

GENEALOGY AND OUTLINE HISTORY

OF THE

FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

OF

Reuben Towle, Esq.

OF

FRANKLIN, VT.

Collected, Arranged and Published by Edwin R. Towle.

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DEDICATION.

To the descendants of Reuben Towle, soldier in the war of the Revolution, a native of New Hampshire, and a respected citizen of Vermont, a farmer by occupation and a Christian gentleman, is this little volume inscribed in grateful recognition of the goodly heritage left us by our ancestors.

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PREFACE.

Sometime ago it became apparent that if the early history of our ancestors was to be preserved to coming generations, the work of gathering up the material must be done before it becomes so scattered and lost, as to render it difficult, if not impossible, to get it together in a connected and satisfactory form.

With this end in view the writer, with the hearty co-operation of those interested in this work, has undertaken to gather up this material and put it in a durable form for preservation. The work has been found even greater than at first anticipated, and has involved much time, labor and expense to accomplish.

It has been the design to have every one entitled to a place in this book, duly recognized, and if any names are found to be left out, it is because they were overlooked or could not be obtained.

All who have helped in this work by kindly words of encouragement or more substantial aid, will please accept the most grateful acknowledgments of the

WRITER.

Introductory Chapter.

IN WRITING up the early history of our ancestors, there are many things that have a general application. The people who first settled here were poor and sought to better their condition in a new part of the country, where land was plenty and cheap. A few, not finding desirable locations or becoming discouraged with the prospects before them, sold out as best they could and went elsewhere. The families to which this history principally relates were a notable exception, as all the original farms and homes, but one, are still retained in the family names.

In this part of Franklin—the east side of the pond—the land was mostly a wilderness when taken up by our ancestors. They all had to commence alike; there was the land to clear of the timber before any crops could be raised, the primitive buildings—generally a log house and barn—to be erected, roads to build and such other kinds of work to be done. They were a sturdy race, and each year witnessed an addition to the land cleared and crops raised. They were neighborly and helped each other, “changing work,” as it was termed. The chopping and logging bee was a frequent occurrence and the best of good will prevailed.

The first thing to do was to get rid of the timber, and it was put in heaps and burned, the ashes saved and made into potash, which may be styled the first

product of the farms for sale. A yoke of oxen were a necessity, and gradually from the one cow the number increased as the years went by; while a flock of sheep was to be found on every farm, from the wool of which the thrifty housewife carded, spun and wove cloth for family use and to sell. Flax was also raised and made into thread, tow and linen cloth. In most of these homes can now be found some of the spinning wheels, looms, and other fixtures employed by these pioneers in their work, all of which should be preserved as mementoes of past generations.

These men and women had to endure much of hardship, privation and self-denial, incident to a new country, and they did it cheerfully, in anticipation of a better condition of things in the future. Mills and stores were few and far away. The little produce they could spare above the family needs was exchanged at the store for merchandise, until as the years went by, the farmer could carry his butter, cheese, pork and potash to St. Johns or Montreal, as a more suitable market.

There was not much tax at first to apply on road-making, but roads were a necessity, so first one and then another would make a bee, and thus the work went on. It was pretty difficult, as may be supposed, making roads in these days, where the land was full of stumps and rocks, with frequent swampy places to go around or make causeways over. I have heard my father say they would put two yokes of oxen on the scraper, one to pull the other out of the mud, while those who held the scraper would go barefoot, with pants rolled up as far as possible.

But those men came to stay as long as the Lord should permit them to live, so their work was not

alone for the present or themselves, but had reference to the future and the welfare of those who should follow them. Early, the school house—a log one—was a prominent feature in the little settlement, and the district school of great value to the community. Here a large part of the education of quite a proportion of the children was obtained, and it was no mean education either, as the methods of instruction in the elementary branches pursued here were very thorough and practical.

These early settlers were also religious, and as they commenced to make for themselves homes in this new country, they arranged for the worship of God. This was first commenced in the log school house and has been maintained ever since. The reader is referred to a historical sketch of the Methodist church in South Franklin, to be found in the last part of this book.

In this sketch of the Towle family, and of those families with which they inter-married, there are some things worthy of note. They have been, and continue to be, largely farmers, but comparatively few being engaged in other occupations. That they have ever been industrious, law-abiding and peaceable citizens, may be inferred from the fact of almost entire absence of litigation. I cannot recall any suit-at-law to which any member of the Towle family has been a party. From the first, they have been largely entrusted with the most important town and church offices where they live. I do not say this for effect, but simply state a fact, as showing the esteem in which they have been held and the confidence placed in them. Taking the entire list of names (nearly

four hundred) included in this work, it may be considered somewhat remarkable that so large a proportion have been, and are connected with some church organization.

They are not what may be termed a "political family," yet they have the interests and welfare of their country at heart, are zealous for their rights and proud of the record of grand old Vermont.

NOTE.—Unless otherwise noted, the residence of persons mentioned in this book will be understood as being in the town of Franklin, Vt.



SOME PREVIOUS HISTORY.

FOR MANY YEARS it had generally been understood that little or nothing was known of the ancestors of Reuben Towle, Sr., beyond the christian names of his parents and the place where he was born and passed his boyhood. It has been a source of regret to the present generation, that something of this kind should not have been preserved. Most fortunately and opportunely, information has been obtained that traces the family back to one Phillip Towle, who came from England in 1640 and settled in Hampton, Province of New Hampshire.

We are indebted to Amos Towle, Esq., of Boston, for the genealogy of the Towle family from Phillip Towle down to Jonathan, father of Reuben Towle, Sr., as obtained from records found at Hampton, New Hampshire.

From these, it is found, that Phillip Towle was born in England about 1616, married Isabella, eldest daughter of Francis Asten of Colchester, England. They were said to have been zealous Protestants, and possibly came to this country, as did the Puritans, for greater religious liberty. They had nine children, from one of whom, Caleb, our branch of the family descends. Phillip Towle died December 19th, 1696, aged eighty years.

Caleb was born May 14th, 1678; April 1st, 1698, married Zipporah Brackett, and died September 20th, 1763, aged eighty-five years. Caleb had eleven child-

ren, of whom, Anthony is in our line of ancestors. He was born April 30th, 1703, and November 7th, 1734, married Sarah Hobbs. They lived in Chester, N. H., and had a family of ten children, one of whom was Jonathan, father of Reuben Towle. He was born in 1739, and here the records of this branch of the Towle family could be traced no farther by Amos Towle, to whom we are indebted for the above important information.

Since commencing this work, access has been had to a history of the old town of Chester, N. H., extending from 1719 to 1869, and from this is gathered some statistics of the Towle family, as a considerable number lived in this town. Among the original grantees of the town are found the names of Phillip, Benjamin, Caleb and Anthony Towle. The grant was made in 1722.

Caleb, son of Phillip, and great-grand-father of Reuben Towle, appears to have acted an important part in the organization of the town and afterward. They were loyal men and their names frequently appear in the military records of the town, both in the French war and that of the Revolution. Several, Brackett, Simon and William, belonged to Gen. Stark's brigade and very likely were at the battle of Bennington. The name of Reuben Towle, our immediate ancestor, occurs as one of the soldiers from Chester in the war of the Revolution. After the death of Washington, commemorative services were held in Chester, and Capt. Abraham Towle had charge of the military escort. In a plan of the Presbyterian church, perhaps the first one in town, erected previous to 1753, is found a seat belonging to Anthony Towle.

OUTLINE HISTORY

—OF—

The Family and Descendants of Reuben Towle.

JONATHAN TOWLE, father of Reuben, lived in Chester, N. H., and married a Mrs. Ann Robie. Reuben Towle, so far as is known, was the only son, if not child, from this marriage. He was born October 24th, 1762. As is understood, he was brought up with the Robie children—by a previous marriage—and always cherished the kindest regards for them. Some of the descendants of this Robie family now live in Franklin, and possibly in other parts of the county.

Not much is known of the early life of our ancestor, Reuben Towle. He learned the trade of tanner and currier, and Jonathan Towle of Enosburgh Falls has in his possession a pocket book made by him, probably while working at this trade. On one side is the name of the town in which he lived, Chester, in raised letters. He could not have worked at this occupation very many years, for at the early age of sixteen he enlisted as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. But little is known of his experience during his service in the army. He was, however, at West Point when the traitorous Arnold undertook to deliver that important post to the British. He was here taken sick with the fever and ague, and Gen.

Washington visited and talked very kindly to the boy soldier. At the close of the campaign, he returned home without pay, sick and on foot, reduced to the necessity of begging for food and lodging on the way. Not discouraged by such an experience as this, he again enlisted and served through another campaign. He afterward received a pension for his services in the war. I remember when a young boy, of seeing the gun, wooden canteen and other accoutrements, carried by our ancestor when in the service of his country, but, like him, these have long since passed from view; but the soldier, and the service he rendered, are not forgotten.

The next we know of him he had removed to Enfield, N. H., where he married Sarah, daughter of Theophilus Clough. This must have been during the year 1786, but the exact date is not known. He settled on a farm located at the south end of what was then known as "Enfield Pond," the land extending to the shore. This is not far from the Shaker settlements, which at that time were at the height of their prosperity and were a favorite visiting place for the children of the neighborhood. Here their children were born and reared, with names and dates as follows:

Ann R., June 17th, 1787; Theophilus, March 30th, 1790; Elizabeth, May 16th, 1792; Sarah, February 4th, 1795; Dorothy, April 22nd, 1798; Jonathan, May 8th, 1802; Reuben, Jr., January 14, 1804.

During the time that Reuben Towle lived here, he not only engaged in farming, but took an active part in town affairs, being for a time town clerk. His wife was an intelligent woman, and is said to have assisted him in this work.

About this time he became interested in religious matters and united with the Congregational church.

August 25th, 1808, his eldest daughter, Ann R., was married to Tristum C. Colcord of Candia. Not long after, they removed to the southern part of Franklin, then Huntsburgh, Vt., and settled on land now forming part of the farm of W. J. Towle, living in a log house a little to the north-west from where the farm-house now stands. Here, their only child, Betsey T., was born, July 5th, 1812.

While living here, Mrs. Colcord's father and mother made them a visit, coming on horseback from Enfield, a distance of some one hundred and thirty miles, and at a time when the roads, where there were any, were very poor. Mrs. Towle was an excellent horsewoman, and is described as making a fine appearance when in the saddle.

This family remained unbroken but a short time, as a fever made its appearance early in 1813, and Tristum Colcord died from it May 15th, being only a little over twenty-nine years old. At that time there was no burying ground in this neighborhood, neither clergyman to be obtained to attend the funeral, so a man known as "Elder Dean," from the fact that he sometimes officiated on such occasions, made a prayer and then the remains were taken to Sheldon, drawn on an ox-sled, and buried not far from the South Franklin railroad station.

Mrs. Colcord's father came from New Hampshire and took his daughter and grand-daughter home, and while on the way the wagon was overturned and being thrown down an embankment the daughter suffered the dislocation of both wrists, and in this sad condition made the remainder of the journey.

Theophilus, oldest son of Reuben Towle, when eighteen years old, drove an ox-team with a load of household goods for Tristum C. Colcord, in the winter from Enfield to Franklin. It took several days to make the trip, and with the rough roads and deep snow was anything but a pleasant journey. Now the distance can be traversed in half-a-day.

August 27th, 1812, Theophilus married Deborah, daughter of William and Eunice Miller of Candia. While living in Enfield their first child, Harrison, was born, sometime in 1813, but died when only a few days old.

They moved to Franklin in March, 1814, and for a while lived in the house formerly occupied by T. C. Colcord. Here, James C. was born, December 22nd, 1814. Soon after, they moved onto the farm across the "beaver meadow," as it was called, which he had previously purchased and where his grand-son, Geo. M. Towle, now lives. This farm contains two hundred and fifty acres.

We will now go back to Enfield. Reuben Towle, Sr. having become financially involved, as the result of being surety for a friend, was under the necessity of selling his farm and emigrating to a newer part of the country, where land was cheap, and as between some portion of the West and Northern Vermont, he chose the latter, and sometime during the year 1815, at the age of fifty-three, moved to Franklin, where one daughter and son had already preceded him. He here took the farm, a small one, left vacant by the death of his son-in-law, T. C. Colcord, and on which he ever after continued to live. He built the main part of the house near by and made additions to the original farm.

He was an industrious man and possessed, in good degree, those qualities that are so quickly recognized and made use of by neighbors and townsmen. He was an acting Justice of the Peace and represented the town in the Legislature in 1822 and 1823. His wife was an intelligent and capable woman and they were much esteemed in the community in which they lived.

Those of my generation well remember "grandfather's and grandmother's room" in the old home, where the children and neighbors were wont to assemble for an hour's chat or more extended visit. Those were truly "good old times," where the kindest of feeling prevailed, and of which may the memory ever be green.

The youngest son lived on the home farm, while the other two and two of the daughters, when married, on farms adjoining, and the other two only about two miles away, as will be seen further along.

The years pass quickly by, and the wife of our revered ancestor was called to the better land. In the family Bible, now nearly a hundred years old, may be found the following inscription, made by the bereaved husband.

"Sarah Towle, my beloved wife, died March 7th, 1843, aged seventy-nine years, ten months and fifteen days."

He lived a few years longer and died in great peace, although suffering from the sorest affliction, cancer in the face, September 15th, 1849, in the eighty-seventh year of his age.

THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

— OF —

Theophilus and Deborah Towle.

We now return to the history of the family of Theophilus Towle, a small part of which has been previously given. After removing to their new home on the farm adjoining that of his father's on the east, the following children were born: Caroline, May 17th, 1818; John J., October 8th, 1821; William Harrison, January 21st, 1827; Jonathan, 2nd, October 12th, 1828.

Like the others of the first settlers, he commenced in the forest, which required years of hard labor to transform into cultivated fields. During the year 1833 the scarlet fever, then a new disease and better known as the "canker and rash," prevailed in the neighborhood with fatal effect, and several homes were made desolate by the death of some child. Their son, William H. died of this disease, January 3rd, 1833, being about six years old.

The only daughter, Caroline, was an accomplished young lady, highly respected in the community and useful in the church, but after a short illness she was called to the better land, January 30th, 1847, in the twenty-ninth year of her age.

Theophilus Towle died March 31st, 1869, aged seventy-nine years. His wife, Deborah, lived several

years longer with her son, Jonathan Towle, who finally succeeded to the home farm, dying January 12th, 1878, aged eighty-five years.

This worthy couple were connected with the Methodist church here for many years, being members of the first class of seven, formed in 1821, and along with those of their generation, labored earnestly and faithfully for the social and spiritual welfare of those among whom they lived.

The Family of James C., Anna and Mary A. Towle.

James C., the oldest son, married Anna Chaplin, of Berkshire, September 22nd, 1844. He had previously purchased the south half of his father's farm and erected a house thereon. But for a little time only was he permitted to enjoy the society of his beloved wife, for death came suddenly and on March 26th, 1845, she bade him adieu and went to her eternal home.

June 17th, 1845, he married Mary E., daughter of Alson Judd. Here their oldest child, Seth M., was born, August 21st, 1847. Sometime during the following year he sold his farm to his brother, John J., and purchased one adjoining on the east, but situated in the town of Berkshire. Here their other children were born, Mary A., August 10th, 1850; Ella R. and Emma I., twins, May 7th, 1854, and James C., Jr., October 15th, 1856. Emma I. died January 25th, 1855, a little past one year old, and her

twin sister, Ella R., February 24th, 1871, when nearly seventeen years old.

James C. was an industrious and thrifty farmer, his landed property comprising two hundred and fifty-five acres. He was intrusted with important town and church offices and possessed, in a good degree, the confidence of those with whom he associated. After a long and painful illness he passed away in great peace, April 29th, 1883, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. His wife, Mary, lived a few years longer and then joined the departed ones, passing away August 24th, 1885, being not quite fifty-seven years old.

The oldest son, Seth M., married Aurie C., daughter of Horace Ewins, of Berkshire, October 18th, 1871. For a time he was in the mercantile business at Berkshire Center, but in 1873 he removed to Enosburgh Falls and engaged in the same business there. He was a noble Christian young man, with flattering prospects for the future; but in the summer of 1875 he was stricken down with the fever, from the effects of which he died, August 26th, 1875, aged twenty-eight years. His wife is now living in Bakersfield.

The only surviving daughter, Mary A., was married to Warren N. Willey, October 2nd, 1883. He purchased the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, south of his father's and just within the town of Sheldon, where they continue to reside. They have two children, Marion A., born October 25th, 1885, and Caroline A., July 17th, 1890.

James C., Jr., the youngest child, married Lillian O., daughter of Almyr Phelps of Berkshire, Janu-

ary 10th, 1877. He lives on the home farm and has been quite extensively engaged, until lately, in the manufacture of creamery butter, buying, selling, etc. Of their children, Lillian A. was born April 27th, 1879 and died May 30th, 1880. Vera M., born June 29th, 1881; Seth C., March 31st, 1883; Nellie S., October 26th, 1884; died May 28th, 1885.

James C., like others of the young men of his generation, is being called upon for responsible service in town and church, and it is but just to say, they are faithful to the trust committed to them.

The Family of John J. and Mercy M. Towle.

John J., second son of Theophilus and Deborah Towle, married Mercy M. Mason of Sheldon, May 29th, 1850, and settled down on the farm previously purchased of his brother, James C. Towle. Here their oldest child, William Mason, was born, December 21st, 1851. Soon afterward he sold to his younger brother Jonathan, and purchased what was then known as the "Butler farm," in Sheldon, about one and one-half miles west from Enosburgh Falls. Here Harrison W. was born May 7th, 1858, and Phebe M., August 16th, 1860.

Although farming was to be their chosen occupation, both John and his wife had been experienced school teachers, and early resolved to give their children as liberal an education as their means would allow, in order to as far as possible more properly fit

them for their avocations in life. Their oldest son, William M., graduated at the Johnson Normal School, attended the Methodist Seminary at Montpelier, and afterward graduated from the School of Technology in Worcester, Mass., in the department of Mechanical Engineering, in 1877. Afterward, for a time, was in company with A. H. Manley of Enosburgh Falls. He went from here in 1884 and has since been in Terre Haute, Indiana, Ithaca and Syracuse, N. Y., where he had profitable positions. Is now in Mansfield, Ohio, where he is superintendent in engine works, draughtsman, tester of engines, etc.

Harrison W., the second son, remains on the farm, of which he has charge. He married Charlotte E., daughter of Albert Kettell of Sheldon, October 11th, 1888. She was one of a family of twelve children, all living. Lucy A., their only child, was born October 13th, 1889. He is an enthusiastic farmer.

This farm contains 217 acres and is very productive. Excellent buildings have been erected thereon and the father had been getting things in readiness for the son who succeeds him. But he was not destined to long enjoy the fruits of his labor, for disease claimed him as its own, and gradually descending to the "valley of the shadow," he passed over the river, leaving the best of evidence behind that he was at rest. He was closely identified with the interests of the town of Sheldon and of the Methodist church at Enosburgh Falls, of which he was a member. His death occurred August 3rd, 1889, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. His wife remains on the farm, along with her son Harrison.

The only daughter, Phebe M., graduated at the St. Albans High School in the class of 1882 and was

engaged here a year as teacher. Has since been attending a State Normal School in Oswego, N. Y., from which she graduated during the winter of 1891 and 92. She is now in college at Burlington.

*The Family of Jonathan Towle, 2nd, Sophia H.
and Lovisa S. Towle.*

Jonathan, youngest son of Theophilus and Deborah Towle, married Sophia H., daughter of Henry Bowman, June 1st, 1848. As Mr. Bowman's name will frequently occur in this work, it will be proper here to state that he was one of the early settlers in this part of the town and was elected to the Legislature in 1837 and 38.

These children were born to Jonathan and Sophia Towle: Henry H., June 28th, 1849, died March 23rd, 1850. Adaline S. and Caroline M., twins, born November 25th, 1852; George M., September 21st, 1859; Lucia E., September 6th, 1861; and Guy E., September 26th, 1870. His wife, Sophia, died August 30th, 1884, aged fifty-four years. March 17th, 1885, he married Lovisa S., daughter of the late J. G. Welch of Sheldon. In 1889 he removed to Enosburgh Falls and erected a dwelling house on Orchard street. Here their child, Laura A., was born, October 13th, 1889. Mr. Towle was a prominent citizen of Franklin, an acting Justice of the Peace and active worker in the church. He is at present one of the officers of the Methodist church at Enosburgh Falls.

George M., oldest son of Jonathan and Sophia Towle, remains on the old farm. He married Jennie L., daughter of the late Abner Davis of Enosburgh Falls, November 18th, 1884. They have two children, Sophia R., born September 26th, 1886 and Elva J., June 14th, 1888. He is acting Justice of the Peace and present superintendent of the Sabbath school in this place.

Adaline S. was married to Andrew Colton, December 17th, 1872. They lived, at first, with Charles Colton of South Franklin. Here their son, Charles J., was born, September 23rd, 1873. They afterward removed to Charlestown, Mass., where their daughter Eva was born, February 18th, 1876. Part of the time since they have lived in Enosburgh Falls, but are now back again in Charlestown, where Andrew is in company with Charles Butler in an extensive trucking business. Their son Charles will graduate from the Boy's English High School in June, 1892, and daughter Eva from the Grammar School at the same time; then she will enter the High School. She is fond of music, vocal and instrumental, and will probably enter the N. E. Conservatory of Music in Boston, sometime during 1892.

Caroline M., twin sister of Adaline S., was married to Allen Draper of Berkshire, October 26th, 1879. For a time they lived in Charlestown, Mass., where their first child, Harry I., was born December 30th, 1880. Ella M. was born in Franklin, March 4th, 1883, and John B., April 8th, 1887. They are at present living upon the farm of E. N. Judd, in South Berkshire.

Lucia E. was married to Clarence A. Welch of Sheldon, March 12th, 1885. He lives upon the farm

which his father and grand-father occupied before him, and like one of old can say: "The lines have fallen to me in places and I have a goodly heritage." Guy as yet remains unmarried and lives at Enosburgh Falls.



THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

— OF —

Jonathan and Lorena Towle.

Jonathan, second son of Reuben and Sarah Towle, was thirteen years old when he came with his father's family from Enfield, N. H. to Franklin. He spent his earlier years on the home farm. At the age of eighteen, with only twenty-five cents in his pocket, he started on foot for Jericho, Chittenden county, where he apprenticed himself for three years to Jonathan Goodhue, to learn the trade of carpenter and joiner. At the end of this term he returned to Franklin, and for several years worked at his trade. There are several houses still standing in this part of the town that he built. He also taught school winters in the old log school house. He purchased, during this time, half a lot of land of Samuel Hubbard, one of the grantees of the town, adjoining his father's on the north, on which he made a small clearing and built a house. April 19th, 1831, he married Lorena, daughter of John Daines of Cambridge and grand-daughter of Elias Babcock, a soldier of the Revolution, and settled down to farming. March 3rd, 1832, their first child, Edwin R., was born, but was permitted to bless their home only for a brief time, being one of the victims of the scarlet fever that prevailed the following winter, of which he died January 8th, 1833. August 1st, 1833, the

second son, Edwin R., was born; Susan L., April 4th, 1836 and Mahala C., October 28th, 1842.

Jonathan Towle did not, to any extent, follow his trade after his marriage, but devoted himself with much energy and persistence to his farm. He was much interested in this occupation, was an intelligent and industrious worker, laboring not only for present results, but for the future welfare of his children who should succeed him. With others of his family, he was trusted with affairs in town and church, in which he held responsible positions.

It used to be the custom in the early history of the settlers, at the raising of buildings, to furnish liquor, of which all who wished partook. But about fifty years ago the feeling became apparent among some, that the custom was wrong in principle and practice, and should be abandoned. It required some courage to go against this old-time practice, but it was done. The building, a barn, is still standing on the then farm of Jonathan Towle, the first building raised without the aid of rum. There were those present, it is said, who most earnestly hoped the scheme would not succeed, but it did. There were determined men in the matter, who knew their cause was just, and their strength as well as courage was equal to the occasion, and as the consequence, the building went up and the opposers were defeated.

He and his wife labored earnestly and faithfully together to give their children the best educational advantages their means would allow, and to advance their best material and moral interests.

He did not attain unto the age of his fathers but passed peacefully away December 30th, 1863, in the sixty-second year of his age.

The only living son, Edwin R. Towle, remained upon the ancestral farm and sought to carry forward the work his father had commenced. February 14th, 1856, he married Caroline E. Truax. Two children were born to them, Herman E., April 2nd, 1862; and Edwin J., September 17th, 1865.

Being somewhat of a literary turn of mind, he, in early life, commenced to write for various publications, and for many years has been agricultural editor of the St. Albans Messenger.

From 1881 to 1886 he was a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and in various ways has sought to advance the interests of the occupation, which has descended to him from a long line of ancestors.

His oldest son, Herman E., married Jennie S., daughter of the late William Stanley, a prominent farmer of the neighborhood, October 2nd, 1883. He is associated with his father upon the farm. They have two children, Arlan S., born October 8th, 1885, and Maude C., July 17th, 1890.

For several years the younger son, E. J., was with F. F. Twitchell & Co., St. Albans, but at this time is at home.

For several years Susan L., oldest daughter of Jonathan and Lorena Towle, was engaged in teaching, but December 2nd, 1861, was married to Caleb Ladd of Corinth. For a few years they lived on a farm north of the homestead and where their only child, Charles H., was born, August 24th, 1872.

From here they removed to a farm near East Highgate. Here Mr. Ladd died July 22nd, 1873, aged forty years. This farm was sold soon afterward, and November 26th, 1878, Susan L. Ladd was mar-

ried to George E. Pomeroy. (Further history embraced with that of the Pomeroy family.) Her son, Charles H. Ladd, is in the employ of the Franklin County Creamery Association.

Mahala C., youngest daughter, was married to Benjamin A. Beatty, son of J. W. Beatty, October 12th, 1864. They took up their residence on what used to be known as the William Hammond farm, a half-mile east from the South Franklin station, in Sheldon. Here their only child, Emmett E., was born April 14th, 1868. Mr. Beatty is a large landowner, having some six hundred acres in Sheldon and Franklin. For several years he has belonged to the board of selectmen of the town and been acting Justice of the Peace.

The wife of Jonathan Towle, our mother, lived with her daughter, Mrs. Beatty, for several years previous to 1880 and where she died after a brief illness, April 18th, aged 69 years.

Their son, Emmett E., married Dora E., daughter of C. H. Hastings of St. Armand West, P. Q. He is associated with his father in business and is also in the employ of the St. Albans Creamery Co.

THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

— OF —

Reuben Towle, Jr. and Narcissus Towle.

Reuben Towle, Jr. was the youngest son of Reuben and Sarah Towle. In accordance with a universal custom — being the youngest son — he remained with the parents and cared for them in their declining years. He married Narcissus, daughter of Samuel Stanley, a farmer of the neighborhood, and one of a family of twelve, all of whom married and had families of their own. The date of this marriage is unknown, as it cannot be found among the records of the family, but it is supposed to be sometime during the month of January, 1825.

To them were born the following children; Jay, September 17th, 1826, died August 11th, 1834; Reuben 3rd, July 11th, 1828; Ann R., July 13th, 1831; Jane, October 2nd, 1833; William Jay, December 22nd, 1835; Sarah T., March 13th, 1841; Ermina N., February 14th, 1843.

Reuben Towle, Jr., was an active, genial man, an excellent neighbor and trusted citizen, and when he died May 7th, 1857, at the early age of fifty-three years, the community and the church where he lived suffered a great loss.

He belonged to that sturdy, self-reliant class of men and women, who, with limited resources, conquered

difficulties, overcame obstacles and established for themselves and their descendants, a name and inheritance that is destined to live long after they had passed on to the generation of their fathers.

The Family of William J. and Caroline M. Towle.

At this time his youngest son, William Jay, had only recently, March 5th, 1857, married Caroline M., daughter of Lathrop Marsh, a prominent citizen of this part of the town. He was of the third generation to occupy the ancestral farm and home. It has since been enlarged so that at present it contains three hundred and sixty acres.

These are their children: Reuben M., born August 19th, 1858; Julia L., February 13th, 1864 and Carmi L., July 18th, 1867.

Narcissus, wife of Reuben Towle, Jr. was married to Henry Bowman, July 3rd, 1859. They lived with W. J. Towle during the remainder of their lives. Henry Bowman died April 19th, 1871, in the eightieth year of his age, and Narcissus, his wife, April 28th, 1889, aged nearly eighty-seven years, being the last one of her generation connected with the Towle family.

Julia L., the only daughter of W. J. and C. M. Towle, a most amiable and beloved young lady, despite all that could be done to avert the fell destroyer, died of consumption September 5th, 1883, in the nineteenth year of her age. Her memory is cherished most tenderly by family and friends.

The boys, Reuben and Carmi, are as yet unmarried and at home with their parents.

Reuben has travelled extensively over the country in the pursuit of business and pleasure. W. J. is one of the leading men of the town and is much respected for his integrity and ability.

*The Family of Reuben Towle, 3rd, Eliza A.
and Clara Towle.*

Reuben Towle, 3rd, oldest living son of Reuben, Jr. and Narcissus Towle, married for his first wife, Eliza A., daughter of the late J. H. Button of Swanton, January 31st, 1850. At first he settled on the north part of his father's farm, where new buildings had been erected for a home. Here his oldest child, Hiram B., was born, January 1st, 1851. In a little more than a year the young wife and mother died after only a few days' illness, February 2nd, 1852, aged twenty-two years.

He was married the second time to Clara, daughter of Henry Bowman, September 9th, 1852. In 1858 he purchased the farm formerly owned by Rev. Peter Chase, in the neighborhood, and where they now live. The children from this marriage are William H., born December 20th, 1854; Eliza C., May 6th, 1859 and Martha S., September 26th, 1868. Mr. Towle has had much experience in town affairs and was elected representative in 1884.

His second son, William H., married Emma S., daughter of William Stanley, January 4th, 1876. He occupies the farm, a most excellent one, of one hundred and fifty acres, with his father, and at present belongs to the board of selectmen of the town. Their children are Emma Belle, born March 12th, 1877; Edward S., January 18th, 1881, and Wilbur H., April 1st, 1887.

Hiram B., only son of Reuben, 3rd, and Eliza A. Towle, married for his first wife Aura Wilder of Sheldon, June 27th, 1872. They settled on the Hiram Bowman farm which, with additions, makes the total amount of land owned here 115 acres. Has also an interest in a farm in Fairfield. The children of this marriage are Arthur R., born July 21st, 1873; George H., September 4th, 1875 and Rolland W., September 24th, 1877. After a long illness, patiently endured, the young wife and mother committed her little family to the tender Shepherd's care, bade them adieu and passed over the river, October 6th, 1880, in the twenty-eighth year of her age.

June 22nd, 1881, H. B. Towle was married the second time to Altha R., daughter of Myron Hurlbert of Sheldon. These children have been born to them: Harlow B., January 7th, 1884 and Grace R., July 5th, 1885.

Eliza C., oldest daughter of R. and C. Towle, was married to Walter S. Robie, August 30th, 1877. This family traces back to that of Mrs. Ann Robie, who married our ancestor, Reuben Towle. They remain on the farm formerly owned by the father, W. C. Robie, our present town clerk. This is an excellent farm of one hundred acres and Walter S. is much

interested in his occupation. As will be seen, he has a goodly number of boys for supporters in his work. The children are William C., born July 31st, 1878; Clara E., June 24th, 1880; Reuben Olin, September 15th, 1882; Fred W., January 1st, 1887; Wesley N., February 23rd, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Robie are held in high esteem in church and neighborhood where they live.

Martha S., youngest daughter of R. and C. Towle, is a well educated young lady and successful school teacher, having taught sixteen terms.

The Family of Rev. L. L. and Ann R. (Towle) Green.

Ann R., oldest daughter of Reuben and Narcissus Towle, was married to Lemon L. Green of Berkshire, March 23rd, 1848. For a few years they lived on a small farm in South Berkshire. Mr. Green is a Methodist local minister, and a portion of his time has been occupied in preaching. While living here their oldest child, Adelia M., was born, August 3rd, 1849. Sometime after this they removed to Chateaugay, N. Y., where he was employed in farming and preaching. Here Alice S. was born January 17th, 1856 and Emily S., April 22nd, 1858. Next went to Bombay, N. Y., where Buel A. was born, January 10th, 1863.

The next and last remove was to their present location, Fort Jackson, N. Y., made about twenty-five years ago. Here the rest of their children were

born : Ida M., May 14th, 1867 ; Eva M., April 26th, 1869 and Harlow D., January 3rd, 1872.

During most of this time Mr. Green has preached, either in his own town or others near by, and in addition has followed the occupation of farming.

Their oldest daughter, Adelia M., was married to Silas E. Haselton of Fort Jackson, date not given. They live on a farm near by her father's and have the following goodly row of children : Jay E., born September 28th, 1870 ; Lennie W., March 7th, 1872 ; Georgia M., January 5th, 1874 ; Frank C., January 24th, 1876 ; Silas F., March 24th, 1878 ; Pearl J., April 6th, 1880 ; Harry S., June 28th, 1882 ; Fred A., June 19th, 1884 ; died December 25th, 1885.

Alice M., the second daughter, was married to Herbert B. Colcord of Franklin, January 16th, 1883. (See history of the Colcord family.)

Emily S. was married to Hibbard S. Stanley, November 21st, 1886. They have two children, Anna M., born in Berkshire, February 9th, 1888 and Philo H., in South Franklin, October 25th, 1890. They are now living on a farm adjoining that of his father's on the east, and about one-half mile from West Berkshire.

Buel, the oldest son, married Helen Chittenden of Fort Jackson, October 22nd, 1887. They have one child, May, born in Berkshire, May 22nd, 1889. During the summer season he is in the employ of the Franklin County Creamery Association.

The fourth daughter, May, was married to Reuben T. Button of Swanton, December 19th, 1888. Now live in St. Albans.

Eva M., fifth daughter, was married to George

Miller, of Fort Jackson, October 8th, 1890. They have one child, Anna M., born July 26th, 1891.

The Family of Harlow and Jane A. (Towle) Button.

Jane A., second daughter of Reuben and Narcissus Towle, was married to Harlow Button, of Swanton, March 20th, 1853. He was a son of the late J. H. Button. Their children are Eliza A., born January 4th, 1854; Ermina L., January 23rd, 1858; John H., July 14th, 1863; Reuben T., December 23rd, 1864; Harlow, Jr., July 2nd, 1872.

Their first home was on a farm a little distance to the north from where his father then lived. He afterward purchased the home farm to which he made additions until his real estate amounted to six hundred acres. He was one of the first to employ the centrifugal method for obtaining the cream from milk in Franklin county. Commenced with his own dairy at first, running separator with a one-horse power, and gradually enlarging his operations until he had some half-a-dozen separators at different points, making all of the butter at the home farm. On the organization of the Franklin County Creamery Association, his business with that of others was merged in that of the association, and of which he is one of the corporators and officers. In 1891 he removed to the Porter Brainerd farm in St. Albans, now belonging to the association, and of which he is at present superintendent.

The oldest daughter, Eliza A., was married to Joseph Irwin of Sheldon, March 7th, 1872. Their

children are Ralph, born July 2, 1874; Mina J., January 25th, 1878; Archie, February 20th, 1880 and Pearl, March 13th, 1884. Is by occupation a farmer and lives in Sheldon.

Ermina L., second daughter, was married to Orange Pease, of Swanton, March 20th, 1879. She died May 9th, 1886, aged twenty-eight years.

John H., eldest son, married Nellie Mitchell, of Sheldon, January 17th, 1885. They have three children, Jay T., born October 1st, 1886; Mina J., July 18th, 1888 and Arthur L., March 10th, 1889. John has a farm of two hundred acres in Sheldon, and has been honored by his town with important trusts. He is at present manager of the James M. Foss farm, at St. Albans Bay.

Reuben, second son, married May, daughter of Rev. L. L. Green, of Fort Jackson, N. Y., December 19th, 1888. Is at present in the employ of the Franklin County Creamery Association and lives in St. Albans.

The Family of Ashley E. and Sarah C. (Towle) Welch.

Sarah C., third daughter of Reuben and Narcissus Towle, was married to Ashley E. Welch, of Sheldon, June 28th, 1860. For a time they lived on the farm now owned by W. N. Willey, near the Franklin line. Here Ida E. was born December 1st, 1861, and died March 13th, 1865; Mina L., born August 13th, 1866 and William S., September 6th, 1869.

A considerable number of years ago they sold their Sheldon farm and purchased one of one hundred and twenty-six acres in Morristown, four miles from the village of Morrisville, where they now live.

Their daughter, Mina L., was married to Edward Johnson, of Franklin, October 4th, 1888. They live on the home farm of Gen. C. L. Marsh, and have one child, Mary A., born November 10th, 1889.

Their only son, William S. is on the farm with his parents.

The Family of Reuben and Ermina N.

(Towle) Chaffee.

Ermina N., youngest child of Reuben and Narcissus Towle, was married to Reuben Chaffee, of Berkshire, October 12th, 1864. For a short time they lived with his father, Samuel Chaffee, on the home farm and where their first child, William J., was born, August 30th, 1865. They removed to the south part of Enosburgh, near Bakersfield, in 1867 and purchased their present farm. Here their other children were born: Nellie A., May 29th, 1873; Flora M., June 3rd, 1879 and Rollin, September 9th, 1880.

Mr. Chaffee has an excellent farm of eighty-four acres and is earnestly devoted to his occupation. For several years he was superintendent of the schools of the town.

Wm. J., their oldest son, married Carrie L. Hodges, of Enosburgh, February 5th, 1887. They have two children, Katie L., born March 3rd, 1888 and Eva M., May 5th, 1889. They live on a farm of one hundred and sixty-seven acres near his father's.

THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

— OF —

John C. and Ann R. (Towle) Colcord.

Mrs. Ann R. Colcord was married to John C. Colcord, brother of her first husband, Tristum C., for which see previous history, September 18th, 1814. The Colcord family were natives of Thornton, N. H. John C. removed to Franklin, Vt., some time previous to his marriage, and purchased a tract of land south of Reuben Towle's, where he had been making some improvements, and here they made their home. The farm is now in possession of a son and grand-son, John and H. B. Colcord. These children were born to them: Henry C., August 29th, 1816; George, June 12th, 1820; died February 23rd, 1825; John, born April 18th, 1822; Maria, September 20th, 1826; Sarah T., September 25th, 1828; George, June 2nd, 1831.

Mr. Colcord and his wife were industrious and careful people, looked well to the ways of their household, and left a goodly heritage, both in temporal and spiritual things. Although a man of most excellent judgment and a careful manager, Mr. Colcord was very retired in his ways, accepting few responsible positions in town or church affairs, preferring that others should have the responsibility and the honor, if there was any.

The daughter, Maria, a most estimable young lady, died in early life, April 2nd, 1847, in the twenty-first year of her age.

A singular incident is connected with her death and that of some other young ladies of the neighborhood. Her mother some time previously had dreamed of seeing a team, with two white horses, drive out of the yard of the nearest neighbor, who was a carpenter and joiner, and, as was the custom in those days, a manufacturer of collins. In it were four young ladies, including Maria. Within the year, the four had died, and their collins were made at this house.

The wife and mother died July 25th, 1856, in the seventieth year of her age. She was a most zealous Christian woman and a member of the first Methodist class formed in this place. Her husband, John C., lived to a good old age, and died in hope of a glorious immortality, February 18th, 1869, aged eighty-two years.

The Family of John and Sylvia P. Colcord.

John, second son of J. C. and A. R. Colcord, married Sylvia Predentia, daughter of Eben Bowman, of Westford, June 7th, 1849. He remained with his parents on the farm. Here these children were born to them: Edward C., September 4th, 1851; Francis C., December 3rd, 1853; Herbert B., February 16th, 1856; John Cortes, March 18th, 1858; Hannah Annette, June 15th, 1861.

Mr Colcord has been entrusted with the principal town offices and was elected Representative to the Legislature in 1863 and 1864. Has also been an active member and official in the church, with which he has been connected for over half a century.

His son, Herbert B., married Alice S., daughter of Rev. L. L. Green, of Fort Jackson, N. Y., January 16th, 1877. They live on the home farm and have two children, Elmer E., born May 8th, 1880, and Julia T., November 26th, 1884.

Edward C., the oldest son, went to Williamsport, Penn., in 1873, and has ever since been in the employ of his uncle, B. C. Bowman, an extensive manufacturer and dealer in lumber. March 12th, 1884, he married Mary A. McMinigal, of Williamsport. They have four children: Edward C., Jr., born January 15th, 1885; Francis C., March 29th, 1886; Sylvia P., June 10th, 1888, and Eugene L., October 22nd, 1891.

He is at present in St. Albans, West Virginia, where is located a branch of the business of B. C. Bowman & Co., bearing the name of "Coal River Boom and Driving Co.," a lumbering enterprise, and is treasurer of the company.

It is a pleasure to record the success of our young men who leave the old homes and seek their fortunes elsewhere. It is also gratifying to know that they cherish the most kindly regard and memory for the homes and friends of their youth.

Francis C., the second son, was for a time in Springfield, this state, and later in Orange, Mass. With fair prospects before him, he was compelled, from feeble health, to relinquish his business and re-

turn to the home of his father. He had been engaged to marry Miss Anna S. Shattuck, of Athol, Mass., which event took place at St. Albans, January 30th, 1883. The young wife was only permitted to care for her husband a very little time, as he died of that most flattering and insidious of diseases, consumption, February 27th, 1883, in the thirtieth year of his age.

The youngest son, John Cortes, spent his boyhood at home, but soon after coming of age, in company with a young man from Sheldon, went to Oregon, on the Pacific coast, where he has since continued to live. For several years he and his friend engaged in farming pursuits, but at present Cortes is living in Newberg, near Portland, and belongs to the firm of Maris & Colcord, managers of a Board of Immigration. August 21st, 1890, he married Sadie Cox, of McMinville. They have one child, Ula S., born October 19th, 1891.

Hannah Annette, only daughter of J. and S. P. Colcord, was married to Edson A. Libby, of Enosburgh Falls, January 15th, 1887. They have two children, Sarah A., born June 13th, 1889, and Prudie M., June 12th, 1891. His business is that of doing team work.

The Family of Enoch and Betsey T.

(Colcord) Pomeroy.

Betsey T., only child of T. C. and A. R. Colcord, was married to Enoch Pomeroy, February 16th, 1837. He was a son of Dr. Enoch Pomeroy, one of the first

settlers and physicians in the part of the town where he lived. Enoch settled on a farm just south from his father's, now owned by C. W. Peckham, containing some one hundred and fifty acres. They had the following children: Candace P., born December 15th, 1837; George E., March 19th, 1840; Mary A., November 19th, 1844; Luna L., September 26th, 1846.

All of the children were educated at the Franklin Academy and attended a French school in Canada.

Mary A. graduated at the Newbury Seminary and afterward was a teacher here, until the school was removed to Montpelier, in 1868, where she was engaged as teacher for several years. Succeeding this, she had charge of the academy at Franklin for several terms, and was superintendent of the schools of the town for a number of years. In 1878 she accompanied one of the celebrated Tourgee excursions to Europe, visiting England and the Continent, going as far as Rome. For a long time she has been interested in the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, occupying important positions in the organization, and at present is with her sister, Mrs. C. Temple, in St. Albans.

Luna L., the youngest daughter, died August 20th, 1870, aged twenty-three years. A young lady much esteemed, her sun went down while it was yet morning, but only to rise in brightness on the "other shore."

Candace P., oldest daughter, was united in marriage to Chauncey Temple, September 23rd, 1875. His occupation for many years has been purchasing, baling and selling hay, in which he is doing a large

business. He represented the town in 1882, and was elected lay delegate, by the Vermont Conference of the M. E. Church, to the General Conference, which was held in New York in 1888. Several years since, he removed to St. Albans, and Mrs. Betsey Pomeroy, the oldest living representative of the Towle family, now eighty years old, lives with them. They have only one child, Luna C., born June 6th, 1877.

Enoch Pomeroy died March 18th, 1875, in the seventy-third year of his age.

George E., only son of Enoch and Betsey T. Pomeroy, married Lydia E., daughter of Deacon Caspar Hibbard, of St. Armand, P. Q., February 16th, 1870. He had previously purchased a farm of one hundred and fifty acres, adjoining that of his father on the west, and erected a commodious house. There were two children by this marriage, Luna E., born October 25th, 1871 and Hibbard G., January 20th, 1878. Soon after the birth of her last child, the mother passed to that bourne from which no traveller returns, her death occurring January 29th, 1878, in the thirty-ninth year of her age.

November 26th, 1878, George E. Pomeroy married Mrs. Susan L. Ladd.

The daughter, Luna, is being educated at the Vermont Academy, Saxtons River, from which she will graduate during the summer of 1892.

George Pomeroy and wife are active members of society and of the church to which they belong.

The Family of Henry C. and Lestina E. Colcord.

Henry C., oldest son of J. C. and A. R. Colcord, learned the trade of blacksmith, of Isaac Fletcher, of West Berkshire. Later on, September 27th, 1844, he married his daughter, Lestina E. Fletcher, then of Plymouth, this state. At first they settled on a farm which now forms a part of the one owned by Mrs. Lydia A. Hibbard. Here their first child, Caroline D., was born, February 4th, 1847. Not long after they removed to South Berkshire, having purchased the farm now owned by Mr. Gaines. Here, Zina H. was born, May 5th, 1850; Joseph E., January 1st, 1855; died, March 14th, 1855; Anna E., born January 14th, 1857; Betsey, May 21st, 1859; died June 15th, 1859.

Caroline D., the oldest child, died June 23rd, 1866, aged nineteen years. The family suffered a great loss in her death, as she was a fine Christian young lady.

Succeeding this event, Mr. Colcord changed residences several times, living in Berkshire, Canada and Franklin, following the occupation of farming, and finally died in Franklin July 3rd, 1884, aged sixty-seven years. He was a respected citizen and trusty official in the Methodist church, of which he had long been a member.

His wife, Lestina E., died at the home of her son, Zina, in West Berkshire, June 21st, 1889, aged sixty-four years.

Zina H., only surviving son of H. C. and L. E. Colcord, married Jennie M., daughter of Edward

Fay, of West Berkshire, about December 20th, 1869. For several years he lived at this place, but is now in Everett, Mass., where he is engaged in a bakery.

Their children are Bernie F., born March 4th, 1873; died, September, 1874; Carrie E., born September 11th, 1877, and Lena M., May 31st, 1883.

Annie E., only surviving daughter of H. C. and L. E. Colcord, was married to John L. Whitney, February 6th, 1875. They live in East Franklin, and he is a carpenter by trade and teacher of vocal music.

They have had the following children: Lulu G., born January 29th, 1877; Maude H., March 9th, 1878; Nellie C., July 31st, 1880; Glenna P., May 9th, 1882; died March 4th, 1883; Henry K., January 24th, 1884; Edith M., September 11th, 1885; Bernice, March 24th, 1887; died October 27th, 1887; Orloff H., born February 21st, 1891; died February 26th, 1891.

The Family of Joshua W. and Sarah T.

(Colcord) Peckham.

Sarah T., youngest daughter of J. C. and A. R. Colcord, was married to Joshua W. Peckham, June 6th, 1854. They lived on a farm now owned by Ethan Vincent, about one and one-half miles north of Franklin Center. Only one child was born to them, Charles W., April 3rd, 1855. Mr. Peckham lived but a few years, to care for his family and the church, of which he was a faithful member and steward, dying November 25th, 1860, aged thirty-one years.

Mrs. Peckham was married a second time to L. D. Roberts, of Fairfax, March 4th, 1866. She lived here until her death, which occurred April 30th, 1884, in the fifty-seventh year of her age.

Charles W. Peckham, her son and only child, married Annette, daughter of Abram Titemore, of St. Armand, P. Q., September 24th, 1878. He had previously purchased the Enoch Pomeroy farm, and where they continue to reside. He is an intelligent farmer and trusted citizen of the town.

*The Family of George, Permelia C.
and Martha Colcord.*

George, youngest son of J. C. and A. R. Colcord, married for his first wife, Permelia C. Earle, of Burke, N. Y., August 5th, 1855. For a considerable time they lived on a farm in South Berkshire, where these children were born: Maria M., August 8th, 1856; Ida M., April 5th, 1858; died March 22nd, 1862; Lillian A., January 9th, 1861; Earle, February 24th, 1864.

Permelia C., wife of George Colcord, died January 21st, 1866, aged nearly thirty years.

March 12th, 1867, he was married the second time, to Martha, daughter of Alexander Armstrong, of St. Armand, P. Q. After this he lived for some years on a farm in the north-west part of Berkshire. These children were born to them: Earnest J., July 27th, 1868; Amelia J., December 29th, 1871; Grace, December 20th, 1875.

For several years past, Mr. Colcord has been working at the trade of carpenter and builder, in Minneapolis, Minn.

The oldest daughter, Maria M., was married to A. D. Whitney, October 20th, 1876. (See history of the family of Alloway and Elizabeth Whitney.)

Lillian A. was married to Henry E. Dewing, February 20th, 1879. (For additional history, see Dewing family.)

Earle, the oldest son of George and Permelia C. Colcord, married Lucy R., daughter of the late Calvin Hammond, November 21st, 1884. They live on what used to be known as the Hiram Darling farm, near East Franklin. They have one child, Alma M., born November 22nd, 1885.

Earnest J., son of George and Martha Colcord, married Bertha E. Stetson, of Berkshire, September 9th, 1887. They have one child, Carl O., born September 28th, 1888. They now live in Richford, and his occupation is that of carpenter.

THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

—OF—

Dolphus and Elizabeth (Towle) Dewing.

Elizabeth, second daughter of Reuben and Sarah Towle, was married to Dolphus Dewing, October 15th, 1818. Dolphus Dewing was born in Hartford, Conn., and when only two years old, his father, Capt. Luke Dewing, removed to Sheldon. After marriage, they settled on the farm now occupied by his son, Dolphus Dewing, Jr. He was a blacksmith by trade, and followed that business in connection with farming. Two or three men had tried previously to get a living here and failed, but with industry, diligence and good calculation, Mr. Dewing acquired a farm of four hundred acres and left a large property at his death. These children were born to them: Sarah A., August 11th, 1819; Lydia B., May 3rd, 1822; Louisa, April 20th, 1824; Elizabeth, February 16th, 1826; Dolphus, Jr., March 21st, 1828; Diana, August 23rd, 1830; Caroline M., February 18th, 1835.

Mr. Dewing represented the town in 1842, and was for quite a term of years Justice of the Peace. He was a successful business man and prominent member of the Episcopal church, and lived and died in its fellowship. His death occurred suddenly, of heart disease, March 22nd, 1864, at the age of seventy years. His wife, Elizabeth, lived just one year longer, dying March 22nd, 1865, aged seventy-three years.

The Family of Dolphus, Jr. and Sarah Dewing.

Dolphus, Jr., only son of Dolphus and Elizabeth Dewing, married Sarah, daughter of Dolphus Colton, January 29th, 1854. He lives on the old farm and is a man of influence in the town and church, and, withal, a good farmer. Their children are Henry E., born June 9th, 1857; Carrie M., January 3rd, 1862, and Charles D., April 29th, 1865.

Henry E. the oldest son, married Lillian A., daughter of George Colcord, February 20, 1879. He lives with his father on the farm, as also do the other two children, not yet married. They have two children, Herman A., born January 12, 1884, and Earnest, May 11, 1886.

Family of Ai and Sarah A. (Dewing) Pearson.

Sarah A., oldest daughter of Dolphus and Elizabeth Dewing, was married to Ai Pearson, December 18, 1836. He was a son of Dr. Enos Pearson, one of the early settlers on the east side of the pond, coming from Starksboro, in 1827.

He practiced medicine for a time and settled on a farm that is still retained in the family. His son, Ai, succeeded to the farm, and in addition purchased the one on the north side.

Their children were Cullen, born June 30, 1838; died August, 1840; Lydia A., born July 19, 1840 and Betsey E., May 19, 1853.

A few years later, on April 15, 1854, the wife and mother passed away, in the thirty-fifth year of her age.

January 17, 1863, Ai Pearson married Jane J. Buzzell. He represented the town in 1867. The year following he removed to the village of West Berkshire. He was not permitted to live here long, as he died suddenly, December 11, 1868, in the sixty-third year of his age. The family and community suffered a great loss in his death, as he was a genial, kind-hearted man, liked by every one.

It seems very singular that three men, all connected by blood and marriage, with farms adjoining—Dolphus Dewing, William A., and Ai Pearson, should die so suddenly, apparently from the same cause—heart disease—and all on the same day of the week, and nearly the same hour of the day. The first died at home, the second while on a visit to his daughter, and the last on the road near where B. Whitney lives.

Lydia A., oldest daughter of Ai and Sarah A. Pearson, was married January 22, 1862, to Whitman S. Hibbard, of St. Armand, P. Q. Here Anna M. was born, November 15, 1862, and Mary J., June 22, 1866.

In 1869, the farm occupied here was sold, and the one owned by Ai Pearson, containing two hundred and twenty acres, purchased. Their youngest child, Grace P., was born here November 19, 1870. Mr. Hibbard was an intelligent farmer and good citizen, but he died at the early age of forty-three years, August 31, 1882.

The children were well educated, Anna and Mary graduating at the St. Johnsbury Academy, and Grace at the Union school in the same town.

Anna M. was married to Marshall M. Hungerford, of Swanton, June 25, 1888. Mrs. Hibbard and her two other daughters are at present living on the farm.

Betsey E., second daughter of Ai and Sarah A. Pearson, was married to Winslow E. Yaw, of Berkshire, September 12, 1870. (For additional history see Yaw family.) After the death of her first husband, which occurred January 4, 1875, she was married to Loyal H. Stowe, of Berkshire, October 18, 1876. They own the farm of two hundred and five acres previously occupied by S. A. Stowe, a mile south from West Berkshire. They have one child, Anna L., born July 29, 1882. Are now living at West Berkshire. He is a steward of the Methodist church at this place.

Family of Henry H. and Louisa (Dewing) Bowman.

Louisa, third daughter of Dolphus and Elizabeth Dewing, was married to Henry H. Bowman, October 21st, 1844. For a considerable number of years they lived on the farm where his father, Henry Bowman, had settled many years before. Here these children were born to them: Rosina E., May 9th, 1851, and Emma L., July 10th, 1858. During the last few years that Mr. Bowman lived in Franklin, he was engaged in purchasing produce, largely butter, for the Boston market. After removing to St. Albans, in 1858; he continued in the same business on a more extensive scale. They had one child,

Henry H., born here, July 13th, 1862, but he lived only a short time to gladden their hearts and home, dying May 3rd, 1864.

Mr. Bowman was an intelligent and honorable business man, accumulating considerable property and taking an active part in town and church affairs. He was director in the First National Bank, and vestry man in St. Luke's church. He died July 13th, 1882, in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

The oldest daughter, Rosina E., was married October 21st, 1884, to Isaac S. Borley, of St. Albans.

Mr. Borley is a native of England, was educated at Greenwich and came to St. Albans in 1877, when only twenty-one years old. Here, for several years, he was employed in the customs business, connected with the Central Vermont Railroad. Next he became interested in insurance matters and since has been making marvelous headway in his business, now being recognized as one of the leading men of St. Albans and of the state, in this line, and is being advanced to honorable positions in insurance organizations. Although of English birth he is a thorough American in principle and practice, and has evinced his love for our philanthropic institutions by frequent generous bequests.

He was permitted to enjoy the society of his amiable and beloved wife for only a few brief years, as she died, greatly respected by all, October 21st, 1887, in the thirty-seventh year of her age.

Mrs. Bowman continues to live in St. Albans, but of her family only one is left, and she an invalid. Truly life has its shadows as well as its sunshine, but the time is coming when the shadows will flee away before the great light from the unseen world.

Family of Alloway and Elizabeth (Dewing) Whitney.

Elizabeth, fourth daughter of Dolphus and Elizabeth Dewing, was married to Alloway Whitney, of St. Armand, P. Q., July 21, 1852. They lived here and on the farm adjoining, in Franklin, for a considerable number of years. Here their children were born, Adolph P., October 15, 1855; Sarah L., June 14, 1857; Betsey, November 18, 1859; died when only six weeks old; Ai B., born October 15, 1862; died when nine months old; Betsey E., born February 27, 1865. All of these but the last were born in St. Armand.

Not long after this the home farms were sold and the one purchased at East Franklin, formerly owned by S. C. Noble, and now occupied by the son, A. D. Whitney. Alloway Whitney died at Highgate Springs, where he had gone for his health, September 4, 1889, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was a worthy member and officer in the Methodist church at East Franklin.

Adolphus D., the only living son, married Maria M., daughter of George Colcord, of Berkshire, October 20, 1876. They have three boys, Harlow A., born November 17, 1877; Charles, August 1, 1879, Joseph H., January 30, 1889. The mother lives with her children here.

Sarah L., the oldest daughter, was married to Sanford Armstrong, November 27, 1877. They live on the farm formerly owned by Alloway Whitney. They have one child, Edith, born June 28, 1885.

Betsey E., the youngest daughter, was married to Carlos Emery, of Sheldon, April 2, 1889. He manages the J. G. Emery farm, at the South Franklin railroad station.

Family of Alvin S. and Diana (Dewing) Chase.

Diana, fifth daughter of Dolphus and Elizabeth Dewing, was married to Alvin S. Chase, March 4, 1854. He was the son of Rev. Peter Chase, one of the early settlers in this part of the town, who was well educated, an intelligent farmer, and represented the town in the Legislature in 1845. These children were born to them: Ella, September 16, 1855; Alvin S., August 23, 1857, and Henry D., August 19, 1859. The last died January 5, 1860. At this time they were living on a farm in East Richford. Here Diana died, September 28, 1862, aged thirty-two years, leaving a lonely family to mourn the early death of the wife and mother.

Mr. Chase married for his second wife Emily Wright, of Richford, March 8, 1863, and soon after purchased a farm near the village of Richford, where they lived a considerable number of years. He represented the town of Richford in the Legislature in 1870, and is an active worker in the Methodist church.

His daughter, Ella, was married to J. C. Conners, November 4, 1873. He will be remembered by some as the first conductor on the Missisquoi railroad. His present business is farming. Has a farm of one hundred acres, near the village of Richford. Their

children are James S., born August 19, 1876; George S., July 12, 1878; and Diana L., December 3, 1886.

The son, Alvin S., married Nellie Thayer, of Berkshire, January 18, 1881. They live on a farm of one hundred and ninety acres, near the village of Richford, and have the following children: Ira P., born October 15, 1881; Edward T., April 15, 1884; James S., March 23, 1886, and I. Gardner, May 18, 1890.

Family of Janes E. and Caroline M.

(Dewing) Wilder.

Caroline M., sixth and youngest daughter of Dolphus and Elizabeth Dewing, was married to Janes E. Wilder, of Sheldon, March 4th, 1858. He was a son of Capt. Ransom E. Wilder, and at first purchased the Eli Noble farm, opposite the one belonging to his father, about two miles from Enosburgh Falls. Later the home farm was added. Their children were born here, Edna M., March 14, 1859; Ransom E., December 7, 1860; died October 18, 1863; Diana E., born December 27, 1862; Daniel D., August 27, 1884; died May 8, 1865; Sarah, August 11, 1866; J. Edson, July 11, 1888; Allen D., October 15, 1871; Carrie M., August 31, 1874; Nellie E., February 10, 1877.

They sold here and purchased two hundred and sixty acres of the farm formerly belonging to the Hon. J. H. Hubbard, about one mile north from the

village of Franklin Center. This exchange was made in 1879. The farm is one of the oldest and best in the town.

Edna M. was married to Charles Morgan, son of Rev. R. Morgan, Presiding Elder of Springfield District, Vermont Conference, October 18, 1887. He owns and runs the grist mill near the residence of Mr. Wilder. They have two children, Mabel A., born April 10, 1880, and Bessie L., May 24, 1882.

Diana E. was married to Eugene Butler, September 15, 1885. They live on a farm just north of the Center village. They have only one child, Dow H., born August 28, 1886.

Sarah A. was married to Arlan D. Horskin, February 3, 1887. He is the son and only child of the late Hon. Philo Horskin, one of Franklin's most trusted citizens. They live on the home farm, an excellent one of one hundred and fifty acres, adjoining that of J. E. Wilder on the north. Mr. Horskin has for several years been Town Overseer of the poor and director of the Poor House Association, succeeding to the office at the death of his father. He is also an acting Justice of the Peace. They have two children, Howard W., born January 16, 1888, and Dorothy, February 19, 1891.

J. Edson, the oldest son, married Lulu L., daughter of Dr. R. E. Welch, August 25, 1889, and are with his father, on the farm, as are also the remaining unmarried children.

THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

— OF —

Joseph and Sarah (Towle) Yaw.

Sarah, third daughter of Reuben and Sarah Towle, was married to Joseph Yaw, some time in the year 1816, the exact date not being known. His father came to this country from Holland. He lived in Clarendon previous to 1806, as his son, Joseph, came to this town during that year. He purchased a tract of land adjoining the farm of Reuben Towle on the west, previous to his marriage. He worked on this during the day and at his trade of shoemaker evenings.

They had the following children; Mary, born November 16, 1816; Charles B., October 30, 1818; Elvira, December 5, 1820; Reuben, June 22, 1822; died March 14, 1825; Joseph, born September 25, 1825.

But the husband and father was not destined to remain long with his young family. While at work in the woods, chopping, a falling tree struck him, causing his death the following day, which occurred January 2, 1825. He was the first person buried in the neighborhood cemetery. This was a sad stroke for the widow with her family of little children. During this eventful year occurred first the death of the husband, then one of the children, and afterward

the birth of the youngest child, Joseph, who is now the only one living of the family. The widow managed, with the assistance of her father's family, to keep the farm and home until the oldest boy, Charles, was able to care for it.

The Family of Charles and Climena Yaw.

Charles B. Yaw married Climena, daughter of Thomas Emery, of Sheldon, June 14, 1840. Their children were Betsey A., born September 4, 1841; Marion E., June 14, 1843, and William Hanson, October 1, 1848.

Charles sold his interest in the farm to his brother, Joseph, in 1852, and purchased the Jasper Chaffee farm, a half mile east from the village of West Berkshire. In 1855 he sold the east half of this farm to his brother, Joseph, and about 1870 the part he occupied to W. E. Yaw.

Being an excellent mechanic, he worked at that trade most of the time during the remainder of his life. While living in Berkshire he was an active member of the official board of the Methodist church, and was entrusted with town affairs. He died at Enosburgh Falls, November 14th, 1878, aged about sixty years. His wife, Climena, died November 15th, 1882, in the sixty-fourth year of her age.

Betsey A., oldest daughter of C. B. and Climena Yaw, was married to George G. Pratt, of Berkshire, August 7th, 1859. For a while they lived on the home farm, and here, Caroline S. was born, September 4th, 1861, and Charles A., January 19th, 1869.

In 1871, the Charles Peckham farm, about one mile east of the village of Franklin Center, was purchased, and is where the family now reside. Betsey A. Pratt died very suddenly, of heart disease, at Newport, February 7th, 1891, in the fiftieth year of her age.

The daughter, Caroline S., was married to Harley S. Titemore, July 10th, 1878. They live on a farm in the west part of the town. Their only child, Harland, was born December 30th, 1890.

Charles A. Pratt married Maud A., daughter of the late Zackery T. Russell, July 28th, 1891. They live with his father, on the farm.

Marion E., second daughter, was married to Charles S. Johnson, of Berkshire, January 18th, 1863. They purchased and lived on a farm in Newport. Here their only child, Linnie M., was born, August 23rd, 1869. A sad affliction came to this family, in the death of both mother and child, in one day, March 19th, 1870. Both were placed in the same coffin and grave.

William H. Yaw, or "Hanson," as he is called, married Ella C., daughter of William Armstrong, of Berkshire, November 24th, 1870. Of their children, Myron B. was born June 28th, 1871; Jennie M., November 30th, 1877; Charles E., February 1st, 1879; died March 7th, 1879; Wilbur H., born October 18th, 1880; died April 22nd, 1891, aged ten years and six months. Wilbur was a good little boy and had been taken into the church only a little time before his death. "Of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

In 1879, Hanson bought the old Dr. Searles farm, north of the village of West Berkshire, but which he now rents.

November 1st, 1890, he was appointed Deputy Collector of Customs for the Port of Berkshire, with office at West Berkshire. He has been entrusted with town offices, and is an active worker in the church.

Their two surviving children are attending the Methodist Seminary at Montpelier, and from which they will graduate in due time.

The Family of Joseph and Mary A. Yaw.

Joseph Yaw, Jr., married Mary A. Bowman, February 15th, 1848. He lived on the farm where his father first settled. The following children were born here: Winslow E., June 10th, 1850; Linda E., December 19th, 1853; died January 8th, 1854. In 1855, he sold this farm and removed to Berkshire, purchasing one-half of his brother's farm, and where he now lives. Here, Reuben was born, December 17th, 1857; died February 19th, 1858; Elmer S., born April 16th, 1861; died January 16th, 1863; Ada I., born October 9th, 1862.

He has been entrusted with various town offices, and was elected Representative in 1886. The church, recognizing his good judgment and excellent financial ability, has kept him long upon the official board.

His mother, who had continued to live with him, died, after a long life of usefulness, greatly beloved and respected by all, August 15th, 1875, in the eighty-first year of her age.

Winslow E., the only surviving son, married Betsey E., daughter of Ai Pearson, of Berkshire, September 12th, 1870. About this time he purchased the farm of his uncle, C. B. Yaw. Their only child, Bessie E., was born August 14th, 1872.

With everything around him to contribute to his welfare, he was permitted only a little time to enjoy his pleasant home and surroundings, dying January 14th, 1875, in the twenty-sixth year of his age.

Their daughter, Bessie E., was married to Adelbert O. Bowen, of Berkshire, December 29th, 1891, and now lives on the farm where she was born.

Ada I., only surviving child of Joseph and Mary A. Yaw, was married to Dwight E. Weld, of West Berkshire, September 20th, 1881. They live with her parents on the farm. They have two children, Flora G., born July 24th, 1888, and Lucy M., December 13th, 1889.

*The Family of Sylvanus, John D. and Mary
(Yaw) Russell.*

Mary, oldest daughter of Joseph and Sarah Yaw, was married to Sylvanus Russell, April 16th, 1840. He, and his father before him, lived on what is known as the Russell farm, on the east shore of Franklin Pond. Here these children were born: Alzina A., April 2nd, 1841; Laura A., February 1st, 1843; and Orlando S., April 18th, 1847. Sylvanus died at the early age of thirty years, September 26th, 1847.

The widow, Mary, was married the second time to John D. Russell, brother of Sylvanus, November 16th, 1848.

He had previously spent a considerable number of years at the west, and came back just in time to take his brother's place in the family. The children from this marriage were, Zackery T., born December 2nd, 1849; Caroline M., June 6th, 1852; Elvira and Pelmira, twins, May 23rd, 1856. Two years previously this farm had been sold and the one known as the Isaac Warner place, two and one-half miles west of Franklin Center, purchased. Here the two last children were born. They were thrifty and good managers and became possessed of a fine farm and home, caring for a large family. The wife died December 30th, 1888, aged seventy-two years, and the husband and father is living at this time, at a good old age.

Alzina A., the oldest child, was married to Addison Cheeney, son of J. H. Cheeney, July 20th, 1868. They lived on a farm in Westfield, where their children were born: Morton S., May 14th, 1871, and Blanch F., March 17th, 1873. Alzina A. died at the home of her parents, in Franklin, January 7th, 1876, aged thirty-four years. The children are living in Morristown.

Laura A., second daughter of S. and M. Russell, was married to Phillip R. Yates, of St. Armand, P. Q., March 23rd, 1866. Their children are Delos W., born December 9th, 1866; Mina A., May 21st, 1869, and Inez L., May 21st, 1871. Laura is at present with her father.

Delos P. married Mabel Averill, October 16th, 1891. Is on the place known as the old Cheeney farm, near J. D. Russell's.

Orlando S., only son of S. and M. Russell, married Anna J. Proper, February 27th, 1868. Owns a farm of one hundred and forty acres, about one mile south-west from the home place. Their children are Ruby L., born April 30th, 1869; Avis A., December 3rd, 1873, and Zackery E., July 5th, 1881.

Their oldest daughter, Ruby L., was married to George L. Morse, of Swanton, May 7th, 1890. Their child, Belle C., was born March 20th, 1891. Is at present employed in a store, in Milton.

Caroline M., oldest daughter of J. D. and Mary Russell, was married June 12th, 1872, to Reuben Armstrong, of Berkshire. Has a farm of an hundred acres. There have been born to them: Carrie M., February 12th, 1882; Orville J., May 31st, 1886, and Frances M., December 12th, 1889.

Zackery E., only son of J. D. and Mary Russell, married Orrisa E. Safford, August 2nd, 1871. Their children are Maude A., born December 16th, 1872, and John C., May 21st, 1875. Zackery lived on the farm with his father, who hoped to lean on him as a support in his declining years, but in this he was disappointed, for he died February 19th, 1880, at the early age of thirty years.

Their daughter, Maude A., was married to Charles A. Pratt, July 28th, 1891.

Pelmira married John H. Pierce, a native of the State of Maine, September 23rd, 1874. They live near J. D. Russell's, where he has a small farm and deals in produce. Of their children, Albridge L. was born December 20th, 1879 and Nellie L., March 18th, 1883. Mr. Pierce has been entrusted with various town offices.

Elvira, was married to Alonzo B. Seward, of Highgate, June 4th, 1878. Their children are Phebe M., born November 26th, 1879, and Roy D., June 11th, 1888. Is a farmer, and also in the employ of the St. Albans Creamery Co.

The Family of Edward and Elvira T. (Yaw) Whitney.

Elvira T., second daughter of Joseph and Sarah Yaw, was married to Edward Whitney, December 12th, 1839. They lived on the west part of the Yaw farm. He was a shoemaker and cooper, and followed these occupations while living here. These children were born to them: Marcella J., January 23rd, 1841; Cordelia C., September 24th, 1842; Hannibal H., December, 1844; and Edward Charles, February 29th, 1852.

Elvira T., wife of E. C. Whitney, died July 10th, 1854, in the thirty-fifth year of her age.

He married again and soon after went to Jericho to live. During the last war he enlisted in Co. E, second Regiment U. S. sharpshooters, October 30th, 1861. Re-enlisted in Co. F, 17th Vt. regiment of volunteers, March 1st, 1864, and was discharged July 14th, 1865, at close of the war.

His son, Hannibal H., enlisted in the 10th regiment Vt. volunteers, Co. F, September 1, 1862, and served during the remainder of the war. He is now living in Worcester, Mass., and the other son, Edward C., in Illinois.

Marcella J., oldest daughter of E. C. and E. T. Whitney, was married to Ezra J. Chaffee, of Berkshire, October 19th, 1859. For twenty-two years they have lived in the town of Albany, where they have a farm of four hundred and fifty acres. Their children are Emma J., born in Berkshire, August 26th, 1860, and Carl B., in Albany, December 3rd, 1871.

The daughter, Emma J., was married to Frank P. Gates, of Newport, June 4th, 1878. These are their children: Lena M., born April 19th, 1879; Jennie M., March 11th, 1881; and Dora E., January 6th, 1883. Mr. Gates is engaged in the marble and granite monumental business, in Newport.

Cordelia C., second daughter of E. C. and E. T. Whitney, was married to Orloff H., son of the late Judge John K. Whitney, February 6th, 1862. Shortly after his marriage, at the commencement of the last war, he enlisted with the Ransom Guards, of St. Albans, at the first call for three-months men. Succeeding this he enlisted with the nine-months men, in the fall of 1862, as Adjutant. In March, 1863, was made Captain of Co. H, 13th Vt. regiment. Was afterward taken sick and died June 2nd, 1863, in hospital at Alexandria, Virginia, at the early age of twenty-four years.

Their only child, Helen H., was born January 23rd, 1863.

Mrs. O. H. Whitney lived for twelve years in Burlington, where her daughter graduated from the High School in 1881; also was a graduate of a French school at Broxton, P. Q., and is proficient in vocal and instrumental music.

January 22nd, 1890, she was united in marriage to Olin Merrill, of Enosburgh Falls. He is the son of Rev. P. Merrill, of the Vermont Conference, and graduated at the Montpelier Seminary in the class of 1873. For awhile he was employed in railroad business at Enosburgh Falls, and in 1879 went into partnership with the Dr. B. J. Kendall Spavin Cure Co., of which he is manager and treasurer. He is one of the rising young men of the county and state, with flattering prospects ahead. For ten years he has been a member of the State Republican Committee; in 1878, 1880 and 82, was Assistant Clerk of the House, and represented his town in the Legislature of 1890. He has erected a fine mansion on Orchard street, and taken up his residence therein. Mrs. O. H. Whitney lives with her daughter.



THE FAMILY AND DESCENDANTS

— OF —

William A. and Dorothy (Towle) Pearson.

Dorothy, youngest daughter of Reuben and Sarah Towle, was married to William A. Pearson, November 20th, 1823. He was a son of Dr. Enos Pearson, one of the first settlers and physicians in this part of the town. They at once settled on the farm still in possession of the family.

The following children were born to them: Betsey A., August 29th, 1824; Sarah T., November 10th, 1826; Oliver, June 6th, 1829; Theophilus Towle, February 23rd, 1832; Mary K., December 12th, 1836.

Betsey A. died April 20th, 1841, in the 17th year of her age.

This family was very pleasantly situated and lived happily together until death came suddenly, and the husband and father was called away while on a visit to his daughter, July 18th, 1862, when in the sixty-third year of his age.

His wife lived with her sons, on the farm, until May 6th, 1876, when she departed in peace to join the great family above, in the seventy-ninth year of her age.

They were pleasant, social people, and all have a grateful memory for "Uncle William and Aunt Dolly." They were long time members of the Methodist church in South Franklin.

The Family of Theophilus and Harriet E. Pearson.

Theophilus Towle, the youngest son, married Harriet Ellen, daughter of Capt. Bartholomew Whitney, February 5th, 1855. He succeeded to the farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres where his father commenced before him, and his brother, Oliver, who is unmarried, is with him.

Their children are Phebe A., born November 24th, 1856; Emma M., July 24th, 1859; William A., October 23rd, 1865, and Luna B., November 27th, 1870.

Phebe A., the oldest daughter, was married to Harvey R. Olmstead, October 25th, 1876. They live upon the farm with his father, two miles to the west of the village of East Franklin. This farm contains three hundred and fifty acres. They have two children, Marion P., born August 2nd, 1876, and Ernest W., May 22nd, 1883.

Emma M., second daughter, was married to Gardner F. Olmstead, September 15th, 1880. These are their children: Ralph P., born June 9th, 1884, and Ruby M., November 22nd, 1886. He is at present employed in a store at Franklin Center. The son and youngest daughter are still at home on the farm.

*The Family of Bartholomew and Sarah T.
(Pearson) Whitney.*

Sarah T., the only daughter now living, was united in marriage to Bartholomew Whitney, November 3rd, 1847. At first they lived on farms adjoining that of

his father, a short distance north from East Franklin, and here the following children were born: William Arnold, March 4th, 1849; Florence E., April 11th, 1852; Herbert E., July 8th, 1854; Dorothy M., May 25th, 1856; Stephen B., November 25th, 1860.

In 1865, sold this farm and purchased the one in South Franklin, previously owned by Henry Bowman. The farm contains two hundred and fifty-seven acres. Here their youngest child, Minnie G., was born, June 2nd, 1866. Mr. Whitney has held the principal offices in town, and was elected Representative to the Legislature in 1880. He has also been entrusted with important offices in the Methodist church.

The youngest son, Stephen B., married Adaline P., daughter of James Chaffee, of West Berkshire, April 11th, 1883. He is with his father on the farm, and is the present superintendent of the Sabbath school at East Franklin. They have two children, Cora L., born January 10th, 1885, and Bernice E., November 31st, 1887.

Wm. Arnold, the oldest son, married Alma, daughter of M. C. Hurlbert, of Sheldon, May 15th, 1872. Of their children, Edward O. was born in Sheldon, July 6th, 1873; Ellen G., September 29th, 1874; Morton H., July 21st, 1876; Wayland A., February 11th, 1879.

About this time they removed to the south part of Bakersfield. Here Hurlbert E. was born, June 5th, 1881. Edward O. and Wayland A. both died of malarial fever on the same day, November 18th, 1885. After this, purchased the farm where they now live, about two miles south from the village of Bakersfield. Here Wilner C. was born, August 5th, 1887, and F.

Bell, December 9th, 1888. Excellent educational advantages are enjoyed in this town, owing to the beneficence of former residents, making it a desirable town in which to locate, on this account. Mr. Whitney has an excellent farm, enjoys the confidence of his fellow townsmen, and is entrusted with important affairs.

Herbert E., second son, married Ida M., daughter of S. A. Stowe, of West Berkshire, May 16th, 1877. Their children are Orville H., born September 22nd, 1878; Sarah H., November 14th, 1881, and Herman B., July 17th, 1885. He has followed farming most of the time, but is now in the employ of the Franklin County Creamery Association, at East Franklin, where he lives.

Florence E., the oldest daughter, was married to Hannibal G. Spaulding, January 5th, 1871. They lived until the fall of 1891 on the farm previously owned by his father, James Spaulding, in the south part of the town, two and a half miles from the Center. Their children were born here: Hannah S., June 22nd, 1871; Mary B., December 14th, 1873; Glenna M., May 5th, 1875; Bertha A., December 14th, 1883; Marion E., February 13th, 1891—A fine row of girls, certainly.

In the fall of 1891 he took possession of the Portland House, Sheldon, and he is conducting the same.

Their oldest, Hannah S., was married to Ira F. Doolin, October 28th, 1891. They live near East Franklin, where he is engaged in trade.

Dorathy M., second daughter, was married to Heman E. Elrick, May 31st, 1876. They own and occupy a part of the home farm in the north part of

the town, containing some one hundred and fifty acres. These are their children: Vernal L., born May 24th, 1877; Gertrude M., March 14th, 1879; Henry A., January 9th, 1882; Edith N., August 24th, 1884; Charles A., April 5th, 1888; Harold A., March 16th 1891. Gertrude M., died April 20th, 1882.

Minnie G., youngest daughter, was married to Edwin Chamberlain, March 28th, 1889. She had previously been a successful school teacher, having taught fifteen terms. They live on one of the farms belonging to his grandfather, Rev. Edwin Prouty, two miles west of East Franklin.

Mary K., youngest daughter of Wm. A. and Dorothy Pearson, was united in marriage to Geo. Oscar Whitcomb, of Highgate, May 30th, 1861. He was a painter by trade. Their only child, Ellen O., was born November 2nd, 1862.

During the last war Geo. O. Whitcomb enlisted, some time in 1863, in Co. K, 13th Vt. regiment, and was killed in the battle of Cold Harbor, Virginia, June 3rd, 1864. This was while the Union forces were on the retreat from the Wilderness. His last letter was written on the battlefield, and on the 27th day of the march from the Wilderness.

He was an only child, and the young widow remained with the bereaved parents until their death, when she took up her residence with her brother at the old home, but it was not for long, as she died February 20th, 1879, in the forty-fourth year of her age.

The daughter, Ellen O., has a home with her uncle, T. T. Pearson.

An Historical Sketch

— OF THE —

Methodist Church in South Franklin, Vt.

Read at the dedication of the new church, Wednesday,
December 22nd, 1886.

BY EDWIN R. TOWLE.

Very early in the present century, a small Methodist class was formed on the east side of the pond in Franklin, a little to the north of here, with Salmon Warner as leader. But little is known as to its existence, as it had only a short duration, and all, or nearly all, of its members emigrated to the West.

About 1821, a considerable number of families of our own immediate ancestors, having settled in this neighborhood and immediate vicinity, realizing the value and importance of maintaining religious worship, a Methodist class was formed with six members, namely: Theophilus and Deborah Towle, Jonathan Towle, Ann R. Colcord, Sally Marsh and Simeon Welch. The latter was the leader. One, Sally Marsh, now the widow of Sylvester Chadwick, of East Swanton, is still living, the sole survivor of that little class formed sixty-five years ago, in the then almost wilderness country. The first place where public worship was held was in a log school house, located on the brow of the hill just south of Bro. John Colcord's. At first, there was no stated preaching, only now and then a clergyman finding it

in his way to hold divine service here. Prayer meetings, however, continued to be held and much religious interest prevailed, resulting in the conversion of the people and additions to the class.

This territory was then embraced in a large Methodist circuit, extending from Waterbury in the south, away into Canada on the north, and occasionally one of the ministers on his rounds would preach here. I have heard it stated that it was difficult getting one of them often enough to baptize and take the new converts into the church.

Some of those early circuit preachers were the Reverends Doane, Dewey, Mathais and Hill, Hiram and Silas Meeker, then both exhorters, from Sheldon Hill (now East Sheldon); an early stronghold of Methodism, the first of whom became presiding elder of the St. Albans District, used to come and hold meetings with the people here. Sometimes a delegation of men and women would go on foot over to Sheldon Hill, crossing the river in a boat or on a raft, a distance of some four miles, to attend religious worship. Very precious seasons those must have been, when, from their scattered localities, the people came together for worship, and a quarterly meeting, perhaps held in a barn, was an event of great interest, generally resulting in a glorious revival and further additions to the church.

In 1825 this class was embraced within the limits of the Sheldon circuit, when, for the first time, there was regular preaching, which has been maintained ever since—that is, once in two weeks. The alternate Sabbath, prayer meetings were held, and class meetings followed the preaching service.

For a considerable number of years previous to 1840, the meetings were held alternately between this place and the school house north of here.

Previous to the building of the church in West Berkshire, nearly forty years ago, the limits of the society extended north to Samuel Stanley's, about a mile farther than now. There were eighty members belonging to the class at this time, but after the building of the church at West Berkshire, a part went there, and some moved away, so that by 1860 there were only thirty-five members. In 1870, the number had increased to sixty-four, and there is the same number at the present time.

This class, during its existence, has belonged to several circuits or charges: first to Sheldon, next to Montgomery, then to Berkshire, afterward to Franklin and at present to West Berkshire and East Franklin.

No other place of public worship than a school house has been used, and four different ones have thus been occupied here. Previous to the building of the last one, for a long time the week-day evening prayer meetings were held at the private houses. Many precious seasons of revival have been witnessed and enjoyed since the formation of that little class in the old log school house, when the hearts of the faithful ones were made glad by the ingathering of the dear ones into the fold of the Redeemer. None perhaps exceeded in interest and results the one immediately following the erection of the last school house, eighteen years ago. That was indeed a time long to be remembered, and we are enjoying the blessed fruits of that revival now, and I trust its influence will be felt for a long time to come.

A part of the time previous to 1868, Sunday school would be held during the summer season, but would be discontinued as cold weather approached. Somehow the people did not seem to consider that a school could be continued successfully through the winter, or that the older ones of the congregation should take an active part in it. Seventeen years ago last spring a school was organized and has continued in successful operation ever since. Nearly all of the congregation belongs to the school and it is considered an important means of grace.

During all of this time, until the present conference year, the programme has been Sunday school and preaching one Sabbath, and the school and class meeting the next.

Since the first class was formed, sixty-five years ago, the following brethren have been its leaders; Simeon Welch, Theophilus Towle, Henry Bowman, Jonathan Towle, Alanson Taylor, John Colcord, Edwin R. Towle and William J. Towle.

Following is a list of the clergymen who have preached here during the last fifty-four years, or since 1832. Revs. Messrs. Marvin, Styles, Sanford, Leanord, Hand, Jones, Haslam, Richards, McKillips, Kirby, Isbell, Barnes M. and Aaron Hall, Atwater, Dunn, Fisk, Simmons, Sage, Gregg, White, Rose, Cutler, Cook, Eaton, McKenzie, Whitney, Brown, Rodgers, Green, Champlin, Cox, Edwin and Cortes Kimball, Arnold, Elkins, Mott, Honsinger, Titus, Malcolm, Truax, Webster, Lewis, Underwood, Donelson, Puffer, Hyde and Bell, forty-seven in all. During some of this time two and even three would be stationed on the circuit together, the territory em-

braced within its limits being so large. A goodly number of the pastors are, and have been presiding elders on this and other districts in the conference.

The following are mentioned; Barnes M. Hall, Bennett Eaton, D. B. McKenzie, Z. H. Brown, W. D. Malcom, A. B. Truax, S. Donelson and W. R. Puffer.

For a long time the feeling has been becoming apparent that there should be a more suitable place of worship here. The people have aided to some extent in the building of churches in other places, but have been content to worship in a school house themselves; but a little more than a year ago Providence seemed to have prepared the way for the building of a church here. The long time waited for had evidently come, and the people, so considering it, went to work to accomplish what they believed to be the will of God in these matters, and which was certainly in accordance with their own desires. Truly the blessing of the great Head of the church has rested upon this undertaking, as from the first it has gone on smoothly, uninterruptedly and to a successful completion. What the people expected and hoped to be able to do, was to build a plain, substantial and durable edifice, a house that would be respectable, convenient and comfortable, and they expected to do this principally from their own resources. To this end the brethren and friends have worked nobly, cheerfully and well; giving freely for the purpose, it being the earnest desire of all that the house should be dedicated to the worship of God free from debt. This has been accomplished, but it would indeed have been in a great measure a plain and unfurnished structure,

although most substantially built, if it had not been for the singular liberality of friends outside our congregation, who, largely without solicitation, have come to our aid and accomplished for us what we could not have done for ourselves, at least for the present, in completing and furnishing this house in the tasty and beautiful manner in which we behold it to-day.

Truly it may be said the bread cast upon the waters in the past has come back again and in increased measure. That we appreciate this unusual liberality no one can doubt, and it is our desire and prayer that these kind friends may receive an hundred fold here, and in the world to come, eternal life. All who have so kindly aided in this work, either in word or deed, would we remember with grateful hearts, but I think that justice demands, on our part, a kindly recognition of the unwearied, unremitting and faithful labors of the chairman of the building committee, on whom has devolved so largely the responsibility of superintending the construction of the edifice, and which, with much satisfaction and thankfulness, we are permitted to behold so fully completed to-day.

The generation to which I belong, and who must soon pass off the stage of active life, and to whom the success of the cause of God is the one great desire and object of their lives, consider this house as suitable a monument as they could leave to the generations following, showing their love, fidelity and faithfulness to the cause that was committed to their charge by the fathers, who in establishing for themselves homes in a new country, sought to build up the peaceful and enduring kingdom of Jesus Christ.

It is their desire and prayer that this house, with all of the hallowed associations that may cluster around it, shall be a strong bond of union that shall unite the hearts and lives of this people still more closely in Christian fellowship and love, and as one by one these older ones shall pass over the river, and the bell above us shall tell the tale of their years, the coming generations, two of which are represented here to-day, may step in and fill the vacant places, and so God's cause continue to be sustained, upheld and prospered, away along down the years of the future.

It is our prayer that God's protection may ever rest upon this house, that its spire shall continue to point heavenward, its bell to call the people to prayer and praise, and that here, at this consecrated altar, many, very many dear ones shall seek and find Him Who truly is the chiefest among ten thousand and the one altogether lovely, and that finally, when we shall get through with our worship here in earthly temples, we may be permitted, through the grace and mercy of Jesus, to go up and join the great company who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, in that building of God, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Additional History.

There have been of ministers on this charge since the last mentioned in the above list, William C. Robinson, Geo. L. Story, and C. Wedgeworth, who is the present pastor.

The class now has seventy members, the largest number since the building of the church at West Berkshire, nearly half a century ago, when some of this class were transferred to that place. W. J. Towle is the leader, with W. H. Towle, assistant. The same order of Sunday services as mentioned above are continued. A good degree of spiritual interest prevails, and fourteen have been taken into full membership during the past year.

The Sabbath school is in a flourishing condition and numbers seventy-three in all. It may be said that practically all of the congregation belong to the school. George M. Towle is the present superintendent.

The following brethren from this place belong to the Board of Stewards for the Charge: Reuben Towle, E. R. Towle, who is also recording steward, M. L. Kendall and C. A. Welch.

There is a flourishing auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in this place, which has been in existence for eleven years. It now numbers twenty-four members. Monthly meetings are held, and the interest in this important branch of missionary work is heartily sustained.

The present officers are: Mrs. John Colcord, president; Mrs. W. J. Towle, vice-president, and Mrs. Reuben Towle, secretary and treasurer.

Conclusion.

The work of gathering up the material contained in this little volume is completed. It has been attended with a melancholy pleasure, if such it may be termed. Much of it is a record of the past, with which the writer has been conversant, and the names and incidents appear strangely familiar. Along with the statistics, which alone might appear uninteresting to some, although of the greatest value, it has been the endeavor to intersperse such facts and incidents as should be of interest to all.

To those of my generation the past is, as it were, an open book, and these records will only serve to intensify and brighten the history already engraven on memory's page.

To the generations before us there will be much that is new, and it is to be hoped that this brief sketch of their ancestors, who they were, where and how they lived, and their participation in the history of the families here delineated, a veneration and respect for the past and hopefulness for the future will be produced, such as shall be both inspiring and helpful.

Two generations are in the past, of the third, to which the writer belongs, more than one-half are already gone, and two are before us. With a hopeful look ahead and a fervent prayer that these descendants of worthy ancestors shall ever cherish the most kindly and grateful memory for the past, and prove themselves indeed true scions of venerated stock, this little narrative comes to an

END.

