

History of Waterford.

LAND TITLES AND SURVEY.

The town of Waterford is the oldest of this group of towns, located among the Oxford county hills, between the valleys of the Androscoggin and Saco rivers. In 1735 a grant of land was made to John Whitman and others, soldiers or heirs of soldiers who had fought in a company from Middlesex and Worcester counties under Capt. Andrew Gardner in the Canadian Expedition of 1690. This tract was the sixth in the line of towns granted to the Suncook proprietors, so called, and became known as Todds-town, or Number 6, now Henniker, N. H. When, in 1739, the King of England established the present boundary as the line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire, this with many other grants were found to lie within the bounds of the latter state which destroyed the validity of titles given by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Under date of Feb. 26, 1774 the proprietors of Todds-town, having lost all title to their lands and improvements, petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts for the grant of another township to replace their forfeited lands. This petition was signed by John Gardner, Stephen Maynard and Seth Rice, and resulted in the granting of a township seven miles square, "adjoin-

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ing some former grant east of the Saco river." The proprietors were to settle thirty families within six years, and to lay out one-sixty-fourth part for the use of each the first settled minister, the grammar school, and Harvard College.

Steps were immediately taken to lay out the township, an outline map of which was left with the Secretary of State in Boston the following May. Such was the origin of Waterford. In the survey an allowance of one rod in thirty was made for sway of chain, and 2,500 acres for ponds. The lot and range lines were run the following summer by Jabez Brown of Stow, Mass. and Col. Joseph Frye of Pequawkett (Fryeburg), with eleven assistants, and the township was thrown open for settlement.

SETTLEMENT AND ORGANIZATION.

In the spring of 1775 David McWain of Bolton, Mass., started with a companion for the wilderness of Maine, they having purchased for \$40 the lot of land on which he afterward settled. His companion became discouraged at Dover, N. H., and sold his interest to McWain. Accompanied only by his dog, McWain was soon on his way, traveling by the way of Portland, Sebago Lake, and Long Lake, to Stevens Brook. At this little mill village he supplied himself with provisions for a month and started into the wilderness. He had a rude plan of this town with him. Following Bear Brook until he came to his range line he followed this until

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he came to his lot (Range 5, Lot 10), and here he built a cabin near the river. He spent the winters of 1775 and 1776 in Bolton, returning again to his wilderness home in the spring of 1777 and never again revisited his native place. McWain had a true pioneers horror of being crowded. It is said that one morning as he stood on the huge rock which stood behind his cabin he spied smoke curling up in the direction of Paris, some twelve miles away. "Humph," said he, "I would like to know who is settling over there right under my nose." His farm was 800 acres in extent, and in 1803 he had 160 acres improved. He died in 1825 having never been married, leaving his valuable possessions to his nephew and namesake, on condition that he should live upon it.

Five or six years after McWain settled here three men came in with their families, but were forced to withdraw to the older settlements to gain their subsistence. In 1783 Daniel Barker, Jonathan Robbins, Aseph Brown, America Hamlin, Africa Hamlin, and Europe Hamlin came to the south and south-west parts of the town, and two years later their families came in. Mr. McWain was of much service to these and other of the pioneers in Waterford during their days of poverty and struggling. Philip Hor and two of his sons came to settle in 1784. Mrs. Hor came in June, 1785 and lived in a hut made of hemlock bark for two years which were years of great privation.

In 1785 and 1786, Nathaniel and John Chamberlain, Thaddeus Brown, Asa Johnson, John Atherton, Josiah Proctor, Eber Rich, Samuel Warren and Jonathan Barnard,

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who afterward moved to Bridgton, all came in, but most of them came without their families. Soon after this, quite a colony from Rowley, Mass., followed the arrival here of Lieut. Thomas Green, of that place, about 1788. Dea. Stephen Jewett and his sons, Nathan and Ebenezer, Moses Hobson, Jonathan, Samuel and Josiah Plummer, Joshua, Ezekiel, Samuel and Humphrey Saunders, and Daniel and David Chaplin probably came in 1788 or 1789. Some of these men had served under Lieut. Green in the French and Revolutionary Wars. The north part of Waterford was long called "Rowley" for the native home of these settlers. Solomon Stone and Deacon Nurse arrived from Bolton in 1790. Up to this time all boards were hauled in from Stevens Brook and all corn was ground there or at Bethel Hill. With the erection of saw and grist mills, the former by Jacob Gibson, the latter by Ezra Jewell, the settlers were relieved of the long, arduous journeys over the rough roads taken often with the grist on the back of the pioneer. During the following years, before the incorporation of the town, many new families arrived each year. Of these Eli Longley, Dr. Stephen Cummings, Ezra Jewell, who built the first frame house in town, and Stephen Jewett were leading men, Mr. Longley opened the first store at the Flat in 1801. Other families who were in town in 1795 are represented by the signatures of the men who signed the petition for the incorporation of Waterford.

This petition, dated Dec. 19, 1795, at Waterford, provided for the incorporation of the township leaving off the three eastern tiers of lots belonging to this grant, to be

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incorporated with Cummings' Purchase, now Norway. Signees:—Nathaniel Jewett, Ebenezer Jewett, Seth Russell, Samuel Sampson, David Whitcomb, Stephen Cummings, Eleazor Hamlin, John Chamberlain, Stephen Jewett, Ezekiel Saunders, Samuel Warren, Wm. Warren, Thomas Green, Daniel Green, Daniel Chaplin, Abijah Warren, Hannibal Hamlin, Isaac Hor, John Hor, Abram Hor, Joshua Sanders, Philip Hor, Ephraim Davenport, Richard Brigham, Benj. Sampson, Samuel Plummer, Nathan Jewett, Phineas Sampson, Jno. Houghton, Israel Hale, Samuel Brigham.

A later petition sent the following October, bore the names of the following inhabitants and non-resident proprietors.

John Nurse, Colman B. Watson, Thaddeus Brown, Wm. Brown, Ephraim Chamberlain, Marlboro Kingman, John Atherton, Daniel Barker, Jacob Gibson, John Holland, Oliver Hale, Abijah Brown, Abraham Conant, John Stevens, Stephen Sanderson, Reuben Whitney, Isaac Smith, Nat'l Chamberlain, David McElwain, Joel Atherton, David Hammond, Abijah Swan, Jonathan Longley, Africa Hamlin, Moses Stone, Aleph Brown, Jno. Robbins, Phineas Whitney, Eli Longley, Silas Brown, Solomon Stone, James Chamberlain, Francis Gardner, Jotham Johnson, James Kendall, Jr.

A third petition was sent to the General Court of Massachusetts during the autumn of 1796 signed by a few of the first petitioners and many living on the three tiers of lots above mentioned praying for the incorporation of the entire township, but the court decided otherwise and passed the

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Act of Incorporation March 2, 1797, leaving off the three eastern tiers of lots.

Prior to the erection of the town a plantation government had been maintained for several years, but of their doings we have no records. No changes have been made in the bounds of Waterford since it became incorporated. It contains 31,775 acres, 1,734 of which are included in ponds. This water surface is divided among ten beautiful ponds which lie principally in the valleys at the foot of Beach hill.

The meeting to organize the town was called by Eleazar Hamlin to assemble at the new house of Dr. Stephen Cummings on April 27, 1797. Lieu't Milbury Kingman acted as moderator, and Africa Hamlin was chosen clerk. Africa Hamlin, Daniel Chaplin and Solomon Stone were chosen selectmen and assessors; and David Whitcomb, constable and collector. Other necessary officers were then chosen but no treasurer seems to have been necessary, for none was chosen until June 7, when Eli Longley was selected for that office. At this meeting \$100 was voted for preaching, a like sum for schools, and \$500 "to make and mend roads."

TOWN OFFICIALS

CLERKS SINCE 1850.

1850-51, Edward Carleton; 1852-53, John C. Gerry; 1854, Josiah Monroe; 1855, Edw. Carleton; 1856, Josiah Monroe; 1857-59, S. L. Weston; 1860-61, D. W. Noble; 1862, Chas. Young; 1863-67, D. W. Noble; 1868-91, Chas. L. Wilson; 1892-1905, Melville Monroe.

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TREASURERS.

1850, John C. Gerry; 1851, Daniel Brown; 1852, Oneil W. Robinson; 1853, Josiah Monroe; 1854, O. W. Robinson; 1855, Daniel Plummer; 1856-57, Daniel Brown; 1858-59, Emerson Wilkins; 1860, Oneil W. Robinson; 1861, D. W. Noble; 1862-71, Daniel Brown; 1872-79, Alfred S. Kimball; 1880-83, Chas. Young; 1884-85, Chas. A. Young; 1886, Geo. M. Knight; 1887-89, Chas. A. Young; 1890-96, Daniel Brown; 1897, Joel Plummer; 1898-1905, Daniel Brown.

SELECTMEN.

1850—Lewis M. Houghton, Joseph Shaw, Thos. Sawin.
 1851—Joseph Shaw, Thos. Sawin, Daniel Plummer.
 1852—Joseph Shaw, Thos. Sawin, M. Sanderson.
 1853—Joseph Shaw, Samuel Plummer, Amos Saunders.
 1854—Josiah Monroe, David Bisbee, S. Lovejoy.
 1855—David Bisbee, S. Plummer, Chas. Baker.
 1856—David Bisbee, S. Plummer, John B. Sanderson.
 1857—J. Monroe, S. Plummer, Thos. Sawin.
 1858—Daniel Plummer, S. Warren, Eliakim Maxfield.
 1859—Daniel Plummer, Joseph Shaw, John A. Green.
 1860-61—Samuel Plummer, J. B. Rand, M. Sanderson.
 1862-1—J. B. Rand, J. B. Sanderson., M. Sanderson.
 1863-64—J. B. Rand, David Bisbee, Samuel Plummer.
 1865—J. B. Rand, Daniel Bisbee, Samuel Plummer.
 1866—J. B. Rand, Josiah Monroe, A. S. Kimball.
 1867-68—J. B. Rand, A. S. Kimball, Chas Young.
 1869—A. S. Kimball, Chas.. Young, John F. Shedd.
 1870—Chas. Young, Geo. Knight, Waldo T. Brown.

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- 1871—John C. Gerry, W. T. Brown, Thos. H. Sawin.
1872—W. T. Brown, Benj. Tucker, Jr., D. S. Hapgood.
1873—Benj. Tucker, Jr., H. A. Jewett, Justine McIntire.
1874—Benj. Tucker, S. Warren, Justine McIntire.
1875—John B. Rand, Daniel Brown, John S. Swan.
1876—Josiah Monroe, G. M. Knight, Jos. Kilgore.
1877—Josiah Monroe, J. S. Swan, Jos. Kilgore.
1878—A. S. Kimball, Jos. Kilgore, W. W. Kilbourn.
1879—W. T. Brown, W. W. Kilbourn, Henry Sawin.
1880—W. T. Brown, Henry Sawin, Freeman Manson.
1881—Josiah Monroe, F. M. anson, Frank Knight.
1882—F. Manson, Frank Knight, G. C. Wheeler.
1883-84—John C. Gerry, Geo. W. Rand, D. G. Pride.
1885—A. S. Hapgood, J. A. Johnson, W. T. Greene.
1886—A. S. Hapgood, W. T. Greene, J. A. Johnson.
1887—W. T. Greene, W. T. Brown, L. W. McIntire.
1888—W. T. Greene, L. E. McIntire, H. A. Jewett.
1889—W. V. Kneeland, L. E. McIntire, H. A. Jewett.
1890-91—W. T. Kneeland, W. W. Kilbourn, Geo. Warren.
1892—W. T. Brown, W. H. Kilgore, C. H. Pride.
1893—W. T. Brown, C. H. Pride, James Brown.
1894—C. H. Pride, M. M. Hamlin, H. W. Green.
1895—C. H. Pride, Harry Brown, H. W. Green.
1896—C. H. Pride, Henry Sawin, Albert Caswell.
1897—A. S. Hapgood, Joshua Saunders, F. H. Morse.
1898—C. H. Pride, W. T. Brown, C. C. Doughty.
1899—C. H. Pride, W. K. Hamlin, M. F. Knight.
1900—C. H. Pride, M. F. Knight, Frank Sanderson.
1901—C. H. Pride, M. F. Knight, F. H. Morse.

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1902—C. H. Pride, M. F. Knight, F. A. Noble.

1903—W. K. Hamlin, F. A. Noble, Geo. H. Keene.

1904—C. H. Pride, C. P. Saunders, Geo. H. Keene.

1905—C. H. Pride, J. B. Hamlin, H. O. Rolfe.

MILLS

Besides possessing many valuable and productive farms, Waterford has many valuable mill privileges, several of which have been, and are still used for the operation of milling industries. The earliest saw mill in Waterford was built by Jacob Gibson within a few rods of the outlet of Bear Brook. We will trace briefly the several mill sites that have been occupied on this stream, beginning at the foot of Tom pond. On the first site a saw mill was erected by Abram Whitney about 1810. Later owners have been Lewis Jewell, Thos. Hapgood, Cobb & Hapgood, and Hapgood & Willard. The mill is now operated for making shook and apple barrels as well as long and short lumber. On the second site a foundry was erected about 1847 by Miller & Cummings, who did an extensive business casting stoves, plows, etc. F. A. Hall later manufactured vinegar here; J. B. Haskell now succeeds him. Below this a plaster mill was built in 1848 by Josiah Monroe. This was later converted into a woodshop by Jas. O. Longley. It was next made over into a tannery by E. Wilkins, and later sold to the

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Waterford Mfg. Co.

On the fourth site a saw and grist mill was built about 1790 by Ezra Jewell. This was the first grist mill in town. About 1870 Mr. Stamwood erected a bucket factory here and did a good business for some years. About 1890 he sold to the Waterford Mfg. Co., a corporation organized for manufacturing chairs and furniture. The factory was later burned, but soon after rebuilt. No work has been done here since about 1900. The next site has been occupied by a blacksmith shop, built in 1809, converted into a carriage shop in 1820; the site is now deserted. On the next privilege Isaac Smith erected a saw mill about 1795. In 1810 Josiah Farrar bought the site and built a carding mill in which he also made linseed oil from the flax seed raised in this vicinity. Geo. K. Hamlin afterwards built a saw-mill on this site. In 1866 W. W. Watson bought the mill and began the manufacture of salt-boxes, which were the first of that kind put on the market. These he continued to manufacture here for about thirty years, much of this time shipping an average of 2000 a year. When bags were substituted for the wooden salt box he took up making toe-cock boxes which he has been shipping now for nineteen years, averaging 1000 a week much of the time.

The seventh privilege was first used by Oliver Hapgood's carding mill erected about 1810. Daniel Brown, Wm. Morse, Zebedee Perry, E. W. Ayer and W. K. Hamlin have been successive owners. Wm. Monroe built a tannery on the next site about 1802, Josiah Atherton was his partner. Mr. Monroe was succeeded by his son Josiah, then another

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son, Merrick. F. A. Hall then purchased the property and fitted up a carriage shop, where he also made sleighs. C. L. Patten now repairs carriages here.

The first saw mill at North Waterford was built about 1806 by Jonathan Longley and Samuel Page, who purchased the site of Major Samuel Warren. Mr. Page sold to James Russell and Gen. Sawin, who rebuilt the mill, adding a grist mill in the lower story. Other owners followed, among them Samuel Locke who rebuilt the mills. James Brown & Son bought of C. G. Knight in 1897. It is now operated by the son, Harry, in connection with the steam mill built about 1900.

A fulling mill was built just below the saw mill, about 1820, by Nathaniel Jewett. After his death James Russell and a Mr. Perkins, of Conway, N. H. run it until it was abandoned. Orlando Coolidge and Josiah Atherton built a saw mill about a mile below the North Waterford mills, about 1833. Elliott & Bartlett's mill came into their possession in the spring of 1904, being bought of the heirs of Mr. Kilborn, a former operator.

Dudley's mill, on Bear-pond brook was built by Joseph Dudley about 1799. Nathan Whitney, Josiah Monroe, and the Harrison Water Power Co. have successively owned it.

Pride's saw and grist mill at East Waterford was built by Jedediah Cailiff, about 1809. Nathaniel Pride succeeded Cailiff, and built a new grist mill farther down the stream. Many owners have operated this mill. Last year H. O. Rolfe bought of J. B. Haskell and is the present operator. The McWain saw and grist mill was built about 1830 by

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David McWain, 2d. Sanderson's saw mill was built on Mutiny brook about five years later, by Joseph Sanderson, who sold to John Sanderson. J. B. Haskell built his dowell mill about 25 years ago. Last year he built a new steam mill on Crooked river.

A shingle mill was built at Kezar Falls by John Walker, and afterwards owned by James Walker, both of Lovell. The saw mill at the outlet of Echo lake was owned by Josiah Monroe in 1875. Horace Proctor was the next owner, he sold to E. G. Emerson. The mill at Bisbeetown was owned and operated by D B. Bisbee in 1875, this then passed into the hands of Walter Bisbee, C. G. Knight, Haskell & Kilgore and Clark & Knight successively, the last named men having bought about two years ago. Other mills have been established, but the above are the principal ones of Waterford.

CHURCH AFFAIRS.

That which seemed to hold the closest attention of this God-fearing people during the early days of this settlement was the support of the church of God. But their opinion was divided as to where the town church should be located. A disinterested committee was chosen by men of both sides to choose the location of the house and the spot selected was on Davenport's hill. The house was not erected until four years later and then the location on Kinsman hill was

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chosen as a compromise.

The first appropriation made by the new town was \$100 for preaching. Rev. Lincoln Ripley of Concord, Mass., was hired during the summers of 1797 and 1798. On July 1, 1798 the town voted 52 to 17, to call Mr. Ripley, offering what was then a very liberal salary. He accepted the call and returned to Waterford, preaching most of the time until his installation, Oct. 1, 1799, at which time the church was organized.

Meetings were held in Mr. Ripley's house or barn. as the season allowed, until the building of the meeting house. In 1800 the town decided to build at once. In 1801 the frame was erected and the walls covered, and at the March meeting that year a committee was chosen "to seat the meeting house." This house was a handsome structure for the times, costing about \$3,000.

For twenty-five years the church was maintained by general taxation. Mr. Ripley remained pastor until Nov. 7, 1821, when he was succeeded by Rev. John A. Douglass. during the later year: of Mr. Ripley's pastorate, this church, as others in Maine, was disquieted and weakened by the introduction of other denominational preaching, and the subsequent formation of Baptist and Methodist churches.

The society continued to occupy the old house on the hill until the present church edifice was erected at the Flat in 1837.

The location at the Flat was the outcome of a struggle between the north and south parts of the town not unlike

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that fought out forty years earlier, but the construction of the new valley road rendered the new location acceptable to the northern families for a time, since a majority of the members were in the growing village of Waterford.

Mr. Ripley survived his active ministry some thirty-five years. Rev. Mr. Douglass, his successor, held the pastorate nearly sixty-years, which were years of uniformity and Christian growth in the church. The period was marked by revivals in 1822, 1831, 1840 and 1857. At one time the church numbered over 200 members.

Rev. Wm. W. Dow, was stated supply two years following 1871. Rev. Andrew J. Smith, who was settled as colleague pastor in 1873, after successful labors, died in 1876. The parsonage was built during his pastorate. His successors in this pulpit have been Revs. Henry H. Osgood, from 1876 to 80; J. S. Richards, 1880-86; Chas. L. Skinner, 1887-93; Donald McCormick, 1894; C. P. Cleaves, 1896-98; and Truman S. Perry, who began his pastorate in May, 1898. Rev. Mr. Perry has recently resigned, having advised the cooperation of the three religious societies in the southern part of the town in uniting and supporting one minister of the Gospel. This has been under serious consideration and it is believed, will result in reverting in a measure to the earlier custom of maintaining religious worship by a united community.

NORTH WATERFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The long distance to the meeting house at the Flat impelled the people of North Waterford, assisted by those of

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south Albany, to build a meeting house at the Corner village in 1862, which was done at a cost of about \$2600. These were mostly Congregationlists. Irregular preaching was had until 1865, when the Second Congregational Church was organized with about fifty members, thirty-two of whom were dismissed from the old church. The ministers here have been Revs. Joseph Kyte, J. W. H. Baker, Wellington Newell, Edwin Sherburne, H. H. Osgood, J. S. Richards, Thos. Baedencoff, Joseph Garland, Donald McCormick, A. P. McDonald, Howard Gilpatrick, E. W. Pond, and the present pastor, Rev. Geo. P. Fuller, a native of Connecticut, who came to the church in May, 1905.

Rev. Reuben Ball of Bridgton Center was instrumental in forming a Baptist society in 1814, with 25 male members. Elder Josiah Houghton and Mighill Jewett preached a portion of the time. Quite a number of converts were added that year which was their period of greatest prosperity. No mention is found of the society after 1818.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Methodism was introduced into Waterford by missionaries of the faith in 1802. In 1806 this was part of the Poland circuit, and in 1810 the first class was formed, with Josiah Shaw, leader. In 1818 a small church was erected at Mutiny Corner, one mile west of Waterford City. A church was built on the present site in 1836, and the old house abandoned. In 1844 the new church was burned, but was rebuilt the following year. The early Methodist church wielded a powerful influence in Waterford: it was also

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strongly opposed. Many strong men have filled the pulpit including Josiah Shaw, the first class leader, and his son, John. The succeeding pastors here since Rev. Delano Perry, who was appointed to this charge in 1874, remaining two years, have been Revs. Linwood Green, 1876-77; Walter S. McIntire, 1878; N. D. Centre, 1879-81; J . H. Snow, 1882-84; C. Abbott, 1885-86; J. Robinson. 1887-88; C. Purinton, 1889-91; W. H. Gowell, 1892-93; J. H. Bounds, 1894; Wm.. Bragg, 1895-96; Geo. W. Barber, 1897-99; and J. B. Howard, 1903. No regular pastor has been settled since Rev. Mr. Howard. The church has become so weakened by deaths and removals that its membership has become very small. It is now expecting to unite with the other societies in this part of the town in supporting religious services.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

This denomination is earliest mentioned in the town records in 1820, when eleven persons certified they were members of that order. According to the church records the Universalist society was formed Nov. 9, 1830, with about 50 members. Brown's Hall, was hired and occupied much of the time from 1832 to 1844. That, year they built a church at a cost of \$1100. In 1867 this house was sold to Messes. Josiah Monroe, John C. Gerry, Albert Stanwood and Chas. Young, the church reserving the right to occupy the hall, rent free, each Sunday. The lower part of the building is used for a school room, the upper part for a public hall. No services were held for several years after the sale of the building. Rev. L. F. McKinney, of Bridgton, was the next

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regular pastor, serving this church in connection with that at Bridgton Centre. Rev. O. A. Rounds succeeded him from 1873 to 1876, after which services were again suspended. In 1897 Rev. H. A. Markley came to the church at Bridgton, reorganized the church at Waterford and services were again resumed. After three years Rev. H. A. Philbrook succeeded to the pastorate, and in 1902 Rev. L. F. McKinney again came to the work. No regular services have been held since that year. This is one of the three societies about to unite in the maintenance of regular union services.

SCHOOL ITEMS

Before the incorporation of Waterford no schools were maintained by general taxation. Private schools were sometimes kept for a few weeks each year, but other needs seemed to these hardy pioneers more urgent than book instruction. When the town had been duly incorporated and attention given to hiring a preacher, a generous appropriation of \$100 was made for schools, to be laid out under the direction of the selectmen. Soon after this, on Aug. 21, 1797, Eli Longley, America Hamlin, Eber Rice, Eliphalet Watson and Samuel Warren were chosen a committee to district the town, and \$80 was granted to build school houses in the several districts.

These houses were not completed until 1800, when one

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was erected in each of the six districts laid out. No house was erected at the Flat, the reason assigned being that the people there were already blessed with a dangerous number of privileges—a tavern, post-office, and a church.

Eber Rice, Esq., and David Chaplin were the first school masters; Miss Eunice Stone and the daughter of Edward Barker were the first school mistresses. Esq. Rice was the legal adviser of the community for a quarter of a century, and town clerk for the first twenty years, except the first year. David Chaplin, known as “Master Chaplin” was a thorough scholar and a genius. Both were men of strong characteristic, and taught successfully for many years. The pupils were early provided with either a “Preceptor” or a spelling book, as their advancement required; while discipline was sometimes forcefully administered.

By 1830 the six districts in town had doubled in number. New houses were erected in the different districts about this time. Thirty or forty years later these houses were in turn replaced by larger and better ones, often erected at a much more convenient “corner.” Today many of these have become abandoned because not enough scholars are found in the community to maintain a school. Districts which formerly showed an attendance of sixty pupils are now unable to produce an even dozen to attend the common school. But the standard of scholarship has not retreated. The few weeks of discipline and instruction from the speller have been superseded by regular courses in many useful branches and the opportunity is now offered to every boy and girl to obtain a useful and thorough education.

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MILITARY MATTERS.

At the time of the breaking out of the Revolutionary War no axe had made a clearing, and no hut had been erected within the present bounds of the town of Waterford. Near the close of the war, and for a few succeeding years many of the men who had lost nearly all their estates in the service sought to make for themselves and their families new homes where they were to be had at the expense of little but hard labor, which was their sole capital. Of these men many settled in Waterford. In fact most of the men who arrived here previous to 1790 had served in the American forces. The following is a list of these men, as given in Warren's historical address. John Atherton, Joel Atherton, Daniel Barker, Africa Hamlin, Quartermaster; Israel Hale, John Jewell, Joseph Kimball, and Phineas Whitney served throughout the war. Jabez Brown was a lieutenant in the French and Adjutant in the Revolutionary War. Lieut. Thomas Green was an officer in the French war and served throughout the Burgoyne campaign. David, and Daniel Chaplin, Oliver Hale, Jona. Houghton, Asa Johnson, Jona. Longley, all served in the Burgoyne campaign. Samuel Jewell and Judah Weatherbee served at Bunker Hill. Josiah Proctor was in the Navy; Asaph Brown, Thaddeus Brown, Ephraim Chamberlain, America Hamlin, Benj. Hale, Eli Longley, Eliphalet Morse, Eber Rice, David Stone, Stephen Sanderson and Abram Whitney, each performed active service for the redemption of their country.

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During the War of 1812 two calls were made upon Waterford for troops; the first in 1812, the second in 1814. In response to the first call sixteen men were drafted from each company of militia, of which there were two. These men stood as minute-men for a year but never left the vicinity. In 1814, 38 men were drafted and went to Portland where they were mustered with the soldiers from Albany and West Bethel, with whom they made up a company. Their officers were Joseph Holt, Albany, captain; Aaron Cummings, Albany, lieutenant; Eleazer Twitchell, Bethel, ensign. These men were never called to face the enemy, but after several weeks of camp life during which they were kept busy building entrenchments at Fish Point they returned home.

SOLDIERS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Of the men of Waterford who took up arms for the suppression of the southern rebellion we can only give their names here. Thirty of these died of wounds or disease contracted in the service, and four in confederate prisons. The service performed by these men was nobly and heroically given.

Infantry: Augustus E. Horr, J. Mellen Webster, Andrew S. Hapgood, Austin W. Sylvester, A. B. Whittier, Napoleon Adley, Cyrus S. Green, Wm. Russell, Geo. H. Billings, Calvin H. Horr, Elbridge W. Whiting, Henry H. Allen, Geo. M. Knight, Lafayette Seavey, Chas. O. Wood, Wm. R. Kneeland, Edwin Plummer, Wm. Plummer, Samuel D. Parker, Chas. Billings, Moses M. Robinson, Dexter B. Brown, Melzer Chadbourne, Lewis Longley, John Monroe, Hendrick Smith,

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Almon G. Ward, Geo. L. Watson, Wm. W. Watson, John Stevens, Jeremiah Jordan, F. B. Blanchard, Alonzo H. Heath, Geo. Page, Wm. A. Allen, Wesley A. Stevens, Albion Poole, Geo. White, Moses W. Rand, S. Harrison Plummer, Wm. B. Etter, Timothy Butters, Jesse A. Cross, Isaac F. Jewett, Laforest Kimball, Andrew Kimball, Nathan S. Milliken, Oliver H. McKeen, Dean A. Kilgore, Chas. Plummer, Walter E. Stone, Edw. L. Hamlin, Chas. H. Stevens, Moody K. Stone, Isaac W. Wood, John M. Webster, Orlando S. Milliken, Thos. B. Perkins, Oren Lord, David Lord, Wm. A. Allen (2), John Atherton, Albert P. Bisbee, David P. Bisbee, Volney Bisbee, Joseph Burnell, Eli Cole, Elliott Chase, Lewis F. Dudley, Chas. W. Danley, Geo. T. Dresser, Henry Austin, John L. M. Davenport, Oris S. Haskell, Wm. Haines, Chas. B. Harlow, Edwin J. Jordan, James Libby, Sewall F. Millett, Alfred D. Proctor, Aaron Page, Paris Page, Ora Seavey, Geo. W. Wood, Andrew J. Woodward, Alvin T. Whittier, Chas. L. Houghton, Lewis F. Stone, Geo. A. Haskell, Geo. R. Hinman, Zenas Bisbee. Artillery:—Samuel R. Cromwell, Jas. A. Coffin, Daniel Green, Daniel W. Kilborne, Wm. W. Kilborne, Edwin Chaplin. Cavalry:—Geo. H. Butters, Melzer W. Chadbourne, Lewis S. Merrill, Dennis H. Merrill, Daniel Ray, Lafayette Seavey, Geo. A. Annis. Navy:—Levi L. Brown, Josiah Weeks.

PROFESSIONAL MEN.

LAWYERS.

Eber Rice, Esq., was legal adviser for many years before the arrival of a professional lawyer. Henry Farwell was the first lawyer at the Flat:—He came here about 1806,

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later removed to Dixfield. Edward Andrews followed him in practice here. He became a minister and went to New York. Chas. Whitman, a native of Portland, commenced practice here in 1817. After practicing in Waterford for twenty years he was appointed department clerk at Washington. Mr. Whitman was a valuable citizen and took great pride in the town. Elijah L. Hamlin, a native of Paris, was contemporary with Mr. Whitman. After a short time he removed to Bangor where he became identified with the growth of that city, was several times major, and was once a Whig candidate for governor of the State.

Geo. F. Emery followed Mr. Whitman. He later became clerk of the U. S. District Court, then was connected with the Boston Post. Elbridge Gerry, son of Peter Gerry, was born in Waterford, and commenced practice about 1835. He rose rapidly, becoming a member of Congress from this District. M. B. Bartlett succeeded him in practice. Josiah S. Hobbs practiced in North Waterford and Waterford Flat, became state librarian. James L. Haskell practiced here a short time, and died of consumption. Thos. T. Brigham of Buckfield practiced here a short time, then returned to Buckfield where he still resides. A. S. Kimball, a native of Waterford, was the next to locate here. In 1883 Mr. Kimball removed to Norway and was succeeded here by S. S. Stearns. Three years later he removed to Norway, leaving Waterford without a resident member of the bar. Nathaniel Howe removed to Waterford City from North Bridgton early in the last century and remained in successful practice, an honored and respected citizen, until his death.

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PHYSICIANS.

The first physician in Waterford was Dr. Stephen Cummings who arrived in town about 1795 and was a leading citizen here until his removal to Portland in 1800. Dr. Samuel Crombie followed. Dr. Luke Lincoln was the next practitioner, both of the last coming here from New Boston, N. H. Drs. Chas. Hay and Cushi Hathaway seem to have been next in order. Dr. Abner Johnson, whose famous "Anodyne Liniment" has become a household word, practiced here several years before removing to Brewer. Dr. Young Walker was next. Dr. Leander Gage came from Bethel in 1817 and was for many years one of the most prominent and influential citizens. He practiced here until his death in 1846. Drs. John French, Lewis W. Houghton, Seth C. Hunkins, who succeeded Dr. Houghton, and Drs. Millett, Fessenden and Bradbury were all in practice here for a longer or shorter time. Dr. S. L. Weston, from Otisfield. Dr. Chas. L. Wilson, a native of Newfield and a leading physician here for many years; Dr. Prescott, hydropathic; Dr. Goodenow, Thomsonian; and Dr. Shattuck, long at the head of the Hygienic Institute, all have located here for practice. Dr. Wilson practiced until his death, in 1892, soon after which Francis S. Packard succeeded him in practice. Seven years later he was succeeded by A. B. Libby. In 1902 Dr. Libby was followed by Dr. W. Coburn who died the following September. In December, that year Dr. A. J. Stimpson located here and has acquired a good practice. Drs. Gordon, Osgood, and J. B. Eastman each located at North Waterford before the village sprung up. The first

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physician who settled in the village was Dr. W. W. Greene. He was followed successively by Dr. E. B. Pike, Dr. Peables and Dr. N. D. Faunce.

BEAR MOUNTAIN GRANGE, NO. 62.

This society of the Patrons of Husbandry was organized at South Waterford the 28th of November, 1874, with nineteen male and ten female members. Benj. Tucker, Jr., became the first Master, with Geo. A. Hall, Overseer. Many new candidates were received from year to year and the society has greatly increased in strength of numbers and influence. The Master's chair has been filled consecutively by the following members: Benj. Tucker, Jr., D. P. Bisbee, Geo. A. Hall, Robbins Plummer, Geo. A. Hall, Jas. M. Shaw, A. M. Horr, S. S. Hersey, R. Plummer, C. S. Hamlin, H. W. Green, W. K. Hamlin, W. A. Hersey, W. K. Hamlin, C. S. Hamlin, M. Monroe, and Willard W. Abbott. Other principal officers for 1906 are F. Hapgood, overseer, M. Monroe, lecturer, L. J. Saunders, steward, Frank Stearns, chaplain, and C. J. Hamlin, secretary.

WATERFORD LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

In the year 1850 a Ladies' Sewing Circle was organized at South Waterford, one-half of their earnings to be used in establishing and maintaining a local library. The first

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were purchased in 1852, a nucleus of twenty-one volumes. These were kept in the home of some member of the circle, as was the custom until 1871, when the library was removed to its present quarters in Mr. A. A. Knight's store. Miss Sade W. Knight became librarian at that time and has since remained in care of the work. In 1900 the association was legally incorporated with a membership of twenty, thirteen of whom were admitted at that time. The number of volumes has steadily increased by purchase or gifts, until there are now 1600 books. Forty or fifty volumes are added each year by purchase.

