

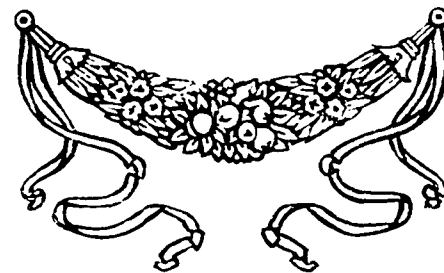
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***The* RUMFORD FALLS
TIMES**

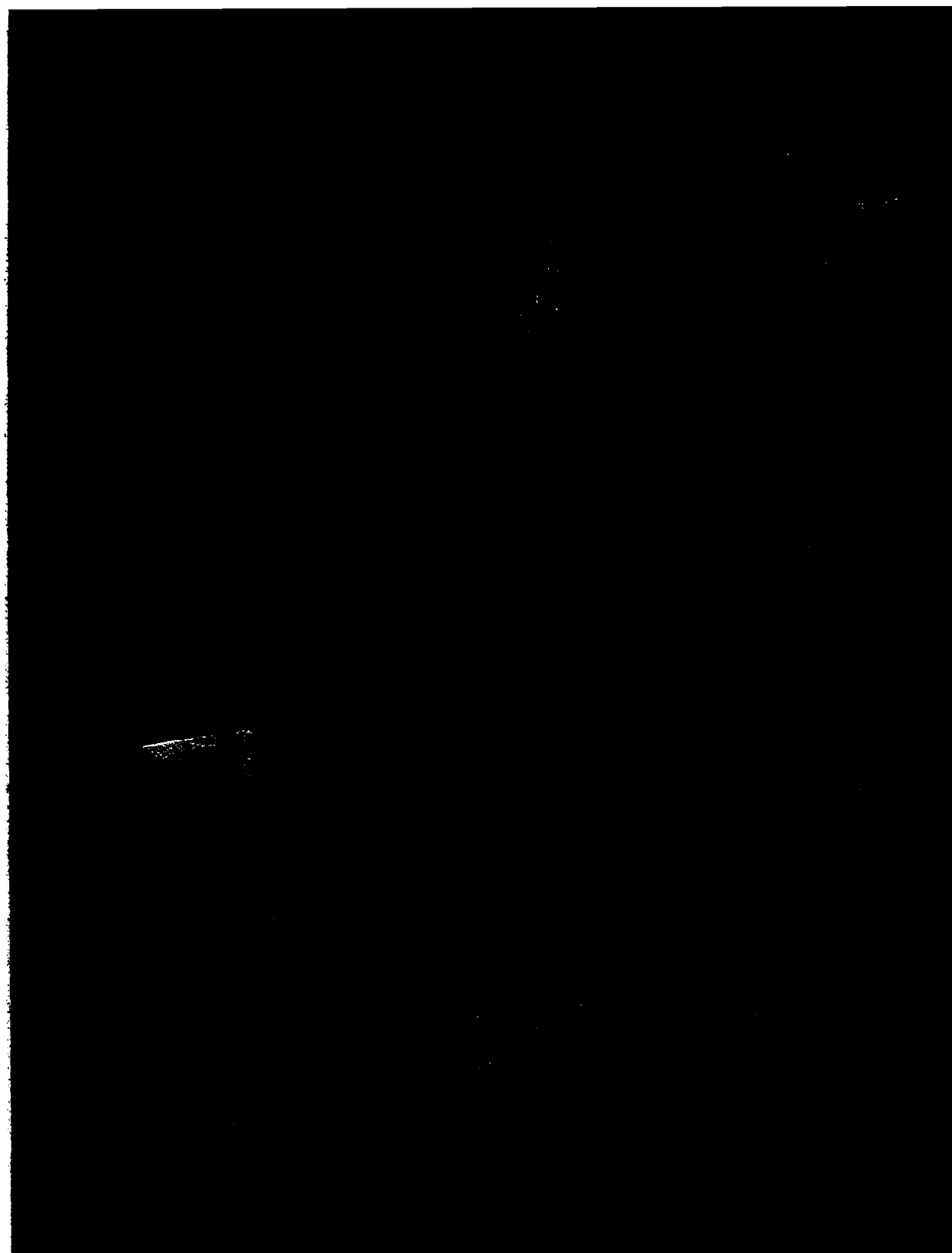
***History of Andover, MainePurchase of the
Township and Distribution of
the Land.***

Supplement of AUGUST 13, 1904



Dedicated to town of Andover, Maine in honor of their Centennial

Mr. Henry V. Poor, son of Silvanus Poor, one of the early settlers of Andover, was born Dec. 8, 1812. After spending his early days on his father's farm, he entered Bowdoin College in 1831, graduating in 1835. After the usual course of study, he entered upon the practice of law in Bangor, Maine, continuing in it till 1848, when he moved to the city of New York, for the purpose of conducting the Railroad Journal, which he had purchased. He continued its publication until after the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion. In 1858 he published a history of the Railroads of the United States. In 1859 he published a work reviewing the Monetary Systems of the world, as well as that of the United States. In 1861, after the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, he published a statement of the resources of the two sections of the country, North and South, for carrying on the war, showing that the substantial strength lay wholly with the North. The first edition of



this work was taken by the National Government for general distribution. In 1867 Mr. Poor began the annual publication of a work entitled, "Manual of the Railroads of the United States," which the world over is an authority upon the subject to which it relates. It is a work which now contains 1400 pages in a single volume. Mr. Poor has also published several works upon the monetary situation in the United States, ceasing the use of his pen only after the gold standard was firmly established. In 1841 Mr. Poor married Mary W. daughter of Rev. John Pierce D. D. of Brookline, Mass., which town has been his home since 1865. For the past fourteen years, his summer home has been in Andover, he having purchased several years ago an estate which was that of his grandfather, Ezekiel Merrill, the first settler who came to the town in 1789, the year that the government of the United States was formed. Upon the estate Mr. Poor has made many improvements.

MR. HENRY V. POOR—Age 92

Historian of the Andover Centennial — Descendent of an Early Settler.

HISTORY OF ANDOVER, MAINE.

Purchase of the Township and Distribution of the Land



ONE HUNDRED years ago the "District" of Maine, then a part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was the great field to which the latter sent out colonies, the "District" being then to that state what the West subsequently became to the whole country. When an emigration was proposed it was the custom, as with Hebrews of old, to send forth trusty men "to spy out the land." In imitation, a body of citizens, mostly of the parish of North Andover, Massachusetts, proposing to better, or change, their condition, sent forth in 1787 two of their number, Col. Thomas Poor, who as an officer had served with distinction in the War of the Revolution, and against the French in Canada; and Enoch Adams, in both of whom great confidence was justly reposed, to find for them a territory in which to establish themselves and their families. The explorers as they were to examine a vast wilderness, went on foot. After examining many parts of the "District," going as far east as what is now the city of Belfast, they made up their minds to recommend to their associates the purchase of a tract of land in what was afterwards the town of Livermore, in the county of Oxford. On their way home through "Sudbury Canada," now Bethel, a township granted to the people of Sudbury, Massachusetts, in compensation for the services of her soldiers in Canada against the French, they met "Col." John York, his military title being probably a soubriquet given him on account of his enterprising and adventurous character. He had been a great hunter, and had a wide knowledge of all the lands in the western part of Maine. He advised them, before making a final decision, to visit lands now included in the town of Andover, giving a glowing account of its broad "intervalles," which were most attractive to settlers from their fertility and the ease with which they could be cleared and cultivated. These broad intervalles are still the great feature of the town, and with the mountains which enclose them, attract annually great numbers of people from a distance to see and admire them. Under the guidance of Col. York, the explorers turned back and were so charmed with what they saw that they at once determined to recommend

to their associates the purchase of the township which included such highly praised lands.

A contract for the purchase of the township having been made, the parties interested therein entered into a compact or agreement for the management and disposition of the same, as follows:—

"Know all people whom it may concern that we, Thomas Poor of Methuen, Jonathan Abbot, Benj. Poor, Ebenezer Poor, Enoch Adams, Ingalls Bragg, Theodore Stevens, Samuel Farnum, Philip Abbott, Samuel Johnson, Abiel Lovejoy, and Eben Poor, Jr., all of Andover in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Joseph Frye of Fryeburg, John York, Isaac York, Ezekiel Merrill and Josiah Bean, all of Sudbury Canada, (now Bethel,) in the county of York and Commonwealth aforesaid, adventurers, partners or proprietors of a certain township or tract of land lying on Ellis River in the County of York or Cumberland, and Commonwealth aforesaid, comprehended in a parallelogram of eight miles long and six miles wide; have, for certain good reasons and considerations, and do by these presents mutually agree, acknowledge and assent to and with each other, each person for himself respectively, that he is immediately interested in said township in the proportion following, respectively annexed to his name (viz); the said Thomas Poor, Jonathan Abbott, Benj. Poor, Ezekiel Merrill, John York, Isaac York, Jos Frye, Samuel Johnson, Samuel Farnum and Josiah Bean, in the full share of one twentieth part each; the said Philip Abbott, Abiel Lovejoy, Eben Poor, Jr., and Theodore Stevens in the full share of one fortieth part each; Enoch Adams in the full share of three and one third twentieth parts; Jonathan Stevens in the full share of one and a half and one third twentieth parts; and we said adventurers, partners or proprietors, the more effectually to bring forward the settlement of said township, and until we shall be invested with sufficient authority to transact business in a legal way, do by this present writing or agreement for ourselves into an union or compact, agreeing and assenting to and with each other, that twelve of said proprietors shall constitute a quorum for doing business, and the majority shall always govern.

And we do farther, in the most absolute and unequivocal manner, each for himself respectively, covenant and agree to

and with each other, that he will do, abide and perform to the utmost of his abilities all and every matter and thing adjudged, ordered or recommended by said majority relative to the purposes above specified.

In testimony of our assent to each and to every clause of the foregoing, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this first day of September A. D. 1788.



**Merrill
House**

Thos. Poor,
Benj. Poor,
Samuel Johnson,
Enoch Adams,
Ingalls Bragg,

Abiel Lovejoy,
Jona. Abbott,
Phillip Abbott,
Joseph Frye, Jr.,
Eben Poor,

**Residence of Henry Poor
First house built in
Andover**

John York,
Sam'l Farnum,
Josiah Bean,
Theo. Stevens,
Ezekiel Merrill.

Upon the signing of the agreement of purchase the parties thereto, tenants in common, took action as follows:—

“Andover, September 1, 1788

In consequence of an agreement bearing date herewith, the persons thereunto subscribing hands and seals, proceeded to business in the following manner, viz:

1. Chose Lieutenant Benjamin Poor, Moderator.
2. Chose Ingalls Bragg clerk to the Proprietary.
3. Voted that the intervale land that shall be found within the township or tract of land which we are now acting upon shall be divided into 64 equal shares.
4. Voted to complete 64 upland lots as first division in the said township.”

The sixty-four upland first division lots to be surveyed were to be on each side of the Ellis River, such lots to border intervale land lying on each side, so that each upland first division lot could have an intervale lot contiguous to it. The upland

lots were, as a rule, to contain a hundred acres each, to be a hundred rods wide fronting the intervale, and extending back one hundred and sixty rods. The intervale lots were to contain twenty acres each.

At a meeting of the proprietors, held September 4th, 1788, it was voted to raise one pound sixteen shillings to each sixtieth part of the township, (the number of shares in it having been increased from 20 to 60 shares without any change of interest,) for the purpose of completing payment for the township; also that Col. Thomas Poor and John York be a committee to view the streams of the town in order to obtain the best site for a saw and grist mill. A contract was also voted to be made with Mr. Enoch Adams to “lot” the town, he to receive therefor twenty shillings per lot.

The third meeting of the proprietors was held Sept. 29, 1788, in the township, at the camp of Enoch Adams, on lot 9, the camp being on the site of the house now occupied by D. F. Richards. At the same meeting, a committee was appointed to lay a road to New Penacook (now Rumford,) as far as clearing for settlement in the town has been made. It was also voted that Col. Thomas Poor have sixty pounds and lot 1 on the east side of the river as a consideration for building a saw and grist mill in the town, he to retain ownership of the same. The mill



**Olcott B. Poor
Residence**

**On site of one of the
first houses**

to be built was to be on the East Branch at what is now East Andover. Built in 1791 the saw mill supplied the lumber for the “Merrill House” built in that year. It was also voted that each proprietor have the right to draw two lots to each twentieth.

The proprietors so far were tenants in common; without the power to provide means by assessments for the construction of roads, mills, and the like, for the improvement of their great estate. To acquire such power, they took measures to form themselves into a body corporate, as provided by the laws of the Commonwealth. By such action they were now formed into a body corporate, a body only finally dissolved by the sale at public auction of all the lands remaining to it. Down to the incorporation, in 1804, of the town, the corporation so created exercised many of the functions of a town, such as the construction of bridges, highways, and of a schoolhouse, and one that a town could not exercise, the building of mills. There was hardly any other limit to its powers but the will of the majority. By the action of the corporate body a legal validity was given to all the previous acts of the proprietors at the meetings that had been held by them.

Most of the early settlers of Andover made their selection of lots, making clearings upon them, erecting buildings and moving to them, several years before they were confirmed to them by a vote of the proprietors. At a meeting held January 23, 1795, upland lots were voted as follows: Lot 1, West Side, to Enos Abbott; 2, to John Abbott; 3, to James Poor; 4 and 5, to Jonathan Stevens; 6, to Holton Abbott; 7, to Jonathan Stevens, Jr.; 8 and 9, to Enoch Adams; 10, to Philip Abbott; 11, to Jonathan Abbott; 12, to Ebenezer Poor, Jr.; 13, to Silvanus Poor; 14 and 15, to Ingalls Bragg; 16, to Nathan Adams; 17 and 18, to Nathan Swan; 19, to Samuel Marston, and 21, to Peter Webster, all on the West side. On the East side the lots voted at the same meeting were 6, 14, 15 and 17 to Ezekiel Merrill; 5, to Benjamin Poor; 3 to Samuel Poor; 20, to Jeremiah Burnham; 12, to Abial Lovejoy. Of the above lots, those voted to John Abbott, Holton Abbott and Silvanus Poor have alone continuously remained in the possession of their descendants.

By the votes of the corporation which remained in existence for fifty-five years, the titles to all lands in the town are now held. In no instance was its action ever questioned in, or outside courts of law. All its proceedings seemed to have been without the intervention of anyone learned in the law. The corporation was finally brought to a close by the sale at auction in 1846 of all lands remaining to it.

The history of the purchase and distribution, of which only a brief account can be here given, of the land contained in the town of Andover, forms one of the most interesting and valuable chapters of the kind in the United States, as it shows that

with us no more sacredness or ceremony attends their purchase and distribution than those of other kinds of property. The case with which land is acquired and transferred has been one of the most efficient causes of our wonderful progress, and of the domestic order that prevails.

EARLY SETTLERS

The story of the purchase of Andover and of the distribution of its lands has been given. The leading spirit in the enterprise was Ezekiel Merrill, born at West Newbury, Mass., December, 1757. He married June 1, 1773, Sarah Emery of West Newbury, Mass. Like all other young men of his time, he took an active part in the War of the Revolution by which the Independence of our country was secured. His first enlistment, and his only one in Massachusetts, was as a minute-man called out after the battle of Lexington, the call being general throughout Eastern Massachusetts. He was corporal, appointed April 18, 1775, in Col. Gerrish's regiment. Discharged from service, he soon removed his wife and such children as were then born to him, fearing for their safety on the seacoast, to the town of Pelham, N. H. He there enlisted as Corporal in Captain David Quimby's company, in Col. Wingate's regiment, which soon became a part of the army that won the great victory of Saratoga.

Peace established, Mr. Merrill sought a wider field than that which Southern New Hampshire offered, and was foremost, as has been seen, in the movement for the purchase and settlement of Andover. On his way to it he left Pelham early in the winter of 1778 with his family, for Sudbury Canada, now Bethel. As at that time the greater part of New Hampshire and Maine were covered by vast forests, his wife and seven small children, the oldest of which was Roger, then fifteen, had to be taken for a part of the long journey on handsleds drawn by men. At that time, travelling was much easier in the early winter than in summer, as the streams were covered by ice, and as roads for handsleds could easily be made by cutting away small trees.

Spending a part of the winter and spring in Sudbury Canada, as soon as the ice was out of the rivers Mr. Merrill and his family, with whatever could be provided for them, set sail early in May, 1789, the fleet consisting of seven canoes, managed by Pequauket Indians, under the control of their chief, Captain Sasson, for their new home, the distance by water being about thirty miles. The fleet proceeded down the Androscoggin to the

mouth of the Ellis river, and then up this river to where the east and west branches meet, a spot famed for its beauty, and well known as "The Meeting of the Waters." Here the families of the Indians that managed the canoes were encamped, by whom Mr. Merrill and his family were hospitably received and with whom they remained for three days.

The fourth day the canoes, with two of the younger children and the greater part of the freight, moved up the river to the spot near that upon which the Merrill house now stands, the parents and five other children following on foot, a rudely constructed camp having been provided for them. They were thirty miles by water from any neighbors but Indians, and sixty miles from meeting house, school house or doctor.

In the midst of a vast wilderness, no clearing of land having yet been made, the family had to subsist chiefly on venison which could be readily procured, as the woods were full of moose and deer. Partridges, which could then be had in great abundance, were also largely used. The Indians, who were then quite numerous in and about Andover, were very friendly, and brought in great quantities of food. In the first winter after the family reached Andover, numerous flocks of Crossbills, a small bird, came about the camp, of which great numbers were caught for food. Their coming seemed to be a sort of Providence to the family. In addition to food, the Indians brought in great quantities of furs, chiefly those of beaver and sable, which had then a high market value, and for which, in many cases, trinkets of little value were received. The Indians were always attracted by high colors, and Mr. Merrill's military suit which he wore in the Saratoga campaign, was eagerly sought for by an Indian who paid a high price for it in furs.

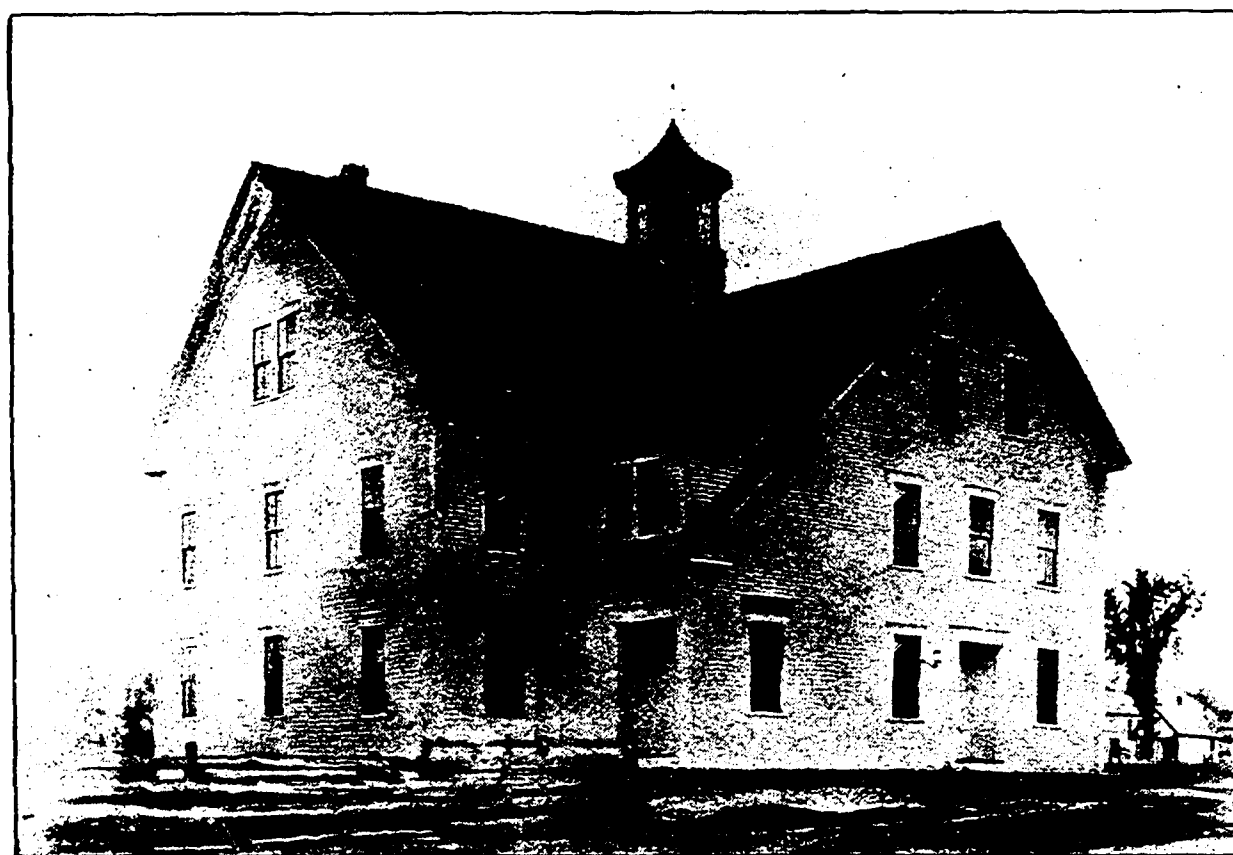
By the means described, the family was well supplied with food before any grounds could be cleared and cultivated. In two or three years, however, as the soil was very fertile and

easily cleared, the family were wholly above want. As Mr. Merrill was a man of great enterprise and activity, as well as physical vigor, he was soon in possession of a competency for the rest of his life. In means, and in the respect paid to him, he was for a long time the foremost man in Andover. Upon the death of Ebenezer Poor in 1809, he was chosen to fill his place as deacon of the Congregational Church, holding that office up to the period of his decease.

The stories of the adventures of the Merrill boy were the delight of my childhood, only one of which I have here room for. Not long after the family reached Andover, Roger, then about fifteen, the eldest of the family, with Natallak, a friendly

Indian, went on a hunting expedition on what is now Farmer's Hill. When on the slope facing White Cap and Horse-shoe Pond, the dog began to bark furiously, evidence that game of some sort was ahead. Both started on a run in the direction of the barking, Natallak in the lead. As he came up to the dog, a huge bear sprang out from beneath a fallen spruce tree, and jumping furiously upon him, threw him to the ground. The dog, well trained in such matters, seized the bear behind. The bear, to get rid of the dog, threw himself over backward. Before the bear could reach

him, Roger, gun in hand, killed him by a well directed shot. They immediately returned home for a handsled with which to bring home the bear, one of the largest of his kind, the meat of which for several days supplied the family with food. Neither of the hunters was seriously injured, though Natallak had several severe scratches from the claws of the bear. The settler who next followed Mr. Merrill to Andover was Enoch Adams, who had the largest pecuniary interest in lands, in the undertaking, holding the same until his decease in 1819. By him the greater part of the land in the township was lotted. He selected for himself lots 9 and 10, west side, building the house in which David Richards now lives. He



*Town Hall
Andover*

*Where the Antique Exhibition
was held*

was always a leading citizen of the town. He had a large family, of whom four sons, John E., Enoch, William and Henry became citizens of the town. John E., in 1821 built a saw and grist mill on the east branch of the river, at what is now usually called the "Falls." About the year 1826 he moved with his family to Cleveland, Ohio.

Enoch and William remained in the town, the former living on lot 1, west side, and the latter on lot 4, west side. Henry removed to Rumford. None bearing the honored name are now living in town.

Speedily following Enoch Adams, came Jonathan, Philip and John Abbott with their families. With John came the father of the three, John Abbott, sr., who died about 1806, aged 86. His wife, Hannah, died December 26, 1808, aged 84. Jonathan and Philip were original proprietors. Jonathan selected lot 11, west side, now occupied by Frank Gordon; Philip lot 10, west side, now occupied by Llewellyn Hall; John No. 2, west side, now occupied by a descendant, James Hall. The three before they came to the new Andover were substantial citizens of the Old. In the new they were prosperous, according to the standard of the time, and were highly respected citizens. All had large families, most of whom they brought with them. Jonathan brought with him ten children, seven sons and three daughters. The sons were Enos, Daniel, Farnum, Enoch, Jonathan, Moses and Amos, all of whom I well remember. All of them except Jonathan became citizens of the town. The sons of Philip were Holton, Isaac, Philip, Timothy, Nathaniel and Samuel; of John, Ebenezer, Abner, Joseph, Moody and Benjamin. I think the last three were born in Andover. In the three families there were nineteen sons, besides many daughters. Good sized families were the rule in those days. It was a time in which there were not only large families, but all lived to grow up, due to an abundance of fresh air. The houses of the time, with fireplaces, were well ventilated, to which I can bear testimony. Mr. John Abbott died January 26, 1833, aged 85; Philip, May 18, 1840, aged 90; and John, January 6, 1833, aged 64 years. Many of the sons of the original Abbotts had large families, Farnum, for example, having seven sons, Hayden, Jonathan, James, Aaron, William, Parker and Edwin, and two daughters. When the Abbott family was in its vigor, it composed nearly one fifth of the voters of the town. The faculty or habit of raising large families, according to the fashion of olden times, seems to be at an end.

Among the early settlers of Andover was Benjamin Poor,

one of the original proprietors, who moved into the town early in 1797. He selected lot 6, east side, that on which C. A. Andrews now lives. He was a worthy, prosperous and highly respected citizen, and senior deacon of the Congregational Church formed in 1800, remaining such until his decease in 1823. I knew him well, as he always attended meeting on Sunday. The meeting house at that time was on the rise of ground a little south of my father's house. As there were always morning and afternoon services, he was accustomed to take his dinner at my father's. He was a man of remarkable physical vigor, almost up to the time of his decease, at the age of 95. He was born in 1728, four years before Washington. There are not perhaps many living besides myself who were well acquainted with a man born four years before Washington!

Ebenezer Poor, senior, one of the original proprietors, came with his wife to Andover in 1800, living with his son, Silvanus. He died in 1809. With his brother, Benjamin, he was one of the deacons upon its organization in 1800 of the Congregational church. He was a prosperous man in old Andover as well as in the new, and was greatly esteemed by his fellow citizens of both towns.

Ebenezer Poor, Jr., one of the original proprietors, a physician by profession, moved to Andover in 1802. Soon after his arrival he represented the County of Oxford as senator in the legislature of Massachusetts. In 1815 and 1816 he was appointed assessor for the County of Oxford, by the National Government, of the direct taxes levied both years to provide the means to carry on the war with Great Britain. I have now the volumes of assessments made out by him. In the latter part of 1816 he moved to Belfast, Maine, then in the County of Hancock. Soon after he was appointed clerk of the courts for that county, an office he held for four years. The shire town of the county at that time was Castine to which he moved or in which he continued for several years to practice his profession for several years after he ceased to hold office. In 1828, he returned to Andover, Maine, continuing in the practice of his profession until his decease in 1829. He was a man of many very engaging qualities, and was highly esteemed.

Another original proprietor that came to Andover at an early day was Ingalls Bragg, taking lots 14 and 15. He was an active and enterprising citizen, and held many public offices in the town. He died in 1809.

Another original proprietor was Abiel Lovejoy, who selected lot 12, east side. He died in 1820. His farm was then

divided between his three sons, Stephen, Abiel and Benjamin. Stephen and Benjamin lived on the portions assigned to them up to the time of their decease.

Another early settler of the town, not a proprietor, was James Stevens, who succeeded his brother, Jonathan, to whom lot 7 was assigned. Jonathan resided for several years in Andover, afterward moving to the Eastern part of the State. James Stevens was a prosperous and much esteemed citizen.

An early settler was Silvanus Poor, son of Ebenezer Poor, an original proprietor. Mr. Poor visited Andover as early as 1790. In 1795 he purchased his father's interest in the township, lot 13, west side, a lot still remaining in the possession of his descendants. In 1798, he moved with his sister, Dorothy, afterwards Mrs. Christopher Allen of Hebron, to the lot on which he had put up a small house. The larger house was built in 1800. Mr. Poor was always a substantial citizen of the town. He married, February 18, 1802, Mary Merrill, daughter of Ezekiel Merrill, the first settler. For many years after the incorporation of the town he usually held some public office in it, mostly that of selectman. He was a member from Andover, in 1820, of the convention for framing the Constitution of the State of Maine, on its severance from the State of Massachusetts. He was the first postmaster of the town, being appointed by President Monroe, Aug. 13, 1824, an office which he held for many years. Of his sons, John A. Poor was well known as the originator of the Grand Trunk Railway from Portland to Montreal, from his connection with many similar enterprises in the state, and for the public spirit which always characterized him.

Another well known character of the town at an early period, was Luther Rice, who lived on the last lot in it on the road leading to Upton, formerly Letter B. The little house that he occupied with his family has long since disappeared. He was a soldier in the Revolution, serving throughout the greater part of it, and especially in the Saratoga Campaign, a man of iron nerve, well fitted to endure any hardship that might befall

him. He worked a great deal for my father. When in the field, with the boys, he had an inexhaustible supply of stories for them of his military life. At one time when he was hoeing potatoes with us, in the midst of one of his exciting stories of the Saratoga Campaign, holding his hoe-handle as if it was a gun, he instantly fell with it flat on his face to the ground, remaining motionless for some little time. We boys stood paralyzed with fear, not knowing what was to happen. On rising and seeing our astonishment, he said, "Why, boys, did you not see that the British were about to fire?" Well on his feet, his hoe-handle serving as a gun, he gave the "British" a good volley. In his enthusiasm he was an actor to the life. A story is told alike of his indifference and endurance. One winter he went fishing to Lake Umbagog. He cut a hole through the ice, and sitting by it with his legs stretched out he pulled out the trout so fast that he speedily made a pile covering both legs. As the day was a cold one, the trout soon became a frozen mass. When he thought he had caught enough, it was only with the greatest difficulty that he could extricate himself with the assistance of a jack-knife from the frozen mass. He died in Andover long a pensioner of the Federal Government.



The Village Common

Green where exercises were held

EARLY LIFE

Andover, Maine was founded by colonists from Andover, Massachusetts, the people of both being at that time to almost the same conditions. The families in both had to be self supporting, providing by their own industry almost every article required by them. The period was one which long preceded that of the use of the methods and implements which have now in great measure superseded the work of the hand, changing the whole face of society. The people of Old Andover had the advantage of having markets, such as they were, within comparatively easy reach. For them there could be some exchange of the products of the farm for other articles, salt, iron and the like; but the colonists who went from the old to the new An-

dover, were from the want of roads, and the distances to be traversed, cut off from all markets whatever. Every family, consequently, had to be almost wholly self supporting, receiving nothing of any account from abroad, except salt, rum, a little tea, coffee, and tobacco, and iron rods for nails, which had to be turned out by hand. When the first house in town, the Merrill House, was overhauled, I was very careful to save all the nails I could as mementoes of the past. These nails were made by Peregrine Bartlett of Bethel, who subsequently married a daughter of Mr. Merrill. At an early period in Andover every family had to clothe itself from head to foot, as well as to feed itself. Consequently, every man who undertook to be anything, had to have a good flock of sheep, from the wool of which the clothing of the family was made; and a field of flax, the fibres of which had to be converted by the hand into threads, towels and various other articles, chiefly for woman's use. This state of things continued for more than fifty years after the settlement of the town. In a journal kept by my mother are the following entries: "June 20, 1829, Alfred (a son) came back with the rolls, 84 pounds." Of these, "Mrs. Rice took eleven pounds, Sally Ripley six pounds, and Mrs. Dunham nine pounds to spin." Mrs. Rice also took nine and a quarter pounds to be spun into worsted. In part payment for her work, Mrs. Dunham received three pounds of salt. "June 22, 1829, (I quote) Polly Sawyer came to spin the wool, and spun until August 17." The spinning done, the next thing was to put the yarn into cloth by the hand-loom then in use. In my early, almost infant days, it was my part in the manufacture to put the yarn, by a small wheel, on to quills made of the elder, with the pith punched out. The cloth when it came from the loom was sent to a fulling mill, on a stream in Rumford, entering the Androscoggin from the south. Fulled, and usually colored black, it came back to Andover to be made into garments for the family, at that time wholly clad in homespun. I had no other than homespun clothing, when I entered college in 1831. Everything had to be done by hand, assisted by implements of the rudest kind. In the manufacture of clothing, I well remember the first advance step, the introduction of the "Patent Head," so called, a second wheel attached to the first wheel, by means of which the motion of the spindle, without much addition of power, was increased twenty fold. When introduced into Andover it was the great theme of conversation of its people. Previous to the introduction of the "Patent Head," improvement in the manufacture of clothing had been

made for a thousand years. For one who undertook to be anything, it was a hard lot to be a mother, who, in addition to her other domestic duties, had to spin, weave and make all the garments for the family, often consisting of ten or twelve children, no great number for those days. It may be said that, in variety at least, very little clothing sufficed. For the lower part of the body of boys a single garment, always the same in kind, served alike for summer and winter. Yet I do not ever remember suffering from the cold. We were trained to such things. The houses of the time kept out the rain, and that was about all. When in bed in a brisk northwest gale, how well I remember the drifting of the snow over my head. I was none the worse for it. Plenty of bed clothes was all I needed. Stoves, so destructive to children of later times, had not yet come. In consequence, nearly every child of the great families of the time grew up to sturdy manhood and womanhood. For boys and for most men, boots were unknown. Their place was supplied by leggings, which made of cloth became thoroughly soaked with water as soon as they came in contact with the snow. But we did not mind such things. My father had a pair of boots which lasted him over twenty years, being worn only on great occasions, Sundays being the chief ones.

But with all the privations and hardships, as they now seem to us, a family that had a piece of intervale got along very well, as for a succession of years good crops of wheat could be raised on it, simply by ploughing. Families that had such farms always had plenty to eat, and were well clothed according to the standard of the times. Those having what were called upland farms fared pretty well as long as there was land to be cleared for the soil at first bore abundant crops. When exhausted such farms had to be gradually abandoned. At the present time a great deal of land in Andover, as well as in adjoining towns, once farms is now covered by a dense forest.

At an early day the people of Andover were almost wholly cut off from the rest of the world. In 1795, Mr. Ingalls Bragg, according to an account left by him, was twelve days in making the journey from Old Andover to New Andover, the distance being about a hundred and sixty miles, the distance for each day being given. So late as 1829 or 30, Mr. Farnum Abbott, a well known citizen of the town, and my brother, Elbridge Poor, each with a four ox team, took loads of shingles from Andover to Portland, the round trip requiring sixteen days, the distance traveled being about a hundred and eighty miles. Of course they took with them food for themselves and their teams. The

articles brought back were chiefly salt and iron. At the time, when long journeys were undertaken in the winter it was the custom to freeze bean porridge into large masses. In the frozen mass was a rope, the end of which could be made fast to the stake of a sled. When the time for eating came, a large piece was knock off, melted and eaten. An abundant supply of bread, enough for a long journey being provided. I could give without number illustrations of this kind of early life in Andover.

The people were not merely cut off from all intercourse with the world, but they had no nails until late in 1824. These were brought for many years from Rumford on horseback. For nearly forty years after the settlement of the town the only mode of sending letters was by those who might happen to be going to or near the place to which the letters were to go. As an instance I have a letter written in 1820 to my father, the Hon. Silvanus Poor, by the Hon. Albion K. Parris, then a member in congress from Oxford County. It was sent to the post office nearest Andover, with instructions to be forwarded to my father by the first opportunity. Nearly all the old family letters of the time began this way: "As Mr. So-and-So is about to leave for your place, or for the place near you, I take the opportunity of sending you a few lines." If there were no opportunities, there were no letters. At the present time when a man returns from his daily rounds, a newspaper awaits him telling the news from every quarter of the world.

In 1829 Cornelius Holland, a representative from Oxford County in Congress, was two weeks going to Washington. Now a man may go from the Atlantic to the Pacific and return in eight days, ten days less than it took Mr. Holland to go from his residence in Oxford County to the National Capital.

Andover as an Incorporated Town

Andover was incorporated as a town, June 22, 1804. At



**Olcott B.
Poor**

*President of
the day*

the first town meeting, held September 24th of the same year, Dr. Ebenezer Poor was moderator; Ingalls Bragg, Josiah Wright, and John Abbott, Jr., were chosen selectmen; Silvanus Poor, treasurer, and Josiah Wright, collector. At that meeting, thirty dollars was voted to defray the annual expenses of the town, two hundred for the construction and repair of roads, and sixty for the maintenance of schools. It was voted to allow sixpence per hour for work done on the roads. At the Presidential election of that year thirty votes were cast: 22 for Jefferson and 8 for Pinckney.

At the annual meeting held April 1, 1805, Ingalls Bragg,

Samuel Poor and Silvanus Poor were chosen selectmen, and Dr. Ebenezer Poor, town clerk and treasurer. The amount voted for schools was thirty dollars, highways, three hundred, and current expenses, seventy dollars. As all subsequent meetings of the proprietors were the same in kind, further reference to them will be here omitted, as they have little interest for an occasion like this.

RELIGION

CONGREGATIONAL

The coming to Massachusetts Bay of the Colonists was a protest against religious intolerance in England. Neither the early charters under which the Colonists came out and by which they were governed, nor the Constitution of the State adopted near the close of the



**Fred
Smith**

*The first
Selectman*

War of the Revolution, had in them any provisions for a state religion. Churches were indeed established in every town or settlement in the Colony. But these purely voluntary associations had nothing to do, as such, with the settlement and support of ministers. At an early period this duty rested wholly with the towns. When there were too many people in a town to meet conveniently under one roof, parishes were formed, charged with the support of ministers in the territory included in them. In the agreements for forming such parishes there were no statements whatever of religious ideas or

beliefs. The support of the minister rested wholly with what may be termed secular bodies. Still there was a general consent in religious matters, though only a few of those composing towns and parishes were willing to express their religious beliefs by signing church agreements or covenants.

No sooner was Andover incorporated as a town than, as required by law, steps were taken to settle a minister, the Rev. John Strickland being selected. But the people of Andover had a religious history some years before a minister was settled. In 1800, the town not being incorporated till 1804, a church was formed by the adoption of a Covenant, to which 17 persons, as follows, subscribed:

Benjamin Poor,	Jonathan Stevens,	Eunice Marston,
Ebenezer Poor,	Phebe Poor,	Patty Swan,
Ezekiel Merrill,	Susanna Poor,	Debby Stevens,
Jonathan Abbott,	Sarah Merrill,	Phebe Stevens,
Samuel Marston,	Ruth Abbott,	Mary Lovejoy.
Nathan Swan,		

Of the above, all but Ezekiel Merrill were from North Andover, Mass., and had probably been members of the church in the parish there of which the Rev. William Symms was pastor.

Of the church established, Benjamin Poor and Ebenezer Poor were chosen deacons. No sooner was the church organized than "Deacons' Meetings," as they were called, were regularly held. These meetings were opened by the senior deacon with a short prayer. The junior deacon followed by naming a hymn to be sung. The senior deacon then made the ordinary long prayer. This was followed by naming another hymn. That sung, he called from the body of the congregation some middle aged man known to be a good reader to read the sermon selected for the occasion from some volume, that of Blair's Sermons usually having the preference. The sermon ended, the junior deacon pronounced the benediction, the signal that the services were at an end. At the time, the Social Library in Andover, established in 1795, was well provided with religious literature. These Deacons' Meetings were continued until the settlement in 1805 of the Rev. Mr. Strickland. As Mr. Strickland when settled was advanced in years, there were frequent occasions when he could not preach, and after 1820 he seldom appeared in the pulpit. When he could not preach and until another minister was settled in his place, Deacons' Meetings was regularly held.

On the second of November, 1805, the town in obedience to law, voted to settle the Rev. John Strickland as its minister

and to pay him a salary of \$160 annually for his services, \$30 in cash and \$130 in labor and produce. The installation took place, March 12, 1806, at which were present by the invitation of the town, Rev. Daniel Gould, pastor of the church in Rumford; Rev. Mr. Church, pastor of the church in Bridgton; the Rev. Lincoln Ripley, pastor of the church in Waterford; Rev. Amasa Smith, pastor of the church in Turner, and the Rev. Mr. Herrick, pastor of the church in Durham. The principal services of the installation were performed by Mr. Herrick.

The salary of Mr. Strickland was provided by a tax specially levied for such purposes, each man in town to bear his part. The largest sum paid \$12.72, was by Ezekiel Merrill; the lowest by Calvin Wood, nine cents. The number of persons assessed was 46. In the same way his salary in the future was to be provided. The amount originally agreed upon was regularly paid up to 1815, when by a vote of the town it was reduced to \$100 annually, Mr. Strickland remonstrating, but in the end complying. After 1820 no salary was voted to him, although nominally he continued minister of the town, sometimes occupying the pulpit, attending funerals, catechizing children, and the like. As the salary paid was very inadequate to his support, he had in a great measure to provide for himself by working on a farm. He died in a house in the northern part of the town, a short distance below Abbott Brook. I well remember him as a minister and as a catechizer of children. He was a scholarly man, a graduate of Yale of the class, I think, of 1761, and was above the average of ministers in his gifts as a preacher.

The religious meetings of Andover for a period of nearly thirty years of its early history were held in a building erected early in 1801 by the proprietors of the town for a schoolhouse. It stood on the rising ground, a little to the south of the house of Mr. Silvanus Poor. The contract for its construction called for a building of 15 by 30 feet. As I remember it, the building was a much larger one. The entrance was at the south end, the pulpit at the north end, the fireplace in the northwest, the seats for the singers being in the northeast corner. The pulpit was raised about four or five feet above the floor. In front of it was an enclosed seat for the Deacons. When the communion service was observed, the minister left the pulpit, entered the enclosure provided for the Deacons, who took seats on each side of the table on which were the bread, the flagon containing the wine and the cups for its distribution. The services were very much like those of today. The house had no pews, but seats on each side of the aisle from the entrance to the pulpit. The

seating was by age and sex, the eldest and most venerable of each taking the seats nearest the pulpit, the less aged following in regular order until the last seats, occupied by the youngest portion of the Congregation were reached. After the services were over the minister with solemn tread left the pulpit and proceeded down the aisle. The Deacons followed, walking side by side, to be followed by the audience in the order of their sitting until the house was cleared. No greater breach of decorum could be committed than for a person to leave his seat except in manner described. At the lower end, at the side occupied by the boys, was the ever present tithing man with his badge or symbol of office, which, as far as my observation went, was seldom or never used.

In 1821, Mr. Strickland being too old and infirm to preach except on occasion, the Rev. Joshua Barrett was hired by the town to preach eight weeks. Such action on the part of the town was voluntary, as the new State did not require towns as corporate bodies to look after matters of religion, that work was left to Parishes, formed by any body of citizens who would.

In 1822 the Rev. Joshua Page preached for a few weeks. On the 21st of January, 1822, a Parish was formed in Andover, by subscription of citizens to the following article:

"The subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Andover in the County of Oxford, in the State of Maine, being impressed with the importance of the public worship of the Almighty God, do agree to associate, and do hereby associate and unite ourselves together as a religious society to be denominated, the First Society in Andover." We agree that we will assemble together and choose necessary and proper officers for the due management of said society and of the funds that do now, or hereafter shall, belong to it. We further agree that we will be contented with the doings of a majority of the subscribers, whenever they shall assemble." I have with me this article which formed the basis of the parish, with the signatures thereto, thirty-three in all.

By the proceeding agreement, to which a considerable number presently subscribed, an association or corporate body was formed, which in the settlement and support of the minister, took the place formerly occupied by the town, the church included within it acting simply as an advisory body. At the time, Councils, as they were called, were called to perform the ceremonies of ordination and installation.

A council was called for the settlement of the Rev. Thomas T. Stone, the successor in 1824, to Mr. Strickland; also for his

successor, the Rev. William C. Greenleaf, settled in 1831, but both were ministers of the Parish, which was nominally responsible for their support and could dismiss them at will. The parish, however, had not much to do with the settlement of either, as the means for their support was raised by voluntary subscription, with such aids as were expected to be received from the Maine and other Missionary Societies. The amount to be paid to Mr. Stone was \$300, half in cash and half in labor and produce. The amount raised by subscription for Mr. Greenleaf was \$200, to which was to be added aid from the Missionary Societies of Maine and Massachusetts, about \$250. It was not long, however, before the ceremony of ordinations and installations was dispensed with, the whole thing resolving itself into a mere monetary contract, between Parish and ministers, terminable at the will of either party.

Mr. Stone was settled in 1824. In the period of 78 years which followed 18 different persons officiated as Congregational ministers in Andover. Why did one minister after another follow at such a rapid rate? No industrial undertaking could get on with a change of head-man every three or four years. In these, one qualified for his work is in time always found to hold his place for a lifetime, or until he is worn out by hard work. Why has not the same rule held with ministers employed in Andover? Down to a comparatively recent period it was the way with religious societies to hold permanent relations with harmony between ministers and people. In Andover after Mr. Strickland ceased to preach no such relations prevailed, as after his day the great religious or denominational movement set in, churches changing their old covenants for creeds, or where there was no creed, establishing one. In Andover the covenant of 1800 gave place to an elaborate creed, almost every paragraph of which bristles with theology. As the movement for a time covered the whole field, the Parish of Andover, the fundamental article of which was simply a covenant wholly without dogma, could get a minister only by applying to some missionary society, the members of which were wholly of the new school. The minister when he came, had little else to deliver but dogma, and was discharged as soon as his preaching had become an old story. The people hardly knew what they wanted, but they did not want what was delivered to them. Such is history—such is the history of Andover. In a period of about 80 years after Mr. Strickland had ceased to preach, Andover had in succession 20 ministers of the Congregational order, the longest period of any one not exceeding 7 years. Will not the time come when, by a

reconciliation between preacher and hearer the old relation of a lifetime will be restored? There is the most encouraging evidence that it will, as preaching is everywhere becoming "liberal," as the phrase is, a life of self sacrificing duty, instead of insistence upon dogma, being now almost everywhere the theme.

METHODIST

One hundred and fifty years ago arose the great protest, under the name of Methodism, against the formalism of the Church of England, in which John Wesley took the lead. The great purpose of this movement was to hit the devil, wherever he showed himself, squarely in the face. For this purpose a knowledge of neither Greek nor Latin, nor any other tongue than English was required, nothing but earnestness of purpose, a good constitution and a penetrating voice. To give greater force to the new movement all power was concentrated into a few hands. The people of the United States have been much indebted to the Methodists for bringing the great mass of the people up to a better standard. But for them, many sections, now intelligent and prosperous, would have remained in a condition of barbarism.

There were numerous advocates of Methodism in New England almost as early as the settlement of Andover. At an early date meetings were held in private houses, chiefly in the winter. In 1832 a local circuit was formed in the northern part of Oxford County, of which Rumford was the center. On the erection of the Union Meeting House in South Andover frequent meetings were held in it by the Methodists. At an early period Henry Adams and Moses Adams, citizens of Andover, released by law from the obligation of contributing to the support of the settled minister of the town, were leaders in the new movement.

In 1871 a meeting house for the denomination was built in the village of Andover. For its erection numerous citizens of the town, not members of the organization, liberally contributed. The church bell was purchased by a subscription of all the citizens, on condition that it should be rung on public occasions. From 1871 the Methodist Society has received the services of ministers sent to it by the central authority.

UNIVERSALIST

The early Universalists of Andover, who were few in number, brought to the wilderness new conceptions of God and his dealings with humanity. Farnum Abbott, Sr., had lived in Cambridgeport, Mass., where he had met Rev. John Murray and Rev. Hosea Ballou and listened to their preaching. Ingalls

Bragg had also been impressed by these preachers. Universalist ministers occasionally visited the town, particularly to officiate at funerals. When the Union church at South Andover was built the Universalists began holding monthly meetings there. A minister was settled in Rumford, where the Universalists were more numerous.

In the autumn of 1851 the Oxford Association of Universalists met at the meeting house in South Andover at what was called the "big meeting." Many of their ablest preachers were present. From 1850 there was a Ladies' Circle in the town, which from time to time maintained an organization, working for charities and for the support of public worship. The principal supporters of the movement were Farnum Abbott, Ingalls Bragg, Wm. Adams, Sr., Holton Abbott, John Abbott, John Abbott, Jr., Farnum Abbott, 2nd, Benjamin Hall and Abel Chapman. There were several others in sympathy with them.

In October, 1892, the Ladies' Circle was reorganized and the organization of a regular parish followed. In 1897 a lot was secured for a church building and the basement laid two years afterwards. In the meantime services were held in the town hall, many of the preachers conducting them being students from the Divinity School of Tufts College. Among recent preachers were the Rev. Lewis Pease, Ezra A. Hoyt, A. W. Groce, F. F. Eddy, F. A. Taylor and Revs. E. W. Webber and Anson Titus.

The church was dedicated, free from debt, in the summer of 1903, with interesting services in which many joined.

LIBRARY

When the first settlers in Andover went to their new homes in the vast wilderness, it was a natural instinct to have with them as solace some memorials of the past, the most prized of these being books. For such purpose, in 1795, an association was formed by a subscription to an agreement as follows:

"This agreement, made at East Andover, in the County of York or Cumberland, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, this fourteenth day of December, A. D. one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, and nineteenth year of Independence, witnesseth that we, the subscribers, sensible of the public utility of having a well chosen library to be kept in the town of East Andover, do agree to form ourselves into a society for that purpose, and hereby promise to pay to our treasurer the sum of twelve shillings to every right, to be laid out in books agreed to by the major part of the society, the whole to remain deposited

forever in some room in said town provided by the society for that purpose, to the sole use of ourselves and to any whom each subscriber shall appoint a successor for ever; and if any one neglects to appoint a successor the property shall descend to but one of his heirs, and in case of disagreement among them it shall be left to the determination of the society's committee for the time being, and as for further regulations we refer them to be determined by the society hereafter."

To the above agreement, apparently when drawn, the following persons subscribed: Benjamin Poor, Ezekiel Merrill, Enoch Adams, Jonathan Abbott, Abial Lovejoy, Philip Abbott, Joshua Ripley, Ingalls Bragg, Peter Webster, Holton Abbott, Jonathan Stevens, Nathan Adams, Stephen Webster, Samuel Poor, Theodore Brickett, James Poor and Nathan Swan.

Among the names that immediately followed on the records of the society were Daniel Abbott, Silvanus Poor, Farnum Abbott, Eben Poor and Ingalls Bragg, Jr., the list finally including some sixty names. Among the books early purchased were: Absentee; Traits of Nature; Evenings at Home; Dodd on Death; Cowper's Task; Walker's Elocution; Cælebs; Temper, 2 vols.; Buchanan's Works; Rokeby, a poem; Solitude; Coquette; Bigland's View of the World, 2 vols.; Blair's Sermons; Wardlaw on the Socinian Controversy; Chapone's Works; Ely's Contrast; Chitty's Law of Nations; Davy's Agriculture; Vicar of Wakefield; Bridone's Tour.

Among the noteworthy books added at a later date were Dwight's Geography; Gay's Fables; Columbian Muse; Franklin's Life; Romance of the Forest; Beauties of Sterne; The Sorrows of Werther; Hamlet; Washington's Letters; Thomson's Seasons.

The whole number of volumes purchased during the existence of the society was about 75. They were among the standard works of the time. Many volumes were presented to it. Among the donors were the Rev. William Symmes, long pastor of the Congregational Church in Andover, Mass., Mrs. Symmes, Samuel Phillips, Ephraim Prescott and Col. Thomas Poor.

At the first regular meeting of the society, March 6, 1796, the following officers were chosen:

Moderator, Benjamin Poor; Clerk, Ingalls Bragg; Committee on Books, Nathan Adams, Jonathan Abbott; Librarian, Benjamin Poor.

At the same meeting a series of rules or articles, thirty-five in number, for the management of the society, the conduct of its officers and care of its books, were adopted. In 1799 Sam-

uel Poor was chosen librarian in place of Benjamin Poor, holding the office up to the time of his decease in 1820, his place being filled by Silvanus Poor, who held the office during the continuance of the society. For the first thirty years of its existence a large number of books were regularly taken from the library, after which the great interest formerly felt declined. The last meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of business was in 1829. Books continued to be taken out, Mr. Silvanus Poor continuing to act as librarian. The last taken were the third and fourth volumes of Bigland, by Philander Farrington, Sept. 18, 1843. As there was no one possessed of any authority, a great many books taken were never returned. Such as could be found at the establishment of the present library were sent to it.

It is perhaps easy to account for the decline of interest which finally led to the dissolution of the society. The founders of it were men above the ordinary run, as shown by the books selected. They had all gone. Great numbers of the books originally selected, histories particularly, and those relating to the sciences, had become largely things of the past. Books of the new era had not yet come. The post office had been established, everybody was reading newspapers setting forth great events of each day. The new families that succeeded to the old were hardly up to their standard.

But whatever the cause, Andover was for a long time without a library, and would still be without one, had not J. Parker Whitney, Esq., a well known citizen of this town, submitted to the people of Andover, in 1891, the following proposition:

"If the library proposed by me shall be made free for the inhabitants of Andover, subject to proper restrictions necessary for the protection of the library, I will give toward it one thousand (1000) dollars."

In response a subscription paper was put into circulation, upon which, in addition to Mr. Whitney's subscription, Stephen Cabot, H. W. Sutler and Henry V. Poor subscribed \$100 each, Elizabeth P. Lee, Asa A. West, Henry W. Poor, F. A. Cushman, and Bayard Thayer, \$25 each.

The subscription made, immediate steps were taken for the formation of the "Andover Public Library Association." The purchase of books immediately began, and continued so that the whole number of bound volumes in the library now equals about 6500, a good library for a town of 1700 people, all well selected and standard works, so that anyone devoting himself to any of the great questions of the day can, so far as books

are concerned, well make Andover his home. But for Mr. Whitney's generous action the present library would never have been established. Among other large contributors to the library is Mr. Lawrence Tucker, of Boston, a summer resident of Andover, who during the present year has presented to it 600 volumes of valuable books. The library also owes much of its success to Mr. Stephen Cabot, who has been President of the Association almost from the beginning, and who has been untiring in his efforts to promote its welfare.

SCHOOLS

When Andover was settled, the world of Massachusetts, or rather that of New England, was at rest. It was assumed that all that was important to be known, was known. The people had a religion with which they were wholly content. They were wholly content with their industries, such as they were. With the great mass, all that was to be done was to repeat the past. Almost all labor was performed by hand. The new era, in which the things of today were to give place to those of tomorrow had not yet dawned. Schools were early established in each town to teach children how to read, write and cypher, and that was all. I well knew what schools were eighty years ago, as I was first pupil and then teacher. When a child of about three years old I began to go to the town schools, which began at eight in the morning and ending at five in the afternoon, with noonings of an hour and brief recesses in the forenoon and afternoon. Children were ranged on little wooden seats, from which they were called two or three times a day to "recite." The monotony and tedium were extreme. Sometimes a child might say, "Please, Sir, or Ma'am, may I go out?" a request to be granted or not, according to the frame of mind of the teacher. The longest period for which schools were held was in the winter season, at which children, boys at least, were of little use on the farm. The first thing taught was the A. B. C. That mastered, the children were put into classes, to learn from books suited to their tender minds, then came writing and cyphering, in which, from want of proper instruction, slow progress was made. The schoolhouse to which I went was little more than a shell, protecting children only from rain and snow. The fireplace was in one corner of the room. When the thermometer outdoors was at zero, it was hardly above freezing inside. The course of instruction was of the rudest kind, there was not an idea in the whole of it. As far as outside influences were concerned, Andover minds might as well have been in the

center of Australia as in New England. When a boy left school he could read, write a plain hand, and add up a column of moderate sized figures. Not a newspaper was taken in town to show what was going on in other lands, and everything long remained on the same level.

Such were the schools eighty years ago. In time came the Great Revolution, when it was found that by the new processes and methods the product of the work of the hand might be increased ten, and in some cases fifty fold. By them man is no longer servant, but master. Every one now not only seeks to avail himself of the methods and discoveries of the past, but, if possible, to point out still better ways. The new impulse is as resistless, almost, in the primary schools as in the most advanced institutions of learning. At the graduating exercises, June 24, 1904, of the Andover High School, the motto of the class being "Labor conquers all," a paper was read by one of the graduates, the subject of which was, "The conditions of human progress." There is no greater or more far reaching theme than this. That it was the theme of a girl in a school of Andover shows the mighty progress that has been made.

THE ANDOVER OF TODAY

I have given you the Andover of past. What is the Andover of today? In the kind of industries of its people it is the Andover of one hundred years ago—a little hamlet of farmers enclosed by mountains beyond which settlements have not yet gone. It is a hamlet which has not so many people as it had 70 years ago. Within this period it has sent out pioneers far greater in number than its present population, 700, to other parts of the country. Answers to the invitation to be present on this occasion came from nearly every Northern State, large numbers from the interior of the continent and the Pacific slope, all the writers showing a strong affection for their native place. They went from their old home to their new for the same reason that their ancestors went from old to new Andover.—A picture of American life! No great city, as in other sections of the country, has grown up in our midst; still our Andover, in the substantial progress made by its people, is a part of the United States—of the world. It has a railway, the crowning achievement of modern times, within easy reach. It has its telegraph and telephone so that it is in daily touch with every part of the world. Its people have every invention that within a hundred years has come in aid of the race.

As farmers they could not be better off than they are

They have a social life of a high order, with numerous institutions for mutual improvement, (which cannot here be referred to) and for the aid of any of their number who from old age or other infirmity can be no longer self-supporting. They lack nothing that could add to their personal comfort, or for advancement along their particular lines. They have a large and one of the best chosen libraries in the United States. They have above all one of the most charming spots in Maine for

their home, a spot which attracts every summer great numbers of people from other States, who while in Andover become, in sympathy, its citizens, and from whom much valuable help has been received. Happy people! Happy in their present condition, and happier still in this, that of the good things that are to come to their Countrymen they are certain to receive their full share.



*Meeting of
the Waters*

*Where Ezekiel Merrill, the first settler, camped with
his family in 1789, at junction of East and
West Branches of the Ellis River*