

HISTORY
OF
Franklin ^{AND} Grand Isle Counties
VERMONT

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF SOME
OF THE PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS

EDITED BY LEWIS CASS ALDRICH

SYRACUSE, N. Y.
D. MASON & CO., PUBLISHERS
1891

(. . .)

principal cereals of the North, while the uplands yield rich and abundant pasturage. The timber is principally maple, beech, and birch; hemlock, spruce, butternut, and other varieties abound, while cedar is the principal growth of the swamp. So far as known this town and vicinity was not probably the home of any of the Indian tribes, but it is tolerably well established that this was for a long time one of their favorite hunting-grounds, and that deer, bears, wolves, and beavers were their worthy game.

August 18, 1763, Governor Benning Wentworth, of New Hampshire, made grants of three towns, Fairfield, Smithfield, and Hungerford, northeast of Lake Champlain, to Samuel Hungerford, of New Fairfield, Conn., and his associates.

The grantees held their first meeting at the house of Gershom Bradley, Fairfield, Conn., February 16, 1774. At an adjourned meeting held on the following day at the house of John Hubbell: "Voted, to proceed to survey and lay out the township." At a proprietors' meeting in April following: "Voted, that the committee for said township shall have power to agree with some suitable person to go and see said township, in order to see what sort of land it is." There seems to have been little business of importance transacted at subsequent meetings until the proprietors held their first meeting in Vermont, at Pawlet, in September, 1783, when it was voted to lay out one division of land containing 160 acres, and a second division of 100 acres to each proprietor. In April, 1789, the proprietors, then meeting in Fairfield, made arrangements for laying out roads. In September, of the same year, there was a third division of 50 acres, a fourth division of 140 acres, and a fifth division of four-acre lots in the cedar swamp made to each proprietor. The swamp lots were valuable for the cedar and other fencing timber, great quantities of which have been used for that purpose. There was also a "town plot" set off on a hill in the southwest part of the town, intended for city lots. The proprietors and all of the first settlers of the town have passed from earth, a century has elapsed, and the intended city is not yet.

The first permanent settler of whom there is any record was Joseph Wheeler, who came to Fairfield in March, 1787. Soon after, or during the following year, John Sunderland and John Mitchell were succeeded

stock raising. He commenced life in a small way, gradually increasing his possessions until they have reached their present fine proportions. He has been a Republican since that party's organization, but has never sought office.

Hubbell, Timothy, who died in Enosburgh in 1880, was well and favorably known to the residents of the town. He was born in Fairfield in 1833, the son of Nathan Hubbell, and was a carpenter before his marriage, but after that event he gave his attention to farm work. In 1861 he married Eliza K., daughter of Ellison Maynard, and had two children, Chauncey and Marshall L. Mr. Hubbell died in 1880, and his farm passed to his widow and sons, being now conducted by the former and Marshall L. Hubbell. It comprises 153 acres, and sustains a dairy of upwards of thirty-five cows. Mr. Hubbell during his life was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of West Enosburgh, and was one of its stewards. He was a Republican and quite prominent in town affairs.

Hutchinson, William R., was born in Grand Isle, December 16, 1824, the eldest of seven children born to John and Eliza Hutchinson. The youthful life of William was passed on his father's farm and as a clerk in the store at Monkton, Vt. At the age of eighteen he commenced the study of medicine in the office of Dr. Stone, of Monkton, and after three years took two courses at the Castleton Medical College, graduating in 1848. Dr. Hutchinson commenced practice at Vergennes, but in 1849 came to Enosburgh, locating at the Center, and practicing there until 1875, when he took up his residence at the Falls, giving to his son his practice at the Center. Dr. Hutchinson has two sons in practice in this town—Dr. William Watson Hutchinson and Frederick Smith Hutchinson. The former is a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of Vermont, and also attended the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York city, commencing practice at the Center in 1874. The last named son graduated from the Burlington institution in 1882, and has since practiced in the town of Enosburgh. Dr. Hutchinson, sr., while his life has been given to professional work, is not wholly unknown to the politics of his county. In 1864 he represented Enosburgh in the legislature, and in 1868-69 he was in the Senate. In 1862 he was appointed county medical examiner. He married, in 1849, Celinda C., daughter of Burrill Smith, of Monkton, by whom he has had two sons (above referred to). Dr. Hutchinson was town clerk of Enosburgh for nineteen years, and while living at the Center he held the position of postmaster.

Ingalls, Horace Read, or, as he is more popularly known in the north part of the county, Read Ingalls, was born in Bakersfield, June 27, 1835, the son of Reuben and Sophronia (Hare) Ingalls, who had a family of seven children. The father was a mechanic, but Horace worked out and was inclined to speculate in whatever promised the best returns. In 1868 he bought a 200-acre farm in Enosburgh, and there he moved and still resides, carrying on business as a farmer and buyer. Mr. Ingalls's wife was Phyllida Stephens, by whom he has had four children: Cortez L., Mary, Carl I., and Dora. The daughter Mary is the wife of Joel Pond, of Eden.

Kendall, Lucius C., born in Enosburgh, July 22, 1840, was the son of Seth and Polly Kendall, and the fourth of their eight children. Seth was a farmer and carriagemaker, and to that employment Lucius was brought up. He started in business for himself about 1868 in manufacturing buggies and lumber wagons, and has continued in it to the present time, except in 1888, when the buggy department was dropped, although in his stock is now kept an extensive assortment of single and double carriages. November 1, 1863, Mr. Kendall married Jane A., daughter of Harlow Woodworth, of Berkshire. Mrs. Kendall died during the summer of 1890, leaving no children.

Ladd, Hiram, a native of Enosburgh, born July 29, 1822, was the son of Asa and Lovica (Hopkins) Ladd, and the fifth of their thirteen children. Hiram lived at home on the farm until he was twenty-four years of age, and attended the district schools and the Franklin Academy. He taught school at Enosburgh, Berkshire, and one winter at

enlisted as private August 4, 1862, in Company K, Eleventh Vermont Infantry. At the Weldon Railroad raid he was taken by the rebels and confined in the Southern prison pens for five months and twenty-three days. On being released he joined his command and served until the close of the war, never having been wounded. He was mustered out in July, 1865. In December, 1880, Mr. Howard married Flora A., daughter by adoption of Daniel D. Cox, of which marriage one child has been born.

Hubbell, George A., son of Homer E. and Maria L. (Gove) Hubbell, was born in Fairfax, December 9, 1830. Homer E. Hubbell, the father, was a leading lawyer of Franklin county, and died in 1890 at the age of eighty-five. George A. Hubbell was educated in the district schools of the town and attended Bakersfield Academy for a short time. In 1852 he made a journey to the California gold fields, where he worked nearly two and a half years. During the most of his life he has been engaged in farming and cattle dealing, though of late years he has lived in the village and given the direct management of the farm into the hands of his son, Charles G. On July 3, 1856, George A. Hubbell married **Jane E., daughter of Orville Bishop**, of Fairfax, of which marriage two children were born, viz.: Homer Bishop Hubbell, now principal of the high school at Beaver Dam, Wis., and Charles Gove Hubbell, of Fairfax. Mr. Hubbell is a Democrat in politics. He has held the offices of selectman, lister, grand juror, auditor, and justice of the peace.

Hubbell, Homer E., born at Cambridge, Vt., August 10, 1805, died at Fairfax, May 17, 1890. At the age of nineteen he came to Fairfax and commenced the study of law in the office of Hon. Luther B. Hunt, and was admitted to the Franklin County Bar at St. Albans in September, 1827. In October, 1828, he married Maria L. Gove, and the same year he purchased the practice and real estate business of Mr. Hunt and settled in Fairfax. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1843, and was a justice of the peace for seventeen years. In 1836, at the age of thirty, he was elected state senator, being the youngest senator ever elected in the state, and was re-elected in 1838 and again in 1842. He was elected town representative seven times. In 1842 he was chosen state's attorney, and as such prosecuted the case of Eugene Clifford, who was convicted of the murder of his wife and child by drowning them in Fairfield Pond. Mr. Hubbell remained in active practice for fifty years, but in 1880 he was stricken with paralysis, which left his nerves badly shattered, obliging him to retire from professional work. His mind continued clear to the time of his death. In politics he was always a Democrat. Mr. Hubbell left three children: George A., who owns and lives on the homestead; John C., who has charge of the cold storage at St. Albans; and Jane M., wife of Daniel H. Smith, of Princeton, Ill.

Hunt George, son of Elijah and Louisa (Kidder) Hunt, was born in Fairfax, February 5, 1841. His parents had a large family of children, as follows: Lucy A., Fred S., George, Henry, Ira E., Lucilla P., Adelia, Abbie, John F., and Cora, several of whom still live in the town. George Hunt was reared on the farm, where he lived until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, Eleventh Vermont Volunteer Infantry, the regiment being commanded by Colonel Warner and Company K by Capt. George D. Sowles. The first regular engagement in which the company participated was at Cold Harbor, and here comrade Hunt was struck by a minie-ball, wounded, and carried to the field hospital, where he remained for a time, being afterwards taken to the general hospital at Washington, whence he was conveyed in December to Burlington, Vt., and there cared for until June, 1863, when he was discharged for disability. In 1867 Mr. Hunt married Ellen S. Brush, of Fairfax, by whom he had one child. In the fall of 1889 he was elected representative for Fairfax in the General Assembly, and for six years he held the office of first constable.

Kenfield, Benjamin, was born in Morristown, Vt., October 2, 1820, a son of George and Lucinda (Dike) Kenfield. When six years old his mother died, after which he was sent to live with an aunt at Cambridge. He was apprenticed to Thomas H. Perkins, of Johnson, a blacksmith, at which he served for four years, when he began business for

Post, Cephas A., is the owner of one of the best farms in Georgia. The surname Post stands for industry and enterprise in the locality. Addison S. Post, the father of Cephas A., was during his life-time one of the foremost men of the town. He acquired a goodly property, and this upon his death, in April, 1888, descended to his son Cephas. Addison was the son of Jesse, a pioneer in the town. Three children were born to Addison and Sarah (Seward) Post, viz.: Sophia, who died young; Ellen, who died at the age of twenty years; and Cephas A. Mrs. Post died April 5, 1890. Cephas A. Post was born October 9, 1843, and has always lived at his father's home. He married, in 1868, Ellen R. Ashley, of Georgia, and they have two children, Emogene S. and Myra E. His farm comprises 140 acres. Although a Republican he has taken no active part in politics of the town, and in religious affiliations is a member of the Georgia Methodist Episcopal church.

Post, Henry B., was the son of Major and Lucina (Adell) Post, the children of whom were Nelson, Lucina, Curtis M., William D., Albert, Henry B., Oscar, and one other who died unnamed. Henry Bradley Post was born April 28, 1822. He is now and has been since youth a farmer. His present home and farm occupy a commanding site on a hill on the road leading southeast from Georgia Center to the east part of the town, and comprises about seventy-five acres. In 1844 Mr. Post married Diana Dee, and they have had eight children, as follows: Frank, of California; Maria (Mrs. Oscar Martin), of Iowa; Miranda (deceased); Charlotte (Mrs. G. S. Conger); Dorman, who died young; Emily A., who married Benjamin Hill, of Georgia; and Bradley H. and Nellie, at home. Mr. Post and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has taken no interest in political affairs beyond what every tax-paying citizen should feel, and has never held office.

Post, Lorenzo Arthur, the present town clerk and treasurer of Georgia, was born December 7, 1846, and was the eldest of three children born to Curtis M. and Mary (Nichols) Post. The other children were Nathan N. Post, a practicing attorney of St. Albans, and William C. Post, the last named being dead. Curtis M. Post, the father, was town clerk and treasurer of Georgia from 1855 until the time of his death in 1878, after which the mother was chosen to the same positions and filled them (Lorenzo A. acting as assistant) until her death in 1886. At the next meeting our subject was regularly elected clerk and treasurer, and still holds the offices. On February 16, 1876, Lorenzo A. Post was married to Frances M., a daughter of Franklin Towne, of Milton. Mrs. Post died September 26, 1887. Mr. Post is not wholly unknown in the political history of his town or of the county. In 1886 he was elected representative. For four years he was assistant postmaster at St. Albans. In religious matters he inclines to Universalism, although he was brought up in the Congregational church.

Smith Family, The.—The pioneer of the Smith family in Georgia was Josiah, a native of New Hampshire, who came to the town at a very early day. He was born February 4, 1783, and the wife whom he married was Sarah (Whitemore) Smith, who was born December 30, 1793. The children of this union were Richard W., born November 7, 1811; Harriet, born July 28, 1813; John C., born August 4, 1815; Aluna K., born December 15, 1817; Henry, born June 25, 1820; Edwin, born June 12, 1822; Sarah, born June 12, 1824; Andrew J., born March 22, 1828; and Lucius D., born December 15, 1830. Lucius D. Smith is known as one of the leading farmers and citizens of Georgia. He is industrious, thrifty, and independent, and a man of strong convictions, and fearless and outspoken in expressing them. In politics he is a Republican. In 1890 he was selectman, and so chosen because his townsmen wanted new and strong timber on the board. He has held the offices of road commissioner and overseer of the poor. Lucius D. Smith married, April 13, 1852, Freelove Green, and they have had a family of four children.

Torrey, Milton Hubbell, born in Georgia, March 2, 1810, was one of the four children of Nathaniel and Fannie (Stannard) Torrey who grew to maturity. These children were Milton H., Hannah Maria, Jane, and Sarah Ann. Nathaniel M. Torrey built the

substantial stone house in which Nathan D. Hayden, who married Mr. Torrey's granddaughter, now resides. He was a prominent man in Georgia, and one who held the respect and esteem of all of his townsmen. For more than forty years both he and his estimable wife were connected with the Congregational church. Milton R. Torrey married Mary Ann (Bostwick) Shepard, daughter of Rev. Levi B. Shepard, of Georgia, a prominent family the surname of which is not now known in the town. Of this marriage four children have been born: Fannie P., who married Wyram R. Macomber, of Jericho; Marian M., who died at the age of twenty-one; Beach M., who died in 1888; and Lottie Parmelia, who became the wife of Nathan D. Hayden and now lives in the old homestead. **Milton Hubbell Torrey** died August 10, 1886.

Waller Family, The.—Joseph Waller and Parthenia, his wife, and their children, Walter, Chester, Asahel, Lovisa, Octavo, and Dennison, settled in Enosburgh in 1805. They came from Royalton, Vt., where Joseph is understood as having lived when that town was burned by the Indians in 1780. After the family came to Enosburgh one child, Louisa, was born. Dennison Waller went to Georgia in 1827, and there he married Love Hurlbut and had born to him children as follows: Myron; Hiram, who was killed in the late war; Albert, who died while in the army; Eliza, who married Wheaton Dunster, has a daughter, Love Athelia, and resides in Georgia; and Cordelia (Mrs. Patterson), now deceased. Myron Dennison Waller was born on the farm on which he now lives in 1828, but he has lived in the towns of St. Albans, Milton, and Fairfax. He finally settled on the homestead in 1886 or 1887. In 1849 he married Lucinda Campbell, of Swanton, by whom he had one child, Duane Hiram. In 1872 he married Georgianna Witters, and by her has had four children: Emily Love, Ira Hawley, Cordelia Georgianna, and Myron Dennison, jr.

Wilcox, Reuben E., a prominent farmer on the shore of Georgia Bay, was born in Georgia, February 13, 1833, the only child of Cyrus B. and Lucy L. (Evarts) Wilcox, both of whom died when Reuben was young. He was brought up in the family of Capt. Reuben Evarts, from whom he was named. In 1856 Reuben E. Wilcox married Olive C., daughter of J. W. Barnes, of Fairfax, of which marriage two sons, Fred E. and Bert W., were born. Mr. Wilcox, although generally a busy farmer, has found time to devote to town affairs, and he has been honored by his townsmen with a number of offices, having been representative, selectman several times, and lister. His fine farm comprises nearly 170 acres.

HIGHGATE.

Anderson, John, was born in Scotland, was a farmer, and died at the age of seventy. He married Rebecca Brimer, of Aberdeen, Scotland, and their children were William and Kirstey. William Anderson came to Highgate, Vt., in 1818 among the first settlers of this town, where he remained until his death in 1845, at the age of fifty years. He was a manufacturer of linen in Scotland. He married, first, Margaret Brown, and second, Mary Stark. His children were William, David, Charles, Ann, James, and John. The latter, his oldest son, was born in Scotland and came to Highgate with his father. He lived forty years in St. Albans. He married Mary Ann Sackett, of St. Albans, Vt., daughter of Richard and Keziah (Conger) Sackett, and his children are John, William, Stephen, and Hiram. He is now a resident of Highgate, Vt. John and William are residents of Clinton, Ia. The latter married Annette Brown, and they have one son, Arthur. Stephen Anderson married Frank, daughter of John Pomeroy, and they have one son, George, who is now a commercial traveler and resident of St. Albans. John Anderson, jr., served in the Papineau war. He is now eighty-two years of age, his wife being seventy-five.

Butler, John, was born in the North of Ireland in August, 1805, and came to Highgate while young among the early settlers of the town, where he remained until his