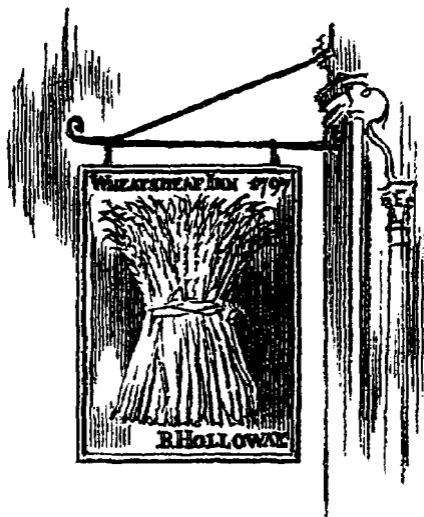


Old Wheatsheaf Farm



Formerly "Solitude"

1737

A HISTORY OF

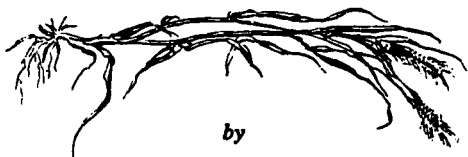
Old Wheatsheaf Farm,
Formerly "Solitude", 1737,

prior to, during and subsequent to

the Continental Army and Washington's
Headquarters being located,
1779-80,

at Morristown, New Jersey,

THE WESTERNMOST COLONIAL PURITAN CHURCHTOWN
AND THE OUTPOST OF NEW ENGLAND



by

EDWIN S. S. SUNDERLAND

October 21, 1955
Old Wheatsheaf Farm

* * *

TO
MY MOTHER
on her 97th Birthday

AND TO
MY WIFE

with love and appreciation for their loyal
and gallant partnership in all things,
throughout our happy life.

* * *

*"Teacher, tender comrade, [mother], wife,
A fellow-farer true through life,
Heart whole and soul free
The August Father gave to me."*

—ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON



"Solitude" 1737

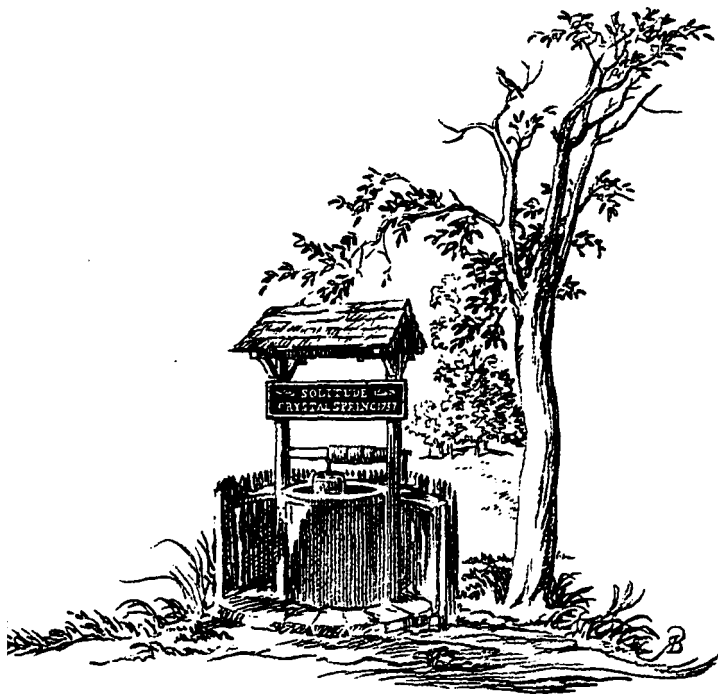
*"Solitude", later "Wheatsheaf Tavern" and
"Wheatsheaf Inn", 1797, and now, since 1887,
Old Wheatsheaf Farm*

OLD WHEATSHEAF FARM was carved out of the thickly wooded wilderness, in what later was organized as Morris Township, Morris County, New Jersey, to the east of what later became known as Washington Valley, and to the northwest approximately one and a half miles from the settlement which became in 1770 the Village of Morristown, New Jersey.

Following General George Washington's brilliant and decisive victories at Trenton and Princeton, he moved his meager forces through this Valley and on the 6th of January 1777 he arrived in Morristown, New Jersey. Here he established his headquarters to the east of Old Wheatsheaf Farm about one and a half miles distant. First he went to Arnold's Tavern which was erected about 1740 by Samuel Arnold, the father of Colonel Jacob Arnold who, from the commencement of the difficulty between the American colonies and the mother country, had been noteworthy for his intense patriotism. His tavern was the favorite rendezvous of the patriots of Morris Township in which is located Old Wheatsheaf Farm.

The tavern of Jacob Arnold, Sr. was well known and had an unusually good reputation throughout the vicinity of Morristown, particularly because of Arnold's well-known loyalty to the growing cause of freedom. Thus it came about that he was appointed aide to General Washington and paymaster to his troops.

About thirty years ago the author received a call, while in residence at Old Wheatsheaf Farm, from an old gentleman who introduced himself as a Mr. Arnold from Morris Plains, about three miles from Morristown and Old Wheatsheaf Farm. He said that he came from a "long lived" family, and that he was nearly as old as his father who died at the age of ninety-two years. As a young boy he had learned from his grandfather, who had lived longer than his father, that the first person to clear the forest was a relative of his who cut down the trees over a period of years in the thickly wooded forest now known as Old Wheatsheaf Farm. He said that this was done prior to the establishment of a settlement; also, that since, when cleared, the land was found to be hilly and rolling, a more level place was sought some mile and a half southeast of the clearing for the settlement, which later became Morristown. He had with him some thirty copper "plough" pennies which had been minted and finished in the parlor of the residence, as well as a silver slipper buckle, which had belonged to his grandfather, which had also been mined and forged on the place. He said that his grandfather had worked in the copper and silver mine on the hill west of the house some five hundred yards. His grandfather had witnessed the growing of maize, or Indian corn, and



The Well Sweep or Curb of "Solitude" Crystal Spring

a new and then generally unheard of grain called wheat. The house had been built with wide boards hewed from the trees which had been felled in order to make the clearing. When asked if he knew the origin of the name "Solitude", he replied that his grandfather had told him that it was the only clearing and house for miles around, and hence the name. He also said that the house was built and the clearing completed in 1737.

He also inquired whether the famous spring of the early days was still flowing crystal clear water. He located it and said his grandfather had often spoken of it since at the time of clearing the trees, the discovery of this deep and generously flowing spring resulted in the building of the house and the enlargement of the clearing, as it was essential to the development of property and living on the property that there should be one or more springs.

Surrounding Arnold's tavern and running northwest and thence in a southwesterly direction to the edge of what later became known as the Washington Valley Road and thence south and southeasterly to the Mendham Road leading to the Jockey Hollow Road, was a vast wooded territory.

In this uncleared and for the most part dense woodland, there was an area of about a hundred acres. It appears from the records that a house known as "Solitude" was built here about 1737.

It was a relatively large residence, surrounded by fertile maize and wheat fields, and the general architectural style

was much the same as was the tavern which later was used for Washington's Headquarters.

About the year 1770, and soon after the commencement of the Revolution, John Cleves Symmes acquired this tract of land and the residence "Solitude". Symmes was a man who subsequently became prominent in Morris Township, Morris County, Morristown, and in the State of New Jersey, as well as in national affairs and who, in the struggle for freedom, rendered distinguished and most excellent service. His first wife died in the latter part of the month of July 1778 while living at "Solitude", leaving an infant daughter, Anna Symmes.

As his second wife, Judge Symmes married a daughter of Governor Livingston of New Jersey. The marriage ceremony was probably performed at "Solitude" in 1778.

About the year 1781 there moved to Morristown one Walter Mould and his family. He acquired the farm and residence and began the coinage of copper pennies in the fireplace of the sitting room. He occupied "Solitude" as a residence for some years. Later, and subsequent to its occupancy by Mould, "Solitude" became an inn or tavern and its name, doubtless because of its fertile fields of wheat, which relative to the size of other clearings was distinguishingly large, was changed to "Wheatsheaf Inn" or, quite possibly earlier, as shown by certain historical documents, "Wheatsheaf Tavern".

For many years the inn was kept by Captain Benjamin Holloway, grandfather of Morristown's chief of police in

1905, J. Frank Holloway. History records that traffic through Morris County between Sussex and Warren Counties and the markets below was so great that "Wheatsheaf Inn", as Captain Holloway's famous tavern came to be known, carried on a thriving business. In illustration of this statement, there has been found in historical documents reference to the fact that frequently, so crowded was this hospitable inn, it was necessary for the "youngsters" of the household to sleep on the hay in the adjacent barn.

There was later built a replacement of this barn by the owner, Gustav Edward Kissel, who in 1887 bought "Wheatsheaf Inn" as a summer residence for himself and his family. When "Wheatsheaf Inn", formerly "Solitude", became Mr. Kissel's property, he appropriately named it "Wheatsheaf Farm". Mr. Kissel's daughter, Dorothy Kissel, married Edwin Sherwood Stowell Sunderland in 1924. The following year her widowed mother, Caroline Thorn Kissel, granddaughter of Commodore Vanderbilt, gave jointly to Mr. and Mrs. Sunderland Old Wheatsheaf residence, and later the farm. Since their occupancy it has been operated by them as a general farm, on which they have continued to raise large crops of wheat, oats and corn, as well as sheep, pigs and chickens.

On the north porch of this historic house there still swings a wooden sign on wrought iron handmade supports. It is about three by four feet and swung there during the years when the place was "Wheatsheaf Inn". On this old sign is a painted representation of a sheaf of wheat, and below is the name of the former proprietor—"B. Hollo-

way". In the upper right-hand corner is the date 1797. Captain Holloway derived his title from service in the New Jersey militia after the Revolution.

In 1905 Mr. Kissel, who previously had established the investment banking firm of Kissel, Kinnicutt & Co. at 14 Wall Street, New York City, constructed on another promontory of his farm a new house, Georgian in architecture, which was given the name of "Wheatsheaf House" to distinguish the residence from "Solitude", "Wheatsheaf Tavern" and "Wheatsheaf Inn". Thereupon, the old residence and its surrounding farmlands and woodlands was called "Old Wheatsheaf Farm".



"Solitude" Copper and Silver Mine

The Silver and Copper Mine At "Wheatsheaf"

As the former residence of Chief Justice Symmes, and as the locale of the mine where was mined copper for the famous "horsehead" pennies and silver for the forged slipper or shoe buckles, is "Solitude", now Old Wheat-sheaf Farm, noted. It is a matter of historical record that a copper and silver mine was once worked on this farm. The mine has been converted by the present owners to a concrete water reservoir. It is on the hill some five hundred yards west of the residence.

The late Judge Augustus W. Cutler of Morristown stated to persons living some quarter of a century ago that he had a silver shoe or slipper buckle made from silver mined on the Symmes "Solitude" land.

It is a significant fact appearing in the early records of Morristown that one John Dickerson, the Morristown silversmith or jeweler of Revolutionary days, once advertised, in the Morristown Gazette, the theft of fifty ounces of silver from his shop, as well as "buckles just cast".



*The "Horsehead" or "Plough" Penny
Minted at "Solitude"*

The "Horsehead" or "Plough" Penny

The present owner of Old Wheatsheaf Farm, while ploughing one of the fields of the farm, turned up two copper "plough" pennies and with them was a silver Spanish doubloon.

When the fireplace in the old parlor was crumbling away, new bricks were required to be laid. In the doing over of the fireplace some thirty "plough" pennies were recovered. These bore the dates of 1786-7-8. The description of the copper "plough" penny in old historical records is borne out by those thus found.

The pennies were minted in the fireplace of the parlor or sitting room of "Solitude" by means of an oaken mold and a hand iron cast on which was worked the design or die. This was impressed upon the molten copper in the oaken receptacle. The pennies bear upon one side the representation of a heart-shaped shield, with stripes running perpendicularly, with the inscription "E Pluribus Unum", and on the other or reverse side a plow. Above this is the representation of a horse's head, probably a substitute for the head of Queen Anne on English contemporaneous pennies, with the inscription "Nova Caesarea". This side also shows the date of issue, such dates being 1786-7-8. They were coined for these three successive years only.

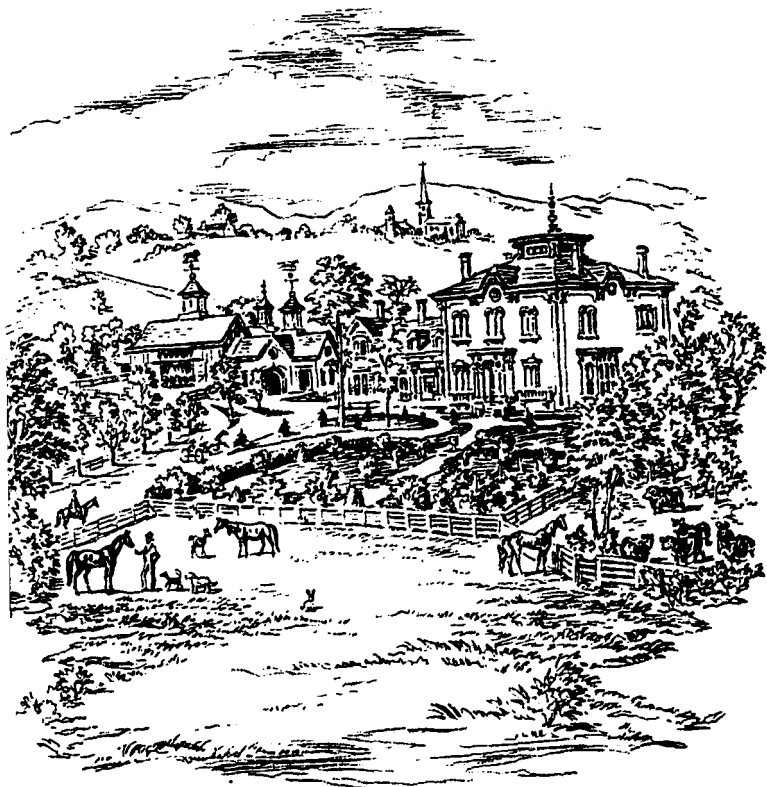
The coins have long been known as the "plough" or "horse-head" pennies. They were minted and coined prior to the establishment of a national mint in the year 1792.

The State flag of New Jersey has three replicas of the plow appearing on the penny.

At the close of the Revolution, coin of any sort was very scarce. This was especially true of the copper penny.

Under the Articles of Confederation the United States of America could exercise no power over the currency, nor supply in any way the existing deficiency. By legislative authority a few of the States, particularly in New England, established State mints or licensed individuals to mint, as was done in the case of the owner of "Solitude".

This was true of the author's adopted State of Vermont where his mother, Anna Julia Stowell, and his grandfather, Col. Edwin Sherwood Stowell, were not only born but lived. The former will be ninety-seven years old on October 21, 1955. The latter, who was on the Staff of General U. S. Grant, after being nursed for some years by his daughter Anna, died of wounds suffered in the Civil War.



"Stonahenge"

Stonehenge

Col. Stowell was an early breeder of the Morgan horse and the Merino sheep at his well-known stock farm "Stonehenge" in Cornwall, Vermont, only a few miles from Middlebury College. He exported his Morgan stallions and Merino rams to South America by way of London since there were no steamship lines running from New York directly to South America. He also exported his breeding stock to South Africa by way of London. He accompanied these shipments. Over a long period of time the late Cecil Rhodes of Kimberley, South Africa, purchased Morgan stallions and Merino rams. He was very hospitable, and presented Col. Stowell with a ring in which were set two diamonds from his famous Kimberley mines. He often talked about his "Oxford-Rhodes" scholarships for students from every important British Colony, and from every State and Territory of the United States of America.

While in London Col. Stowell visited Stonehenge, outside of London. He was very much interested in this impressive monument to the industry of the early settlers of England. He also visited Salisbury Plain. He was so impressed that he named his stock farm at Cornwall, Vermont, "Stonehenge".

His daughter, Anna Julia Stowell Sunderland, returned to Stonehenge with her two young sons, Leslie Ernest and

Edwin Sherwood Stowell, following the death of her father, Col. Stowell, and of her husband, Leslie Ernest Sunderland.

The public press, notably The New York Times, has recently published reports that archaeologists are convinced that the most remarkable feat of prehistoric initiative in Europe was the transport of the massive blocks of Stonehenge from a quarry about 150 miles away.

It is their view that neolithic labor teams of thousands of men were employed on the job for many years. They said it was probable that the forty-ton blocks were hauled overland to Salisbury Plain on sledges.

It is also their view that like many English cathedrals, Stonehenge had a long history of construction. New building was added to old and earlier structures were torn down to make way for rebuilding on a grandiose scale.

The first Stonehenge monument, a large earthwork, dated from about 1800 B. C. The second, discovered only in 1954, was begun about 150 years later and consisted of two concentric circles of stones oriented toward the point of midsummer sunrise. It was approached by an embanked avenue or processional entrance nearly two miles long.

It is believed that the stones were the "bluestones" that now occupy a different position in the monument. Originally eighty-two in number, they came from a quarry in the Prescelly Mountains of Pembrokeshire, Wales. Experiments have shown that the blocks could have been dragged on sledges over dry ground and carried in boats part way by sea and up the River Avon to the temple site.

The third period of Stonehenge (of about 1500 B. C.) was the construction of a circle of thirty uprights capped by a continuous ring of stone lintels. The stone rings surrounded a horeshoe of "trilithons", each of two uprights and a lintel. The stones had to be dragged from the Marlborough Downs twenty-five miles away.

Calculations show that the operation probably occupied more than 1,000 men for ten years or more.

As all the stones had to be dressed to shape and tongue-and-grooved into each other by laborious pounding with heavy hammers, it is considered that it occupied the full time of fifty masons for at least three years.

It is believed that the persons responsible for this "unparalleled building" were chieftains of the Wessex aristocracy, whose graves still cluster in great cemeteries of barrows (mounds) around Stonehenge.

Objects from the barrows show that the basis of the chieftains' power and wealth was trade, principally in the products of Irish gold and bronze smiths, which reached far into central Europe and the Mediterranean.

In the year 1800 Col. Stowell's grandparents assisted in the actual building of Middlebury College. Its first buildings consisted of logs hewed from the forest, and granite quarried from the nearby Green Mountains.

Col. Stowell in 1862 mounted his friends and neighbors on his thoroughbred Morgan horses, and rode out, as Captain of the Ninth Vermont Volunteers, a full quota of a hundred troopers for mustering into the Army.

Col. Stowell's grandfather was a member of that small band who, under the leadership of Ethan Allen, took Fort Ticonderoga. The surrender occurred in response to Allen's reply to the question from the British commandant of the Fort as to what he wanted. In effect, he replied that he demanded surrender "in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress". He and his troops, as it later appears, moved after the surrender to Morristown, New Jersey.

Also in Ethan Allen's small army, many of whom later joined General Washington at Morristown, New Jersey, were Green Mountain Boys who were recruited from the Vermont towns bordering on the east bank of Lake Champlain opposite Ticonderoga, New York, on the west bank. Hand's Cove on the lake is in the town of Shoreham, Addison County, Vermont. It takes its name from the Hand family, the ancestors of the late Augustus N. Hand and his cousin, Learned Hand, who for many years were United States Circuit Judges of the Second Judicial Circuit in New York City, each having been the presiding judge thereof. The family moved from Hand's Cove to Elizabethtown, New York.

The lake is so narrow at this point that from the Cove and the rolling fields of Shoreham one can see well Fort Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

The farms of Noah and Waterman Sunderland were just above Hand's Cove and were near the Hand farms.

It would appear that Ethan Allen's band of Green Mountain Boys was composed of men and boys of all ages—

grandfathers, even great-grandfathers, and fathers and their young sons. They came from Shoreham, Cornwall, Middlebury as well as many other towns on the west side of the Green Mountains in the Lake Champlain Valley. From the records of the Sons and Daughters of the Revolution it would appear that Ethan Allen's band of Green Mountain Boys had in its membership the following: Captain William Jones, Captain Ira V. Daggett, Daniel Allen, Ethan Allen Sherwood, Chauncey Stowell, Col. Ephraim Doolittle, Jonathan Haines, Augustus N. Hand, Daniel and his son Samuel Sunderland, Peleg, John and Noah Sunderland, and the latter's son, Waterman Sunderland. The son of Waterman Sunderland, Leslie Ernest Sunderland, married Col. Edwin Sherwood Stowell's daughter, Anna Julia, who was formerly Regent of the Cornwall Mary Baker Allen Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She, at the age of ninety-seven, is the active chaplain of that Chapter, of which her daughter-in-law, Esther (Mrs. Maurice Alden) Bingham, and her granddaughter, Joan Sunderland (Mrs. Charles Scribner, Jr.), are active members. Joan Sunderland Scribner's young sons, Charles Scribner V and Blair Sunderland Scribner, are thus qualified, as their grandfather Sunderland also qualified, for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution through one or more of the above-named individuals who fought in the Revolutionary War.

High Sunderland

(1274-1955)

Leslie Ernest Sunderland was a descendant of Samuel Sunderland of High Sunderland, Yorkshire, England, and of John Sunderland, born in 1619 in Yorkshire. John arrived in 1640 in Boston. He was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston in 1658.

Samuel Sunderland (1747-1822) came from High Sunderland Hall above Halifax in Yorkshire, England. He first settled at Plainfield, Connecticut. Later he established the town of Sunderland, Massachusetts; thence he went to Manchester, Vermont and established the town of Sunderland, Vermont, bordering on the south of Manchester, Vermont. There he met Ethan and Ira Allen.

The Vermont Historic Sites Commission has a marker there which reads:

"Sunderland
Allen families lived here

* * *

Ira Allen lived on this site by the Batten Kill and as Treasurer and Surveyor-General his 'Office' helped shape the destiny of the Republic of Vermont. Here Ethan's family lived; here he dictated his freethinking 'Oracles of Reason' in 1782. To his bride, his second wife, he presented the first copy."



High Sunderland



Historic Marker
Sunderland and Allen Families

Samuel Sunderland moved north with Ethan Allen to Shoreham, Vermont, bordering on Lake Champlain between Ticonderoga, New York and Middlebury, Vermont. He and the members of his family helped build the first buildings of Middlebury College. At Shoreham he joined the Vermont forces in the American Revolution and became a sergeant in Captain Bigelow's Company. He married Thankful Clarke, the daughter of Captain Daniel Clarke of Plainfield, Connecticut, who was mortally wounded in the battle of Stillwater, near Saratoga. It appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War Pension Claim S.41221 that "Samuel Sunderland, a resident of Plainfield, Connecticut, enlisted in May 1776 and served as a corporal in Captain Daniel Allen's Company of Colonel Andrew Ward's Connecticut Regiment, which was in the battles of White Plains and Trenton under General Washington and was in the Continental Army stationed at Morristown, New Jersey."

Samuel Sunderland's great-grandfather was Langdale Sunderland, a Captain in the Royalist troop of horse under his uncle, Marmaduke, the first Lord Langdale. His father, Abraham Sunderland, was a barrister and a Bencher of the Middle Temple. He was a Justice of the Peace in West Riding of York. He completed the work on "High Sunderland", which his father Richard started to rebuild in 1600. Richard Sunderland also was a Justice of the Peace and Treasurer for soldiers in West Riding. He married Mary, the daughter of Sir Richard Saltonstall, Lord Mayor of London. His great-grandfather, Richard Sunderland, was

the owner of High Sunderland built in 1274, on the Bradford Road on the high hill above Halifax in Yorkshire, England. William and John Sunderland had collaborated in the construction of the castle.

The historian, H. W. Harwood, thus writes in 1953 of High Sunderland:

“High Sunderland stands at an altitude near the thousand feet mark, well away from any good road, on a plateau against the shelter of a still higher hill to the north-east of Halifax. It is not only a remarkable building architecturally; it has a documented history from 1274; some people of note had association with it; and, while Emily Brontë had in mind Top Withins on the moor edge above Stanbury as the situation for Wuthering Heights, her description of the building is High Sunderland:

‘Before passing the threshold I paused to admire a quantity of grotesque carvings lavished over the front, and especially about the principal door, above which, among ranks of crumbling griffins and shameless little boys, I detected the date 1500, and the name, Hareton Earnshaw.’

The last part of the sentence is, of course, fiction, the ‘shameless little boys’ are now one; the other, headless and smashed, tumbled a few weeks ago with other debris.

Emily Brontë, in 1837-8 for some months, taught at Miss Patchett’s school at Law Hill, Southowram, a mile

away as the crow flies on another hill at an even higher altitude. High Sunderland would be the first building to the north visible from Emily's bedroom at Law Hill. She must surely have visited it, although her faithful description of High Sunderland, whatever may be popular opinion, constitutes her only association with the place.

On its main front it is some 84 feet long, comprising four sets of long mullioned windows on ground and second floors. The front eaves are castellated and pinnacled giving a castle appearance, and Emily's 'grotesque carvings' are gargoyles or stone water spouts. A front porch between the third and fourth windows is bordered by pillars on each side of which stood the carved figures of the 'shameless little boys'.

The east side has three windows and is some 60 feet long, while the west side is somewhat shorter. The front portion originally had a great house body, long since split into tenements, yet even today of grand dimensions. Entry to the front is by a massive stone gateway with arched doorway, square pillars supporting a ledge above which masonry is variously decorated. The oaken and metal door of which still has a large metal Sanctuary Ring. Latin inscriptions over the doorway have been translated thus: 'May no one who violates justice knock at this door'; and 'The fame of virtue is an everlasting trump.' Other inscriptions abound along with coats of arms and other ornamentations. There are at least two noble arched fireplaces, there was some armorial glass which was removed to safety fifty years ago; and, before

the plaster crumbled and fell, fading frescos could be seen.

High Sunderland's documented history has been told by several writers, but it was the late Mr. John Lister, M. A., of Shibden Hall, who found in the second line of the first entry in Wakefield Court Rolls, dated 1274, the first known reference. It told how a Matthew of Sunderland shared with other substantial men a payment of 20 marks for certain rights. We need not follow all the Sunderlands but one or two may be glimpsed.

There was Richard Sunderland under whose care the family fortunes rose to their highest. In 1536 he read publicly to interested parties the local Magna Carta which compounded the Great Tithes of Halifax Parish Church. His son of the same name became a Magistrate, and was one of two treasurers of the fund raised out of the county rate for 'Lame Soldirs'. He was one of those who paid £50 for refusing the honour of knighthood at the coronation of King Charles. Abraham Sunderland who died defending Pontefract Castle in 1644, is believed by Mr. Lister to have encased the medieval timbered structure of High Sunderland with massive stones, including the gateway, porch and ornamentations. His son Langdale Sunderland, became captain of a troop of horse in the Royal Army under his brother-in-law, Sir Marmaduke Langdale. Being fined what was then a tremendous sum, £878, for his Royalist allegiance, caused him to sell the mansion and estate that still bears his family name."

The English Country Life of December 20, 1946 contains pictures of High Sunderland including its massive south doorway leading to the banquet hall, the entrance to which is a chamber which still is intact with niches and pegs on which were hung the armor of the banqueters before entering the banquet hall. On a stone mantle were to be found, when the author first visited High Sunderland in 1928, old leather jugs which were used for whisky and wine prior to the making of glass containers. There is cut into this mantle the Sunderland toast, "Here is to more power in your elbow." This refers to the drinker tilting the leather jug, through the handle of which he put his thumb, with his elbow. In 1928 the author obtained from High Sunderland four hand-blown "coaching" glasses having in the glass enclosed bottom of each, three dice. It was the custom in the early days of travel by coach to carry one's drinking glass in the tail pocket of his great coat for use at the bar of the inn or tavern where the coach stopped for refreshment and a change of horses. Following the drink the glass was turned bottom up so that the dice could be shaken to determine who paid for the drinks. Hence the salutation which has survived to this day: "Bottoms Up!"

The article in Country Life has this to say about High Sunderland:

"A house has been there since the thirteenth century, and from the hillside at the back we can look on the roof and see that the older structure had a gabled front. Over the entrances are the arms of the Sunderland and Rishworth families, while carved in the stone above the south door a Latin inscription informs us that:

This place hates, loves, punishes, observes, honours,
Negligence, peace, crimes, laws, virtuous persons.

Above the main entrance is carved in stone the prayer:

May the Almighty grant that the race of Sunderland
may quietly inhabit this seat and maintain the rights
of their ancestors, free from strife, until an ant drink
up the sea and a tortoise walk round the whole earth.

This wish, however, was not fulfilled, for Captain
Langdale Sunderland, who was brother-in-law to the
famous Sir Marmaduke Langdale, one of the King's
generals in the Civil War, and so commanded a troop of
horse in the latter's Army, had to pay a heavy fine for
taking up arms against Parliament, and was obliged to
sell the family estates. In that way the Sunderlands for-
feited High Sunderland after living there from 1274 until
1655.

Their descendants later gained possession of this
ancient castle and have to this day title through an
ancient conveyance.

A secret passage is said at one time to have connected
High Sunderland with the parish church, which also has
a metal Sanctuary Ring, and certainly there are the
beginnings of a passage, but this is blocked up and unsafe,
for the property has for a century been steadily falling
into decay. The present tenant asserts that from his
kitchen he can faintly hear the playing of the church
organ. The intervening distance is a mile. The natural
stone in this part is a yellowish sandstone, the all-over

grey appearance being created by the depredations of a smoke-laden atmosphere."

In Watson's History of Halifax, Yorkshire, England, it is stated:

"Samuel Sunderland, Esq. of Harden, in Bingley parish, gave, by indenture made June 30, 1671, to Richard Hooke, D. D. and Vicar of Halifax * * * [and others], all that messuage or tenement (part whereof had been converted into a school-house) and the lands, building &c. thereto belonging in Hipperholme. And also all that other messuage or tenement, with lands, buildings &c. thereto belonging, at Norwood-green, within the township of Hipperholme cum Brighouse, in trust, after the decease of the said Samuel Sunderland, to the use of the School-master for the time being of the Free Grammar School, * * *. And upon further trust, that the yearly rents and profits of the other messuage or tenement, with its appurtenances, at Norwood-green, be paid to the most indigent and necessitous poor people of and within the township of Hipperholme cum Brighouse, aforesaid, for ever, on the Feastdays of St. Thomas, the Apostle, and the Nativity of St. John Baptist, or St. John Baptist and St. Thomas Days, or Feasts, as the same shall happen to fall next after the decease of the said Samuel Sunderland, by equal portions, in or at the aforesaid school-house, by the Ministers, Churchwardens, and Overseers for the poor within the Chapelries of Coley and Lightcliffe, from time to time. * * *

The Testator was buried February 4, 1676. He gave, amongst other benefactions, seventeen pounds a year for ever to the Free School of Hipperholme; to the use of the poor of Hipperholme eight pounds a year for ever; and to the successive curates of the Chapel of Coley five pounds a year for ever; all which Mr. Robert Parker of Bingley, his Executor, saw rightly and truly performed; but Mr. Thoresby's account, in his Topography of Deeds, p. 583, differs from this, for according to this Author he left yearly to the poor of Norwood-green eight pounds, to Hipperholme School eighteen pounds, and to Coley Chapel twenty shillings.

On the School porch at Hipperholme is this inscription:

'Libera Schola Grammaticalis Hipperholmiae a Mattheo Broadley, armigero, primitus fundata, post a Samuele Sunderland ancia, qui ambo patriae chari, et pauperibus benefici, hoc legatum famae suae monumentum posteris, reliquere, 1661,' "

The parish church connected with High Sunderland by a secret underground passage has carved stone figures over the many graves of the Sunderlands.

"Dr. Johnson sais that the following is in the south isle of the Chancel: 'Here lieth the bodies of Robert, son of Richard Sunderland, of Coley, Esq., and Judith, his daughter, who died January 19th, 1623. February 8th, 1623.' This was round a stone, on which were cut, in bad proportion, the figures of a man and woman kneeling

down together; over their heads, on a shield, three lions passant; and for crest, on an helmet an antelope's head."

Watson, in his history of Halifax, writes:

"High Sunderland, so called, as being perhaps, in ancient times a farm which the Anglo-Saxons called by the name of Sunden, or Sundon-land; or it might be separated, or set apart for some particular purpose, or privilege, the knowledge of which is now lost; for in that case they would give it this name, as being sundered or divided from the lands about it. It is called High because situated on the top of an hill."

J. H. Turner in his publication, Yorkshire Notes and Queries, confirms Watson in his history of Halifax and writes:

"William Sutherland changed his name to de Sunderland, of Halifax and Coley, Yorkshire, and moved to 'High Sunderland' a few miles below the Scotland Road dividing Scotland and England, in Wakefield Manor, of which High Sunderland is a part. Fee simple ownership was acquired by Richard Sunderland, an ardent supporter of Henry VIII. He married Margaret, daughter of King Robert Bruce.

William Sutherland, the 4th Earl of Sutherland, was the son of William, who was created the 3rd Earl of Sutherland in 1230.

The first Earl of Sutherland, Walter, received Earldom in 1061 from King Malcolm Cannore. Freskin's younger son, Hugh, the founder of the line of Sutherland, received

from King William, the Lion, the Clan charter of the territory in the southern portion of Caithness, northern part of Scotland, after Insurrections of Harold, Earl of Orkney and Caithness in 1197."

Gordon, in his history of Sutherland, and Frank Adams, in his Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands, assert that "the Sutherland Earldom is the oldest in the kingdom."

"William, who changed his name first to de Sunderland, and later to Sunderland, when he moved to 'High Sunderland', was the son of the 4th Earl of Sutherland. He politically opposed the King, Robert Bruce, and supported the English King, Richard II, in his Scots campaign of 1314."

It would appear that William, after moving to High Sunderland, caused to be carved in stone on the exterior, and placed in a stained glass window, his Sunderland coat of arms. The drawings of the Sunderland, as well as the Sutherland, the Sherwood and the Stowell coats of arms are on file, also, in the British Museum in London.

The coat of arms of Sunderland is described as follows: "Per pale, or (gold) and azure (blue) three Lioncels passant, guardant, counter changed. Crest: Antelope passant, guardant, per pale or and azure. Also, the crest is carved in stone as a gazelle for one branch of the family and a lion for another. Lambrequins: Or and azure. Motto: Deus Agit Causam (God will assist in every worthy purpose)."

The Sutherland coat of arms of William is described as follows: "Gules (red) three mullets or (gold), on a bordure

of the second (gold) a double tressure flory counterflory of the first (red). Crest: A cat-a-mountain salient ppr. Motto: Sans Peur (Without fear). Lambrequins: Or and gules."

At High Sunderland Hall below the coat of arms, crest and motto is carved in stone in Latin the following which, translated into English, reads:

"Happy is he whom the illustrious virtue of his ancestors adorns and who, by his own virtue, adds lustre to theirs."

John Y. Stapleton writes in the Yorkshire Observer of August 6, 1949 about Coley Hall, Coley, Norwood Green, Yorkshire:

"In early medieval times, the Site of Coley Hall was probably occupied by a priory, but there are certainly written records dating back to 1371, which show that a family of wealthy merchants named Rishworth owned property on this spot from that date until 1572, when the daughter of the house named Anne, married into the powerful Sunderland family, who owned High Sunderland, Halifax.

In 1597 their son married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Saltonstall, one-time Lord Mayor of London, and the child of this union was Abraham Sunderland, 'of Sunderland and Coley,' Barrister of the Middle Temple and Justice of the Peace for the West Riding * * *. On the great iron-bound door of Coley Hall are carved the

Sunderland arms; three lions passant, with the crest, an antelope's head, erased."

Within a radius of fifty miles from the locale of High Sunderland at Halifax, Yorkshire, the families of Sherwood and Stowell established their beginnings.

In the First World War, Jeannette Kissel, the sister of Dorothy Sunderland, married Richard Pease of Richmond, Yorkshire. His family contributed much to the civic and industrial life of Yorkshire. Darlington was the seat of their activities. Sir Richard has carried on successfully the enviable achievements of his fathers.

Green Springs Plantation

Prior to his marriage, Leslie Ernest Sunderland acquired, in 1864, Green Springs Plantation on the James River between Williamsburg and Jamestown, Virginia, site of the first permanent English settlement in America. He lived here fourteen years. He and his sister Ella (Mrs. Harvey Holbrook) occupied the mansion formerly used by a Governor of Virginia who had had the grounds attractively terraced. He operated a sawmill with the assistance of some two hundred colored men who, although originally slaves, were treated by him as free men. His mills provided planks for sidewalks at the 1876 Centennial held in Philadelphia and cypress shingles for the Centennial buildings.

His father-in-law, Col. Stowell, exhibited at the Centennial, Merino sheep and Morgan horses from his stock farm, Stonehenge, and won many medals for excellence. He had many associations with Williamsburg and for a time was postmaster of Jamestown, Virginia.

In connection with his lumbering and sawmill operations, he built, using a stationary steam boiler and engine, a locomotive, which operated on wooden rails capped with thin metal. This locomotive hauled wooden flat cars loaded with tree trunks to his sawmill, and lumber and

shingles to the James River where they were loaded on barges and boats for shipment to northern markets.

An expression of this interest in railroads was given some forty years later by his son, who, in 1912, joined as a law clerk, Francis Lynde Stetson, the senior member of the law firm of Stetson Jennings & Russell. The name of the firm later became, and now is, Davis Polk Wardwell Sunderland & Kiendl. This firm has rendered professional services for many railroads, especially during the period beginning in 1914 when several Western railroads were in such financial straits that resort had to be had to the Federal Equity Courts. Later, following the passage of the Railroad Bankruptcy Act, many more railroads required the Bankruptcy Courts' protection, and assistance in reorganizing their debt structure. The author was professionally active in such reorganizations. He served as chairman of the Reorganization Committee of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, and as counsel to the Reorganization Committee of The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company. He also was a director of the reorganized company. He served as a director and member of the executive committee of The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company. He resigned to become, nearly a decade ago, a member of the board of directors and executive committee of the Illinois Central Railroad Company.

The Invention of the Tapered Barrel Stave

Leslie Ernest Sunderland, during his ownership and occupancy of Green Springs Plantation, invented the tapered barrel stave. This was a great boon to the South because theretofore turpentine was shipped in hogsheads with straight barrel staves, and they frequently gave way. The tapered barrel stave was so constructed that the weight of the turpentine created a pressure at either end which made the barrel a safe conveyer. To this very day the tapered barrel stave is used.

Sunderland went from Green Springs, Jamestown, Virginia to De Kalb, Illinois and also to Joliet, Illinois, thence to Oskaloosa, Iowa. He established several mills for making the tapered barrel staves in the territory to the east of the Mississippi River. He was so impressed with the righteousness of the cause espoused by Abraham Lincoln that in a small village near Baton Rouge, Louisiana, he enlisted in the Union Army.

Invention of Barb Wire Fencing

Following the Civil War Sunderland turned his inventive mind to the making of a malleable wire and, having accomplished this, he experimented in developing a practical and feasible type of barb wire and also a barb wire stretching machine (United States Patent No. 291,955, January 15, 1884). His effects contain barbs running from a single barb made by a loop of the wire and sharpened, to a barb of eleven points. His application for a patent, which was granted (United States Patent No. 303,406, August 12, 1884), shows the customary three-barb or four-barb wire, which has never been changed. He established the Sunderland Barb Wire Fence Company at Joliet, Illinois and the Oskaloosa Barb Wire Fence Company at Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Sunderland's tapered barrel stave business produced sufficient funds to enable him to develop his barb wire business. He made several trips in the territory west of the Mississippi, where he found no tree stumps or stone walls with which to fence the fertile land, such as he was accustomed to see at Shoreham, Vermont and elsewhere in New England. He also saw droves of wild cattle and wild horses roaming over land that had every appearance of being rich and tillable soil for the growing of wheat. He established several barb wire mills notably at Joliet, Illi-

nois and Oskaloosa, Iowa. His last barb wire mill was built at Great Bend, Kansas, where the author was born. Even in those early days in 1885-6-7 he had demonstrated the usability of barb wire to fence off tillable lands which did not even have to be cleared because there was no growth of wood. Shortly thereafter great areas in Iowa, Nebraska, and particularly Kansas, were fenced with his barb wire, and under such protection, the great wheat fields that have furnished bread for the nation since the late eighteen eighties, were able to be tilled and developed.

It has seemed appropriate to refer to this in view of the clearing which was made for the purpose of growing wheat at Old Wheatsheaf Farm adjacent to Morristown, New Jersey.

To the south of Middlebury and Cornwall, the Legislature established a mint for the minting of its specially designed copper penny at Rupert, Vermont, a township bordering on Manchester, Vermont, which on the south is bordered by Sunderland, Vermont. Similar mints were established by Connecticut at New Haven, and also by Massachusetts as well as New Jersey and a few other States. Thus copper pennies were minted and issued for the transaction of reviving business.

As early as the year 1785 the mint at Rupert, Vermont was minting and issuing a copper penny which bore on one side a plow, and a sun rising from behind its "Green Mountains", and on the reverse side a radiated eye surrounded by thirteen stars, representing the original thirteen states. The mint at Rupert, unlike the other mints, issued

half pennies or cents. As in the case of New Jersey, the mint at New Haven, Connecticut continued for a period of three years. It was established in 1785, whereas the mint at "Solitude" was established in 1786 and was carried on for three years by Walter Mould. A neighbor of his, the Hon. Silas Condict, was at the time a member of the New Jersey State Legislature to which Mould applied for authority to mint and issue copper pennies. On June 1, 1786 an Act was passed by the Legislature of the State of New Jersey authorizing Walter Mould, Thomas Goadsby and Albion Cox to coin copper pennies to the value of ten thousand pounds, upon their giving bond in that amount with sufficient security. This they did, and thereupon they opened the copper and silver mine and began minting in the fireplace of the parlor of Old Wheatsheaf, or "Solitude" as it was then known.

"Solitude", later called "Wheatsheaf Tavern" or "Inn", in which the "plough" penny was minted, was a two-story frame wooden structure not unlike the house of Col. Jacob Ford which was chosen by General Washington for his headquarters after his sojourn at Arnold's tavern, where he went upon his arrival in Morristown on January 6, 1777. This tavern was built in 1740 and it is probable that the Ford house and "Old Wheatsheaf" or "Solitude" were built about the same time, or possibly earlier, that is to say, the east end of the present house. The west end was built by Gustav Edward Kissel, father of Dorothy Kissel Sunderland, one of the present owners, about 1896. It contains "Head-long Hall", a very large living room with bedrooms on the second floor and servants' rooms on the third floor.

The east end of the present building is the original building substantially unchanged except for a smoking ("Polo Bar") room addition. In this part is the parlor where the minting occurred. Across the hall, running east to west and flaring out in the west end, is the dining room with the original flooring of wide pine boards hewed from the nearby forest and held in place by wooden pegs. When the building was a hostelry, and known as "Wheatsheaf Inn", the bar was in the front right-hand corner of the then considered spacious hallway. The partition shutting off the barroom from the hallway was and is semi-circular in form, the lower part of it being of paneled boards, and the upper part of lattice work, which has since been removed. The drinks were passed out to patrons through a small semi-circular opening similar to that used by the teller in a commercial bank of the present day. This has not been disturbed. Ingress and egress from the south side of the building and the famous barn, alleged to contain Morristown "Ghosts", was by basement stairs which remain intact.

In front were several large black cherry trees, the shoots of one or more of which have provided cherry trees until the present time.

Coaches and carriages as well as riding horses entered from Sussex Avenue at a break in the stone wall which runs along the south side of the Avenue, and followed the circle to the North porch and thence to another break in the stone wall to Sussex Avenue. At the left of the entrance there stood for many years a harness shop. Here quite a business was carried on in the manufacture of saddles, the leather used being made from pig skins furnished from a

piggery near the tavern, and embellished by silver trimmings forged from silver mined on the place. Poland-China pigs are still reared by the present owners but the mine is no longer being operated.

Anna Symmes, who was born at "Solitude", Old Wheat-sheaf Farm, in July 1776, was the daughter of the celebrated, and former owner of the farm, John Cleves Symmes. Her mother died when she was two years old. Her father was a Colonel of the Third Sussex Battalion and resigned, May 23, 1777, to accept appointment as Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Justice Symmes, as his second wife, married in 1778 a daughter of the then Governor of New Jersey, Governor Livingston.

In the Sherman history of Morristown it is stated:

"The marriage ceremony was probably performed at 'Solitude'; and there are some glimmerings of evidence in favor of the spacious front hallway of this interesting house having been the place where he [Symmes] gave a practical exemplification of his belief in the teaching of the eminent English philosopher, who says: 'Were a man not to marry a second time, it might be concluded that his first wife had given him a disgust to marriage; but by taking a second wife, he pays the highest compliment to the first, by showing that she made him so happy as a married man, that he wishes to be so a second time.'

Governor Livingston was probably present at the marriage of his daughter to Justice Symmes; and it is said he was afterward a frequent visitor at 'Solitude'.

At Lexington, Kentucky, Anna Symmes, the daughter of Justice Symmes and his first wife, first met Captain William Henry Harrison, who later was to become the ninth president of the United States of America. After a brief courtship they became engaged. Judge Symmes gave his consent to the marriage; but when certain slanderous reports against Captain Harrison reached him, he withdrew his consent. Anna, however, had confidence in the young captain and resolved to marry him.

On the morning of the day fixed for that event, Judge Symmes rode to Cincinnati, unsuspecting of any such doings. He was offended. He did not meet Harrison until several weeks afterward, when he met him at a dinner party given by General Wilkinson at Fort Washington. 'Well, Sir', said the Judge sternly to Captain Harrison, 'I understand you have married Anna.' 'Yes, Sir', answered the Captain. 'How do you expect to support her?' inquired her father. 'By my sword and my right arm', quickly answered the young officer. The Judge was pleased with the spirit of the reply, and he became at once reconciled. He lived to be proud of his son-in-law."

After "Solitude" became "Wheatsheaf Inn" in 1797, many distinguished visitors were entertained and spent periods of time in its relatively comfortable quarters and in the lovely clearing fringed by beautiful trees that surrounded it. Among the many who came from Staten Island, New York City and elsewhere was another president of the United States of America, Theodore Roosevelt.

During General Washington's two encampments in Morristown and vicinity, the second in the winter of 1779-80, it is recorded that he frequently rode about the country on his small white horse, particularly to inspect the artillery brigade in command of General Henry Knox, one of the most brilliant officers in the Continental Army. The brigade was encamped about half a mile to the northwest from Morristown Green on the road then and now leading toward Mendham. This encampment was spoken of in the military parlance of the day as the "Park of Artillery". To the south and on the opposite side of the road were, and are, two pieces of level ground where the artillery horses were turned to graze in 1780. This tract of land is divided by what was then known as "Burnham's Pond", and is now so known, and is a park with swimming pools which are constantly in use during the warm weather of the summer. Just across Mendham Road is the original clearing known as "Solitude" and later as Old Wheatsheaf Farm. It is bounded on the West by Kahdena Road and on the North by Sussex Avenue.

General Washington and his officers were wont to exercise by riding over this cleared area, or farm.

The so-called "grand parade" of the Army was situated just off the Jockey Hollow Road toward Mendham, a very short distance to the southeast from the clearing.

Just to the south and east is a summit not as high as the promontory on Old Wheatsheaf Farm. There Fort Nonsense was built, upon which there was placed in revolutionary times a beacon station and light. It is more than

likely that there was a beacon station and light also during Washington's occupation, on the promontory above the woods on the clearing which is the highest point of land in and around the immediate vicinity of Morristown to the west of the residence on Old Wheatsheaf Farm.

The theory is that the large clearing now known as Old Wheatsheaf Farm was the first clearing of any substantial size hewed out of the heavily wooded forests in and surrounding the settlement which later became the town of Morris, or Morristown. It occupied the highest rolling land in the vicinity. The residence called "Solitude" was built long before the Revolution.

The type of construction consisting of wide boards hewed from nearby large trees fastened with wooden pegs, with protruding dormer windows on the third floor and a kitchen annex, was in effect generally duplicated in Jacob Ford, Sr.'s tavern which the record indicates was started in 1772 and completed in 1774. This was the house used by General Washington as his headquarters. The tract of land on which the headquarters was built was conveyed to Jacob Ford, Sr. by deed, a portion of which reads as follows:

"Thirty-first day of May in the fourth year of the Reign of King George the Second, Defender of the Faith, Annoquo Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty One." The witnesses to the deed were: Jonathan Osborn, Zachariah Fairchild and John Morehouse.

The Morris County Court was established about that time, and its first session was held on March 25, 1740. Up to that time there was no provision for recording conveyances of real estate.

The minutes of its initial Session, which the record describes as "General Sessions of the Peace", show that the first matter to receive its attention was the laying out of the Townships of Morris, Morristown, Pequannock and Hanover. From its action as recorded the following is excerpted:

"And that a certain road from the bridge by John Day's, up to the place where the same road passes between Benjamin and Abraham Persons, and thence up the same road to the corner of Samuel Ford's fence, thence leaving Samuel Ford to the right hand, thence running up the road that leads from the Old Iron Works toward Succasuning, crossing Whippening Bridge, and from thence to Succasuning, and from thence to the great pond on the head of Musconecong to part the township of Hanover from the township of Morris which part of the County of Morris lying as aforesaid to southward and westward of said roads, lines and places is ordered by the Courts to be and remain a township, district or precinct, and to be called and distinguished by the name of Morristown."

The "pond" therein referred to receives the waters from the many springs and brook which flow through the clearing now known as Old Wheatsheaf Farm in the Township of Morris, and is only a short distance therefrom and from the village green or square of Morristown.

Morristown and adjoining Old Wheatsheaf Farm are unique in three particulars. They occupy a geological site of interest. They are the westernmost colonial puritan

outpost of New England. They were the key of General Washington's position from the time of the capture of New York to the capture of Cornwallis—the one connecting link between the Eastern and the Southern States.

Morristown and Old Wheatsheaf Farm are on solid ground goodly sprinkled with rock. It is more than likely that from the highest point, no one of the numerous hills now visible to the east and south, could be seen when the ocean receded. When it did, it left behind a wide expanse of sandstone and shale. Later, melted rock squeezed up through cracks in the sandstone to form the few hills between New York City and Morristown. The latter is on the ancient coastline. The greater part of Morristown and all of Old Wheatsheaf Farm are built on a glacial moraine. This accounts for the many high hills and rolling contour of Old Wheatsheaf Farm.

Here, on the edge of the geological phenomenon, there was established and grew up the puritan settlement. Its early history was substantially that of the church. The puritan, the churchman, the Holland Calvinist, the Scotch Presbyterian, the Lutheran, the Catholic, the Huguenot, all contributed, but the dominant element was introduced by the puritan whose settlements were known collectively as New England. Town after town drew its population from New England. Each town had its church. When doctrinal differences arose in the church, one or the other faction would move and organize a new church. These settlements outside the legal limits of New England were as truly puritan as any within, such as Newark, New Jersey, and its offshoot, Morristown. Newark had its beginning

in a revolt of some of the best and most distinguished men in the New Haven colony. They were scandalized by the fact that godless men became entitled, on the union of the New Haven colony with Newark, to vote, a right previously restricted by the laws of New Haven to church members alone. They accordingly exiled themselves and established a new town to be ruled by the church. The early records of Newark show a thoroughly puritan intermingling of the affairs of Church and State. Such was the state of affairs when Morristown was settled. As in the case of Newark, the early records of Morristown and Morris County and Township show a similar thoroughly puritan intermingling of the affairs of Church and State.

The Mendham Road bounding "Wheatsheaf Farm" clearing leads southwest about three miles to one of the oldest villages in this vicinity. The semi-puritan village, although its population is numbered in hundreds, has its several churches and old taverns. On a promontory stands the largest church with its "New England" church spire, which can be seen for miles about from the valleys and smaller hills surrounding this beacon of puritan church influence.

The members of the famous Presbyterian church in Morristown, of which the Rev. John Cleverly was the first pastor, erected the first house of worship probably in 1740, about three years after its organization.

Under the then direction of Dr. Timothy Johnes, a graduate of Yale College and a licentiate of the Congregational body in New England, there was maintained after 1742 a diary which is invaluable to one interested in historical

events; and the events therein recorded support either directly or inferentially the story of these early days.

The Presbyterian parsonage was the meeting place for the New Jersey Council of Safety in which General George Washington and Dr. Timothy Johnes participated.

This famous diary contains the record which supports the following incident which is informative as to General Washington's religious convictions:

"The friendship between General Washington and Dr. Johnes, pastor of the Morristown first Presbyterian church, led to the selection of that church for the Army's semi-annual celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is recorded in the early records that General Washington rode his handsome white horse to the parsonage and engaged in conversation with Doctor Johnes as follows:

'Doctor,' said Washington, 'I understand that the Lord's Supper is to be celebrated with you next Sunday. I would learn if it accords with the canons of your church to admit communicants of another denomination.' 'Most certainly,' replied Dr. Johnes. 'Ours is not the Presbyterian table, General, but the Lord's table, and we hence give the Lord's invitation to all his followers of whatever name.' 'I am glad of it,' declared Washington; 'that is as it ought to be; but as I was not quite sure of the fact, I thought I would ascertain it from yourself, as I propose to join with you on that occasion. Though a member of the Church of England, I have no exclusive partialities.' "

The following Sunday under the trees of the orchard, General Washington joined with the members of his Army, the residents of the village and of the surrounding country, including, doubtless, the residents of "Solitude", in the memorial service.

Andrew M. Sherman, in his *Historic Morristown, New Jersey: The Story of Its First Century*, published in 1905 by the Howard Publishing Company, Morristown, New Jersey, to which acknowledgment and credit is given by the author, records the foregoing and comments: "This commemoration of the Lord's death was probably the only occasion on which Washington during his public career, participated, outside of his own church, in such a service."

It would seem probable from the available historical records that the clearing originally called "Solitude", and, later, "Old Wheatsheaf", because of its disassociation from other clearings or settlements, was established before or about the time of the first settlement in 1710, of West Hanover or New Hanover, which settlement later was renamed Morristown.

The following extract from the minutes of the Hunterdon County Court of June 5, 1722, held at Trenton, New Jersey, then the county seat, is of interest in relation to the original settlement of what is now Morristown:

"Whereas, there is no assessor returned to this court to serve for the inhabitants of the township of Hanover [Morristown], it is therefore, ordered by the court that Elisha Bird serve as assessor for the said township of

Hanover [Morristown] for the ensuing year, to assess the tax to be levied upon the said inhabitants towards the support of his Majesty's Government; and it is hereby ordered accordingly."

At subsequent sessions of said court held in 1723-4-5, other officers were appointed for the township. In 1726 officers of the township were elected by the people in town meeting assembled in genuine New England fashion.

In 1739 a new county was laid out within the territory of former Hunterdon County. It was given the name of Morris County, in honor of Governor Lewis Morris, the first Chief Magistrate of New Jersey after its separation from New York. (Cf. Act of the Legislature passed March 15, 1739.) By this Act Morris County was established. Later the township in which "Solitude", Old Wheatsheaf Farm, is situated was called Morris Township, a subdivision of Morris County, New Jersey. In 1739 Morris County included Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties. Owing to its importance as a town, Morristown inevitably became the County Seat of the newly constituted County of Morris.

The Sessions of the Morris County Court, or Court of Common Pleas, were first held in Ford's Tavern, of which Jacob Ford was the proprietor. He was one of the justices of the Court at the time.

The Morristown and "Solitude" Ghosts

During the Revolution, silver, money and other treasures were buried in the earth by Tories and others. Elihu Bond, a private in the Revolutionary Army, it is recorded, buried his chest. The following is taken from a historical record:

"During the war he [Elihu Bond] buried a small chest containing silverware and money; and when at the close of the war, he went to recover his buried treasure, he found it undisturbed and intact. This chest, together with the several silver spoons and few coins [including "plough" pennies presumably minted at "Solitude"] that were hidden in it, are now in the possession of the Washington Association, and on exhibition in Headquarters at Morristown."

It was the prevailing belief among the people of Morris Township that many such chests were buried and that these buried treasures were zealously guarded by spirits.

The area west of Morristown, in which "Solitude" was situated, was supposed to be the locality chiefly selected for the burial of these treasures. They were buried by Tories as a measure of protection against confiscation by the State, and by others to safeguard them from the enemy.

It is recorded that in 1788 two enterprising Morris County men, in their search of a person who could locate

and recover buried treasure, formed the acquaintance of a Yankee schoolmaster, a Mr. Ransford Rogers, at Smith's Cove, back of Haverstraw and near Stony Point, in Orange County, New York. Rogers claimed that by reason of his thorough knowledge of chemistry ["chymistry" he called it] and other sciences, he possessed the power not only to raise the spirits, good and evil, but likewise to dispel them. He was prevailed upon to accompany them to Morris Township, where he could give a practical demonstration of his skill in "chymistry". Many, including the two Morris County men, were under the complete sway of the superstition of the times. It is recorded that in September 1788 an initial secret meeting was held with Rogers and an accomplice "at the residence of Mr., situated at a secluded spot on the Mendham road, known as 'Solitude'. Rogers shrewdly and solemnly admonished the group of selected Morris Township men there gathered to refrain from all immorality on the ground that indulgence therein would offend the denizens of darkness and prevent the yielding up by them of the buried treasures."

It is recorded that:

"The original number of the elect did not long continue, since the dazzle of prospective gold and the irresistible impulse to communicate to others the 'hope of gain' soon increased the coterie of gold seekers to forty. Rogers' pretended meetings with guardian spirits became frequent. As a means of bolstering up the credulity of the elect, he utilized his knowledge of 'chymistry' by compounding various chemical ingredients, which, thrown into the air, exploded, causing a variety of ap-

pearances, mysterious and extraordinary, to the active superstition of the people involved. These appearances and other phenomena attending Rogers' chemical experiments were supposed by his victims to be of a supernatural origin and character. The skill of the Yankee schoolmaster was still further displayed and the credulity of the elect (elect in the sense of having been carefully selected by Rogers as easy victims) still further stimulated by occasional and dreadful subterranean explosions caused by 'timed' explosives placed in the earth, and which, occurring according to careful planning in the night, were a source of great terror to the elect people."

The growing impatience of the elect to take active measures toward the discovery of the buried treasures led to the calling of a general secret meeting at "Solitude" at night. The elect gathered and marched round and round in solemn procession. A terrible subterranean explosion occurred. The elect were suitably predisposed to catch the faintest whisper of the ghosts or guardian spirits. Rogers, claiming to be in communication with the spirits, reported that in order to obtain the buried treasures, each of the elect assembled must deliver twelve pounds to the spirits as an acknowledgment.

Subsequent meetings occurred, at which the manifestations of ghostly presence consisted of hideous groans, mysterious rappings, and suggestive and tantalizing jingling of gold and silver coin.

To inflame their credulity to white heat, various tricks were now and then performed by the spirits (the Morris-

town and "Solitude" ghosts) for the benefit of the treasure-seekers. As a token of spirit approbation each member was presented by Rogers with a parcel said by him to contain the burned and powdered bones of spirit bodies, which were to be carefully guarded but the parcel was not to be opened. The next requirement mentioned by Rogers may not have been particularly difficult, nor onerous for the treasure-seekers to comply with; it was none else than to drink freely of 'applejack'—'Jersey lightning' as it was afterwards called—being almost pure alcohol distilled from aged New Jersey apple cider.

Future meetings became convivial. Among the coterie of spirit-guided treasure-seekers was a man well advanced in years who with the help of his wife, and the blunders of Rogers, who had imbibed too freely of apple jack, brought the elect to their senses and burst the bubble of intrigue and sham. Rogers was arrested and confined in the jail on the Morristown green. But, protesting his innocence he was bailed out of jail. He attempted surreptitiously to leave New Jersey. Again he was arrested; this time he made a confession.

It should not be understood that the men of Morris County were generally as gullible as these few select men who were so easily duped by the Yankee schoolmaster. Indeed, they were the exception and relatively few in number. The historical records show that the men and women of Morris County were stalwart patriots.

"The Morristown Ghost", printed in 1792, refers in verse by Ransford Rogers, to "Old Wheatsheaf Inn":

“Here may thy storme-beth vessell
safely ryde
This is the port of rest from
troublous toyle
The Worlde’s sweet Inn
from paine and wearisome termoyle.”

When the news of the encounter of American colonists with the British Regulars on the Lexington Green and at the Concord bridge reached them, they were at once aroused to the highest pitch of righteous indignation. More importantly, they acted promptly. They dropped their labors and to a man assembled on May 1 and 2, 1775 at Dickerson’s Tavern in the village of Morristown. They raised men, money and arms with a dispatch that was almost unbelievable for the defense of their homes and their country. No finer example can be found of sturdy independence, loyalty and patriotism.

The men of Morris County were dominated by the influence of their character, and a series of public meetings was held in the village of Morristown, in Morris County, and throughout the countryside including the clearing called “Solitude.” They acted at once. It was a month later, on June 3, 1775, that the Provincial Congress made provisions for the regulation of the militia. This Congress recognized the earlier action by its direction “where companies and regiments were already formed and officers chosen and appointed, the same were to be continued.”

“To obey our officers in such service as they shall appoint us, agreeable to the rules and orders of the Provincial Con-

gress"—such was the promise made by the three hundred volunteers recruited in Morris County, in accordance with the action of the meetings held in Morristown at Captain Peter Dickerson's tavern, on May 1 and 2 of the eventful year of 1775.

These men of Morris County were for the most part of the same stock as Samuel Adams, John Hancock and Joseph Warren of Boston, Massachusetts—as Ethan Allen, the hero of Ticonderoga, Ira V. Daggett, Chauncey, Noah and Waterman Sunderland, Peleg Sherwood, Sherwood Stowell, and Augustus N. Hand of Shoreham, Cornwall and Sunderland, Vermont, and as many other patriots of New England.

On December 14, 1776 General Alexander McDougall arrived at Morristown and three days later there arrived three regiments of eastern troops from Ticonderoga. Three weeks later General George Washington arrived with his decimated army.

On December 20, 1776, General Washington in a letter to the President of the United States Congress said: "I have directed the three regiments from Ticonderoga to halt at Morristown in New Jersey (where, I understand, about 800 militia have collected), in order to inspirit the inhabitants, and, as far as possible, to cover that part of the country." This was most important because at Morristown was Colonel Ford's powder mill, whose monthly output was a ton of first-class gunpowder, a due proportion of which was made into cartridges under the supervision of Benoni Hathaway. This was no ordinary allurements to the enemy, then in undisputed possession of New York and vicinity.

The first attempt upon the part of the enemy to reach Morristown, with a view of destroying Ford's powder mill, by blowing it up with its own product, was made soon after its erection. Through the vigilance of Colonel Jacob Ford, Jr. and the efficiency of his battalion of Morris County militia, the attempt was successfully thwarted.

Furthermore, the iron industry in surrounding counties had had an amazing growth and development. Numerous forges were to be found in these counties where cannon, guns and other implements of war were being rapidly produced.

The proper defense and protection of war material was essential since at that time General Washington is estimated to have had only three thousand troops, whereas the British force in New Jersey numbered fully ten thousand men.

In addition, smallpox was proving so fatal in Morristown and vicinity that General Washington on February 5, 1777 addressed a letter to the United States Congress stating that it was spreading through his whole army and that he had determined to inoculate all the troops and the recruits as fast as they came from Philadelphia.

"Solitude", being over a mile from the Army barracks, was used as an asylum for officers who had not become infected, according to general reports.

Although the people seriously objected to submitting themselves to inoculation, they finally consented. The Rev. Timothy Johnes, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, by reason of his great personal influence, materially aided Washington in his effort to thus allay the ravages of the terrible disease.

There is a well-grounded tradition that in the winter of 1777 during the prevalence of smallpox, Washington was ill with quinsy sore throat. When Martha Washington learned of her husband's illness, she hastened to his bedside in a modest sleeping room in Arnold's Tavern and nursed him back to health.

The Journal of Colonel Timothy Pickering under date of March 22, 1777 has the following entry:

"Went to Morristown, finished my business with the Paymaster, and drank tea at headquarters (Arnold's Tavern), General Washington and his lady being of the company, and then took leave of the company."

Among General Washington's trusted officers was Colonel Alexander Hamilton who was, it is reported, of great assistance to the General.

In addition to his staff, many prominent officers applied for service in General Washington's patriot army. Among them was the Polish general, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who brought a letter of introduction from Benjamin Franklin. He became an aide-de-camp on the staff of the commanding general. He taught the American officers the science of engineering. He and Alexander Hamilton were wont to ride over the "clearing" and were frequent guests, it is reported, at "Solitude".

Among the few recorded incidents relating to the social life of the community is the following:

Martha Washington reached the Ford mansion by way of Trenton, where Virginia troops were paraded in her

honor on December 28, 1779. During the winter of her sojourn at the Ford mansion, she was honored by a call from several representative ladies. As one of these ladies afterward remarked, "We were dressed in our most elegant silks and ruffles, and so were introduced to her ladyship. And don't you think we found her with a speckled homespun apron on, and engaged in knitting a stocking! She received us very handsomely, and then resumed her knitting. In the course of her conversation she said very kindly to us, whilst she made her needles fly, that 'American ladies should be patterns of industry to their countrywomen * * *. We must become independent of England by doing without those articles which we can make ourselves. Whilst our husbands and brothers are examples of patriotism, we must be examples of industry.'" "I do declare," said one of these visitors, 'I never felt so shamed and rebuked in my life.' "

There was at that time pressing need for industry and of economy also. Inflation was rampant. Hay was one hundred pounds a ton; wheat, \$50 a bushel; corn, \$30 a bushel; and other necessities in proportion.

The value of slaves in New Jersey at the time may be inferred from such advertisements as the following:

"One Thousand Dollars Reward for the Recovery of my Negro man, Toney."

"Solitude", with its three stories, kitchen and other extensions, accommodated more people than any house in the vicinity. This fact led to its becoming an inn or tavern

in 1797. It was probably true, as reported, that it accommodated visitors when important gatherings were held in Morristown and vicinity because of its proximity to the village.

One of the most important gatherings ever held was the court martial in the winter of 1779-80 of Benedict Arnold. The proceedings were held in nearby Dickerson's Tavern. Arnold was by common consent one of the bravest and most efficient officers in the Continental Army. In May 1775 he ably assisted Colonel Ethan Allen in the capture of Ticonderoga and Crown Point. In the battle of Saratoga, resulting in Burgoyne's surrender, he especially distinguished himself.

After the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British, General Arnold was placed in command of that city, and there occurred the unfortunate events which led to his court martial.

The terse summons to the gathering in Dickerson's Tavern was as follows:

"Headquarters, Morristown, December 22, 1779. The court martial, whereof Major-General Howe is president, to sit to-morrow, 10 o'clock, at Norris (Dickerson's) Tavern."

The charges brought against Arnold were, briefly stated: Permitting a Tory vessel (while he was in command at Philadelphia in 1778) to enter port without acquainting the Commander-in-Chief or the State Officials of the fact; closing stores and shops, thus preventing purchases by the

People of the "Quaker City", but making purchases for his personal advantage; the imposition upon the local militia of what were considered menial services; the purchase, at an inadequate price, of a prize-ship captured and brought into port by a state privateer; granting to an unworthy person a pass to enter the enemy's lines; the transportation of the private property of Tories in wagons belonging to the State; an indecent and disrespectful refusal to explain to the Council of Pennsylvania the reasons for using the State wagons for the benefit of Tories; and lastly, partiality exhibited toward the adherents of the King of Great Britain and the neglectful treatment of the patriot authorities of Philadelphia.

The recollection of Arnold's previous brilliant and invaluable services in the cause of freedom, rendered the prosecution of such charges by the judge advocate a most disagreeable task.

Arnold, leaning upon his cane, acted as his own counsel in this famous trial. Following the presentation of his evidence, he addressed the Court at considerable length. The following is an excerpt from his plea:

"When one is charged with practices which his soul abhors, and which conscious innocence tells him he has never committed, an honest indignation will draw from him expressions in his own favor which on other occasions might be ascribed to an ostentatious turn of mind. My time, my fortune and my person have been devoted to my country in this war. * * * "

As to the charge he had made private purchases to his own advantage, he said:

"If this be true, I stand confessed in the presence of this honorable court the vilest of men; I stand stigmatized with indelible disgrace. Where is the evidence of this accusation? I call upon my accusers to produce it. On the honor of a gentleman and a soldier, I declare to gentlemen and soldiers it is false. * * *"

After the close of his address the Court was adjourned to January 26, 1780.

The general expectancy of the acquittal of Arnold in which he himself shared, was universal in Morris County and in the gatherings at taverns, public places and at "Wheatsheaf Inn". The expectation was that he would be acquitted with honors.

While the verdict of the court martial was, technically speaking, neither a conviction nor an acquittal, it contained a suggestion that Arnold receive from the Commander-in-Chief a reprimand for his alleged misconduct. This reprimand General Washington subsequently administered privately.

Arnold was disappointed and indignant, and, stung by the verdict and reprimand, he resolved to quit the Army and retire to private life. From this course the magnanimous Washington succeeded in dissuading him, and he was appointed by Washington to the command at West Point, one of the most important in the service, which Arnold accepted.

George Washington, like many of the leaders in Morris County, was a member of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey.

The following memorandum refers to the Masonic Convention at Morristown during the Revolutionary War at which "Brother" George Washington was personally present:

"One of the most interesting events which took place in Morristown during the war for independence was the meeting of the Military Union Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to celebrate the feast of St. John the Evangelist in December, 1779, in the old Arnold Tavern. The presence of Washington, the patriotic character of the resolutions adopted, and the number of distinguished officers who took part, made it peculiarly noteworthy. It was probably the first meeting of the Order in Morristown * * *."

The memory of the Revolution and of General George Washington is cherished at Morristown and Morris Township more faithfully than in any other town in the country, and this is indeed most fitting.

In the midst of these stirring and historical events was the clearing, now Old Wheatsheaf Farm, formerly "Solitude", and later "Wheatsheaf Inn", where General George Washington, his officers and distinguished guests frequently gathered for private consultation and relaxation.

Unlike today, the means of transportation was principally the riding horse and, only occasionally, the "brake" or coach.

As has already been indicated, the historical records show that General Washington and his staff, as well as distinguished visitors, followed the practice of the inhabitants in frequently riding about Morristown and its environs, including the clearing, "Solitude".

The family of the present owners have long been interested in the horse. The brother of the mother of Dorothy Kissel Sutherland, William K. Thorn, was Master of Hounds at Pau, France, and captain of the polo team. He it was who first introduced polo into this country at Newport around 1878. Various polo teams were organized in this country, particularly the Whippany polo team on the outskirts of Morristown. Many matches between the American polo teams and the British teams occurred at Meadowbrook, Long Island, Whippany, New Jersey, Newport, Rhode Island, Saratoga, New York, and elsewhere. After many contests between the American Polo Association and the British Polo Association, or the teams making up the British Association, the American polo team went to England in 1891 and played a series of matches for the "Alden Cup". These matches were played at Hingham, England. The Alden Cup was won from the British by the American team, made up of the following of which William K. Thorn was Captain. He played position No. 3; the others were J. T. Stevens at No. 1, T. A. Havemeyer, Jr. at No. 2 and R. L. Agassiz at No. 4. Many silver trophies that are now at Old Wheatsheaf Farm were awarded to William K. Thorn and his polo team, and indicate that he was internationally well known and very successful in his polo matches at Hingham and at other polo fields in England; also at Pau, France, and other places on the Continent.

His brother-in-law, Gustav Edward Kissel, used part of the "clearing" as a polo field, and for the period of time that he occupied "Old Wheatsheaf" he took part in many matches played on his polo field not far from the residence. Indeed, one of the reasons for building an addition to the old house was to provide a "polo bar" or meeting place for the polo players.

The Morgan horse bred by Col. Edwin Sherwood Stowell and his forefathers, as hereinabove stated, was used during the Civil War by Col. Stowell to mount an entire company from his stables at Stonehenge. Col. Stowell also exported both the Morgan horse and the Merino sheep to Ohio and the Middle West.

Col. Stowell was one of the organizers on March 23, 1876 at Middlebury, Vermont of the Vermont Merino Sheep Breeders' Association. It published in 1879 its Register of Stock Rams in which some twenty rams are listed which he bred in 1864 and following years. The register contains a "wood cut" of his famous ram, "Goliath".

The *Gold Medal* of the Vermont State Agricultural Society was awarded the Stonehenge flock the season of 1879.

At Stonehenge Col. Stowell bred his Morgan horses on his own theory of large sire and small dam, combining the qualities of the Justin Morgan stallion and the *Ethan Allen* mare, and the *Hambletonian* and Clay stallion. "Landlord" by Mambrino Patchen, from "Sister Sue" by Rysdyk's *Hambletonian*, was the head of his breeding stock. At Arden, New York the *Hambletonian* races are still featured.

He bred a number of stallions who were worthy descendants of the horse, Justin Morgan. This horse derived his name from the fact that Justin Morgan, who originally lived in Springfield, Massachusetts brought the horse to Randolph, Vermont, in the year 1795.

The sire of Justin Morgan was True Briton, or Beautiful Bay, which was raised by General Delancey, Commander of the Refugee Forces on Long Island. True Briton was sired by Traveller, an imported English horse, also owned by General Delancey. The dam of Justin Morgan was said to be a descendant of Wild Air, also imported by General Delancey.

Justin Morgan was about fourteen hands two inches high and weighed about nine hundred and fifty pounds. His color was dark bay, with black legs, mane, and tail. His eyes were medium-sized, very dark and prominent, with a spirited but pleasant expression. He was a very fast walker. In trotting, his gait was low and smooth, and he stepped short and nervous. His proud, bold, and fearless style of movement and his vigorous and untiring action have, perhaps, never been surpassed. He was perfectly gentle and kind to handle, and loved to be groomed and caressed.

Col. Stowell bred to improve the trotting speed of the Morgan horse. He built a race track around Stonehenge. He sponsored the organization of the Addison County (Vermont) Racing Association, which had a trotting track on which he raced successfully his Morgans. He drove personally his horses in these races. During one of them, his daughter, Agnes, was born while he was winning the race in the third heat.

During this period of time the Vermont Morgan horse was considered one of the finest and fastest animals in the United States.

The United States Government established a Morgan Horse breeding farm some years ago only a short distance from Col. Stowell's Stonehenge stock farm. This farm is still in operation.

In the early days of stage-coaching many of the horses used for this purpose came from Vermont. The rate of travelling between Albany and Buffalo was nine miles an hour, including stoppages. To accomplish this rate it was necessary to make between ten and eleven miles over the road. It is said that this speed over the American roads of that date was fully equal to thirteen or fourteen over the old English turnpikes when the mail was carried by coach.

There must have been horses of great speed and endurance in the time of the Revolution, in New England, for the historian Bancroft tells us that General Israel Putnam, on the morning following the fight at Concord, heard the cry for aid from Lexington. He was engaged at the time in building a stone wall, and without changing his check shirt that he had worn in the field he rode to the scene of conflict, a distance of one hundred miles, which he covered in eighteen hours.

During the Canadian Rebellion of 1837, the First Dragoon Guards were brought from England, and it is interesting to note that the Dragoon Guards, although a heavy cavalry regiment, known as the *Cuirassiers*, came to this country dismounted, and were all horsed from Vermont.

Col. Stowell's daughter Anna, at the age of sixteen, showed in old Madison Square Garden, when it was in lower Manhattan, four of his three-year old Morgan horses. She drove them in tandem and won the first prize. She, also, drove a pair (span) of young Morgans frequently with her grandfather, also, a four-in-hand and at other times with her father between Cornwall, Vermont, and Albany, New York. When she married Leslie Ernest Sunderland her father gave him a Morgan horse which he rode at Green Springs, his plantation on the James River, Virginia. Their elder son, Leslie Ernest Sunderland, after graduating from Middlebury College, attended the University of Chicago for the purpose of preparing to become a medical missionary. He later became a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He died in 1939.

Sunderland Memorial Chapel *Middlebury College*

The following is quoted from an address given by Dr. Stephen A. Freeman, Vice-President and Acting President of Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, at the dedication of the Sunderland Memorial Chapel at Middlebury College on Sunday, September 28, 1952, in memoriam:

"Middlebury College accepts with deep gratitude, and with a sense of complete fitness, the gift of this Sunderland Memorial Chapel, which we dedicate at this service. The college gladly approved its designation as a memorial to two sons of Middlebury who have brought honor to their Alma Mater, and whose names will be here perpetuated. In our meditation now and in the future we shall call to mind their names and their lives of noble service.

Leslie Ernest Sunderland was born in 1882, the son of Leslie Ernest and Anna Julia Sunderland. He received the bachelor's degree from Middlebury College in 1904; the degree of Bachelor of Divinity from the University of Chicago in 1909, and the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Middlebury in 1922. He was ordained a minister of the Gospel in 1907. He served his fellow men as

Superintendent of the Episcopal City Mission in Cleveland from 1910 to 1919, then as Superintendent of the New York Protestant Episcopal City Mission Society. He was for five years chairman of the Social Service Commission of the Diocese of Ohio; and as a member of the Board of Missions of the Diocese of Ohio. In 1921, he was the Secretary of the Federation of Institutions Caring for Protestants. Later, he was a member of the Committee on Cooperation with the Presiding Bishop. He was co-author of a book entitled 'The City Mission Idea'. He died in New York City on November 21, 1939.

This chapel is also a memorial to Byron Sunderland, the brother of Ernest's grandfather, Waterman Sunderland. He was born in Shoreham, Vermont in 1819, and graduated from Middlebury College in the Class of 1838. He earned the Master's degree, and then studied at the Union Theological Seminary, being ordained in the ministry in 1843. He was the pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Batavia, New York, then in Syracuse, N. Y.; and was called to Washington, D. C., where he preached for forty-five years, from 1853 to 1898. He was Chaplain of the United States Senate during the Civil War, and again from 1872 to 1879. He was in charge of the American Chapel in Paris for one year; and served for a time as President of the Board of Trustees of Howard University, Washington. He held many church offices, and published many sermons and articles. In 1900, he delivered the Centennial Address at Middlebury College, and was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, although he had previously received the degree

of Doctor of Divinity from the college. He died in Catskill, N. Y., June 30, 1901.

Memorials are created by men and women in token and symbol of the memory which endures in their hearts for those who have gone before. This Sunderland Memorial Chapel is such a token in the heart of Edwin Sherwood Stowell Sunderland for his brother and his grandfather's brother; and in the heart of his mother Mrs. Anna Julia Stowell Sunderland Bingham for her son and her uncle. Mr. Sunderland is a graduate of Middlebury College in the Class of 1911. He received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from the New York Law School in 1913 and the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from his Alma Mater in 1946. Since 1949 he has been a trustee of the college. He is its loyal and generous friend, giving freely of his time and wise counsel to its affairs.

His mother, Mrs. Bingham, whose presence here honors and delights us, is the daughter of Colonel Edwin Sherwood Stowell. His great grandfather participated in the construction of the log buildings that housed the students of Middlebury College at the very beginning. Colonel Stowell's father and he bred the Morgan horse and Merino sheep, and contributed generously to Middlebury College, and for the expenses of students from Cornwall and Addison County. Mrs. Bingham cared for her father till he died of his wounds incurred in the Civil War; then went west with her husband almost literally in a covered wagon. After his untimely death in 1888, she raised and educated her two boys Ernest and

Edwin with the courage and tenacity of a pioneer mother. In her youth, colleges for women were not available, but she was one of the first graduates from the Chatauqua College, and appreciated the value of higher education. She later married Judge William Harrison Bingham, and aided in the education of their children: Anna, the widow of Rev. William Ballou of Chester, Vermont; Dr. Eugene Bingham who graduated from Middlebury in 1899, was for a time President of the American Chemical Society, and received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Middlebury in 1936; and Mr. Maurice A. Bingham, Middlebury, Class of 1920, whose presence we welcome at these exercises.

Thus Middlebury College gladly seizes the opportunity to do honor to all these sons and daughters who have served humanity and the college with such distinction. We pay our homage to those in whose memory this chapel is dedicated; we express our profound gratitude to the donors; and we acknowledge our debt of sincere appreciation to all those who have participated in the construction of the chapel, particularly to Gov. Redfield Proctor.

In the beauty and the tasteful simplicity of this Sunderland Memorial Chapel, we pray that the young men and women of this college will come, through many generations, to commune with their souls in quietness and reverence, to worship their Maker more intimately, and to find here that peace of God which the world outside can neither give nor take away."

The Rev. Dr. Byron Sunderland was an intimate friend of Grover Cleveland. He officiated at President Cleveland's marriage in 1886 to Frances Folsom in the Blue Room of the White House. After Cleveland's first term as President he joined Francis Lynde Stetson in the practice of law at 15 Broad Street, New York City. He continued in the practice of law for four years and until his election as President for a second term. During this four-year interim he used a large desk made for him out of golden oak by an admirer who was a cabinet maker in Buffalo. When Cleveland left for his second term as President, he left this desk in the offices of Francis Lynde Stetson. It was used until 1918 by the late Charles Howland Russell of the firm of Stetson Jennings & Russell, now Davis Polk Wardwell Sunderland & Kiendl. Since Mr. Russell's death in 1919, the author has continuously used this historic desk, over which Cleveland conducted his campaign for his second term as President.

Old Wheatsheaf Farm in Recent Years

During the past third of a century the woods of Old Wheatsheaf Farm provided bridle paths which were later used for training the daughter and son of the present owners, Joan Sunderland, now Mrs. Charles Scribner, Jr., and Edwin Sherwood Stowell Sunderland, Jr., in the art of driving an automobile. The usual risk and danger in learning to drive were lessened, as the bridle paths were so wooded that a station wagon could not gather much speed before being stopped by a tree.

More recently, and indeed in 1954 and 1955 as a result of hurricanes, the woods have been thoroughly cleaned of blown down trees and branches after removing a great deal of merchantable timber. These bridle paths have been made into stone roads, properly surfaced, in accordance with a topographical map prepared for the purpose of ultimately using the property as a housing development after its usefulness is over as far as the present owners are concerned. This undertaking was under the supervision of the owners and their superintendent, Frederick Bateman, whose contribution was both unusual and effective in producing in appearance a most satisfactory result.

In addition to the treatment of the woods and the meadows by putting in obstructions which prevented soil ero-

sion, the various pools which were made some years ago for the use of the children in learning to canoe and operate sailboats, were entirely renovated and put in order. These pools are fed by the many springs and the natural brook which flow through the property and are controlled by several large tiles in order to make a lawn around the swimming pool.

The present appearance of the property is quite different from what it was in the days of the Revolution and prior thereto, but the property is still the "clearing" of 1737, embellished somewhat but not to the extent of removing the historical tradition which it represents.



OLD WHEATSHEAF FARM

was printed by **PANDICK PRESS, INC.**

Special Drawings for this Edition were made by
ROBERT BALL.

The author records with pleasure his appreciation and gratitude for
their especially helpful and skillful contributions.

No. **34**