr. Eli Merrill, Sen., was the son of Ichabod. He went to live with his uncle Joseph 2d, who had no children, and took care of him in his declining years, and after his death succeeded to his estate. Eli Merrill, Sen., who married the daughter of Elihu Jones, who lived on West Hill, upon the place mentioned as the Wm. Markham place, previous to the ownership of Mr. Markham, was the father of Esther, the widow of Chester Rider, now living; Lydia B., who married Chas. Mathews; Ira; Eli J.; I. Riley, and Achsea, the widow of John P. Kellogg. Within the memory of Mr. Eli J. Merrill, who now owns this old farm, there stood, about twelve rods east of the house, a monument, set there at the early survey of the town to mark the geographical center of New Hartford. The monument consisted of stones laid up, with a stake in the center. It was the original intention to locate the meeting house near this point, but upon examination, the ground was thought to be too low and wet, so the stake was pitched on higher ground to the north, near the present Town Hill church.

The house to the north, on the west side of the way, recently occupied by Wm. H. Ingham, was owned by Captain Elias Kellogg, the grandson of the pioneer settlers, Isaac Kellogg and Jonathan Marsh. He was the twin brother of Moses, and the father of Captain Chas. D. Kellogg, now living in Pine Meadow, who was his only child. He died in this house in 1830. His son lived there several years and sold the place to Edwin Kellogg, a son of Michael, who lived there several years. After he died his widow sold the place to Mr. Ingham. The place which is now unoccupied, is owned by Chas. F. Maxfield.

The early settler, Isaac Kellogg, it is supposed, was born in Hartford, and came from that place to this settlement. The writer can obtain no positive information as to the exact spot upon which he built his house, though it seems probable that he lived upon the place now owned by Mr. Maxfield. He appears to have been about forty-five or fifty years of age when he removed to New Hartford. Most, if not all, of his children were born before coming here. Who his wife was, the writer has been unable to learn, but through the manuscript records of Rev. Frederick Marsh, considerable concerning him has been obtained. He was distinguished for his piety, good judgment, firmness, and ability as a magistrate. His excellence of character and conduct were proverbial long after he was dead. He was one of the two first representatives sent to the general assembly from New Hartford, and was the first Justice of the Peace in this town, appointed upon petition of the inhabitants in 1745. In the general assembly he must have attracted considerable attention, as he was called upon to pray before that body. He died about 1784, at which time he was supposed to have been nearly or quite ninety years of age. His children were Samuel, Abram, Noah, Isaac, Ashbel, Joseph, Mary (Birge), Theodosia (Marsh), Anna (Crow), Margaret, Esther, Sarah (Merrill of Canton), and Huldah (Benham); all of these children, with the exception of Margaret and Esther, grew up and had families of their own. Most of them continued to reside in this town, and will be mentioned more particularly in other numbers of these sketches.

Abraham Kellogg, the second son of Isaac, married Sarah, the daughter of Jonathan Marsh, Sen., and lived upon this place, where he raised a family of eleven children. Like his father, he was a cheerful and agreeable man, though not so prominent in public affairs. He lived to be eighty-five years old, and died January 13, 1805. His children were Esther, who married Col. Aaron Austin; Abraham, Solomon, Moses and Elias, (twins), Phineas, Martin, Frederick W., Truman, Sarah, who married Martin Smith and removed to Ashtabula Co., Ohio; and Elizabeth, who married (late in life) Dr. Josiah Hatch, they removed to Granville, Mass. Phineas and Solomon Kellogg, removed with their families to Oneida county, New York, in 1788-89, and founded a town, naming it from their native place, "New Hartford."

Some thirty rods to the north of this place, stood the brick school house, which was taken down twenty-five years ago on account of its insecurity, the walls having begun to spread. Before this, there was a school house a little further to the north, an old-fashioned gambrel roof building, probably the one which in town meeting in 1753 it was voted to build "twenty-five feet long, sixteen feet wide "and seven and one-half feet between "joints, to be set within twenty rods of "the meeting house," and which was completed in 1756. The present neat little white school house, which stands nearly opposite the sites of the former ones, was built in 1860.

A little further to the north, and nearly opposite the present meeting house, was the house of Horace Kellogg. He was the father of Frederick H., John P., Henry A., Virgil W. and Orpha A. Kellogg. The first of these was the child of his first wife, who was Orpha Pratt of Granby. For his second wife he married Anna, the daughter of Isaac Steele. Horace Kellogg, like his father, who lived upon the place before him, was a respected and thrifty farmer. His father was Abraham Kellogg, Jr., the brother of Moses and Elias, and his mother was Sarah Seymour, the daughter of John Seymour, mentioned in Number Ten of this series. After the death of Horace Kellogg, the house was torn down.

NUMBER FOURTEEN.

We are again upon the ground where these articles were commenced, in the immediate vicinity of the Town Hill meeting house. Additional facts of interest in

regard to this building are, that it was built by one, Palmer, at a cost of $3,000, and the heavy stone for the steps and underpinning, were drawn on ox teams from Goshen, by Captain Pitts Goodwin and other citizens.

Liberty was granted, by a vote of the town, in 1761 "to any inhabitant to set "up a Sabbath-day house not nearer the "meeting house than ten rods." Of these there were three, the one immediately back of the old sanctuary, known as the "red Sabbath house," was mentioned in Number One of this series.

We are indebted to Dr. John Yale of Ware, Mass., for the following information concerning it: "As to the old red "Sabbath house, which is now owned by "Mr. Harris, Lucy T. Jerome taught a "select school in it, and young ladies "from different parts of the town attend-"ed and boarded on the hill. Ann Sey-"mour, daughter of Ira Seymour, and wife "of Edmund Watson; Sarah Ann Watson, "sister of Royal and Edmund, and wife of "Dr. Gillett, formerly of East Windsor, "were among her pupils, and boarded at "the parsonage."

The one known as the "brown Sabbath house," which stood on the corner just east of the present church, was previously a store, and is said to have been the first trading place in New Hartford. The ground still indicates where it stood.

Between this and where Henry A. Kellogg's house now stands, was the third Sabbath house, owned by Capt. John Spencer, who lived on the southern boundery of the town, where Frank W. Fenn now lives. This was a Sabbath house at one end, and a horse shed at the other end. The house portion is still in existence, and stands near the ruins of the Carter place on the "new road," where it was removed by Hermas Carter, and used by him as a shoemaker's shop.

The first house east of the meeting house, now owned and occupied by Henry A. Kellogg, stands on the ground where stood what was called, 50 years since, the "Old Mansion House," for many years a tavern. It was a large two-story building, with a ball room running the width of the house. This old house was built by Stephen Chubb for his son, Stephen, Jr., who like his father, was a blacksmith, and had his shop near by, towards the cemetery. His widow is rebembered to have kept this as a tavern, when Dr. Thomas Brinsmade was one of her boarders. A Mr. Spencer, at one time, kept the tavern, also Captain Benjamin Wells. The latter was the father of Sophia Wells, who married Dr. Andrew Abernethy, a physician of great skill, and the leading one for many years in this and adjoining towns. After Captain Wells, the house was kept by a Mr. Bartlett, who removed to Waymart, Penn., with his two sons and four daughters, in 1821. Capt. Michael Kellogg was the next occupant of the old "Mansion House," and lived there until the present church was built, in 1829. His family consisted of three sons and five daughters. It was afterwards occupied by several different families. A select school was taught in the old ball room several years, Judge Hiram Goodwin, now of Riverton, being one of the teachers. In 1834, Chas. Porter, a student of Yale college, taught there, and in 1835 the school was taught by a Mr. Penfield. The old building was taken down by Daniel Royce.

The house, now standing on this spot, was built by H. A. Kellogg in 1843. It is one of the best kept places in New Hartford.

Near the corner of the small new school house, mentioned in the last number, stands a large old elm tree. Under this old elm stood, in 1800, the whipping post, and a few feet from it were the stocks. These were the instruments by which, in old times, violators of the law were punished. The stocks consisted of two heavy oak planks fitted into upright grooves, with holes made where they came together, to fit the wrists and ankles. Sitting upon the ground, with his hands and feet locked into these stocks, the culprit was made to stay and bear the taunts of passers by. In 1810, a man by the name of John Henry sat in

these stocks and was afterwards whipped at the post by Matthew Gillett, constable. He was tried before Esq. Seth Spencer, and convicted of stealing a sheep from Oliver Case, and sentenced "to sit in the "stocks and to take, on his naked back, "thirty-nine lashes well laid on." This John Henry lived on what was known as the "Root place," just west of Greenwoods pond, now owned by Caleb C. Goodwin and H. Leroy Jones. When these stocks were taken down they were stored away under the pulpit in the old meeting house, and were there when the old building was cut down and moved. What became of them we are unable to learn.

We now come to the old cemetery, of which we shall speak at length in our next number.

NUMBER FIFTEEN.

Passing east, about twenty rods from the house of Henry A. Kellogg, where formerly stood the old tavern kept by Captain Benjamin Wells, we reach the entrance of the Town Hill cemetery which has a history ante-dating the incorporation of the town in 1738. In 1735, the proprietors of New Hartford purchased of Eleazer Goodwin, five acres, three roods of land, bounded west and south by highways on Town Hill, and sequestered it to the public use "for commons forever." On this ground the church and school house stand, and in 1738, Sept. 8th and 9th, Israel Loomis and Matthew Gillet, by order of the town, surveyed and laid out two acres of the tract for a burial place, for which, and altering a highway, they received the compensation of twelve and twenty shillings.

So far as can be ascertained, Stephen Kelsey, who died April 2, 1745, in the 71st year of his age, was the first person buried in the pioneer's cemetery. His tombstone still remains in a good state of preservation, the inscription being quite legible, though that of "Mrs. Dorothy" his wife, who lies beside him, buried a year later, is almost effaced. There is a significant entry in the town records of March, 1745. A few days before Mr. Kelsey's death, a vote is recorded making an appropriation "to purchase a decent cloth for a burying cloth," which would seem to imply that no previous need had arisen for such a covering for a bier.

The ground in the cemetery is full of springs, and greatly affected by frost, to this is probably owing the fact that many of the ancient stones are thrown out of place, and some of them entirely leveled. The granite, of which most of the early tombstones were hewn, does not retain inscriptions in a legible condition as well as either brown stone or marble, and some of the names and dates on monuments which have retained their perpendicular position, are entirely obliterated and cannot be deciphered by the most patient scrutiny. As far as can be found, the only graves of the first settlers which are traceable, are those of Stephen Kelsey, died in 1745; Ensign Caleb Pitkin, died in 1768, and Joseph Merrill in 1788. Although there is no regular division into lots, still the settlers seem to have been buried in family clusters, and one can conjecture where probably lie the fathers, by the graves of the second and third generations. A son of Deacon Martin Smith, who died in 1749, lies in the center of a little unmarked space, where probably repose the ashes of the first deacon and Sarah his wife, and others of the name, whose tombstones have yielded to frost and storm. By the side of the second Jonathan Marsh, who died in 1802, at the age of eighty-seven, and Mrs. Theodosia his wife, who died in 1795, aged seventy, is space for two graves, probably those of Jonathan Marsh the elder and his wife. In what seems to have been the early Seymour plot, only one partial inscription can be traced, that of the wife of Uriah Seymour. The grave of the first Douglas cannot be found, but a fallen stone bears the name of Samuel Douglas, who died in 1791, in the 51st year of his age, probably a son of the pioneer.

The names of Flower, Gilbert, Spencer, Steel, Andruss, Loomis, Wells, Richards and Kellogg, are all found on moss-covered stones, but none of the first generation. The original family names, which the writer has been unable to trace in the old burying lot, are Watson, Gilbert, Olcott and Shepard. A portion of the Watson family settled near the extreme western border of this town, and their burial place was in Torringford; the monument of the other branch of the family, which formerly stood in Town Hill cemetery, has been removed to Bakerville.

Here lie three of the four pastors of the Town Hill church—Rev. Jonathan Marsh, pastor fifty-five years, died in 1794, aged eighty; Rev. Amasa Jerome, pastor from 1802 to 1813, died in 1832, aged fifty-seven; Rev. Cyrus Yale, pastor from 1814 to 1854, with an intermission of three years, died in office in 1854.

The only practising physician of Town Hill whose remains lie among those of his former patients was Dr. Thomas Brinsmade, who died in Troy, New York, and whose ashes were brought hither for final burial.

Among those who served their country in the Revolutionary war, here buried, are "Maj. Abil Merrill, who died May 10th, 1776, Aet. 63. A lover of vertue, a friend to his country, and all good men." In the eastern part of the yard, under two overhanging firs, stands a marble slab marking the graves of Hon. Aaron Austin, who died in 1819, aged eighty-four, and Esther his wife, died in 1826, aged seventy-eight. Col. Austin was one of the ablest men that New Hartford ever produced, eminent as a soldier, a civil officer and a citizen, yet the inscription on his tomb tells none of these things. Col. Seth Smith, son of Deacon Martin, a distinguished officer of the Revolution, must be buried here, by the side of his wife, whose monument is traceable, but nothing marks his resting place.

In 1853, Rev. Cyrus Yale took in hand the matter of making repairs and necessary improvements in the old burying ground, and issued the following notice to the public, which was probably read from the pulpit and posted on the sign board. A copy of this notice in Mr. Yale's hand-writing is in possession of Mr. H. A. Kellogg, to whom we are indebted for permission to copy it here.

NOTICE.

In the early days of New Hartford a cemetery was established on Town Hill. This was the only public place for burial for three-fourths of a century. Here lie the ashes of the original families of the town for nearly three generations. But the stones which mark the family graves of familiar and honored names from all parts of the original ecclesiastical society, are some of them broken, and others lean at different angles; while the whole ground shows marks of neglect and needs a surrounding fence.

In view of the above facts, all persons in New Hartford who feel an interest in the object, and especially those who have friends buried in this ancient cemetery, are respectfully invited to meet and consider if some voluntary measures shall not be taken to show due respect for our dead, and not let the place of our father's sepulchers lie waste.

The following paper was then drawn up, in response to which was subscribed $179.

Provision having been made for the erection of a new and substantial fence around the cemetery on Town Hill, New Hartford, we the subscribers promise to pay to Mr. Henry A. Kellogg the sums annexed to our respective names, to be applied by him to the improvement of said ground, under the general direction of Mr. Yale.

New Hartford, Aug. 30, 1853.

The names appended to the paper are as follows:—James Merrill, Roger H. Mills, $10.00 each; Anson Hawley, E. M. Kellogg, H. A. Kellogg, V. W. Kellogg, C. D. Kellogg, R. Rood, Prosepina Goodwin, Daniel Royce, Ira Merrill, Marshall Merrill, Edmund Watson, James L Watson, James F. Henderson, Norman Kellogg, Isaac P. Steel, Norman Merrill, R. M. Seymour, Horace Goodwin, Pitts Goodwin, Huldah Marsh, R. M. Merrill, Cynthia Marsh, Elizabeth Marsh, Ralph Merrill, Luther Loomis, Phidelia Benjamin, Asa Tyson, H. A. Atwood, Chester Ryder, Wm. Steele, $5.00 each, and Elijah Spencer, John Spencer, R. M. Butler, $3.00 each.

Two deeds, bearing date of April 24th, 1854, from Charles D. Kellogg to New Hartford school society, are recorded, the first, of a strip the whole length of the north side of the burying ground, five feet wide on the east end, and one foot wide on the west side, and the other of a strip on the south of the burying ground, thirty-six feet in width and twenty-five rods in length, both for an extension of the cemetery.

The improvements made at that time consisted of breaking out stone, (of which over 200 loads were taken away), grading the ground, and cutting and digging up trees and bushes, with which the yard was choked, some of the white birches being thirty feet high, and six or eight inches in diameter. It was proposed to divide the ground into lots and sell them, but Rev. Mr. Yale said that should not be done, it should remain as heretofore, a free burial place. He paid for the extension himself, it being almost his last work for New Hartford. After his death in May 1854, his son, Cyrus Yale, expended about $1,000 on the cemetery, some $600 of which was laid out on the Yale family lot, and the remainder built the substantial fence around the entire ground. Each succeeding year the children of Mr. Yale attend to the mowing and the trimming of the ground, at their own expense.

In 1880, a motion was introduced into town meeting, that the old burying yard be kept in order by the town, and rejected on the ground that if this were done, all the other cemeteries within New Hartford limits would ask for similar appropriations. This indicated that the peculiar proprietorship of the town in the old cemetery was not understood. In 1882 the motion was again introduced in town meeting, and an act passed providing that the grounds should be kept in order, fences put in repair, and old grave stones preserved as far as possible from the ravages of time. An appropriation of fifty dollars was made for this purpose for the ensuing year, and Henry A. Kellogg appointed to superintend its outlay. Unlike all others, this cemetery belongs to no association or ecclesiastical society, or private parties, but to New Hartford, a legacy from the fathers, "sequestered forever," and should be religiously reverenced and kept in order in memory of the pioneers whose last resting place is on its western slope.

NUMBER SIXTEEN.

In the southeast angle of a square, formed by what was originally known as the "old South Country road" on the north and east, a short cross-road on the south, and Town street on the west, stands the house built by Moses and Elias Kellogg, to accommodate men who were employed by them on their farm, several families having lived there at a time. Moses Kellog, at one time, made this house his residence, though in the latest years of his life he kept the public house in what is now Nepaug. The public house was afterwards kept by his son, Col. Norman Kellog. Moses Kellogg was the twin brother of Elias, mentioned in No. Thirteen of this series, and the grandson of Isaac Kellogg, one of the pioneer settlers of the town, of whom extended mention was made in No. Thirteen of this series. His children, who were born in this old house, were—Polly, Louisa, Sophia, Truman, (mentioned in a previous number), Henry who died at the south, and James. Charles D. Kellogg, the son of Elias, lived there for many years. The old house, which is still in good condition, has been in its day occupied by a great many families, and used, in former years, to be noted for the number of its different occupants. It is now owned by Henry A. Kellogg.

At the angle mentioned, the road takes a curve due east, and about half a mile from the house last noticed, we come to a red farm house known as the Abijah Loomis place. This place has been noted as the home of Mrs. Margaret Loomis, who died August 2d, 1882, at the advanced age of one hundred years, one month and twenty-four days Her husband was Abijah Loomis, who died suddenly while sitting in his chair, September 5, 1867, at the age of eighty-nine. Mr. Loomis was a farmer, highly respected by his neigh-

bors and townsmen. Mrs. Loomis was the daughter of Wm. Barrett, who came to this country during the Revolutionary war as a soldier in Burgoyne's army. While a captured detachment of the British army were encamped in this town on their march from Hartford to Albany, being conducted as prisoners of war, Barrett slipped from the ranks, remained and settled in New Hartford, where he married a daughter of John Spencer, and raised a family of children. Margaret was born in what was known as the Michael Spencer place. This house is on the southern boundary of New Hartford, very near the Burlington line, and is now owned by Pleasant Valentine, a colored man.

Mr. and Mrs. Loomis were married Feb. 22, 1807, by Col. Aaron Austin, then Judge of the court of Litchfield county. They lived for a short time, and their first child was born, at the house of his father, Isaac Loomis, now owned by Mrs. Atwood, about a quarter of a mile from the red house before mentioned, to which they removed in May. 1809. Mr. Loomis bought this place of Asa Perkins, who lived here previously. Mr. Perkins was the father of Mrs. Caleb C. Goodwin, and the late Mrs. Grove S. Marsh. Mr. and Mrs. Loomis had five children, all of whom are living but one—Grove, who died at New Britain in 1856. Those living are: Emeline, who married Harry Peck, of Burlington; Eliza Ann married John Spencer, who died at New Haven in 1849. In 1862 she was married to Edward F. Marsh, with whom she now lives upon the homestead which has been deeded to her by her sisters for her faithful care of her aged mother to the time of the latter's death. Cornelia married Charles Bates, formerly a manufacturer in the south part of the town, but now a resident of New Haven; and Margaret, who married Butler B. Warren, of Plainville. The house was built by Isaac Loomis for his wife's sister, Mrs. Day, only a few years before it was purchased by Abijah Loomis. Previously, an old house which was the home of Dr. Eldad Merrill, a practising physician, stood upon the ground now occupied by this one. Mrs. Loomis remembered the doctor, and described the room used by him as a dispensary and consultation room. In this house the old lady lived nearly three quarters of a century, and to her dying day was cheerful and happy, enjoying greatly the visits of callers, and used to talk of the people and places of her native town in former days, remembering with distinctness the happenings of ninety years ago. The writer has had many pleasant conversations with her, and owes her much for information used in these sketches.

A short distance from the Abijah Loomis place, a road runs directly north and south. At the intersection, the cross-road divides towards the right and left, forming an angle, in which is a large rock. Taking the left, and going directly north about half a mile, we come to the spot where once stood the house of Ezekiel Steele, (formerly owned by his brother Zadoc.) Previous to Mr. Steele's occupancy, this house was used as a pest house, and small pox patients were taken there for treatment. Many years ago, Dr. Thomas Brinsmade inoculated the widow Chubb, and she died in this house of small pox. The house was burned in 1834, and Mr. Steele, by the aid of neighbors, who contributed lumber and labor, and many who contributed money, built the house now owned and occupied by Cornelius Crowley, which stands but a few rods north of the old site, the latter being almost entirely obliterated. Mr. Steele—"Uncle Zeke" as he was familiarly called—was lame. One night when he was out, near his house, a loose hog ran between his legs and threw him down with such force that his knee was injured. It stiffened crooked, and he was afterwards lame. He had five children,—Harvey and Henry removed West; Chloe married Mr. Lamphier of New Haven; Marietta married Mr. Sprague, she died at her father's home, leaving a daughter named Marietta. Laura married Asa Tyler, and with her husband remained on the place and took care of her father and

mother in their old age. Mr. Steele died early in 1854. Mr. Tyler died on the place, and his wife moved to New Haven, where she died a year or two ago. The house which, until about a year ago, was unpainted, has been by the present owner newly covered and painted white, and is consequently very much improved in appearance.

NUMBER SEVENTEEN.

Some twenty-five rods north of the Ezekiel Steele place, we reach a house which was built between sixty and seventy years ago by David Benjamin, a nephew of Mr. Steele. He was a carpenter and joiner, and an industrious enterprising man. Mr. Benjamin died in 1846, and his wife, who was the daughter of Titus Woodruff, remained upon the place until her death, which occurred in 1862. They had one child—Ruth Ann—the first wife of Edwin E. Clark, who died in Telfair Co., Georgia, in 1880. After Mrs. Benjamin's death, the place was sold to James McDonald, who now lives there.

Directly opposite the David Benjamin place, a road leads to the right, up East Mountain. About half a mile from the main road, we arrive at the house and farm now owned by Alexander Henderson. This house is supposed to have been built by William Steele, 3d, who lived there for many years. He had four sons and one daughter; Gaylord died at home; Correll went south peddling, he was found in the woods dead, and his horse hitched to a tree, it is supposed that he was murdered. Frederick died at home; Polly married Frederick Kellogg and removed to Terryville, where she died some years ago; William, who is remembered by all who have lived in town for the past fifty years, was a highly respected man, and was engaged in various manufacturing interests. He died in Terryville in 1874. He was unmarried, and the fourth in succession of the name. The present owner of this farm purchased it of Cephas Roberts, who bought it of Wm. Steele, 4th.

About twenty-five rods east of this place, once stood, north of the road, a house occupied by Daniel Goodwin, who had one son. Nearly half a mile beyond, at the end of the road was the house of David Benjamin, Sen. He had several sons, all of whom with their father went West, except David, Jr., previously mentioned. A Mr. Kilbourn, who married Polly Mix, afterwards lived there. Both of these houses are now torn down.

Retracing our steps, near where we enter the road, we find a small white house now owned by Mrs. Bernard Seery. This house was built by Austin Rice about 1850. The farm was owned by Noah Steele, the father of I. Munson Steele; the latter lived in North Village for many years, and afterwards removed to Terryville, where he died in 1879. His widow and two daughters,—one the wife of W. W. Weaver, are now living in North Village. Noah Steele had also one daughter—Louisa. Mr. Steele's old house stood some rods back of the present one, just north of where the barn now stands. The white oak timbers which formed the frame were taken to Pine Meadow and used in the manufacture of machinery, and the stones of the cellar wall were laid in the cellar wall of the stone house in Pine Meadow, now owned by Mrs. Edward Kellogg. Before Noah Steele, his father, William Steele, Jr., lived in this house, which was probably built by his father. Wm, Jr. had five daughters and five sons—Lydia, who married Selah Merrill, mentioned in No. Two; Hannah married David Benjamin, Senior; Lavinia, Chloe and Louisa never married; William, Ezekiel, two Zadoks and Noah. William Steele, Sen., the first occupant of this estate, was one of the early settlers of the town. The town records show that he was appointed collector at the ecclesiastial society meeting, in 1737. His oldest child, William, was born May 27, 1742. His other children were—Timothy, Lydia, Isaac, Roderick, Seth and Huldah. In consequence of so many by the same name living on this road, it was always called the "Steele Road," which name it bears to the present time

The road from East mountain formerly ran past the Noah Steele place just to the north, to Town street, which it entered opposite the Lieut. Steele house, a few rods north of where Seth C. Paine now lives. On this road, a short distance west of the "Steele Road," are the graves of four persons who died of the small pox during the epidemic of 1792. This road was abandoned and closed up about thirty-five years ago.

Returning to the William Steele place, and going in a northerly direction, about a quarter of a mile, we come to the farm and home of James Rainey. This was formerly owned by Chester Rider, who married Esther Merrill, she is still living. Mr. Rider died in 1860. They had a large family of children, among whom are —Sarah, who married Hobart Atwood; Merrill, who now lives in St. Paul, Min.; Nelson, of Plainville; James, living in Colebrook; Frances, who married Henry, C. Cramer, now of Plainville. Before Mr. Rider, his father, Sylvester Rider, lived upon the place. He had three sons —Zelotes, who went to East Hartford; Simeon, who removed West, and Chester. The present owner bought the place of James McNamara, who lived there a few years, having purchased it of the heirs of Chester Rider.

About half a mile from the Noah Steele place, several rods to the west of the road, is the spot where, in the spring of 1832, Ashbel Marsh built a saw mill. This mill, after doing excellent service for twenty years, was finally abandoned. Some of the timbers of the structure may still be seen when the foliage is off the trees, between it and the road.

Some forty rods below this mill, was another saw mill, built in 1842 by Grove S. Marsh, Luther Loomis and David Benjamin. This mill, like the one previously mentioned, has now gone to ruin, its fallen frame being easily seen below the road. The stream which carried these mills was always called East Brook.

We are now coming to open land. A few rods north of this old mill, to the left of the road, is a two-story white house, now occupied by Grove S. Marsh and his daughter, Angeline, The house was built in 1844 by Luther Loomis, whose wife was a sister of the present owner. Mr. Loomis died Oct. 26, 1867, his wife died March 28, 1883, at the age of ninety-two years. They had five daughters—Eliza, the oldest, married Cornelius D. Loomis, she dying, Mr. L. married Sarah, the youngest, they now reside in New Britain. Mary Ann married Elizur Brown, of Canton: Caroline married Harvey Loomis, brother of C. D., and Esther (named for her mother) married Deacon Jason C. Keach, of North Village.

The small white house below the road, a few rods to the east, was built by Grove S. Marsh in 1849. Mr. Marsh lived here a few years, when he removed to his present residence, which he purchased of the heirs of Luther Loomis. This house has since been rented to different families, Mr. Marsh continuing its owner.

On the brow of this hill the North Village and Greenwoods Pond are in full view beneath, while the Barkhamsted hills spread out to the north, make a landscape so beautiful that one is tempted to remain and enjoy its grandeur.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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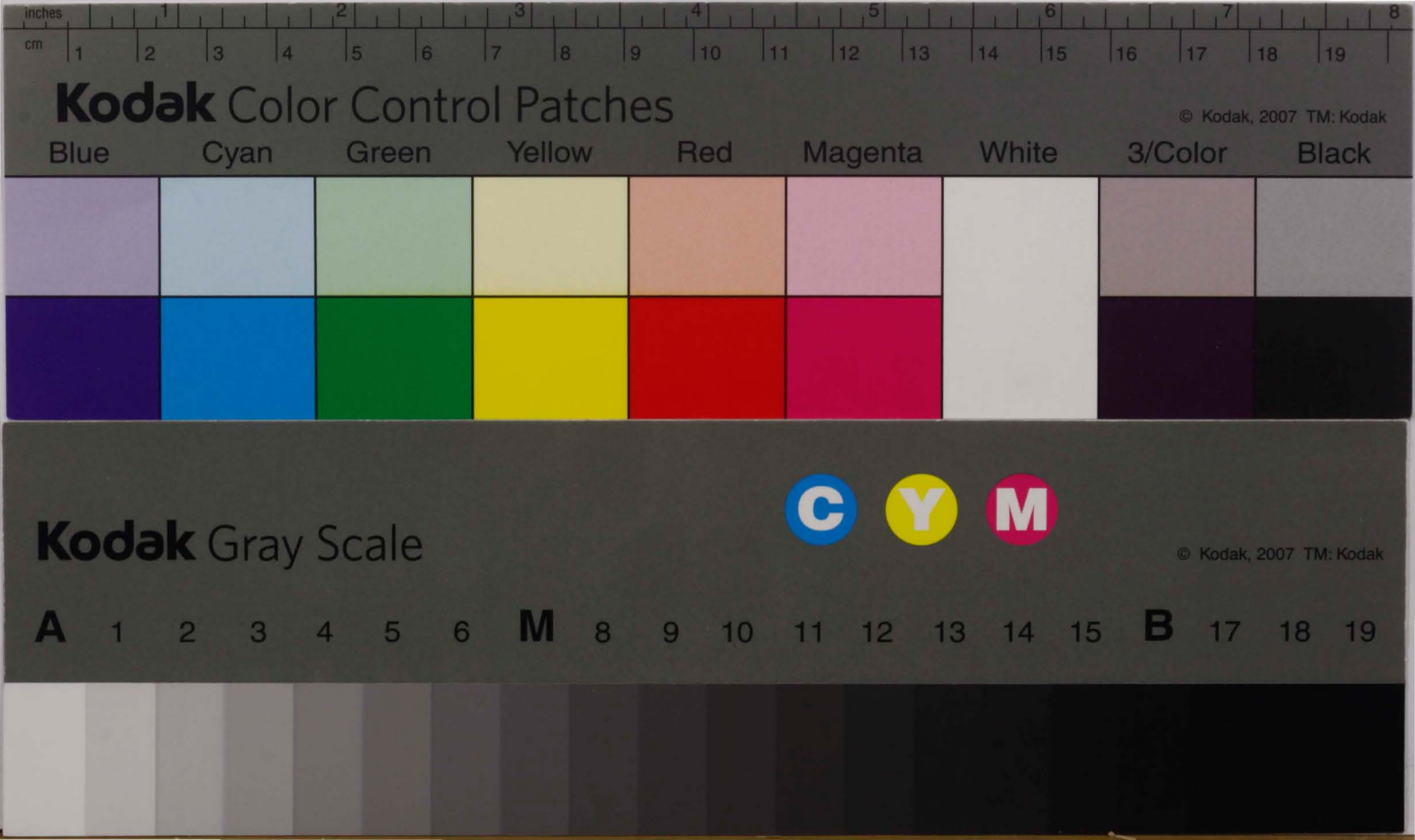
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