


1944

Historical Newspaper Clippings of Lewiston-Auburn in the Late 1800's (Scrapbook #1)

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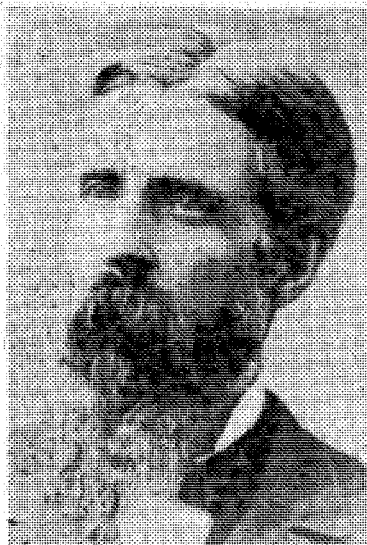
Scrapbook #1, Franco-American Collection, University of Southern Maine

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Lewiston's Early Historian Was Profound Scholar



The late J. G. Elder of Lewiston, taken in his prime.

BY ALICE FROST LORD

It will be gratifying to Lewiston citizens to learn that historical records by the late Janus G. Elder, which have been preserved by his son, George K. Elder, are being put into form, so that delvers in local history will find them accessible.

* * *

Who was J. G. Elder, Janus as he always was called?

To the younger generation he is practically unknown. To many others he is only a name, that of an early resident. But the older folk remember him as a familiar figure on the Lewiston streets, and as the city's recognized historian.

Such data about Lewiston as appears in the "History of Androscoggin County" and the county atlas, both published many years ago, came from this scholarly gentleman; and now and then the Blue Store pamphlet, with a bit of his local history, shows up among old collections.

But the man, himself, is all but lost as an identity here.

That is why his son, George K. Elder, who for so many years was a druggist in the city, was sought recently, in order that the picture of his father might be recovered for present-day readers. Mr. Elder has retired; and the documents and data that have been cherished so long in his house, are a permanent memorial to Janus.

Native of St. Alban's

Altho the older man was born in St. Albans, he spent most of his life in Lewiston, and finished his high school education here. That was when these classes were being conducted in a building just above what is now the United Baptist church on Main street. His contemporaries in school were men like D. W. Wiggin (Dan), also a druggist later in life; and Al Gardner.



George K. Elder of Lewiston

There is little doubt, as his whole life testifies, that if Janus had been able to have a college education, he would have been a brilliant scholar, with an outstanding record. As it was, his initiative and application made him in his quiet way a leading citizen, with a special interest in the schools.

Capacity For Study

According to his son, Janus had a marvelous capacity for study. "He attained no little of his education before 4 a.m.," said Mr. Elder. "That was before he went to his work as a cabinet-maker. He studied French while he worked at the bench; and could read Latin, German and Greek, as well.

"He learned his trade with a Scotchman and worked later for L. L. Blake and Douglas & Cook, both well-known firms on Lisbon street, the former a furniture dealer, and the latter, stationers.

"His memory must have been almost photographic. For Mrs. Augusta A. Clark, a sister, used to tell me how Janus would sit thru a long sermon at church, his head drooped forward as if paying slight attention, only to come home and repeat the message in detail. She added that he was apt in mimicry, and when he recreated the voice and attitudes of the preacher his mother had to laugh, while his father threatened a thrashing for what he deemed impudence.

"I remember that father was librarian for the early Manufacturers and Mechanics Association, when its headquarters were in College Block on lower Lisbon street, before these were moved to the old city hall.

Librarian and Book Collector

"Probably that library was not large, as compared with modern facilities, but he knew and enjoyed it; and his memory served him well, for he often told patrons that books which they wanted were not in, without stopping to check the cards. If people resented his off-hand statement, he confirmed it for them.

"He also was interested in the question and answer column which used to run in the Lewiston Journal, and answered many of the queries for them. I remember when there was considerable debate with some of the college professors over an answer to a mathematical problem.

"Father was acting superintendent of schools for three years; and Senator William P. Frye once told me that he worked to make the position permanent for him. He also taught a mixed school on Knox street for a time; and he served on the schoolboard for 19 years, when men like Senator Frye, President George C. Chase of Bates college, and J. G. Coburn, mill agent, were acting in like capacity.

"Always he was a bookworm. At forty, he was collecting books, mostly histories, many of them concerning Maine. They are still here in the house.

"I remember a trip I made with him to Boston, when we were walking down by a Cornhill bookshop. He stopped to look over specimens, offered for sale on a table outside the door, picked up one, paid a quarter for it, and as we moved along remarked to me that it was worth much more. He knew books!

"His membership in the Maine Historical Society interested him; and I recall that he once wrote an article on the Pemaquid region which he read to them. If there is a copy of this in existence I do not know where it is. He also collaborated with a Belfast man—an attorney, if I remember aright—in a bibliography.

"Silas Cook of the firm of Douglass & Cook once told me that when he went to Philadelphia, to work in a book-store, he urged my father to join him, assuring him that all he would have to do would be to 'sit around and answer questions'!

"His religious associations were with the old-time Bates street Calvin Baptist church. He was active there, and served on a committee which selected new pastors. It is likely that he and mother were charter members, altho I am not sure. As long as I can remember mother was an invalid; yet she lived into the seventies. There are only two children, Charles S. Elder, who is now retired from the government printing office in Washington, D. C., and myself. Father's death occurred in February of 1907."

Old Lewiston and Auburn Pictures Emphasize Changes

50 Years Can Make

BY EARL T. BARRON

Only 50 years ago, but what changes have occurred in Lewiston and Auburn since 1893. Of course, there are many persons living here and in other sections of the state and country who, with little effort, can recall those good old days. However, there are many others, who might be termed "strangers,"

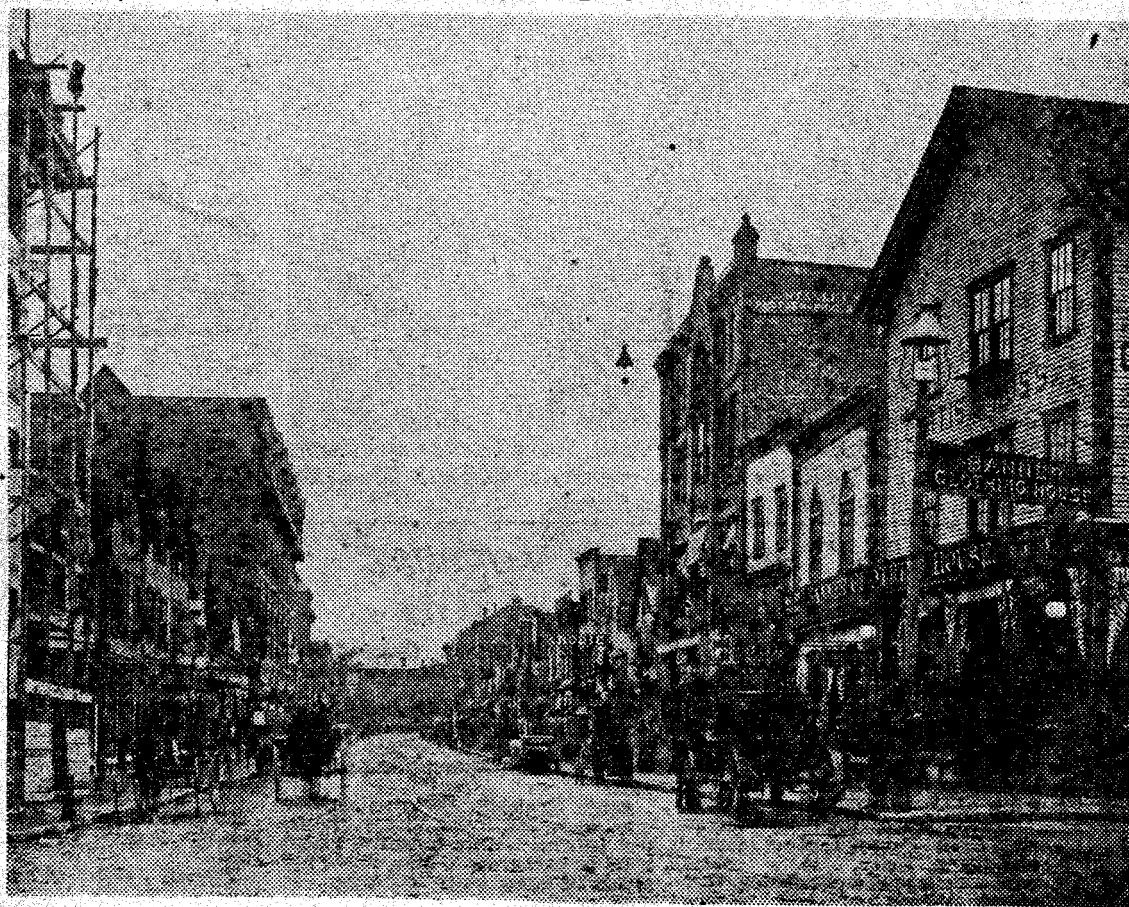
At that time Lewiston had seven cotton mills, Lincoln, (which was

not operating) Bates, Hill, Androscoggin, Continental, Lewiston and Avon. These industries enjoyed an aggregate capital of nearly \$5,500,000 and a capacity of 300,000 spindles. Six of the establishments gave employment to 6,000 Lewiston and Auburn residents who were paid a monthly sum of approximately \$125,000.

Says a writer of those days: "Yet in all this ceaseless activity of this throbbing, pulsating city of machin-

ery within brick walls, there has never been a serious disaster of any kind, and the community at large has long since come to look upon the routine of 'the mills' and the business and activity they bring as being almost as constant and unswerving as the sun in its course."

A monthly payroll of \$45,000 was paid to 430 employees of the Lewiston Bleaching and Dye Works. A comparison of the present payrolls would show a tremendous increase



LOOKING UP LISBON STREET from Ash.



PINE STREET, LEWISTON.



COOK STREET, New Auburn as it looked 50 years ago.

over that of just 50 years ago. The Cowan Woolen Company employed 100 persons and paid them \$3,700 monthly. While over at the Cumberland Company \$2,000 was paid to 50 employees each month. The Lewiston Machine Company carrying 200 employees on its payroll had a monthly payroll of \$10,000 each month. Five hundred and fifty hands at the Gay Woodman Co., received \$12,000 monthly for their labors. Among the other well known concerns then operating were R. C. Pingree & Co. and Jordon, Frost & Co.

Among the other more prominent business corporations that helped to make Lewiston a busy and prosperous community were the Lewiston Power Company, The Franklin Company, Lewiston and Auburn Horse Railroad Company, Lewiston Board of Trade and the Manufacturers and Mechanics Library Association. There were many other little business concerns and establishments operating throughout the city.

Four Banks

Financial affairs were handled at four banking institutions. The Lewiston Falls Bank, incorporated in 1852, was merged into the First National Bank and had a capital of \$400,000 in 1893. The Manufacturers National Bank, organized in 1875, had a capital of \$200,000. The Androscoggin County Savings Bank and the Peoples Savings Bank. All four of these establishments are still active in the business life of the two cities and central Maine.

The Maine State Agricultural Society, the outgrowth of the Androscoggin County Agricultural Society was then one of the most successful and widely known agricultural organizations in the country. Fair week was a great event for the Twin Cities. Visitors from all sections of the State and New England would flock to Lewiston for this annual event. State Fair Week was something to look forward to in those days.

11 Churches in City

Eleven churches administered to the religious welfare of the city in 1893. Certainly enough to keep the good citizens of Lewiston on the straight and narrow path. Lewiston boasted two Free Baptist churches, two Methodist churches, one Calvinist Baptist church, one Universalist church, one Congregationalist church, one Irish Catholic church, one French Catholic church, one Episcopal church and one Society of Friends Church.

The Central Maine General Hospital, a two story wooden structure on Main Street, had been opened two years previous and was doing yeoman service in administering to the ill of the community and surrounding towns. The city had 20 doctors who made their calls by horse and buggy. Each year new physicians established their practice in Lewiston until the community boasted a fine array of medical talent.

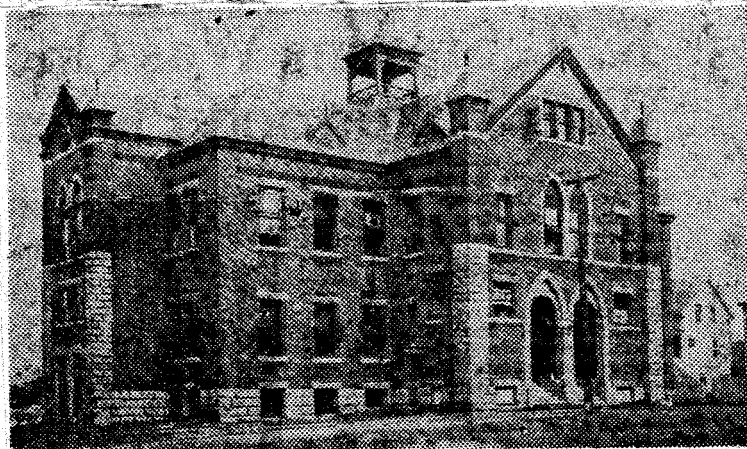
Fraternal Organizations

Ashlar Lodge of Masons, Rabboni Lodge, King Hiram Chapter, Dunlap Council, Lewiston Commandry, Knights Templar, Lewiston Lodge of Perfection, A. A. S. Rite added much to the social life of the city as they do today. Also included in the list of fraternal organizations were Manufacturers and Mechanics Lodge IOOF, Worombus Encampment and Grant Canton Worombus. There was a long list of other secret orders. Today a large majority of these organizations are still in operation, some have disappeared from the local picture while others have been added.

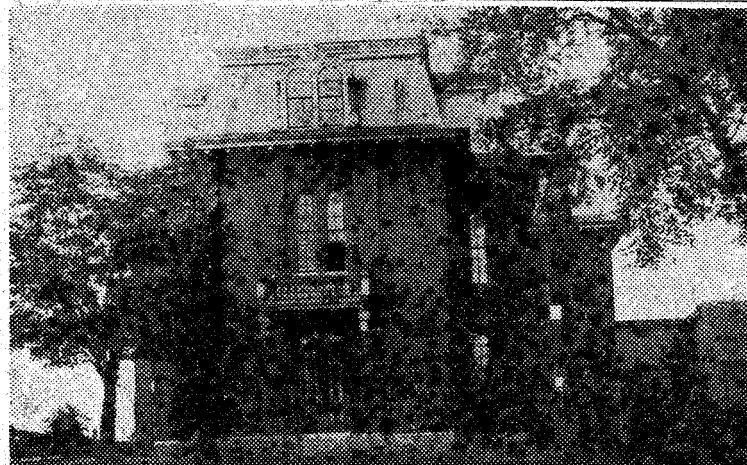
Two military companies, the Nealey Rifles and the Frye Light Guards, comprised the military scene here just 51 years ago.



NICHOLS LATIN SCHOOL.



ST. LOUIS SCHOOL that burned in the New Auburn fire of 1933



LEWISTON HIGH SCHOOL.

Looking down Lisbon street in those days one would see a somewhat dusty street with the horse-car tracks in the middle. The well-known Osgood building was under construction and men were busy on the scaffolds. Barber poles appeared, or seemed to appear, at about every other store. But, of course, those were the days of initialed shaving mugs, moustache, beards and sideburns. A barber shop in those good old days was a virtual clubroom. Store signs hung out over the side-

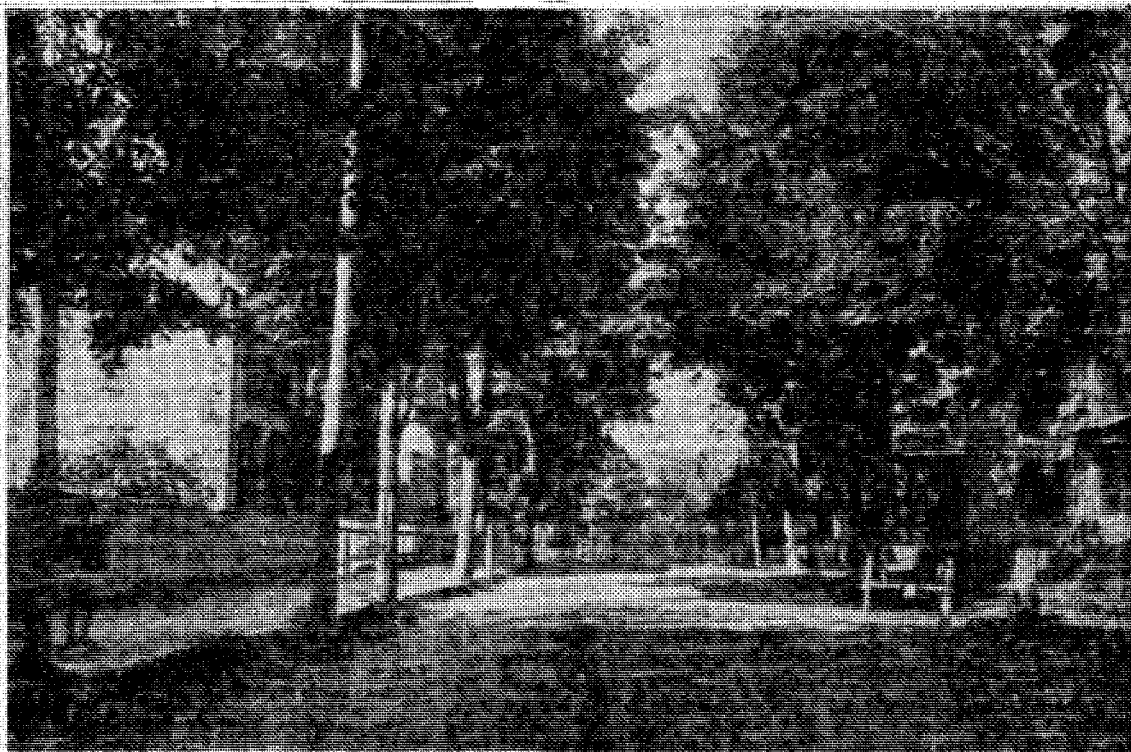
walks like leaves on some gigantic tree.

In the residential sections one found well-kept homes, both large and small, well-groomed lawns and hundreds of beautiful trees shading the walks and homes. The lawns are still in evidence but many of the fine old trees have vanished with time in its flight. Many of the old homes have disappeared and new buildings have been built but there are many still standing that have much history of the city Lewiston wrapped up in them.

Taking a trip to David Mountain, and many did, one could see Bates College and the several farms in the



A SECTION OF LEWISTON photographed from the summit of David's Mountain.



SCENE ON WALNUT STREET, LEWISTON.

Montello Heights section of the city. Looking toward the city proper one could see the several spires of the churches and the tower of the new city hall. Buildings of wooden construction predominated the scene below. According to the picture accompanying this article Davis Street was just a little dirt road while the spot where White Street was to be carved out was just a grassy lot.

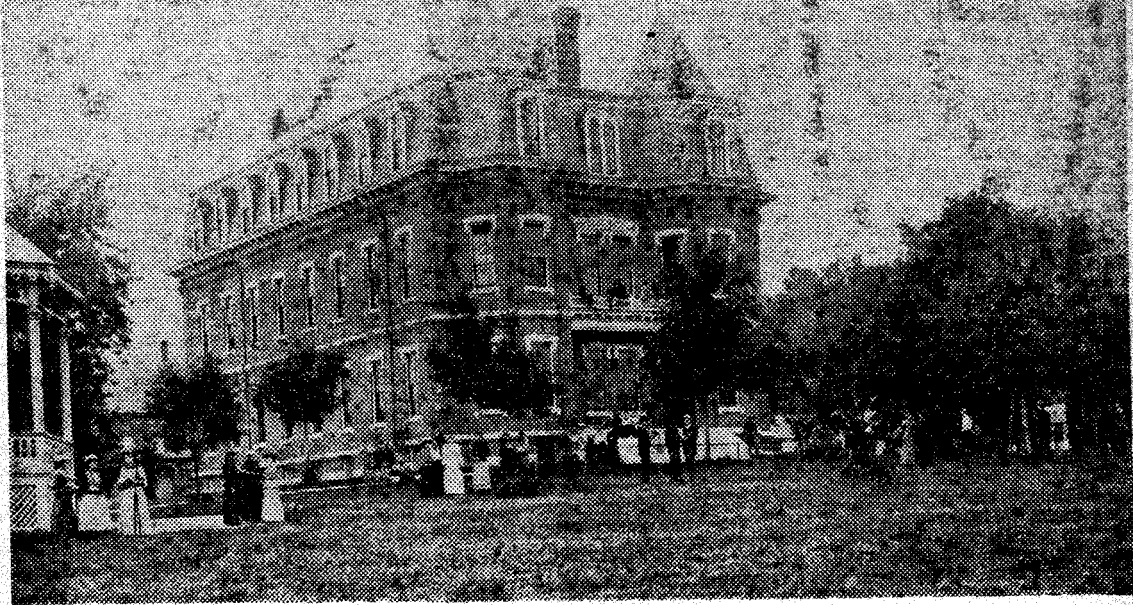
According to one old resident of Lewiston, White Street was practically a bog in the Spring of the year. A small stream or brook made its way from the David Mountain area across the section where White and Davis Streets now are

and wended its way toward the business district. This has long since been erased from the scene. However, on several occasions, residents of that section are reminded, in an unpleasant manner, of the old stream. Many cellars become flooded during the Spring season. Much of the blame is attached to the little stream of days gone by.

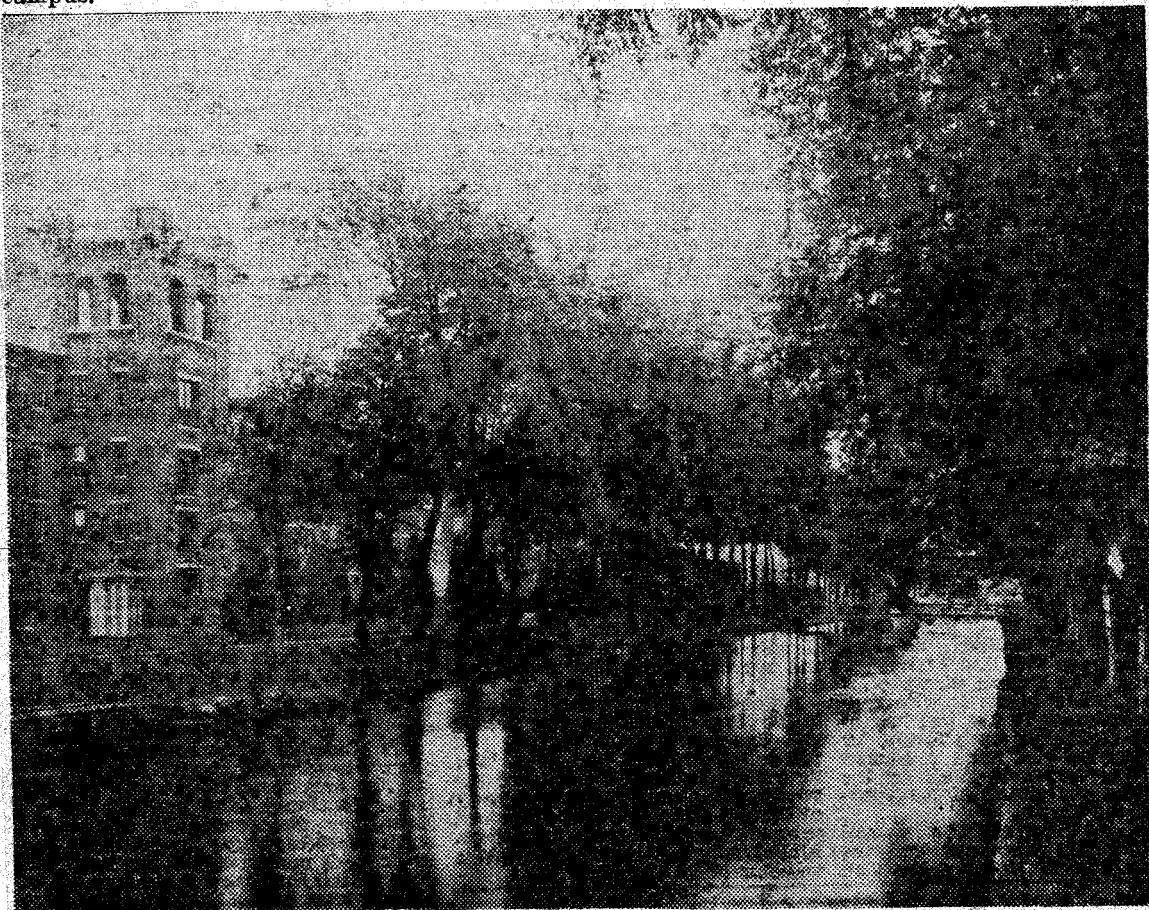
Over in Auburn

Across the Androscoggin in Auburn one found the little community keeping pace with its bigger sister city. The Barker Mill, built in 1874, was the only cotton mill there at that time. However, as the

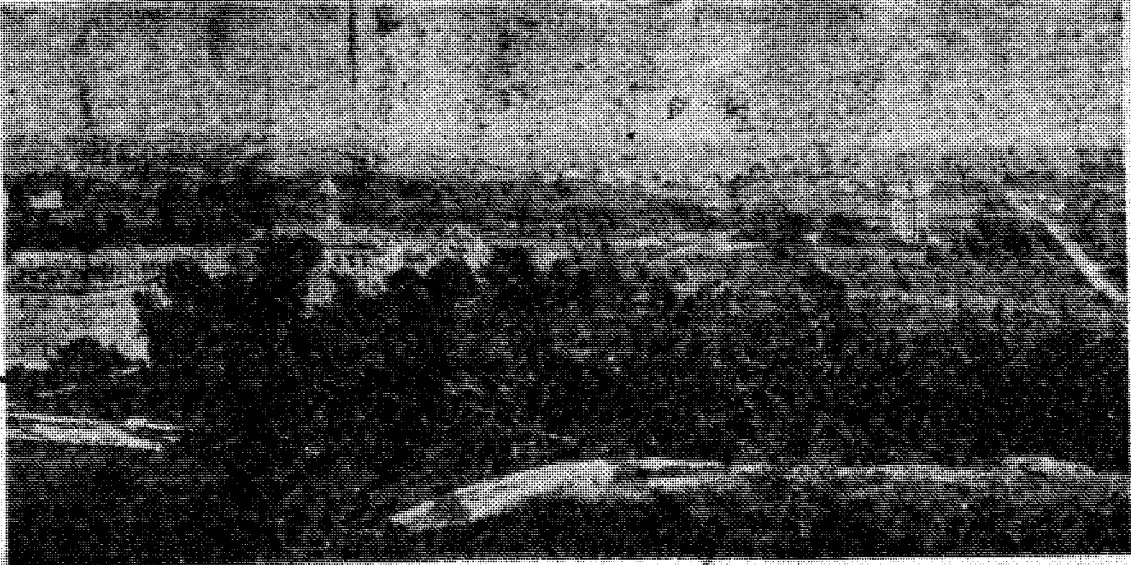
"Shoe City of Maine," Auburn gained its greatest fame and prosperity. The business was begun at West Auburn in 1835 by the Minot Shoe Company with a capital of \$5,000. Soon other companies were started in various sections of the town. When the shoe industry was first established work was done almost entirely by hand and mostly carried out over the country as piece-work, to be finished by farmers, boys and girls during evenings and stormy weather, or by anyone



EDWARD LITTLE HIGH SCHOOL, Auburn, with yesterday's students sauntering across the campus.



VIEW OF THE CANAL near the Bates Mill, Lewiston.



PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE BATES COLLEGE CAMPUS.



DRUMMOND STREET, AUBURN.

who invested a few dollars in the simple tools then in use.

Prominent among those who may be regarded as having built up the shoe industry in Auburn were the names of Cushman, Packard, Munroe, Roak, Cobb. In the year 1893 there were 12 different shoe manufacturing firms employing over 2,000 persons and carrying an annual payroll of nearly \$1,000,000. These concerns had an aggregate capital of approximately \$3,000,000.

A writer of fifty years ago says: "There is every prospect of in-

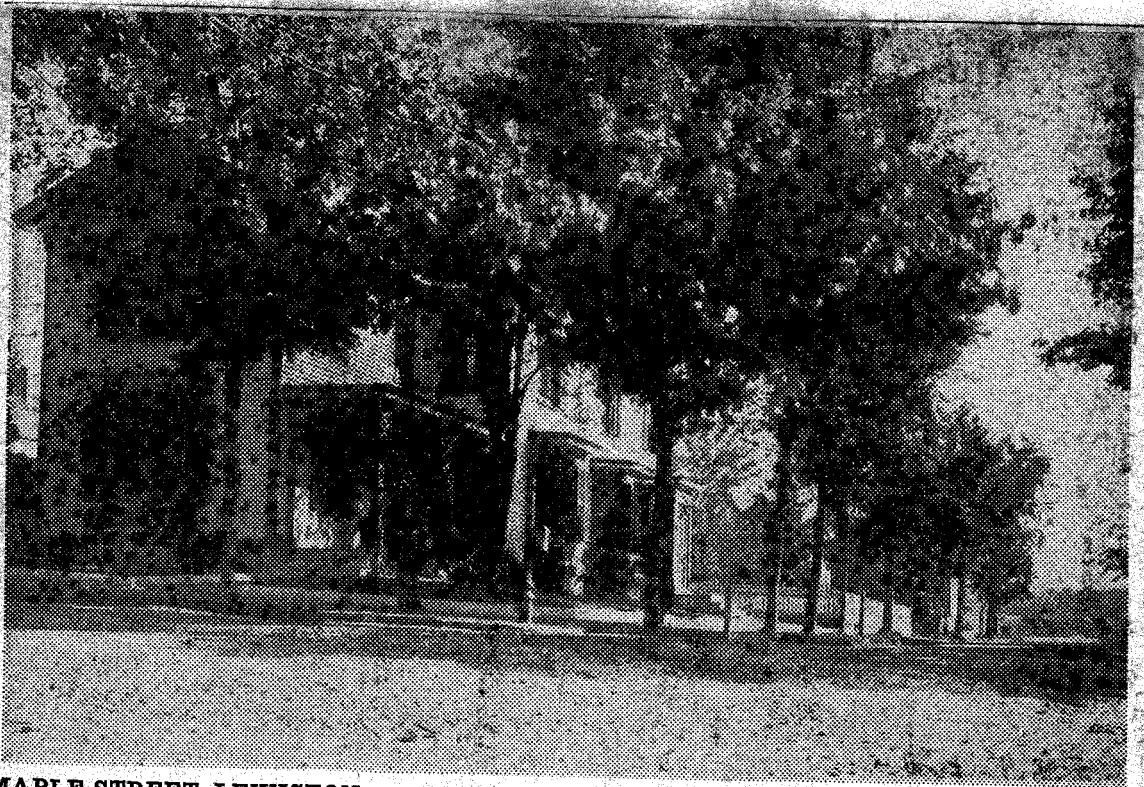
creased growth in this branch of industry, and new firms are being talked of. The primitive tools of 50 years ago are hardly remembered." Yes, and there have been vast changes since those words were written.

Other Industries

Among the other manufacturing interests standing out at that time were the J. Wesley Hutchins Company, a very novel and prosperous concern at that time; The Whitman

Agricultural Works; F. R. Conant & Co., boxes and lumber; there were also a number of foundries; flour, meal and feed mills were well patronized not only by residents of the city but by people from the outlying communities. The city also boasted a hosiery factory, a leather board plant and a hat factory. A few prosperous businesses were enjoyed, by corn and other packing establishments. Bakeries, granite and marble works and many other concerns dotted the mercantile scene.

The first bank chartered here was the Danville bank. This bank was incorporated in 1855. However, this banking institution went out of ex-



MAPLE STREET, LEWISTON.

istence at the same time with the other state banks. The city, fifty-one years ago, had two National banks, the First National with a capital of \$150,000 and the National Shoe and Leather bank, with a capital of \$400,000. The city also added the Auburn Savings Bank and the Mechanics Savings bank to its list of financial houses.

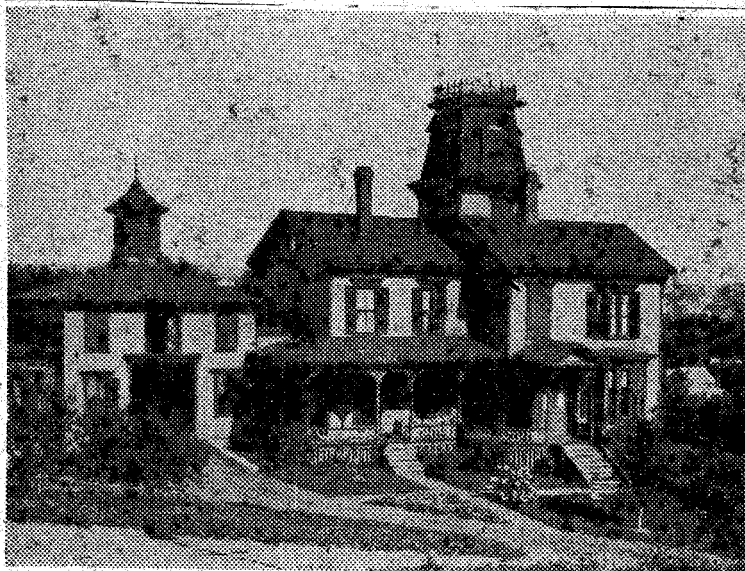
At that time the American Banking and Trust Company and the Auburn Trust Company were also well known in the banking field.

Other business organizations were the Auburn Board of Trade, the Maine Benefit Association, an organization representing insurance to the amount of \$2,000,000; The Auburn Loan and Building Association; the Androscoggin Land Association; Lake Auburn Fish Protective Association; the Auburn Aqueduct Company; Little Androscoggin Water Power Company; The Lewiston and Auburn Electric Light Company and the American Light and Power Company.

Best Lodge Town In New England

According to a recorder of the times, Auburn was given high praise as a lodge town. Said the writer: "There is no town in New England where the Masonic orders, the Odd Fellows and other like organizations have been uniformly more successful. For that reason, probably, that here the intelligent middle class of the purely American type has always predominated."

March 18, 1818 saw the organization of the first Masonic lodge in Auburn. It was named the Tranquil Lodge. This is still in existence and is one of the large and active groups of the fraternity. Ancient Brothers lodge, granted a dispensation in 1875 and a charter in 1876, was enjoying fraternal life fifty years ago as it is today. Bradford Chapter was granted a dispensation in 1875 and received its charter in 1876. This organization was one of the most active organizations of fifty years ago and continues to enjoy success in this



R. S. BRADBURY residence on Auburn Heights.

day. Auburn Council of Princes of Jerusalem, instituted in 1888, Dickey Chapter, Rose Croix, A. & A.A., Scottish Rite were organizations flourishing back in those good old days.

Other Organizations

As is the case in these days many persons belonged to one or more groups. These practices allowed for the success of other groups such as the Androscoggin Lodge, IOOF, organized in 1845, and Abou Ben Adem Lodge, formed in 1875. Pejepscot Encampment, instituted April 10,

1874, was one of the popular organizations. Other groups sharing in the fraternal and social life of the little city were the Daughters of Rebekah, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Royal Conclave of Knights and Ladies, Burnside Post of the G.A.R., United Order of the Golden Cross, United Order of Pilgrim Fathers, Auburn Light Infantry, Patrons of Husbandry and several others.

12 Physicians

Twelve physicians were listed as serving the city's residents. Says a newspaper article of that time: "There is room for more." More came and despite that many are now serving in the armed forces the number of doctors now practicing in Auburn far exceeds the number in business fifty years ago.

There were eight churches active then, three less than Lewiston boasted. Two were Congregationalist churches, one Calvinist Baptist, one Free Baptist, one Universalist, one Methodist, one Episcopal, one Catholic and organization of the Hebrew faith.

According to a writer of that time "It is difficult to state when and where the first schools were held." However, the education interest centered around the old Lewiston Falls Academy. The trustees of that famed institution were incorporated as an executive board in 1834 and the school was commenced a few years later; and it continued with most excellent results for many years.

Edward T. Little

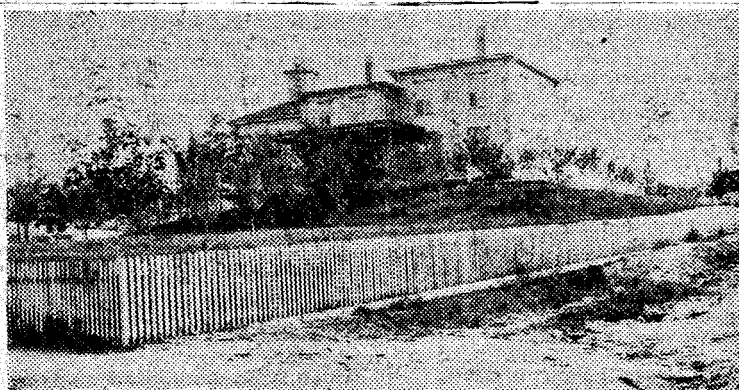
This institution was largely built up and made a power in the educational world by the energy and devotion of Edward T. Little, a prominent citizen of Auburn and well known throughout the State. Mr. Little made several bequests to the school. It is in his honor that the present high school is named.

This place of learning is the outgrowth of the old Lewiston Falls Academy, occupying the same beautiful grounds. From this school the city of Auburn has constructed one of the best educational systems in the state.

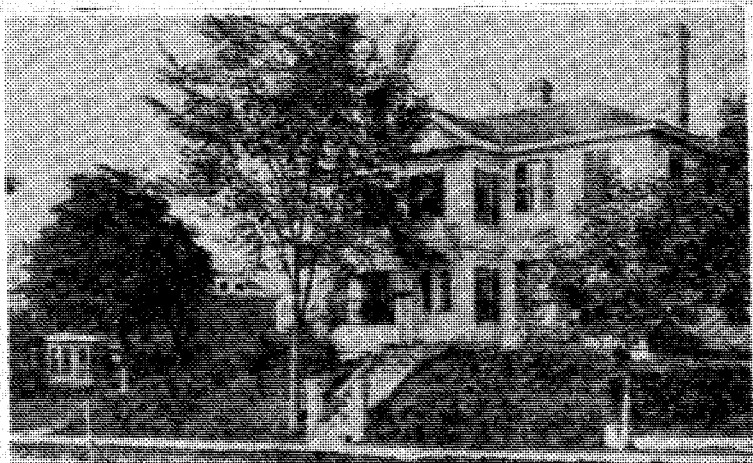
Newspapers

According to the historians of 1893 Joseph H. Davis issued a small advertising sheet at Goff's Corner in 1840. This was the first newspaper published in Auburn. Several publications have been started since that time but met with indifferent success. Then the Lewiston Gazette came to town. The first issue rolled off the press as the Auburn Daily Gazette on January 21, 1889. From then on the Gazette rushed forward and, in 1893, according to a writer of that time, was fast becoming a power in Central Maine. However, the Gazette has disappeared from the publishing field since those days.

All this happened only 51 years ago, in 1893, and one can readily see the tremendous changes in the two cities. One may wonder what the next half century will bring.

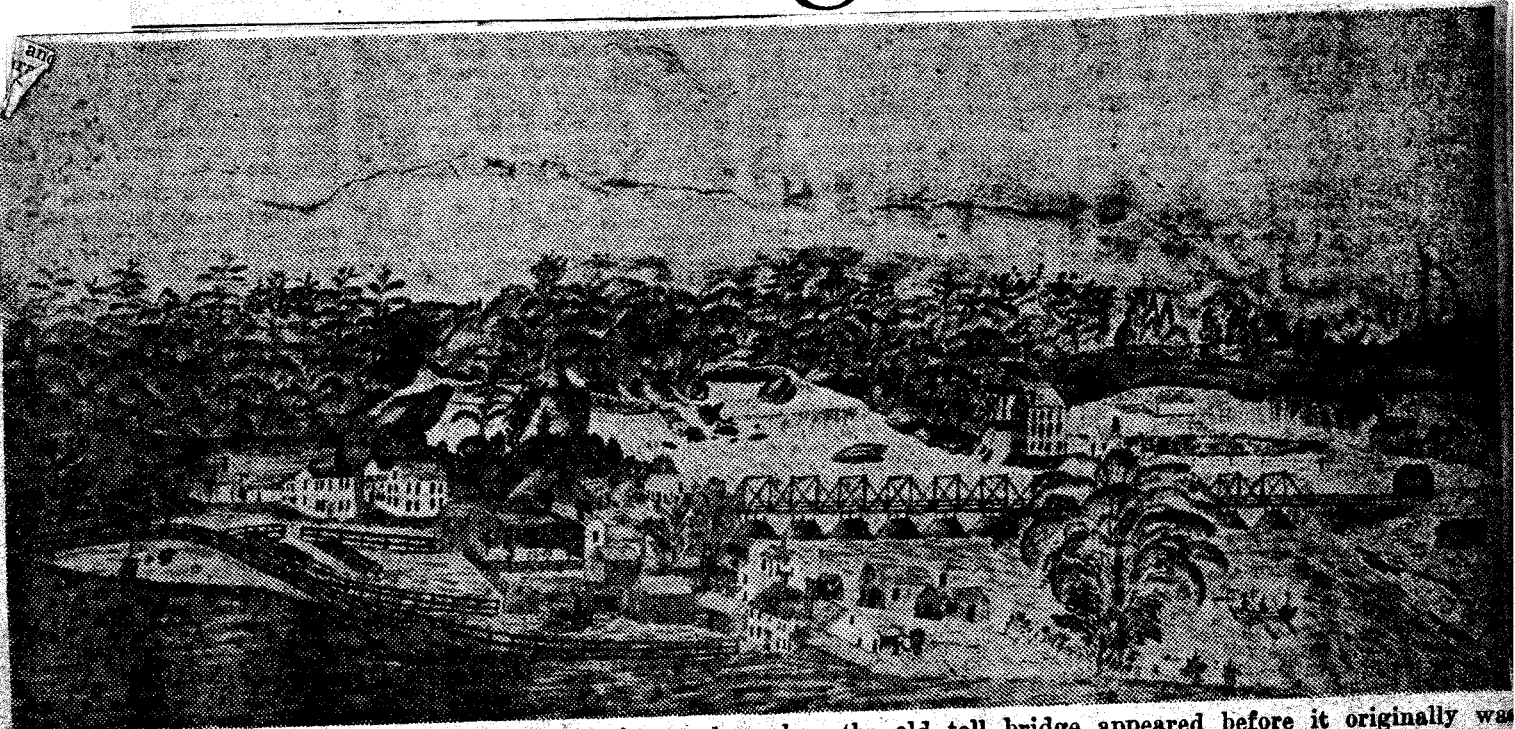


ALPHONSE AUGER residence in New Auburn.



C. M. G. HOSPITAL as it looked in 1893.

Lewiston-Auburn Toll Bridge Provided Connecting Link



LEWISTON FALLS AROUND 1830—The above picture shows how the old toll bridge appeared before it originally was repaired and altered in appearance. The illustration also gives an excellent idea of just how small the town of Lewiston was in the early days, although it does not show the main settlement in the town.

By JAMES E. PHILOON MAY 1 - 1948

It was a gala day at the little village of Goff's Corner in the then towns of Minot and Danville—one of those clear and sparkling days, in the Fall of 1823. From early morn the settlers from the surrounding territory had been converging by foot, on horseback, or by carriage, toward the entrance of a crude structure of wood and stone spanning the river, on which all eyes were turned, and concerning which all conversation was centered. This was the day set apart for the opening of the long desired, and now completed, toll bridge.

At the appointed hour, all conversation was hushed as Rev. Benjamin Thorne, of Lewiston, arose, and to the accompaniment of the roaring falls, the murmuring trees, and the occasional chatter of such birds which had remained to view the spectacle, gave an oration suitable to the occasion.

Scene of Festivity

At its close, tables were spread, and as tradition has it, "hot refreshments were served on the bridge," and joy reigned supreme.

The little village of Goff's Corner in 1823, can be described as follows: At the present location of Goff's Block at the corner of what are now Court and Main streets, was James Goff, Jr.'s store and postoffice. This building had been moved across the river on the ice in the Winter of 1822, and converted into a store. Nearly opposite Goff's store on the river side was the law office of Edward Little. South of Little's office was Barker Brooks' blacksmith shop. Just below Little's office on Main

Street, then called Water Street, was Orra Raynes' Millinery Shop. South of Goff's Store on Water Street, where the Mechanics Savings Bank now stands, was Jonathan Raynes' house and cabinet shop. Below this where the Maine Hotel now stands was Jacob Read's Tavern.

Below this were the houses of Daniel Welch and one Manning. Some distance above the present location of the Elm House on Court St., was the residence of Joseph Winslow. Beyond that was the residence of Godfrey Lane.

Bisecting the village, as though someone had drawn a knife through it, was the line between the towns of Minot on the west and Danville

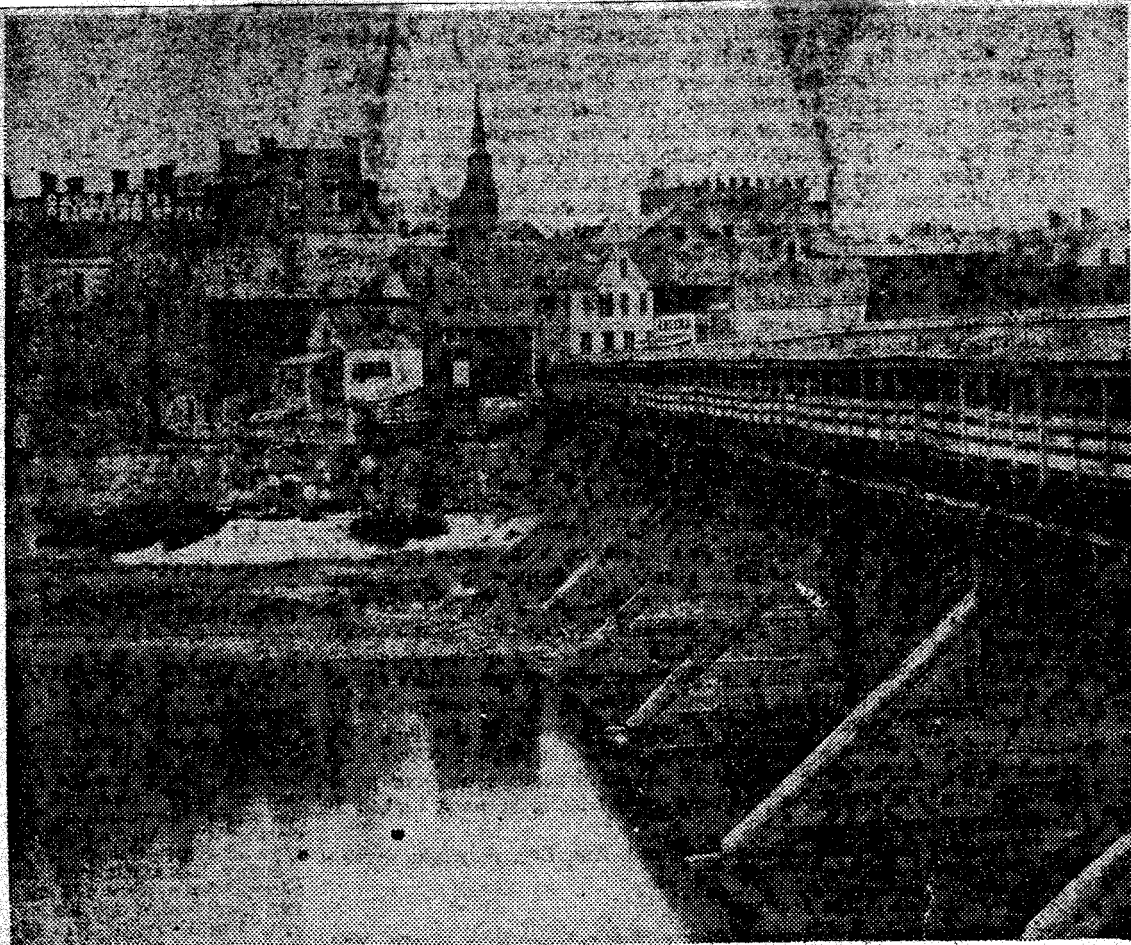
on the east. This line began at a mark on a rock in the Androscoggin Falls, passed diagonally across Court St. north of the Elm House, and on a straight line which, if continued, would pass directly through the residence now occupied by E. Farrington Abbott on Minot Avenue.

Lewiston Side

On the Lewiston side was the grist mill belonging to Josiah Little and others, located near the site of the Columbia Mills just below the falls. On Main Street was the residence of Dean Frye. This building is still standing nearly in front of the Main Street entrance of the Bates Mill.

The business and residential center of Lewiston Falls Village was further up Main Street at the junction of Main and Sabattus Streets. This was called Lowell's Corner, and comprised some 12 houses, 3 stores, and a tavern.

Previous to the opening of the bridge, travel between the two villages was difficult and hazardous to say the least. The only means of travel between them was by a boat or ferry in the Summer, and across the ice in Winter. The first ferry in the vicinity was established by the first settler of Lewiston, Paul Hildreth, in 1771. This was operated near the site of the present South Bridge. He sold this privilege to Samuel Robinson in 1785, who operated it for a time. The second ferry in the vicinity was established in 1812, and was operated by Zebina Hunt as ferryman. This was maintained just above where the north bridge now stands.



A LATER VIEW—Here is the bridge as photographed for a stereopticon study. You are looking toward the Lewiston end of the bridge. As can be seen, this was the way the bridge looked after it was covered over, providing shelter from bad weather but at the same time being as dark as Erebus.

This ferry was maintained until the toll bridge displaced it in 1823.

As time went on, it became more and more evident to the traders and the more enterprising citizens of the two communities that they could not expect any great growth in population and expansion in business. The act incorporating the toll bridge provided.

Toll Rates

"That a toll . . . is granted for the sole benefit of said corporation, according to the following rates: For each foot passenger 2c; one person and horse 6c; single horse-cart, sled or sleigh 10c; each team, including cart, wagon, sled or sleigh drawn by more than one beast and not exceeding 12c; and for every additional beast above two 2c; each single horse and chaise, chair or sulkey 16c; each coach, chariot, phaeton or other pleasure carriages, drawn by two horses 35c; and for every additional beast 2c; neat cattle, horses, mules or asses, exclusive of those rode on, or in carriages 2c each; sheep and swine $\frac{1}{2}$ c each; and to each team, one person only, shall be allowed as a driver to pass free of toll; and all persons who shall actually be on military duty shall be permitted, with their baggage, to pass said bridge free of toll; the said bridge, the gate or gates shall be left open.

"When the net income of said bridge shall have fully reimbursed the expenses of building and keeping the same in repair, with 12% interest thereon, the same shall revert to the State."

Shares Sold

A total of one hundred fifty shares of stock in the corporation was sold. There was no limitation in the number of shares a person

could own. In the meetings, each stockholder had one vote for each share held by him, but no one could have more than ten votes regardless of the number of shares held by him. The principle stockholder was Josiah Little by Edward Little with 50 shares, James Lowell with ten and Michael Little with five were other leading stockholders.

The first meeting of the corporation was held in the office of Dan Reade, Esq. in Lewiston on February 4, 1823, at which the following officers were elected: Peletiah Smith, President, Josiah Little, Clark, James Lowell, Treasurer and Collector, and Directors Edward Little, Peletiah Smith, James Lowell, Daniel Briggs, Jabez Merrill, Dr. Calvin Gorham and Nathan Reynolds. The duties of the Directors were:

"To superintend building and repairing the bridge, manage the prudential affairs of the corporation, appoint a Toll gatherer, etc."

They also elected a Committee to Draft By-laws, consisting of Edward Little, Dr. Calvin Gorham, Secomb Jordan and Nathan Reynolds. A Committee of nine was appointed to confer with Edward Little, Esq. and Thompson Hall on the subject of building the bridge.

The matter of making a plan of the bridge contemplated was left with the Directors. By agreement Edward Little was to be one of the Directors and have three votes, while each of the other Directors was to have but one vote in adopting the plan.

Plan Adopted

At a meeting held shortly after this, a plan for the bridge was adopted, and an assessment of \$3,000 on the 150 shares, or \$20 per share was authorized to cover the expenses of construction. In the late Spring of the same year, construction of the bridge was begun.

By the first of August, it was well on its way to completion.

A meeting of the stockholders was called for August 8, 1823, to be held at one o'clock P. M. in the office of Josiah Little in Danville, for the purpose of considering, among other matters, where the proprietors should place the toll bridge.

This question of locating the toll house was a matter of sharp controversy. Dr. Gorham and others from Lewiston insisted that it be located at the Lewiston end of the bridge, while those from Danville and Minot insisted that it be located at the Danville end. The Danville and Minot advocates, being the majority, finally prevailed, and it was voted that the toll house be placed on the Danville side of the river, and that its dimensions be 18 by 30 feet. To this action Dr. Gorham vehemently protested, claiming the meeting was illegally called, and tendered his resignation as a member of the Directors.

Upheld Action

A short time later, another meeting was called to reconsider the action taken at the previous meeting. At this meeting the matter was again considered, and after sharp debate, the action taken at the previous meeting was ratified.

The Proprietors refused to accept Dr. Gorham's resignation. The meeting then adjourned to the work shed near the bridge. I wonder why.

(This controversy tends to establish the truth of what my grandfather, Daniel Lara, once told me, that wherever there is a stream, however small, running between school districts, settlements, communities or towns, there is bound to be a keen rivalry between the members or inhabitants located on each side of the stream.)

6

The bridge, when completed, was judged by modern standards, a crude affair which Dana Goff, son of the trader, James Goff Jr. described in these words:

"I just remember the great pile of pine logs out back of my father's house (near where Wilson's store is

now located north of Goff Block on Court St.) It was of a crib work made of pine logs ballasted with rocks. There weren't any side walks."

The first toll keeper was James G. Emery. He was succeeded by John Smith.

Special Rights

The land on which the east end of the bridge stood did not belong to the corporation but to Josiah Little and others, who operated a grist mill near the Lewiston end of the bridge, and claimed special toll rights for customers crossing the bridge to and from the mill.

At the meeting of February 5, 1833, Dr. Gorham and John Penley were constituted a committee to endeavor to get the title to the land on which the bridge stood.

After much negotiation, Dr. Gorham reported at a meeting held on December 6, 1834, that a deed had finally been secured from the proprietors of the shores in question, which had been executed on the same date. The deed included the privilege for grist mill customers to pass toll free under certain restrictions.

Repairs Needed

By 1833, it became evident that extensive repairs to the bridge were necessary. At a meeting held December 6, 1834, a committee, consisting of Daniel Briggs, Jr., Samuel Pickard and Jacob Merrill, was chosen to "report a plain of rebuilding said bridge, accompanied by a bill of materials and the expenses of the same together with the whole expence of building."

On December 20th of the same year, this committee rendered a report calling for rebuilding the bridge along the same general lines as before at an estimated maximum cost of \$3,000.

It was voted to accept this report and undertake the rebuilding of the bridge the following Spring. They chose Daniel Briggs to superintend the work.

During the years following 1823, there had been a steady growth on the part of the two villages, both in population and commerce, with a

consequent steady increase in the use of the bridge.

By 1849 it became apparent that, if the bridge was to sustain the present volume of traffic, major repairs and alterations were necessary. At a meeting of the proprietors held in the Toll House on February 6, 1849, it was voted "that when the Bridge is rebuilt it be upon the plan of two passages for carriages and one or more passages for foot passages." This was done, and it is probable the illustration accompanying this narrative is a stereopticon picture of the bridge then constructed.

The late William H. Weeks, son of Howe Weeks, who was one of the proprietors and served as clerk of the corporation for some years, describes this bridge as follows:

Bridge Changed

"Up and down the centre of the bridge was a sort of board fence—that is, a series of posts boarded up on each side and the inexorable law, of course, was to keep to the right.

In the early stages there could have been no sidewalks and the foot crossers must have walked across in the carriage ways. This sidewalk was a later, and for those days, a luxurious addition. They were built on both sides of the bridge, and were covered with little shed-like roofs slanting down toward the waterway on either side. Quite a number of our older residents will remember those queer little covered sidewalks.

I know I was talking with one the other day, who used to attend the famous old-fashioned dances in old Lisbon Hall. He told about how he started out across the bridge on his way home, and when he got about half-way across on the sidewalk, was waylaid by a couple of young fellows who jumped upon him in the darkness. Come to find out, though, they were only two youngsters who had been to the dance along with him and were trying to play a joke on him.

But the darkness of those little covered sidewalks was no joke. It was almost as dark on those sidewalks by day as at night. For you understand the walks were

RATES OF TOLL.

For each foot passenger, one cent; one person & horse six cents; single horse-cart, sled or sleigh six cents; each team including cart, waggon, sled or sleigh, drawn by more than one beast & not exceeding two, twelve cents, & for every additional beast above two, two cents; each single horse & chaise, chair, or sulkey, twelve cents; each coach, charriot & other pleasure carriages drawn by two horses 15 cents, & for every additional beast; neat cattle, horses, mules or asses exclusive of those rode on, or in carriages, two cents each; sheep & swine half cent each; & to each team one person only shall be allowed as a driver, to pass free of toll.

FAMOUS SIGN—This sign gave in detail the bad news to folks who had to cross the old toll bridge insofar as rates were concerned. The sign now is one of many interesting items in the Androscoggin History Society's wide collection of antiques and relics providently saved in this area.

Edward L. Mearns } Directors.

To the Toll-Gatherer.

184 8

The Proprietors were loath to give up this profitable investment, but

Thus the old bridge, which had had a long career and had been an important factor in the development of Auburn and Lewiston, passed out of the hands of the Proprietors, into those of the county, to become a public highway—and the cry "TOLL! TOLL!" was heard no more.

Lewiston and Auburn Fought Bitterly in Battle for the County Seat

By JAMES E. PHILOON APR 3 - 1948

On March 18, 1854, in the then town of Augusta, a new county was born to the State of Maine. On that date, the State Legislature passed an Act, creating the County of Androscoggin, composed of the towns of Auburn, Danville, Greene, Leeds, Lewiston, Lisbon, Livermore, East Livermore, Minot, Poland, Turner, Wales and Webster.

The creation of the new county was very much like cutting and assembling a patchwork quilt, in which pieces of cloth are cut from larger pieces, and then sewed together to make a harmonious whole in the shape of a quilt.

In like manner, the towns of Auburn, Danville (later to be annexed to Auburn), Durham, Poland, and Minot were taken from Cumberland County, whose county seat was in Portland. Livermore and Turner were taken from Oxford County, whose county seat was at Paris Hill in the town of South Paris. East Livermore (later to be named Livermore Falls), Greene, Leeds and Wales were taken from Kennebec County, whose county seat was in Augusta. Lewiston, Webster and Lisbon were taken from Lincoln County, whose county seat was in Wiscasset.

Dr. Garcelon's Idea

The idea of creating a new county out of the towns of Lewiston, Auburn and Danville, (the most thickly settled parts of which nestled near the falls of the Androscoggin, and included within the Lewiston Falls Village Corporation), and the adjoining towns, was the creature of the alert, ambitious and aggressive mind of Dr. Alonzo Garcelon of Lewiston. He later became Governor.

His was a strong character, with dreams for the future of Lewiston. His soul was afire to put those visions into reality, and by sheer courage and unfaltering labor against difficulties that would defeat any ordinary man, he brought these dreams to pass.

Lewiston, at that time, was in a period of rapid growth. Only a few years before, the railroad had reached there. Mills were being organized and built. New industries were springing up. It was becoming more and more a trading center of the section. In 1840, its population was 1,801 persons. By 1850 it had increased to 4,584 persons.

Except for the railroad which served a relatively small part of the section, travel for any distance was by stage, or horse and buggy. If there were any large streams to cross, by ferry.

Lewiston being in Lincoln County, with the county seat at Wiscasset, any person from there having business at the county seat was subject to great inconvenience and expense to reach that point, to say nothing of the time consumed.

Under these conditions, the good doctor conceived the idea of obviating this difficulty by creating a new county, with Lewiston, (which seemed destined to become a sizeable city), as its center. This he communicated to the leaders in the community, who joined with him to bring it to pass.

Indifference Elsewhere

While the proposal for a new county gained popular and active support in Lewiston, Webster, and Lisbon, citizens of the other towns involved regarded it with cold indifference, and in some cases, with open hostility.

The citizens of Auburn, Danville, Poland and Minot, being in Cumberland County, experienced little difficulty in having to go to Portland on county business. It was easily accessible by rail, and they were perfectly satisfied with the old arrangement. Besides this, they argued, that to put them in a new county, as proposed, would mean greater expense to their taxpayers.

It would involve payment of a larger proportional share of the expense of constructing county buildings, paying salaries of county officials, maintaining a jail, holding terms of court, equipping offices, and the like. This expense they were not required to meet as part of the larger County of Cumberland, already equipped with county buildings, and with more and larger towns to share in the tax burden.

An Act Prepared

Despite this unexpected opposition, Dr. Garcelon and his supporters caused an act to be prepared and presented to the Legislature, providing for the creation of the new county, with Lewiston as the shire town. They began an active campaign to obtain the support of the indifferent, dissipate opposition, and obtain passage of the act.

To obtain this result required the persistent efforts of courageous and determined men. More than one session of the Legislature went by before its passage was secured. Then only after heated arguments, compromises, and promises.

At each legislative session would be seen the determined doctor car-

rying in his hands a map of the proposed county, presenting his case to any legislators who would hear, and using all the influence at his command to accomplish his purpose.

As the campaign advanced, opposition to the making of the new county was less evident, but on the matter of making Lewiston the shire town, the opposition was strong. Hoping to wean the opposition and the indifferent into a more favorable attitude, the good citizens of Lewiston presented a promise that:

Lewiston's Offer

"Should Lewiston be named the shire town it would furnish suitable county buildings for the use of the county offices and for holding terms of court, free from expense to the county, for a period not to exceed ten years, and furnish a lot for the new county buildings, without expense to the other towns in the proposed county."

But the people of Auburn had begun to pull the strings to have that town made the county seat. Auburn, although smaller than Lewiston, contained among its citizens many of the most prominent men in the section. These men had wide influence and could easily wreck the whole proposition of creating a new county.

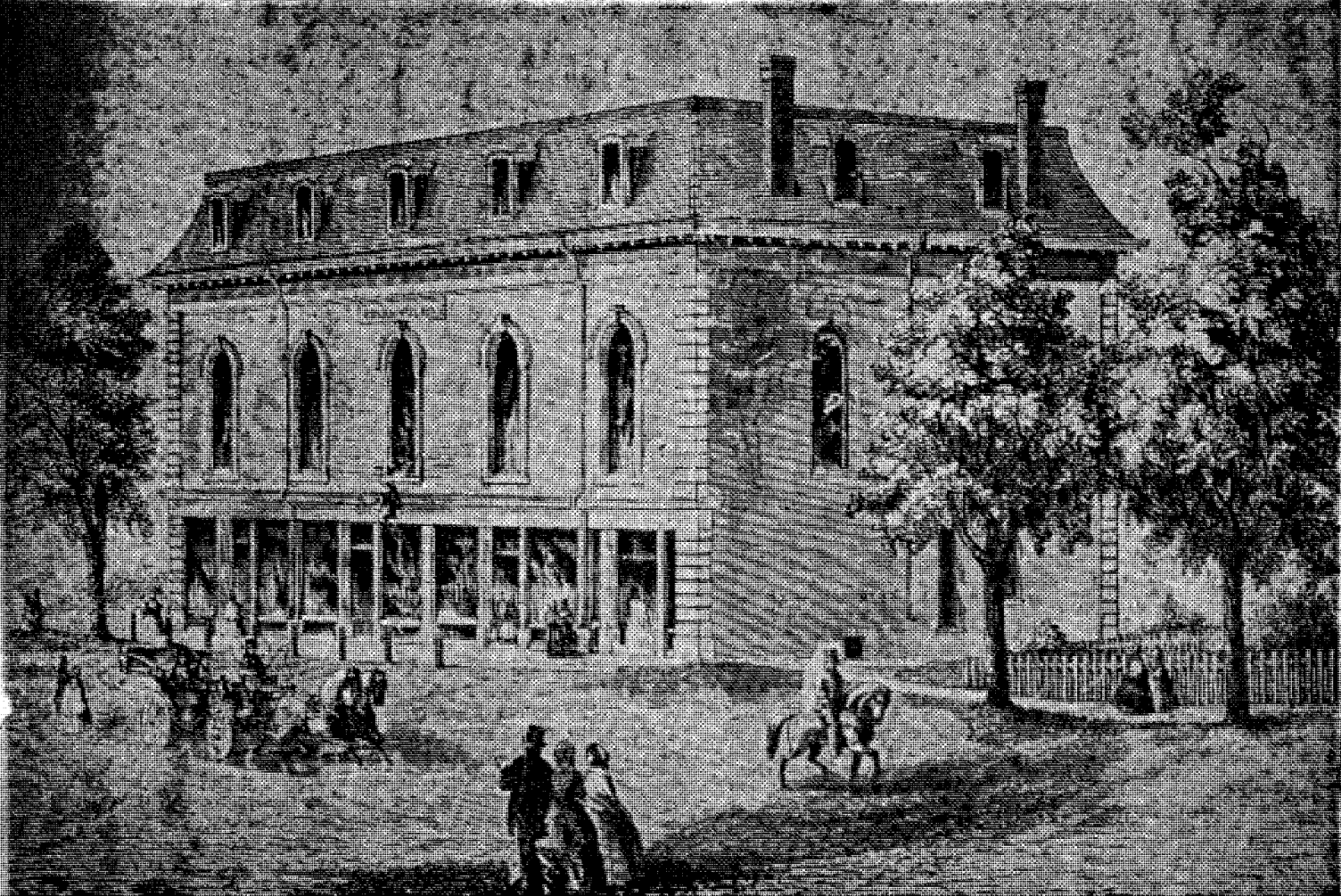
Finding the Lewiston offer would not succeed, the proponents offered to compromise by having the act now pending before the Legislature, amended by striking out that part naming Lewiston as the county seat, and in place thereof make provision for a referendum of the question of selection of the same to the voters of the towns involved. They asked only that Lewiston be named the temporary county seat, until the voters shall have determined the issue. If this were accepted, the Lewiston supporters promised to furnish the necessary offices and court room free from expense to the county during the interim.

Opposition Ended

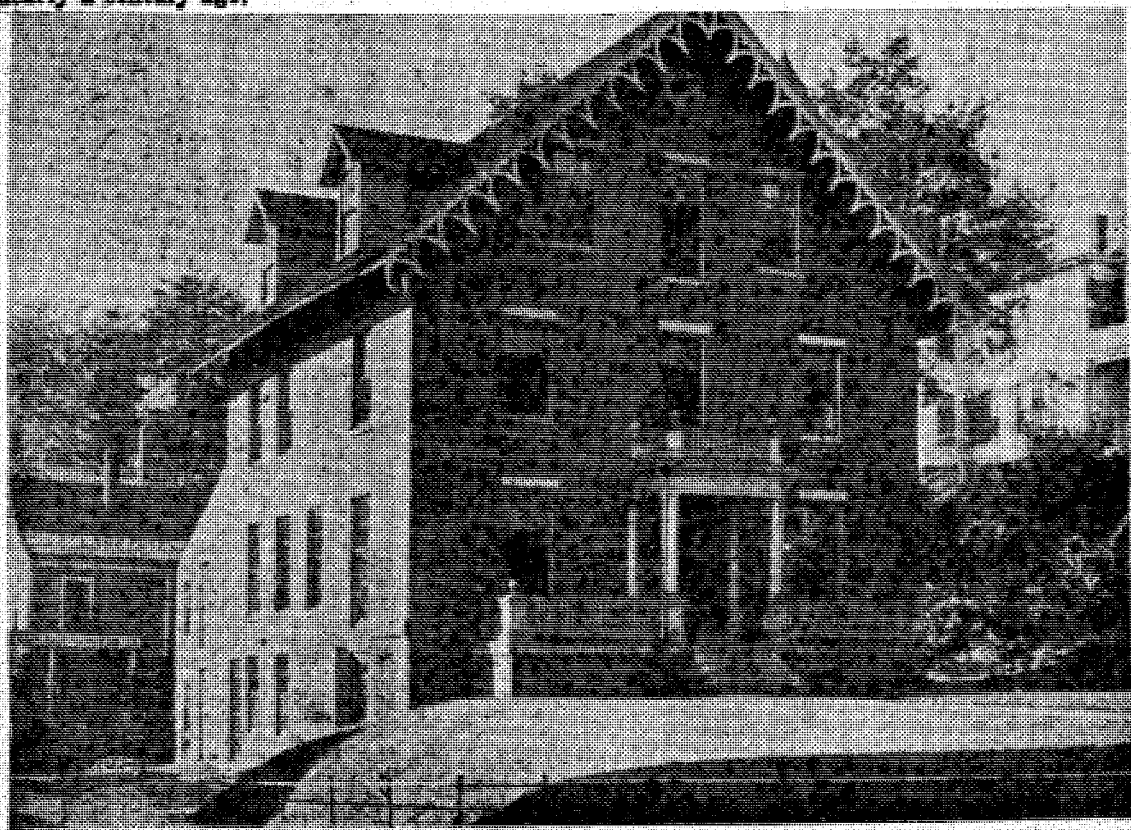
The Auburn citizens, however, while favorable to a referendum, were ice cold to the idea of having Lewiston named the temporary county seat. They withdrew their objections upon receiving assurances from the Lewiston group, as they later claimed that they would be willing: "to oblige the town on the West side of the river would they only come up to the work and help on the proposed measure."

This policy of appeasement succeeded where all other methods had failed, with the result that the act, as amended, was passed by the Legislature on March 18, 1854. Thus Androscoggin County came into being.

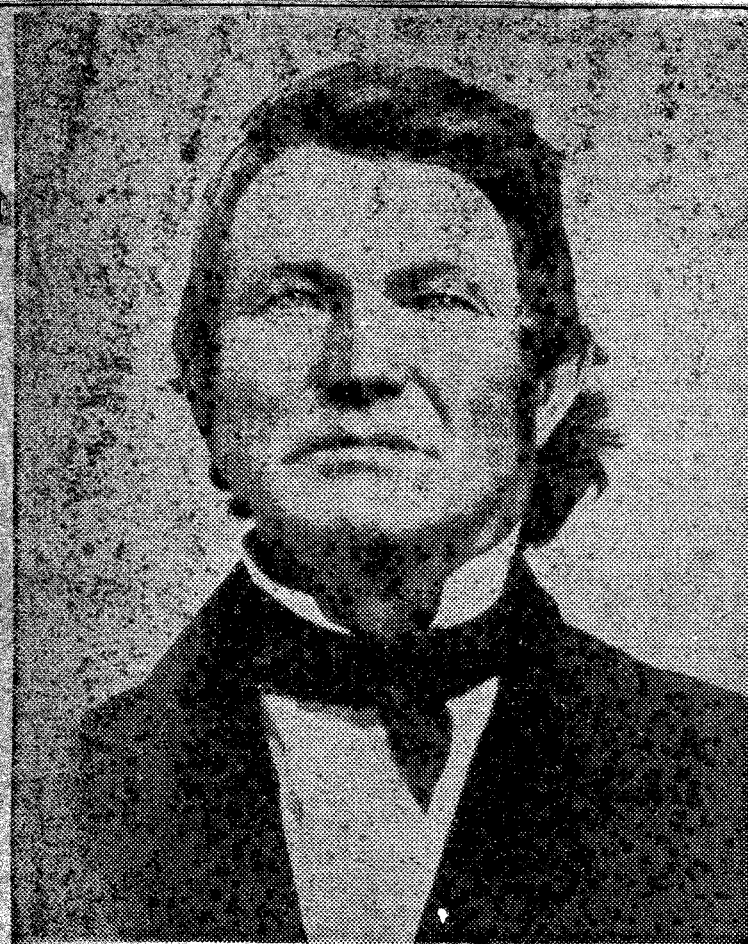
The Act, as passed, did not name the shire town, but provided for a referendum to be held on October 2, 1854, at which time the voters of several towns in the county were to choose between Auburn, Danville and Lewiston.



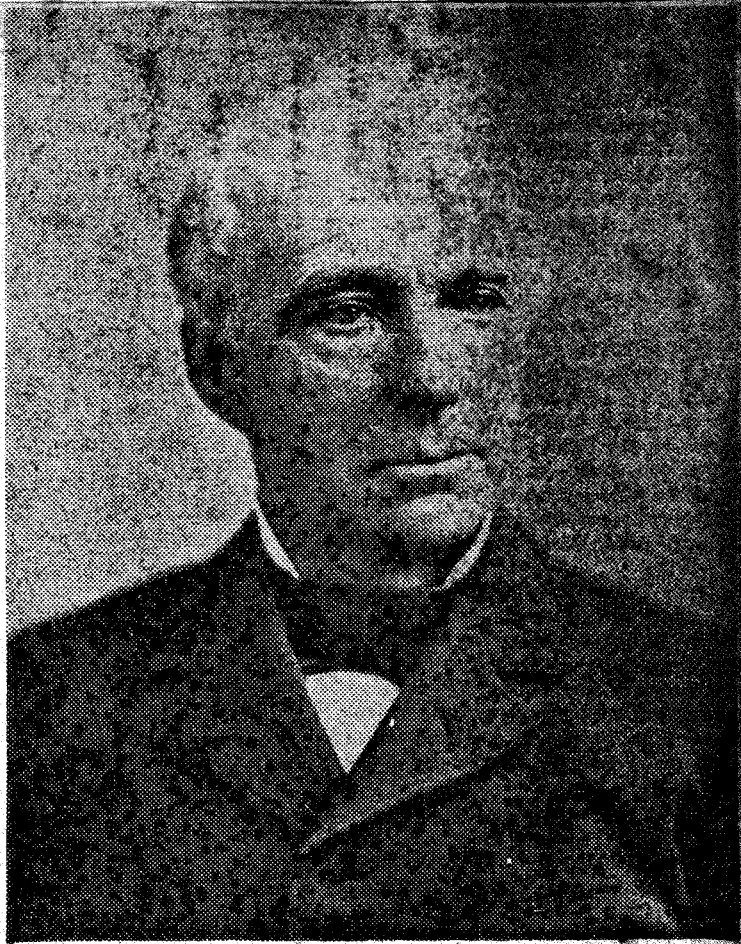
IN THE OLD DAYS—Auburn Hall was the scene of many a bitter, hard-fought legal battle, for here the Supreme Judicial Court sessions were held until quarters were available in the county building. The above represents an artist's conception of the Auburn of nearly a century ago.



EARLY SITE OF COUNTY OFFICES—At the time this picture was taken the Orra Davis house was being utilized for Auburn municipal offices, but there was a brief period when county offices occupied the rooms of the structure, which was located at the site where the Auburn Theater now stands.



COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN—Stephen H. Reade was the first chairman of an Androscoggin board of County Commissioners. He was elected head of the board on April 21, 1854, at a meeting held in Garcelon Block.



LEWISTON LEADER—Dr. Alonzo Garcelon was the prime mover in the action which led to the creation of Androscoggin County and afterward played a prominent part in Lewiston's valiant but ill-fated effort to become the county seat.

Following the passage of the Act, came a short interlude of peace. But it was not long before the partisans of Lewiston and Auburn were collecting their ammunition, and assembling their forces, for the capture of the shire town, of which we will speak later.

First Officers

In accordance with the powers given him under the act creating the County, the Governor, William G. Crosby, of Belfast, appointed the following County officers to serve until the next State election:

Treasurer, James Goff, Jr.; Judge of Probate, Nahum Morrill; Register of Probate, Stetson S. Hill; Sheriff, Charles Clark; Register of Deeds, John H. Otis; County Attorney, Charles W. Goddard; Clerk of Courts, Cyrus Knapp; County Commissioners, Stephen H. Reade, Job Chase and Emery S. Warren.

The first session of the County Commissioners was called to meet at the office of Calvin Record, of Lewiston, on April 4, 1854. The lack of a quorum caused repeated adjournments.

Their first meeting as a full board, was held at the Clerk's office in Garcelon Block on Main Street, Lewiston, April 21, 1854. Stephen H. Reade was elected Chairman. James Goff, Jr., the County Treasurer, was chosen agent to purchase supplies. Ham Brooks was elected Coroner, and gave a bond for \$5,000 to qualify for that office.

First Court Term

There being no county buildings, the first term of the Supreme Judicial Court was held in Jones Hall, on Main Street, in Lewiston, August 22, 1854, Justice Ether Shepley presiding. This was in the building, later known as the Lower Maine Central Station, where subsequent terms were held until Auburn Hall, which was in process of construction, was completed. They then were held in Auburn Hall until the courthouse was completed.

Probate Courts were held in Engine Hall, a wooden structure, situated on North Main Street, in Auburn. The county offices were at first housed in various offices in Lewiston and Auburn, and later in the Orra Davis house, which was a brick building located where the Auburn Theatre now stands, and in the Engine Hall above mentioned.

The first Grand Jury to serve consisted of the following: Issacher Lane, Foreman, Ebenezer G. Bryant, Jesse Crossman, Elisha S. Goff, John Goss, Jesse Harlow, Isaac Kilgore, Abraham Luce, Martin Leavitt, Seth Martin, William Millett, Charles A. Newell, Rufus Prince, Charles Peables, James Parker, William Rowe, Charles Woodside, and Foster D. Wentworth. That they were on the job is shown by the

fact that 22 indictments were found against alleged offenders in the County.

Early Juries

The first Traverse Jury was comprised of: Daniel Lara, Foreman, (Grandfather of the author), Charles C. Atkinson, Jacob Barker, Ebenezer Cobb, William Davis, Ammi Dunham, Melrer Gibbert, John N. Jones, George Littlefield, Emery Lombard, True G. Green, and Joseph Manson.

The Second Traverse Jury was composed of: John Smith, Foreman, Sewall Merrill, William Munroe, Peter Noyes, Ichabod C. Norris, Amida Pettengill, James Peables, John Peniey, Joshua Parsons, Beta Pierce, William L. Read, and John Strickland.

The Supernumeraries were: James Thompson, John True, William A. Tobie, and Job D. Thomson.

At this term, Mandeville T. Ludden was admitted to the bar, and the following were admitted to citizenship: Richard Butler, alias Patrick Bourk, William Collins, Oliver Bartley, Timothy Welch, William O'Donnell, Dennis McCarty, Edward Ockran, Timothy Callahan, Michael Horgan, Michael Mulgeeny, Richard Neagle, Dennis Griffin, Rich Butler, Maurice Lawler, Dennis Murphy, Patrick Marshall and John Leonard.

The team was an extremely busy one, both as to civil and criminal matters, and lasted for seventeen days.

Journal Comment

The editor of the Lewiston Falls Journal, on September 9, 1854, said of the term that had just adjourned:

"After seeing the amount of business that has come before the Supreme Judicial Court at its first session in the County, we presume few of those who opposed its for-

tion will be disposed to assert that such a reorganization of county lines, was useless. Any one can see at a single glance that much time and money must be saved to those having Court business by bringing their suits in the new County, in preference to the old County seats, to transact such business.

"We have no doubt that money enough will be saved to the people of this county, before called upon to erect county buildings, to pay the expense of the same, and the grumblers at the immense outlays which this formation would subject them to, will be willing to acknowledge that on the score of economy, it was on the whole a good movement."

Meanwhile, the campaign for a shire town had gotten into full swing. The seeming strategy on the part of Lewiston to have Danville included as one of the towns from which the selection would be made, and thus divide the vote on the West side of the river, failed. The people of Danville disclaimed any desire to be made the shire town, and threw in their efforts in favor of Auburn. The fight thus became one between Auburn and Lewiston, with the winning of the voters of the surrounding towns as the stake.

Many Promises

The partisans of each side made a thorough canvass among the voters of these towns. Each tried to outbid the other in the financial inducements offered to relieve the outside towns of much of the ex-

pense of constructing the county buildings, and supporting the county during the interim.

Each tried to outdo the other in political strategy, and feelings reached the boiling point as the time for voting neared.

The entire campaign might well be characterized by the song sung at many a wedding, "Oh, Promise Me." It can be said without contradiction that the partisans of Lewiston and Auburn were literally and figuratively the most promising men in the county!

Regarding the campaign, the late William H. Weeks, who was the son of Howe Weeks, one of the leading citizens at the time, is quoted as saying:

"You have heard of mud slinging and wire pulling in political campaign time? Well, here's something (pulling out from a sheaf of old papers a faded pink hand-bill), which I suppose refers to the hottest time these two cities ever saw or ever will see—the time when each was struggling for the supremacy of the shire." You will hear about this hand-bill later in this narrative.

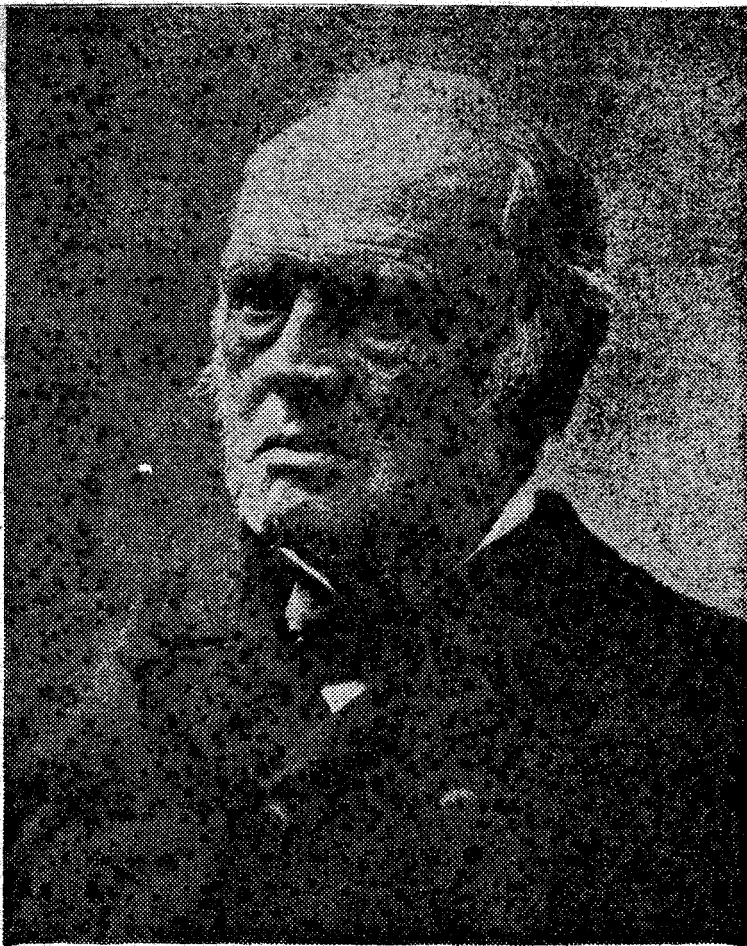
Hand-bills and letters were printed and broadcast among the voters.

The Lewiston Letter

In the course of the campaign, the partisans of Lewiston circulated the following letter which, after referring to the pending referendum, says:

"Upon the right decision of this question the future prosperity of the county and the convenience and interests of its inhabitants for all coming generations to a great degree depend.

"The public at large have a deep interest in this matter, which should by no means be overlooked. It is a question which, when once settled, cannot be easily reversed. By it the convenience, the interest, and to some degree the prosperity of future generations are to be affected.... By many it is regarded... as involving merely the petty inconvenience and expense of a toll bridge, or what is of still less consequence, feelings of local pride. Such considerations should not have a feather's weight in influencing our vote.



ON THE AUBURN SIDE—Nahum Morrill was the first Judge of Probate in the newly created county. He also was one of the main cogs in the successful Auburn offensive to make their town the county seat.

"What is for the prosperity and greatest dignity and convenience of the whole county, not of a particular portion of it. Where are the largest proportion of the future expenses of the county to be borne?

"What are the postal conditions involved in the decision? Which is to be the most populous, the most central, the most important point? There are the questions which every man should determine according to his best judgment.

Lewiston Valuation

"By the census of 1850, the valuation of the several towns within the limits of Androscoggin County, excepting Lewiston, was \$3,572,082. By reference to the valuation of the town of Lewiston for the current year, we find the amount of taxable property to be \$1,741,312, or nearly one-third of the entire taxable property of the county. Further increase must render this quotation still greater, thus throwing a greater proportion of the burden for supporting the county upon the town of Lewiston.

"Aside from this, Lewiston is the natural center for the new county, being by far the most rapidly growing town, and destined at no very

future day to be among the largest towns of our State; it is, of course, the center of business and trade. Almost every person who lives within the limits of the county has business relations of one description or another with Lewiston.

"It is here that the principal manufacturing interests of the county were carried on. Its machine shops, its mills, its manufactories of wood and iron, its bank, and its stores, are all objects of attraction, and of necessity form a strong link of connection between this and the surrounding towns. The advantage of making a shire town of such a town thus situated, is too obvious to need comment.

Offer Renewed

"Prior to the passage of the Act establishing the county of Androscoggin, the Citizens of Lewiston, feeling the force of the above, among other considerations proposed that, should Lewiston be made the shire town, by consent of the movers of the enterprise, they would furnish suitable county buildings for the use of the County free of expense to the County for such term of time as might be desired, not exceeding ten years, and would furnish a lot of land free of expense and to the acceptance of the County Commissioners, when it might be needed for the erection of the County Buildings. This offer was rejected and vote by the citizens thereof insisted upon. This

offer is now renewed and Bonds duly executed, and to the satisfaction of the County Commissioners and legal gentlemen of eminence in various parts of the County, have been deposited in the hands of the County Commissioners, pledging.

"1st. The payment of all bills for County buildings except a jail from the time of the organization of the County of April 1860, or for the term of six years.

"2nd. To furnish to the satisfaction and acceptance of the County Commissioners, who may be authorized to procure the same, free of expense to the County, suitable and eligible lots for the erection of the County Buildings.

"3rd. To pay in cash the sum of \$5,000 towards the erection of the same, over and above the legal proportion of the tax of said town in such manner and at such times as the County authorities may require.

"These bonds have been drawn up by legal gentlemen of the largest experience in the county, and signed by the most wealthy and influential citizens, whose signatures alone, **EVEN WERE THE INSTRUMENTS OF NO LEGAL FORCE**, are a satisfactory guarantee of their faithful execution; and it is believed that the amount pledged is all that can reasonably be demanded.

"Should the decision be in their favor, the boon, so far as it is a boon, will be accepted with gratitude. Should it be denied, they will acquiesce in all good nature, conscious that in all their relations with their fellow citizens, in the new county, they have acted with generosity and frankness, stooped to neither meanness or duplicity, relying upon the justness of their claim, have acted with an energy which merits if it does not obtain success."

The Auburn Document

Not to be outdone, the Auburn workers caused to be printed and circulated the handbill to which Mr. Weeks referred, which read:

"To the Citizens of Androscoggin County:

"By the act establishing the County of Androscoggin, Monday, the second day of October was assigned as the day on which the inhabitants of the County were to assemble in their respective towns, and decide by ballot which of the towns of Lewiston, Auburn and Danville should be the shire town.

"As such a duty then devolves upon us, it may be well to examine somewhat carefully the reasons which should operate to bring us to a right conclusion as to the course to be pursued that will work most advantageously to the people of the whole county.

"Let it be understood that the town of Danville does not enter into the field as desirous of being voted for at the coming election. The matter, as is well understood, lies chiefly and wholly between Lewiston and Auburn, as if by tacit consent, and it is this question we are then to pass upon.

"The proposition for a new County first emanated from the town of Lewiston, and was urged closely and emphatically by the principal men residing there in consequence of the great expense to them in being obliged to transact their business at Wiscasset.

Towns West of the River

"The inhabitants of Auburn, Danville, as well as Minot, Poland and Durham, did not feel this burden as Portland was the shire town of Cumberland County and communication with that city was easy, and

the natural course of their business led them in that direction.

"Naturally, then, many persons residing in those towns were in the onset opposed to any change in county lines, and the current of public feeling was changed only by the strong and repeated protestations on the part of the business community of Lewiston, of their willingness to oblige the town on the west side of the river would they only come up to the work and help on the proposed measure.

"That measure finally passed the Legislature and it was then asserted, as it had been previously, that if by the act Lewiston should be permitted to be temporarily the shire town, the building or accommodations for the county business should be furnished free of expense to the citizens of the county, until a permanent shire town should be fixed upon and suitable buildings erected.

Charges Against Lewiston

"But let us look at the manner in which these promises have been kept. Our county treasurer has paid to Dr. Garcelon \$25 for the use of the rooms for register of deeds and other county officers, being one-quarter's rent to John B. Jones \$120.50 for pictures and the use of hall for a court room for seventeen days, all by order of the Commissioners, and the Commissioners have also allowed to William P. Frye the sum of \$11 for the use of

an office for register of deeds, these gentlemen, all inhabitants of Lewiston, the great actors in the drama of obtaining our new county, and then so loud mouthed in their devotion to its interests that they said suitable buildings should be provided free of expense to the county, only make Lewiston the temporary shire town.

"Then they reared you gently, as a suckling dove! Now when the money is to be paid,

"They pocket the affront, and forget the times that are gone."

"We are called upon to vote for Lewiston from precisely similar and utterly irresponsible promises.

"It may be true that a bond in common form and signed and sealed by different individuals residing in Lewiston, has been deposited in the hands of the County Commissioners, but that such a bond is satisfactory to them has been expressly denied by a majority of the board, and where the legal gentlemen of eminence residing in the different parts of the county are, who have expressed themselves satisfied with such a bond, the public remain in blissful ignorance!

Strong Words

"These statements are as unwarranted as the preceding and without foundation. Let us then reflect and not be deceived by fabricated statements, manufactured to serve the purposes of unscrupulous men who hope thus to carry their point, when truth and reason fail them.

"In any event, bribery should not be made the controlling argument in our county in influencing the vote of the people."

To counteract the offer of financial assistance made by the Lewiston citizens, Judge Nahum Morrill, on September 30, 1854, just three days before the election, drew up in his own hand and circulated the following subscription paper, which is now among the archives of the Androscoggin Historical Society, the gift of his son, the late Justice John A. Morrill, which reads:

"Whereas as a part of the subscribers hereunto have deposited with James Goff, Jr., Esq., Treasurer of the County of Androscoggin the sum of \$5,000 in cash to be appropriated by the County Commissioners or other persons thereunto legally authorized towards the payment of the expenses for erecting County buildings provided the same are erected upon the West side of the Androscoggin River in the town of Auburn in said County:

"Now we the scribes do hereby agree to pay our proportional part of said sum of \$5000 to be assessed upon our property, which is situated in that part of the Lewiston Falls Village Corporation lying and being in the towns of Danville and Auburn, the last valuation to be the basis of assessment.

"Lewiston Falls, September 30, 1854, signed by Daniel G. Hall and 46 others."

Residential Street Bears Name of Great Statesman

MAY 5 - 1945

By MARY LOUISE STETSON

Even in a democracy, the government of a nation must go on with as little interruption as possible. At this time when the name of Harry S. Truman so unexpectedly added another to our list of Presidents, it may be of interest to review the career of a Lewiston statesman who won the respect of both political parties. Senator Johnson from Maine who served with him at Washington gives this word picture of Hon. William Pierce Frye: "Clear, analytical mind; a fine physique; an attractive manner; a musical, well-modulated voice; imagination; earnestness; and always courage." His attitude toward those whose political ideas differed from his own was firm but never mean. The striking metaphor used by Senator Johnson in his Memorial Address was: "His weapon was always a shining rapier and never a bludgeon."

Birthplace

In the Souvenir program of Lewiston's One Hundredth Anniversary, is the picture of the house where William P. Frye was born, September 2, 1831. The house was built in 1812. What isn't concealed by modern additions can be seen today. It has lost the old homestead look it must have had when it was built 133 years ago. Its next-door neighbor on Main Street, just down the hill toward the North Bridge, is the Lower Maine Central Station. Railroad stations have their use in peace or war but they don't make good neighbors. When William P. Frye returned to Lewiston, he made his home in a more attractive section of the city, on the corner of Main and the street that now bears his name.

Ancestry

William P. Frye's pioneer ancestor set out for America from Hants County, England, in 1638. He joined the Massachusetts Colony but some of his descendants pioneered on into Maine.

Gen. Joseph Frye, William's great-great-grandfather, received his title in the American Army of the Revolutionary War, but he received his training as Colonel in the English Army, his experience in the French and Indian Wars. For his services rendered to his native country in her struggle to be free from English rule, General Frye was given a township near the New Hampshire boundary line. Fryeburg, Maine, still honors the memory of William P. Frye's Revolutionary ancestor.

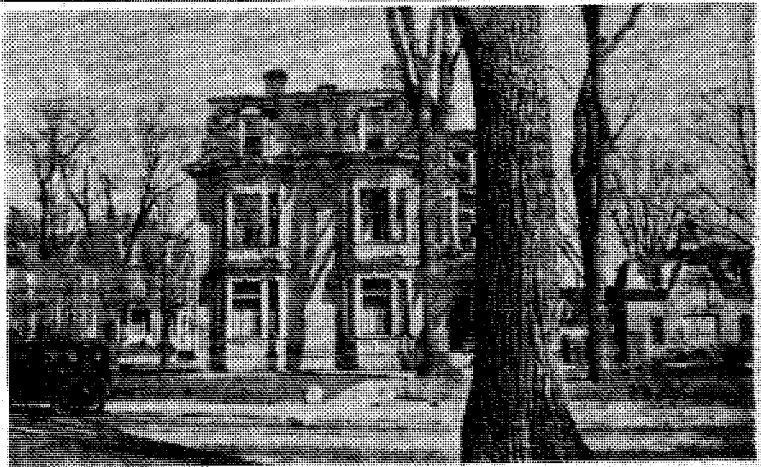
His father, Colonel John M. Frye, was one of the early settlers in Lewiston.

Education

William was educated in the public schools of his native town and at Lewiston Falls Academy across the Androscoggin.



11 FRYE STREET where Mr. and Mrs. William Pierce Frye began housekeeping.



SENATOR WILLIAM P. FRYE home on Main Street, Lewiston.

Even at the time of his Commencement at Bowdoin in 1850, there was little to mark him as a young man of outstanding ability. He was fond of sports; he had mastered the art of making friends and of keeping their friendship.

It was fortunate for the State of Maine and for the United States of America that William P. Frye's formal education culminated in the law office of William Pitt Fessenden of Portland, a Senator from Maine for whom three parallel streets of that city were named; William, Pitt, and Fessenden. This, too, in spite of the fact that William Pitt Fessenden was not born in Portland or anywhere in Maine, but in Boscaawen, N. H.

In those days, the lawyer and the student were more like friends than like teacher and pupil. For the fine qualities afterwards recognized in William Pierce Frye, much credit is due William Pitt Fessenden who, both by precept and example, showed the young student of law the requisites of the great statesman.

William P. Frye's first law office was in Rockland. He began his professional life there in 1853. Two years later, however, he returned to Lewiston where he proved false the statement that a boy can't make good in the city where he was born. William P. Frye's success as a lawyer soon brought him distinction back home where he was respected for "his superior ability and careful attention to the interests of his clientele."

Augusta to Washington

The year 1861 dates the beginning of William P. Frye's long and brilliant career as a statesman. In that year, he was elected to the State Legislature, and again in 1867 when he took on his three years' service as attorney general.

In the House, he represented his native state at Washington from the 42nd through the 47th Congresses. In 1881, James G. Blaine resigned his seat in the Senate to accept that of Secretary of State. The vacancy was filled by William P. Frye. For 30 years, he was a member of the Senate.

The following story is told of this senator from Lewiston, Maine. William McKinley asked him to be candidate for the vice-presidency in 1900.

Senator Frye replied, "No," and Yankee-like asked another question. "What if anything should happen to you?"

"Then you would be President, and no man is better fitted to fill that place than you, Senator."

"No," Senator Frye insisted. "I will not take the chance, for I would not be President if it were handed to me on a plate of gold. In fact, I would rather be Senator from Maine than to occupy any office in the gift of the President or the people."

Tributes

Tributes from the Memorial Addresses of Senators and Representatives who associated with William P. Frye at Washington testify to his sterling character. Here are only a few of them.

"His buoyant optimism saved him from the narrowness of the

Puritan."

"He carried himself so that no taint of corruption touched him."

"For forty years going in and out where avarice and greed are fed by the display of wealth and social distinction builds itself upon its sustaining power, he led his simple, quiet, faithful life, performing great duties with a high and patriotic purpose."

"In all his public work, Senator Frye was absolutely unselfish. No thought of personal gain ever occurred to him in his long career. Although, as he said, he had opportunities for making money legitimately, he never availed himself of them, for the reason that he feared at some future time the obligations accepted might put him in conflict with what he believed to be his duty to the country. He therefore died a comparatively poor man."

Boyhood Home

A sturdy ridge pole, five lines on the second and third stories, and one or two small-paned windows are about all there are left of the house where Colonel John M. Frye and his wife, Alice Davis Frye took up their residence in Lewiston. Perhaps even then, the site was not a desirable one, for of the five children, only two boys and two girls reached maturity and of these, Dr. Albert S. Frye died in early manhood.

It must have been gratifying to the colonel to watch his only surviving son set out on the career that brought such honor to his family, his native city, his state, and his nation.

William's father's service of 35 years to the local militia gave him a title but by no means took all his time. He was a manufacturer and a highly respected citizen of the town. He held offices as town clerk, as selectman, as moderator, as town treasurer. He became a member of the state senate and, in 1860, a member of the council.

William's grandfather on his mother's side was David Davis of Lewiston, a friend in good and regular standing; in fact, an elder of the Quaker Church.

Frye Street Neighborhood

William P. Frye was married to Caroline F. Spear of Rockland. She has been described as "a lady of rare character and intellectual attainments and of sweet and engaging personality, gracious in manner,

and most sympathetic by nature."

The little white, gabled house at 11 Frye Street, now the home of Donald C. White, William and Caroline Frye's grandson, is a fitting memorial to the Senator from Maine who preferred that title to the one of President of the United States. As a bride, Mrs. Frye became mistress of that homelike, attractive house.

It was then located at the corner of Main and Frye Streets. It was moved to its present site when William P. Frye felt the need of the palatial residence now located at the corner of Main and Frye Streets. That three-story structure today provides a home for Mrs. Mary McIlroy, her children, and grandchildren. It still retains much of the grandeur it had when occupied by Senator Frye's family.

Three daughters were born to Senator and Mrs. William P. Frye; Helen, Alice, and Emma. The youngest daughter died when about 14 years of age. Helen became the wife of Wallace H. White of Lewiston and the mother of seven children, including six sons, all six of them graduated from Bowdoin College. One of them, Wallace H. White, Jr., has followed very closely in the footsteps of his illustrious grandfather. They led him to the United States Senate in 1930. As a delegate of the United States, he has visited Mexico City, Paris, London, Copenhagen, and Cairo.

Alice married Frank H. Briggs of Auburn. They, too, had a large family in which boys predominated. And so, although no heir of Lewiston's great statesman was raised up to carry on the family name of Frye, the spirit and the influence of the Senator still live on.

Soon after the turn of the century, Mrs. William P. Frye's death came as a great shock to her husband and daughters. They did all that daughters could to comfort their father, but the passing of the fine woman who had been associated with the Senator throughout his brilliant career was for him the beginning of the end. In spite of his valiant efforts to live above his sorrow, his health gradually failed. He died at his home in Lewiston, August 8, 1911.

By special train from Washington, associates at the nation's capital came on to pay their last respects to the Senator from Maine. Lewiston and Auburn suspended business and amusements in honor of the public benefactor so highly respected in his own community. A private service was held at the home on the corner of Main and Frye Streets at eleven o'clock and a public service at the Pine Street Congregational Church at two o'clock. Rev. George M. Howe, who for 17 years was pastor of the Lewiston Church which the Senator helped to establish, officiated both at the private and the public services.

It seems fitting that the end should come in Senator William P. Frye's native state for no matter how far away his duties as a statesman called him, he returned to Maine as often as he could. Even his Summers were spent at his cottage on Squirrel Island, or at his log camp on an island in the Rangeley Lakes.

The City of Lewiston, the State of Maine, the descendants of Hon. William P. Frye may well be proud of the statesman described as one "whose voice was ever on the side of right."

Auburn "Y" One of First To Be Established In the United States

JUN 3 1944

BY MARION COOPER

One hundred years ago a group of young dry goods clerks, headed by George Williams, met in London to organize The Young Men's Christian Association for "the improvement of the spiritual condition of young men engaged in the drapery and other trades, by the introduction of religious services among them."

From this modest beginning grew the organization that has become world-wide in its service to youth.

Started at a time when the Industrial Revolution had sent quantities of country bred boys into overgrown cities, the organization had no thought of the influence it would eventually wield, but at the end of four years it had spread to include over 6,000 members.

It was in 1851 that the first YMCA was started in the United States when a group of young men led by J. V. Sullivan, a sea captain, met in Boston.

Auburn Among First

The movement spread rapidly through the country and in April 1867, the first Auburn YMCA came into existence.

Since then, the movement has gained strength locally until now a variety of activities is directed from the building on Turner Street.

When the group of interested men met 77 years ago, Frank L.



DIRECTION of the Auburn YMCA is handled by Magnus C. Hansen, general secretary.

Came the end of the First World War and returned veterans were liberal in their praise of the service they had received from the Christian Association.

Revived

So it was that in December 1918 a group of interested citizens met under the sponsorship of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce and determined to raise sufficient funds to build a modern YMCA building.

Led by E. Farrington Abbott, whose interest in the movement has been sustained through the years, these Auburn men set themselves a goal of \$250,000 and by 1920 had raised over \$261,000 with which the present building on Turner Street was built. Others especially active in the financial campaign were Alfred J. Sweet, Judge Henry W. Oakes, Horace C. Day, who was the first president of the new organization, Rev. Charles S. Cummings. On the building committee were Henry M. Dingley, Everett M. Stevens, Arthur H. Cooper, Horace E. Munroe and Frank W. Winter.

Dedicated In 1922

The new building was dedicated May 5, 1922 and the first staff was Roy C. Handley, general secretary; Thomas Leonard, boys' secretary; Avard L. Richan, physical instructor.

Last May the Auburn "Y" observed its 21st birthday with appropriate ceremonies and a commemorative tablet was unveiled by grandsons of two of the founders, Robert Estes, grandson of E. Farrington Abbott, and Donald Cooper, who is Arthur H. Cooper's grandson.

Today, under the direction of Magnus C. Hansen, general secretary, and Orman Moulton, boys' secretary, the Auburn YMCA is continuing the good work it has done consecutively for 22 years. Although the war has claimed the services of the physical director, Robert Nelson, who is serving with the U. S. Navy in the Pacific area, volunteer work in that department is being carried on by the older boys and the Bates College students.

Uniform Is Admission Fee

Special attention is being given at present to work with service men. A uniform is the only requirement for use of all membership privileges of the association. Service men stationed nearby or on furlough are welcomed in the recreation rooms, been estimated that more than 12,000 persons, representing a score of

the pool, may use showers and have dormitory rooms at membership prices.

British sailors stationed in this vicinity have availed themselves of opportunities to play badminton, a game they enjoy thoroughly, while the United States Navy boys have organized a basket ball team and have used the local gymnasium for the home court.

It happened that for some time the British sailors stationed at Auburn had an especially strong tie with the association as one of their officers had been a YMCA director in England.

In addition, the "Y" pool is used for swimming classes for the V-12 Navy group at Bates College five days a week.

Free Memberships

Ex-service men are increasingly of interest to the Auburn YMCA and cards have been sent to all returned service men allowing them six months free membership. Many of these memberships have been used enthusiastically and Mr. Hansen has received appreciative letters from many of the other men who are working outside the Twin Cities and are unable to avail themselves of the opportunity to use this "Y."

Auburn high school boys, also, are gaining necessary experience at the "Y" pool as they take part in the pre-induction swimming and life saving classes offered by the school's department of physical education.

Boys' Work

At present when there are few older young men in the two communities, most of the work with boys is devoted to the nine to 15 year old group.

More than 100 boys take part daily in the organized program that includes physical education on three days, handcraft on one and tours of local plants and factories on the fifth. In the Summer there is also an outdoor program of hikes and bicycle trips and of course the swimming pool is in use every day. In addition, there are game rooms where the boys may gather to enjoy pool and ping pong.

Every other Friday night during the Winter there is a fireside party with moving pictures or a speaker and this Summer the YMCA and YWCA are getting together to arrange a series of dancing parties for the younger generation.

Another active group is the Junior Stamp Club that works at this hobby with the aim of joining the adult Stamp Club, also sponsored by the "Y." Hi-Y Clubs, that combine YMCA and school interests, flourish at Edward Little High and Webster and Walton Junior Highs.

Swimming For Girls

Although the "Y" is for the use of men and boys, arrangements have been made to clear the pool one day a week for the use of the girls in the community. Supervised by Mrs. Beatrice Kimball, about 300 girls have used the pool each week the past year.

Community Center

As a community center it has organizations, make use of the Auburn YMCA every year. Clubs and



BOYS' ACTIVITIES at the Auburn "Y" carried on by Orman Moulton, boys' secretary include handcraft, gymnastics, outdoor parties and educational tours of the two cities.

Dingley was elected president and a month later a room had been acquired and dedicated in the Phoenix Block, where a library and reading room was maintained. Ten years later a building was erected on Court Street and until 1906 religious meetings, physical education and social affairs were held there.

Then dark days fell on the YMCA, the building was sold and the movement lay dormant for many a long year.



AFTER SCHOOL every day and for longer periods during vacation boys flock to the game rooms of the "Y" to enjoy competition in ping pong and other games.

associations are free to hold meetings in the recreation rooms; banquets of organizations or as part of conventions are held there frequently, and the large parlors are available also for large group meetings.

In addition to all its recreational possibilities, the "Y" has a dor-

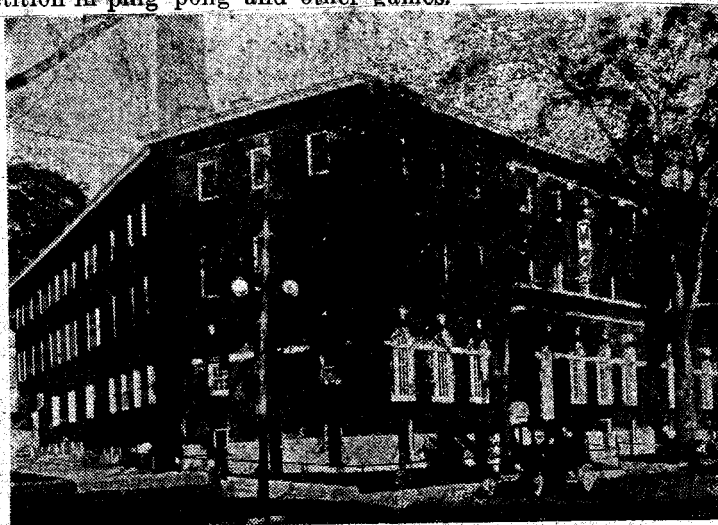


E. FARRINGTON ABBOTT of Auburn has been an active supporter of the Auburn YMCA ever since 1920 when he served as chairman of the drive to finance the present building.

itory of 55 rooms, where young men may live permanently while they are employed or are studying in town. One section of rooms is available to transients.

YMCA's Godfather

Despite the fine work of the staff and the cooperation of the boys, the local organization would have found it hard sledding without the backing of the city's adult population. Since its organization, E. Farrington Abbott has taken an active interest in the "Y" and has given so liberally of his efforts



YMCA BUILDING ON TURNER STREET, AUBURN.

that he is known to the staff as the "Godfather of the YMCA." A succession of public spirited men have served as president and on the board of directors.

At present the officers are Hoyt H. Mahan, president; Charles Connor, first vice president; Philip H. Morton, second vice-president; Stephen D. Trafton, recording secretary, and Everett W. Morrill, treasurer.

War Dads

Outstanding among the current activities of the men is the committee from the War Dads organization that convenes at the "Y" one night each week to meet ex-service men and discuss any problems of readjustment they may have.

Active in the town's businesses and in many cases veterans, themselves, of the First World War, these men are particularly well equipped to understand and smooth out the difficulties confronting the men who are adapting themselves to civilian life.

Lewiston Firm of 62 Years Ago Mixed History With Advertising



THE ABOVE is a picture of what is said to be the oldest house in Lewiston. In the windows one may see Horace Hildreth posters. Mr. Hildreth is a descendant of the first settler in Lewiston. **JUL 1 1944**

BY EARL T. BARRON

Several weeks ago the Lewiston Evening Journal Magazine presented to its readers a brief history, with pictures of Lewiston and Auburn 51 years ago, 1893. Since the publication of the above mentioned article a history of Lewiston, published 11 years earlier, has come to light.

This record of the city up to the year 1882 is in the possession of Willard E. Moore of Lewiston. The booklet, written by J. G. Elder, was put out by the Androscoggin One-Price Clothing Company, better known as the Blue Store which did business for many years at the corner of Lisbon and Ash Streets. The Blue Store is now out of business.

As to be expected in such a work the management of the Blue Store has sprinkled the booklet with advertising, stressing one price. Says one page of advertising: "What is One Price? It seems wonderful that in such a growing community this question should be so often asked, yet such is the case. And why? The clothing buyers have been humbugged to such an extent that it surprises them to think that anyone should dare to put a value on their

goods and never take any less. We have even met with people that have declared they would not buy of anyone unless they could beat them down in the price. To those we would say that in every instance after they have traded where they can beat the price down to their own satisfaction, we will forfeit \$10 for every instance where our price, marked in plain figures, is not as low for the same quality of goods." One would surmise from the above statement that one of the great thrills of shopping was beating the shop keeper down back in 1882. Other advertisements called attention to the Boys' and Children's Department; Gentlemen's Department which at this particular time featured "shooting suits" and "Pantaloons."

In the young man's department that year "a prominent style will be a short sack, long roll, which can be also buttoned as an ordinary sack." That year the gay young blades were wearing "lace front shirts. The Blue Store also furnished a written guarantee with every purchase made, something that would be greatly appreciated in these days.

Returning to the historical data of the booklet Author Elder opened with the Pejepscot Claim. According to Historian Elder, Thomas Purchase settled on the Pejepscot, now the Androscoggin, as early as 1630, perhaps before; the precise time as well as the exact location are not known. It was undoubtedly within the limits of the town of Brunswick. Subsequently, it has been claimed, he lived at Lisbon Falls. Purchase was a farmer and trader, and carried on an extensive fur and peltry trade with the Indians. Purchase is charged with taking advantage of the Indians in various ways, for which, at a later period, they fired his buildings and killed his cattle.

"Bishopscotte" River Grant

In 1632, the Council for New England granted George Way and Thomas Purchase certain lands on "Bishopscotte" river, which, unquestionably included the territory occupied by Purchase. Way probably never occupied any of the land covered by the "grant," and it is very doubtful if he ever visited this country. Purchase conveyed to Gov. Winthrop, in 1639, his land at Pejepscot, reserving the portion occupied and improved by himself. Within the limits of this "patent" Purchase lived and continued actively in business until the first Indian war, 1675, when his buildings were destroyed and his family driven away. After the war he returned to his possessions on the Pejepscot, where he remained but a short time. He decided to return to England to secure the provisions of his "patent," and went to Boston, where he soon sailed for England. He never returned. He died before 1683. His widow married John Blaney of Lynn. Purchase left three children, Thomas, Jan and Elizabeth.

Wharton's Manor

Richard Wharton, a Boston merchant, an Englishman by birth and education, conceived the plan of establishing a manor, after the English style, and for that purpose bought July 4, 1683, of the heirs of Purchase and Way, the land covered by their Patent of 1632, as well as lands bought by Purchase of the Indian Sagamores. In this purchase of Wharton was included the claim of John Shapleigh. But this tract of land, extensive as it was, did not satisfy the Englishman's manorial ideas. He sought and obtained from Worombus, and six other Sagamores of the Androscoggin, a large tract of land on both sides of the river, and extending to the "uppermost falls in said Androscoggin river."

The deed was signed July 7, 1684, at Pejepscot Fort, and four days later delivered at the "uppermost falls on the Androscoggin river." Shortly after this transfer Wharton left for England for the purpose of securing from the crown a recognition of his claim, and the authority to establish a manor in the then "Province of Maine." This great enterprise failed. Wharton died before the proper authority could be obtained.

Estate Ordered Sold

In 1693 Ephraim Savage of Boston, was appointed administrator of Wharton's estate, and four years later the Superior Court of Massachusetts Bay authorized and empowered him to sell the estate in order to liquidate the debts. Acting in accordance with the authority given him by the court, Savage sold, on Nov. 5, 1714, the whole of Wharton's claim on the ancient Pejepscot to Thomas Hutchins, Adam Winthrop, John Watis, David Jefferies, Stephen Minot, Oliver Noyes, John Buck of Boston, and John Wentworth, of Portsmouth, N. H., for 140 pounds.

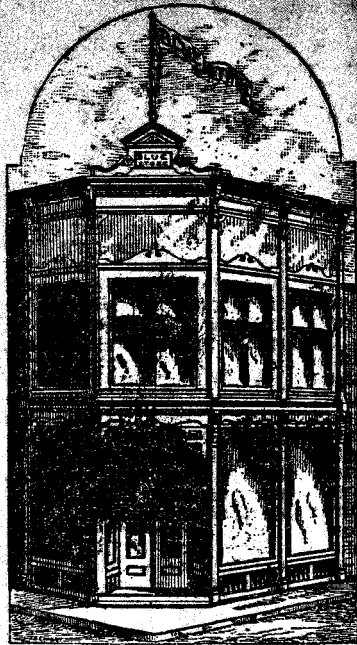
These people constituted the original Pejepscot company, taking the name of the river below the "Twenty-mile Falls." In the early part of the next year the proprietors submitted to the General Court of Massachusetts Bay a series of propositions relating to their claim and its settlement, and on the 10th of June, 1715, the General Court passed resolutions in accordance therewith, giving validity to their title, and accepting the propositions submitted. By this act the company became the undoubted legal owners of the land they had purchased.

Controversies Arise

Notwithstanding this recognition of their title by the General Court, controversies soon arose in regard to the limits of their claim. This question was forced upon them by the Plymouth Company, who had a patent for lands on the Kennebec river. This question of boundaries is most important. The descriptions of the old patents are very obscure and often indefinite, says Historian Elder. Frequently they overlap each other, and occasionally the later completely covers the former one. The bounds given to Purchase and Way are explicit in one direction, and Purchase, in his conveyance to Massachusetts, gives the limits in another; and there could be no doubt, continues Elder, about Nicholas Shapleigh's claim being bound by Purchase's claim and the "sea." But that which occasioned the greatest controversy was the description of the "Warumbee" deed, which included the above grants, but how much more? asks Recorder Elder.

Hot Fight

The contest became intense, and the rival corporations pushed their



THE BLUE STORE of 62 years ago.

claims with tireless energy. If the Pejepscot company could not extend their bounds on the south and east beyond the limits of grants made to Purchase and Shapleigh, they were undoubtedly entitled to more on the north and west. The deed covered "all the aforesaid lands from the uppermost part of Androscoggin Falls" four miles westward, and so down to Maquoit, and on the other side of the river from the same falls to the Kennebec, on a line running southwest and northeast.

Divisional Line Committee

The Pejepscot proprietors as early as February, 1758, appointed a committee to carry into execution the "divisional line," who reported some four years later "that they had exchanged proposals with Plymouth Company" for the purpose of setting up the line running between these two conflicting claims. However, the committee could not agree "where to fix the mouth of the Cathance river." In 1766, a settlement was reached which recognized the southern line of Bowdoinham and the Kennebec river as the divisional line between the two companies. The northern line was unsettled.

The Massachusetts Legislature on the eighth of March, 1787, passed a resolution saying: "That the Twenty-Miles Falls, so called, in the Androscoggin river, being about 20 miles from Brunswick Great Falls, so called, be, and they are hereby considered, the uppermost falls, called the Uppermost Great Falls in Androscoggin referred to in the deed from Warumbee and six other Indian Sagamores, confirming the right of Wharton and Thomas Purchase, executed July 7th, in the year of our Lord 1684, in the 35th year of the reign of King Charles the second."

Another Resolution

At the same session of the General Court a resolution was passed setting forth that the "Boundaries of the Pejepscot Company, so called, have not been ascertained, that the committee on the subject of unappropriated lands in the counties of Lincoln and Cumberland, be, and they are hereby directed not to locate or dispose of any lands claimed by the Plymouth Company to the southward of the south line of Bakerstown—now Poland

—bounded at the said Great Falls in Androscoggin river, whoresaid, on the east of said Androscoggin river. These boundaries were not satisfactory to the proprietors, and they refused to recognize them.

Little Petitions

In 1798, Col. Josiah Little, one of the Company who had been elected agent of proprietors, petitioned to the General Court, asking them to empower the attorney general to enter into a rule of the Supreme Judicial Court all the controversies and disputes subsisting between the Commonwealth and the Pejepscot proprietors. The General Court readily acceded to this petition and authorized the Attorney General, the Hon. James Sullivan, to enter into a rule of the Supreme Judicial Court, of Lincoln county, all the questions of dispute between the Commonwealth and the proprietors. By the terms of the resolve, Sullivan was to appoint the commissioners, subject to the approval of Little, to whom "any or all" the controversies in dispute were to be submitted.

It was also stipulated that as there had been "disputes and controversies" between the proprietors and the persons who had settled and made improvements on lands claimed by them, that some equitable mode should be provided for adjusting the claims. The conditions imposed by the Court were, that these settlers should have 100 acres of land so laid out as best to include the improvements made by them, and for such sums of money, and on such terms and conditions as three commissioners, appointed by the Governor, should judge reasonable. Sullivan informed the General Court, the next year that he had agreed to submit to Levi Lincoln, Samuel Dexter, Jr., and Thomas Dwight, the dispute between the Commonwealth and the Pejepscot Proprietors, and ask for an appropriation to defray the expenses of the commission, and the legislature appropriated \$1,000 for that purpose.

The commissioners made their award in February of 1800, which was substantially that affirmed by the General Court in 1787. This award was not satisfactory to the proprietors, who claimed that the "Uppermost Falls" mentioned in the "Warumbee" deed were not the "Twenty Mile Falls," but those now known as Rumford Falls. This claim, says Elder, was groundless, and the boundaries were finally set up around 1814 by decision in the courts of Lincoln and Cumberland counties, on the basis of the award of 1800.

The controversies between the settlers and the company were settled according to the award made by the commissioners, John Lord, Nathaniel Dummer and Ichabod Goodwin, who made the assignments and prescribed the terms. Approximately 20,000 acres were conveyed to settlers in virtue of the conditions stipulated.

Historian Elder winds up this phase of Lewiston's history, by saying: "Thus ended a controversy which had been waged for nearly a century, and been participated in by more than three generations. None of the parties were satisfied, but it gave substantial rest to those who, for a long time, held their homes by doubtful titles. As finally settled, this territory embraced Topsham, a part of Lisbon, all of Lewiston and Greene, three-fourths of Leeds, all of Brunswick, nearly all of Durham, most of Auburn, and a part of Poland."

Settlement Of Lewiston

No effort was made to settle that part of the Pejepscot territory included within the present limits of Lewiston until Jan. 28, 1767, when the following grant was made to Jonathan Bagly and Moses Little, both prominent members of the Pejepscot company.

"Whereas it is judged for the interest of this proprietary that a township be settled on the east side of Androscoggin river, to begin at Twenty-Mile Falls, on said Androscoggin river, from thence to extend five miles up said river, being part of the Pejepscot Claim, from thence on a course southeast four miles, from thence on a southern course to said Androscoggin river.

"It is hereby voted. That the above described tract of land be, and is hereby granted, by this Proprietary, to Messrs. Jonathan Bagly and Moses Little, their heirs and assigns, on the conditions following, viz.: That the said Bagly and Little build 50 houses and settle 50 families on the said tract of land in six years time from the first day of June next ensuing, and in case said Bagly and Little should not perform the conditions above mentioned, or should not settle but 30 families in 30 houses within the time above mentioned, then the above said tract of land revert to this proprietary, except 200 acres to as many families as shall be settled there at the expiration of said term. But provided, they shall at the end of said six years, have settled only 30 families, in 30 houses, then said Bagly and Little shall within the time above mentioned, settle any number of families above the number of 30, aforesaid, they shall be entitled to such proportion of the aforesaid granted tract, as said number of families shall bear to 50. And it is agreed that this proprietary at their expense clear a road to the head of Royalsborough, and said Bagly and Little clear a road from thence to said tract of land, above granted to them, at their expense. The name of the town to be called LEWISTON. It is to be understood that the dimension of the above mentioned houses to be built are to be 16 feet by 20, and 7 feet stud."

Recorder Elder says the grant was rescinded by a vote of the proprietors in June, 1771, notwithstanding the efforts which had been made by Bagly and Little to comply with its conditions. There is no valid reason given which induced this action, adds Elder. The proprietors recognized what had been done by Bagly and Little without offering any compensation for their services.

Hildreth First Settler

"We are unable to determine," writes Elder, "under what conditions the settlement was prosecuted. It is evident that Bagly and Little took measures to secure their title; but it was not until 1790, that the grant of Jan. 28, 1768, was confirmed."

It was not until 1770 that the first settler, Paul Hildreth, moved into the plantation of "Lewiston." He erected a log cabin on the river bank just below the Continental Mills. In the Autumn of the same year his cabin was burned and Mr. Hildreth and his family spent the Winter in New Gloucester, but returned to Lewiston in the Spring, where he resided, with the exception of a short time in 1788, when he lived in Litchfield, until 1802. He then moved to Gardiner and died there about 1830.

Samuel Robinson purchased the Hildreth lot in 1795. Hildreth took up a new lot and at the same time established the first ferry in town, about a half mile below the falls.

Following Hildreth to Lewiston was David Pettengill, of New Gloucester, who arrived in the Fall of 1770. The Pettengills were the only family in the plantation during the Winter of 1770-71. Residing here until the outbreak of the Revolutionary war, he joined the army and left for the dangers of the battlefields. He never returned. Pettengill had a son, Benjamin, who also enlisted. He returned and settled in Auburn after the conflict ended. Davis, another son, settled on what was known as the Farr place. He is said to be the ancestor of nearly all the Pettengills in the vicinity.

Harris Comes to Town

The third settler here was Lawrence J. Harris, of Dracut, Mass. He arrived in the Spring of 1771. He made some arrangements towards a settlement. Bagly and Little made liberal offers of land to Harris and his sons. Due to these considerations he got out a frame for a saw mill. One lot of land was at the "falls," a valuable piece of property, the other was a timber lot which has since been known as the Hailey place. Harris died in 1784 and his son, Abner, took possession of the estate. In 1810 Abner sold the property to Dan and Lemuel Read for \$3,500 and moved to Ohio. The Reads in turn sold to Col. Little, who, by this deal came into possession of the most valuable portion of the Bagly and Little claim.

In 1774 Amos Davis arrived from New Gloucester. He built a log house on what at one time was known as the Marston farm, about two miles below the falls. Shortly afterward he erected a house on the corner of Sabatis (Sabattus) and Wood street. He occupied the place until his death in 1815. His son, Davis, operated the first store at Lowell's Corner. Incidentally, David was the first male child born in Lewiston.

Readers may see the oldest house in Lewiston at 418 Main Street. It was constructed by David Davis. The frame of the building, which is in remarkable condition, was made of hewed timber, fastened together by wooden pegs. The boards are of the old-time "pumbkin pine" variety more than twenty inches in breadth.

David Davis owned the farm which now takes in Frye Street and portions of Main. This place commenced on College Street and extended to Mountain Avenue, on the north and the river on the south and west. The original farm contained 110 acres, although this was by no means the extent of his landed possessions. On the opposite side of the

street where the old Sen. Frye house stands were the barns of the Davis Farm. The house was moved several years ago to the corner of Whipple and Main Streets. It has been changed to allow for a grocery store and a filling station. Both of these enterprises are no longer operating and the building is empty. The windows now carry picture posters of Horace Hildreth, Maine Republican gubernatorial candidate and a descendant of the first settler of the city. There are many who believe that the building should be preserved as a memorial of early days.

David Davis gave the land for the old burying ground on Sabattus street and built a small wooden building within its confines which was used as a meeting and school house.

Next on the list of early settlers came Israel Herrick, of Boxford, Mass., who came to town in 1774. For a short time he resided at the Amos Davis house on Sabattus Street. His son, John, settled at Barker's Mills and for many years operated the only public house in town.

Herrick became prominent in public affairs. He was one of the selectmen for many years and was a representative to the General Court of Massachusetts. He served as a delegate in the convention which convened in October of the year 1819 at Portland to write a constitution for the State of Maine.

Sons Prominent in Town

Oliver and Ebenezer, Herrick's sons, were also prominent in Lewiston. Oliver served as a captain in the War of 1812. He served as selectman on his return from the wars. He also saw service at the Legislatura. During the Taylor administration he held the office of postmaster. Oliver died July 4, 1852.

Ebenezer, a man of talent and culture, was a delegate to the convention which formed the constitution, representing the town of Bowdoinham. He was also a representative to Congress from 1821-9 and a

senator to the Legislature 1828-29.

James Garcelon and family moved into the plantation in March, 1775. He was the son of Rev. Peter Garcelon, of the Isle of Guernsey. Garcelon, whose descendants are quite numerous here, came from Freeport. He died at his home at what has been known as the Garcelon Ferry.

In 1775-77 many farmers arrive. Among these were James Mitchell who settled on the place that has since been known as the Mitchell farm. Jonathan Hodkins was another arrival. Hodkins settled above the "Falls." James Ames arrived from Oakham, Mass., and is believed to have been the first blacksmith to open a shop here. Ames also operated a public house.

Dar. Read, Attleboro, Mass., came in 1788. At the time of Read's arrival the town boasted 88 families. Read took over the duties of school teacher which was the beginning of a long career in public affairs. He served as a selectman, town clerk, representative to the General Court of Massachusetts, Maine legislator, and postmaster for nearly 40 years.

Ebenezer Ham, grandfather of Col. E. Ham, came from Shapleigh, Me., and settled down in the southern portion of the plantation. He was the grandfather of former Mayor Ham.

As those who are interested in the history of Lewiston are well aware the municipal history of the city is lost and what information is obtained on those days can only be gleaned from such sketches as the above mentioned. Any information that readers may have in this regard would be most welcome.

In 1794 a change was sought in municipal affairs and the General Court of Massachusetts granted a petition as follows:

An act to incorporate the plantation of Lewiston and Gore adjoining in the county of Lincoln into a town by the name of Lewiston.

Be it enacted; by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the following described tract of land, lying on the easterly side of the Androscoggin river; Beginning on the bank of said river the most westerly corner of the town of Greene; thence running southeast in the southerly line of said town, about six miles to the Plymouth Company's claim, six miles and two hundred and thirty rods; thence southwest about two hundred and sixty rods to the Androscoggin river; thence northeasterly, by said river, to the bound first mentioned; together with the inhabitants thereon, be, and hereby are incorporated into a town by the name of Lewiston, and the said town is hereby vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities, which other towns within this Commonwealth do or may enjoy by law.

And be it further enacted; by the authority aforesaid, that Benjamin Merrill, Esq., be and is hereby empowered to issue his warrant, directed to some suitable inhabitant of said town of Lewiston, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof to meet at some convenient time and place and choose such officers as towns are by law required to choose, in the month of March or April annually.

In accordance with the conditions of the petition, Benjamin Merrill, who resided in Greene, issued his warrant to David Davis, directing him to notify the inhabitants of Lewiston who were qualified to vote, to assemble at the house of Jedediah Morrill, on the sixth day of April, 1795, to choose such officers as necessary and transact town business. The first board of selectmen: John Herrick, Joel Thompson, Winslow Ames, James Garcelon and David Davis with Noah Mitchfield was elected chairman.



PASTORAL DELIGHT—From a glassy slope these gentlemen of the 1890s enjoyed a beautiful view of the town of Sabattus.

Androscoggin Towns and Cities In Half Century Old Pictures

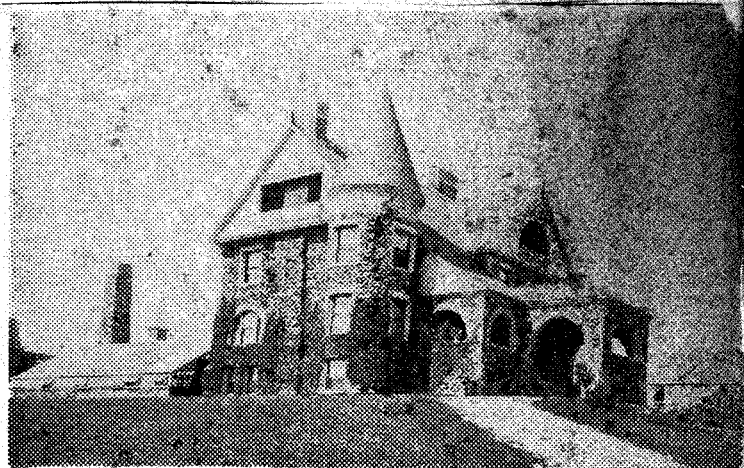
While Lewiston and Auburn are the largest communities in Androscoggin County at present, they were not always the important centers when one recalls that Greene was one of the early towns to be incorporated and was for years the trade center of the district. Lewiston people went to Greene to shop and sent their children to school there.

Livermore, likewise, was an important community and gave to the world the Washburn family, who in one generation provided the country with four members of Congress (from four different States) one secretary of state, one captain in the United States Navy, one major-general in the United States Army, two governors of different states and two foreign ministers.

DEC 2 - 1944

Lisbon turned its attention in early years to manufacturing and by 1890 was the site of five flourishing industries.

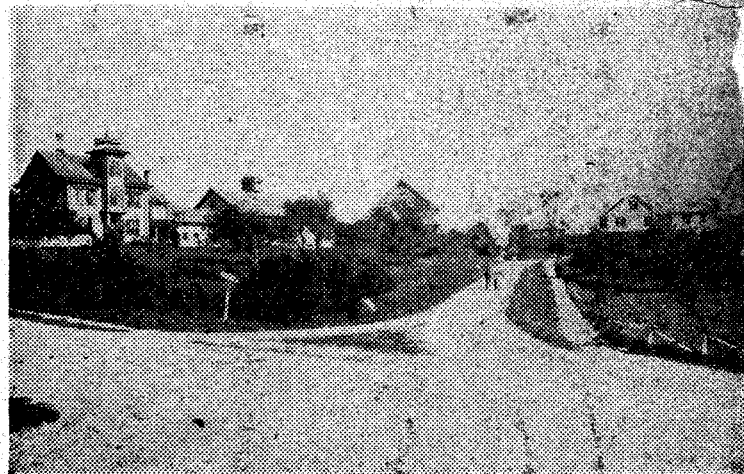
Webster, so named in 1840 for Daniel Webster, was first known as "Burnt Meadows" and was one of the first villages in the county, having been settled in 1775.



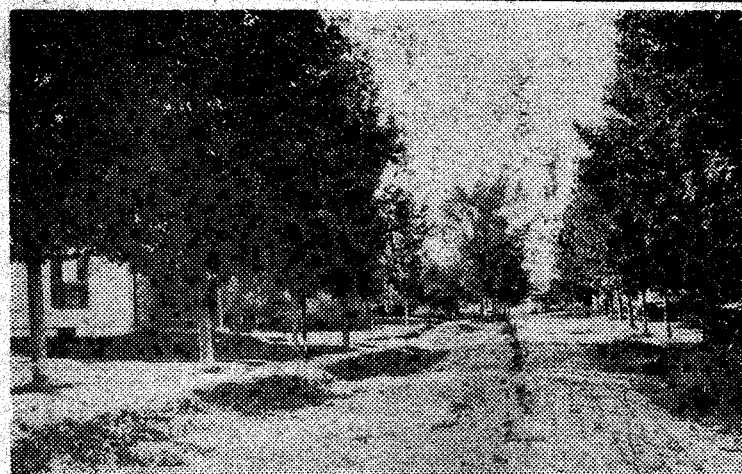
CHARLES CUSHMAN house on Cushman Place, Auburn, is a familiar landmark and looks much the same now as it did 50 years ago, except that the greenhouse at the rear has been torn down.



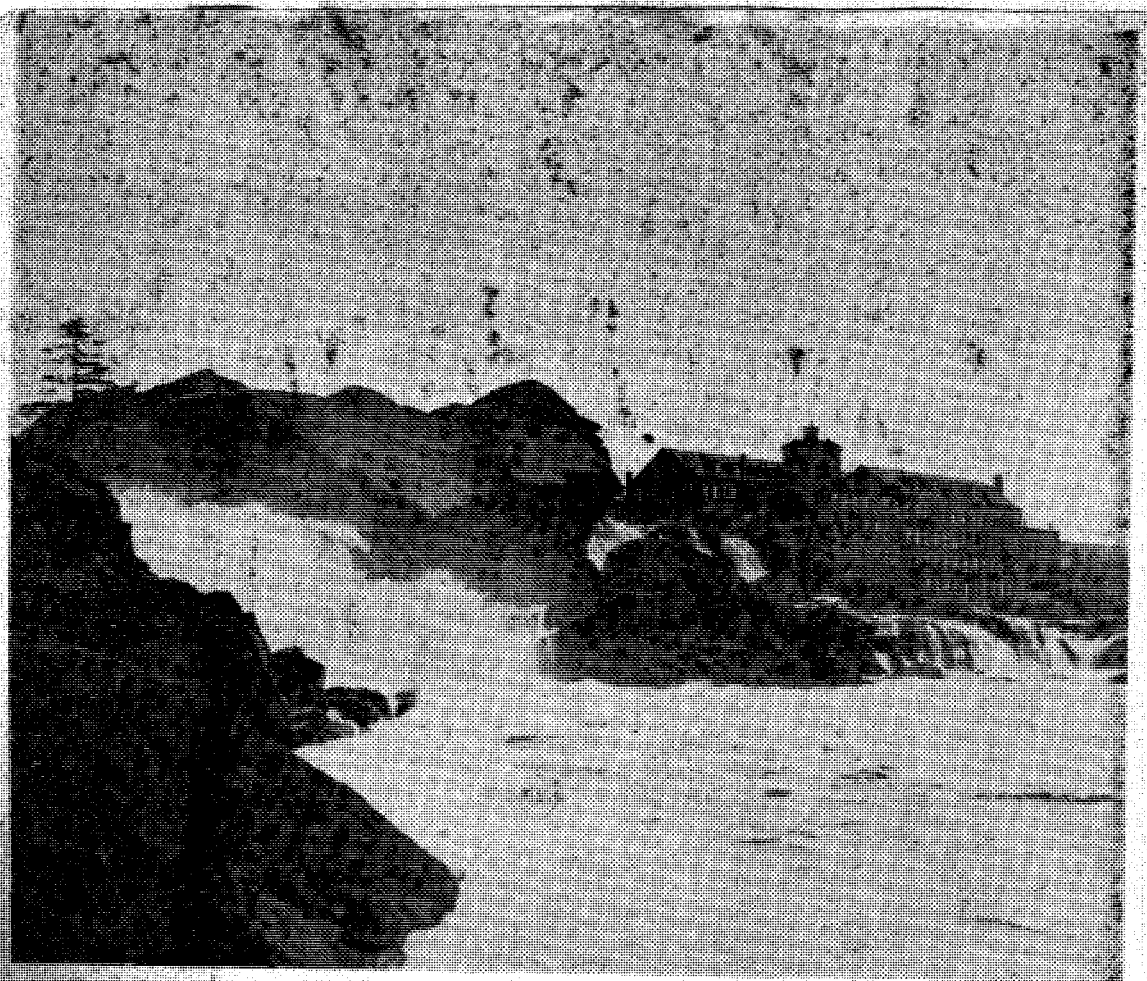
BATES COLLEGE'S PRESIDENT used to live in this house which is now used for a girls' dormitory and is known as Cheney House. It is on College Street between the present home of the president and Rand Hall.



LISBON ROAD—Although this section looks differently now it is possible to distinguish whose homes these were in 1890.



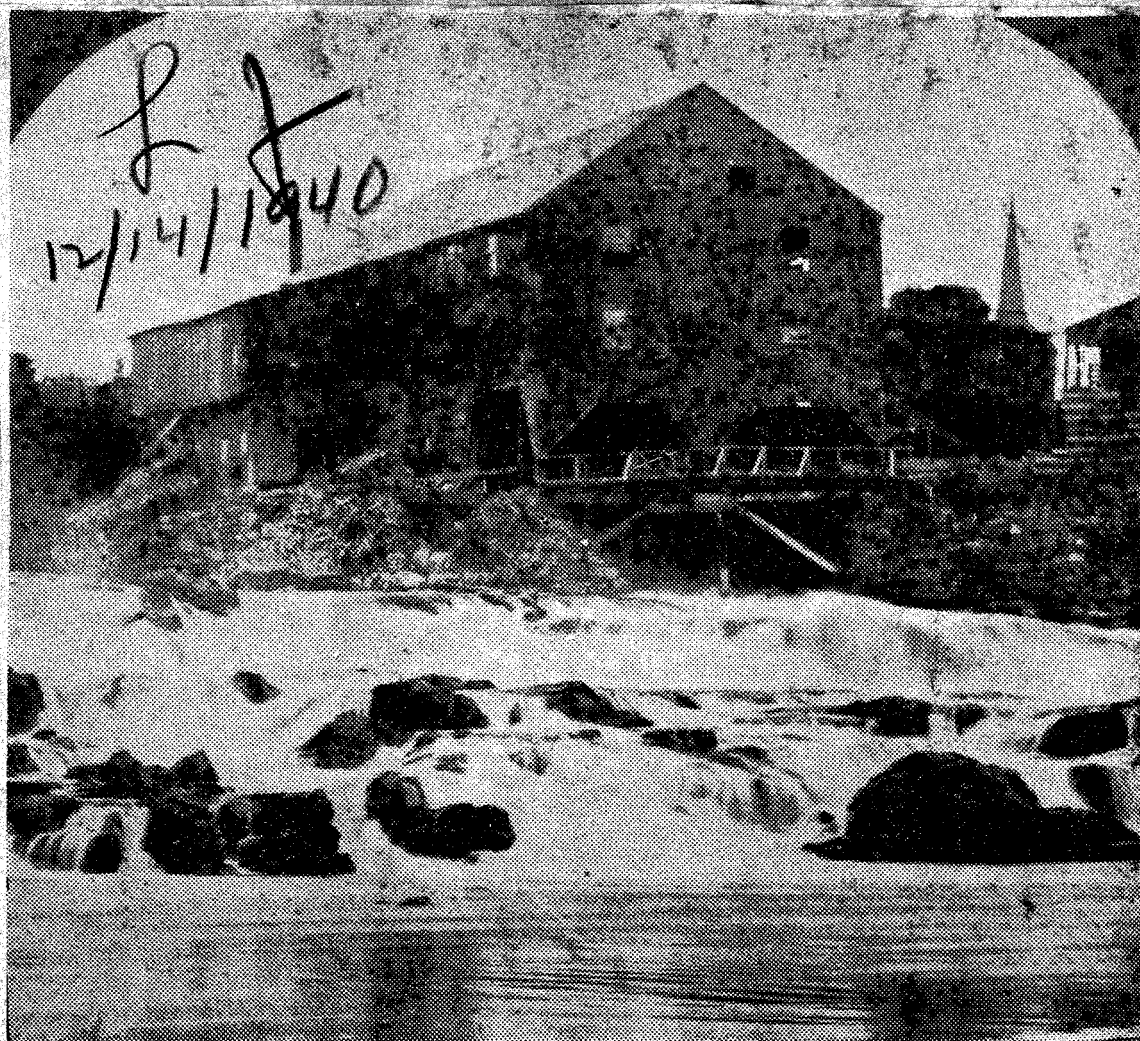
SHADY LANE—A section of Maple Street in Mechanic Falls.



LEWISTON'S OLD MAN—Before blasting dislodged some of the rock formation, on Lewiston Falls, this old man's face was as distinct and benevolent as his celebrated New Hampshire brother.

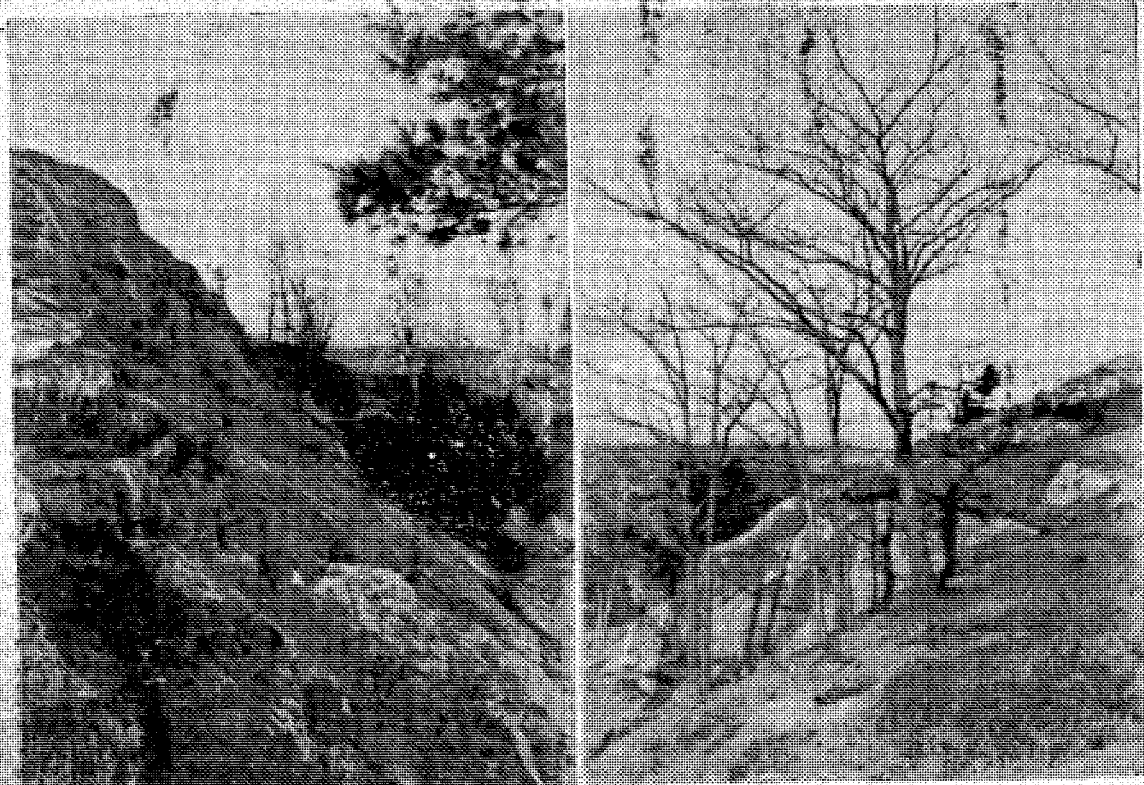


COMING EVENTS are foretold in this early picture of the river at Livermore Falls, showing the flourishing start the pulp and paper industry already had in 1890.



This picture is of the sawmill that once occupied the site of the Lewiston pumping station. It is a stereoscopic view owned by George K. Elder, and is rare. A Main street church spire can be seen against the sky in the background.

Winter Has Come to Bleak Slopes



Just before the first snowfall, these were the barren slopes on Mount David in Lewiston — This rugged beauty in the heart of the city is a shrine not to be overlooked.

Site of New Super-Market On Pine Street, Years Ago



This picture, showing the Congregational church, on Pine street, now torn down and the site occupied by the new super-market, and an end of the DeWitt hotel, was taken for stereopticon use years ago. This is in Miss Mabel V. Wood's collection of such views.



FOR THE LADIES—Darrah's Kid Glove Store was one of the specialty shops for women that flourished on Lisbon Street, Lewiston, some 50 years ago. Warren Darrah, the proprietor, is at the left and the young lady clerks have not been identified although the two at the right have been tentatively recognized as Mrs. S. E. Pickering and Minnie Clark Webber, who were employed at Mrs. J. Lamont's Millinery Shop that is seen in the picture.

50 Years Make a Change In Lewiston-Auburn Stores And Goods They Sell

DEC 30 1944

BY JOHN M. ROBINSON

A study of the advertisements in a copy of the Lewiston Evening Journal of fifty years ago reveals that there have been some changes made—both in the wants of the buyers and the local concerns selling them. It is but rarely that a firm in operation today bears a similar resemblance in name to any of the leading local firms advertising fifty years ago.

One thing that does appear to go on today even as fifty years ago is the Charity Ball, sponsored by the Central Maine General Hospital then as now. An advertisement for the Charity Ball appeared in the Journal of Dec. 26, 1894.

Charity Ball

The ad read "Everyone should attend The Charity Ball, New Year's Evening, January 1, 1895, for the benefit of the Central Maine General Hospital. Under the management

of the Ladies of the Hospital Association, Grand Orchestral Concert of twelve pieces under the direction of Prof. George T. Wilson, to be followed by the Grand Ball.

"Half fare on all Railroads into Lewiston has been secured and the management hopes that all who live outside of the city, who are interested in the welfare of the hospital will attend. Refreshments will be served in the hall. Flashlight photographs will be taken. A general good time is assured. Tickets admitting to the floor 75 cents each. Gallery Tickets 35 and 50 cents. The Ladies wish to announce that they have spared no labor or expense in order to make the Charity Ball of '95 a most successful and enjoyable occasion. The Central Maine General Hospital is an institution which every loyal citizen of the two cities is not only interested in, but every citizen is proud of, and the management trusts that all our citizens will make a special effort to be present.

and bring their friends, thus individually help to make the occasion a grand success, and aid a most worthy and laudable institution.

"Tickets are now on sale at S. P. Robie's and the Banner Clothing House, Lewiston, Attwood and Barrows, Auburn. Buy your tickets early and be sure and attend.

"Mrs. D. S. White, Mrs. W. D. Pennell, Mrs. A. D. Barker, Mrs. L. A. Pray, Mrs. Seth M. Carter, Mrs. W. O. Foss; entertainment committee, Central Maine General Hospital."

However, despite the fact that the advertisement failed to mention where the Ball was being held, it is doubtful that any of those citizens who were around in 1894 and who were interested in the ball had any question about that.

Most advertisers in the Journal of that date, were more careful to have the street and number of their establishment appear somewhere in their business notices.

Suits for \$7.50

Directly beneath the two column advertisement announcing the Charity Ball, appeared a large notice featuring the bargains in clothing at the Banner Clothing House, owned and operated by Babbitt Brothers at 134 to 140 Lisbon Street. Suits in that advertisement were priced at from \$7.50 to a top price of \$20.00. There have been some changes there, too.

Elsewhere on the page were ads featuring horse blankets, fur robes and harnesses at the establishment of Wood and Walker, 152 Main Street, Auburn; and another by W. Blanchard of No. 7 Middle Street, Lewiston, whose ad complete with illustration noted that Pump Cans would be loaned free to customers. The ad further noted that the firm was originator of the "modern oil delivery system and makers of the Daisy Centrifugal Pump Cans."

The nearly complete disappearance of horses from our streets and their exile to the farms and the pari-mutuel tracks has made advertisements featuring horse blankets less common. The thing today might rather be auto robes.

And although advertisers of range and fuel oil still occupy a large place in the pages of the modern newspaper of 1944, the type of pump can featured in the ad of 1894 was largely of interest to the user of kerosene lamps rather than of one who used oil for heating purposes.

Although the front page of that 1894 Journal featured largely notices lauding the merits of various patent medicines manufactured outside of Lewiston and Auburn, there were at least two ads of a strictly local nature. Fred C. Robertson, M. A., had an advertisement announcing that he had opened rooms in the Osgood Building, Lisbon Street, near Ash, where "he will receive pupils in oratory, the Dramatic Art and Literature, Stammering Stuttering and all voice defects. "For information, circulars and appointments for interviews, letters were to be addressed to the Cobb Divinity School, Lewiston, Me. Beneath the advertisement offering enlightenment and education was a notice of Smith and Ward, Corner Court and Main Streets, Auburn, who were offering to give away "genuine Briar Pipes with Amber Mouthpiece."

Cigars for Sale

Both an Auburn and a Lewiston concern in a joint advertisement on the front page of the Dec. 26, 1894

issue announced they had cigars for sale. An announcement of that nature in 1944 would belong on the front page with a news story to boot. Cigars on sale today, that is news!

Conservatory of Music

In a two column advertisement on page three was a notice of the Maine Conservatory of Music, which was signed G. B. Whitman, Business Manager, 149 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, Me. The instructors listed for the '94-'95 season were Mr. George W. Horne, vocal culture; Mr. Henry F. Roy, piano, organ, harmony; Miss Angie Starbird, piano; Mrs. Susie Jewett Folsom, piano and vocal culture; Miss Marie Louise Callahan, elocution, Delsarte and dramatic action; Mr. Fred G. Payne, clarinet and reed instruments; Mr. G. Dana Holt, cornet and brass instruments; Otto Clotild Scheda, Principal of violin department; Mr. Fred Callahan, violin and viola; Mr. Fred A. Given, violin and viola; Gerald B. Whitman, violin-cello and contra-bass; George Garcelon, banjo, mandolin and guitar; George T. Wilson, dancing and deportment. Although the school was chiefly devoted to the teaching of music and the arts, it was noted that teachers would be furnished for those who wished to study French and German.

Nor was instruction limited to the students of music and the dance in 1894, for Art too was a subject that could be studied. Also on page three, Miss Lilla F. Luques, announced that having completed a four year course of study under eminent artists, she had opened a studio at 155 Spring Street, Auburn, where she gave instruction in oil painting, drawing from life, still life and cast and also crayon portraiture.

One Grocer

The only grocer featuring an advertisement in the Dec. 26 issue of the Journal in 1894 was Abram Attwood, whose establishment was at 159 Lisbon Street, Lewiston. His notice featured domestic duck, domestic goose, domestic turkey and domestic chicken. All for Christmas. He further noted in his advertisement that at his establishment could be purchased "everything delicious and palatable and inviting for the Christmas tables." And the date of that issue was Dec. 26.

The classified ads were there. There was nearly a column of them—and nearly half of those were devoted to apartments and rents to be let. None specified—adults only. Another change in the past 50 years.

An after-Christmas Mark down sale was featured at the dry goods store of E. S. Paul and Company of Lisbon Street.

More Merchants

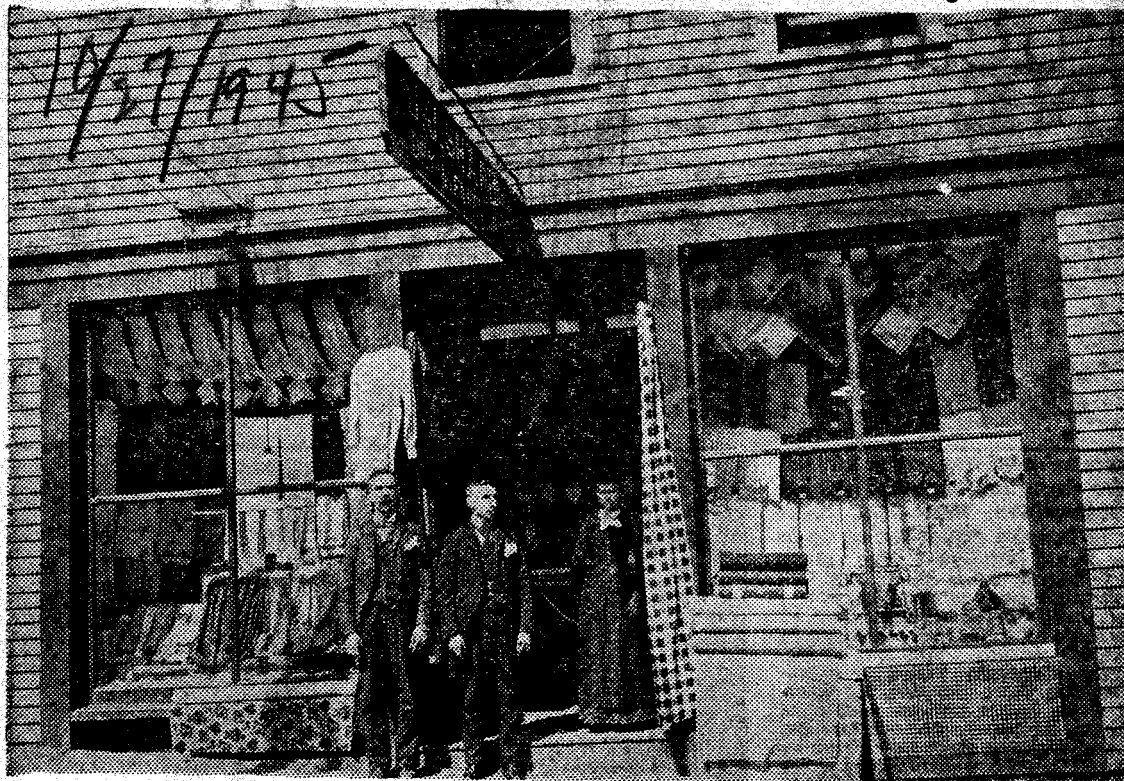
Other local firms, whose products or services were advertised in the 1894 paper included:—Curney and Bryant, 76 Lisbon Street, overshoes and rubbers; Raymond and Guptill's, 71 Lisbon Street, under Music Hall, a writing desk for 79 cents; also a new importation of Japanese ware; Jonas Edwards, Auburn, Importer of strictly Canadian horses; Bradford, Conant and Co., 199 to 203 Lisbon Street, furniture; Callahans, 276 Lisbon Street, derby hats for men; Jordan-Frost Lumber Co., 181 Lisbon Street, and at Grand Trunk yard, dealer in lumber, coal and wood; Twin City China Co., 151 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, featuring "beautiful art pictures"; O'Connell Brothers, 164 Lisbon Street, men's furnishings; High Street Laundry, corner Court and High Street, Au-

burn; Auburn Coal and Wood Yard, 212 Court Street; E. Provost, Sons and Co., 104 Main Street, Lewiston, pianos and organs; R. Daggett, 16 Ash Street, Lewiston, cleaner and dyer; Attwood and Barrows, 60 Court Street, under Auburn Hall, men's shoes; Geo. M. Roak, florist, 124 High Street, Auburn; Flagg and Plummer, Lisbon Street, photographers; Roak and Plummer, 19 Turner Street, embalmers and funeral directors; F. E. Tainter, 40 and 42 Lisbon Street, pianos and organs; Dunbar's Hair Store, 13 Lisbon Street, complete stock of hair goods, hair ornaments and hair work done to order.

Fred H. White, 46 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, designer in men's clothes; Auburn Trust Company, Auburn; and S. E. May and Co., 17 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, bankers and brokers.

There was not a single advertisement in the Journal of Dec. 26, 1894 featuring cigarettes or anything to do with the automotive line, even Stanley Steamers. There really have been some changes made.

New Auburn Business In Operation For More Than Half a Century



FOR 53 YEARS the firm of J. J. Shapiro & Bro. has operated at the same location at the corner of Broad and Third Streets in New Auburn. Although there have been two fires during that time, new buildings have been erected on the same spot and business has continued almost without interruption. The upper picture was taken when the store was first opened in 1892 and this year another picture was taken with the proprietors and one of the clerks posed exactly as they were 53 years ago. At the left of the door are Jacob J. Shapiro and Moses Shapiro and the woman is Mrs. Agnes Gagne Sicard, who has been employed as a clerk throughout the more than half century.

Lewiston Once Had Medical College But Little Is Known of Its Origin

By Sam E. Conner

DEC 30 1944

"A man named Ben York had something to do with it and they gave degrees to barbers, plumbers, anyone who had the price; that's about all I can recall of it," was the answer Everett A. Davis, whose knowledge of old time in this city is about the best available, made when asked what he could tell about the old Eclectic Medical College of Maine here in Lewiston.

The college went out of existence in 1887, which was the year Mr. Davis graduated from high school, which probably explains why he hasn't more of a recollection of the school. He was much too busy with graduation problems to giving great heed to that particular educational establishment.

He did recall there was some scandal connected with its closing.

One man asked about it said that Gov. Alonzo Garcelon had something to do with it. He was thinking of the Lewiston School of Medical Instruction, which predated the Eclectic college by 11 years. No scandal attached to that institution. It went out of existence because of lack of patronage. The story or the Eclectic College was different.

To Improve Medical Education

The Lewiston School of Medical Instruction became an incorporated fact on Jan. 25, 1870, when the act of incorporation passed by the Legislature and was approved by the Governor. The incorporators were Alonzo Garcelon, Edward H. Hill, Oren A. Horr, Milton C. Wedgewood, Joshua W. Beede, Benj. F. Sturgis, Eli Edgewood. The corporation was authorized to hold real estate to the value of \$10,000 and to give daily instruction in subjects on medicine, anatomy, physiology, book chemistry and materia Medica.

At that time there was no registration of physicians in this state, no examining board. One who could get a certificate that he had studied two years in a doctor's office and attend two courses of lectures in a medical college could receive a diploma and practice medicine.

The idea of the incorporators, all of whom were reputable physicians in these cities, was that it could help to improve methods of instruction. Few students took advantage of its opportunities and after a few years the school was abandon.

In 1873 the city government allotted a room in the new city hall to the use of the school. That year the faculty of the school was as follows: Eli Edgewood, M. D., obstetrics; R. L. Harlow, M. D., physiology; E. H. Hills, M. D., surgery; M. C. Wedgewood, M. D., anatomy; O. A. Horr, M. D., anatomy; B. F. Sturgis, M. D., Materia media and therapeutics; T. Fillebrown, M. D., diseases of children.

Members of the class of 1872 in the school included Isaac Rounds of Auburn, F. C. Hall and Alonzo M. Garcelon of Lewiston and A. Woodside, AM of Wales.

But the Eclectic Medical College of Maine was a very real fact, though its existence was short, 1881 to 1887. Its history is difficult to obtain. Searching the files of the Journal yields little information.

Contacting persons who are usually able to provide information about events here in those years lack results. But one other person besides Mr. Davis, who I have asked about it, remembered that there was such a school. He is Judge John A. Morrell, retired, and all he recalls is that a medical college did exist in Lewiston for a time. Beyond that he is unable to help in the story of Lewiston's only medical school.

Started in Good Faith

There isn't much question but what this college was instituted with the best of intentions, that those who sponsored it believed that it would fill a need, be helpful, not alone to the community but to the state and country. This opinion, it seems to me, must be formed when one reads a list of these sponsors.

The college was created by Chapter 74 of the private and special laws of 1881, approved by Gov. Harris M. Plaisted on Feb. 28 of that year. Section one of the act creates the college in these words:

Horace C. Little, Joseph K. Blanchard, N. W. Dutton, Charles E. Morrill, Cyrus Green, J. D. Stores, J. H. Day, E. Keene, junior, Thomas Littlefield, James M. Buzzell and William G. Davis are hereby created a body politic and corporate by the name of the Eclectic Medical College of Maine *** Said college shall be located in the city of Lewiston, Maine.**

Every name in that list is of a prominent personage here not only at that time, but for many years thereafter. Mr. Little was later mayor of Lewiston. Blanchard was a prominent grain dealer here. Charles E. Morrell was in the shoe business, for years a member of the firm of Morrell & Prince, Lisbon Street, who died a few years ago. There is a question as to Cyrus Green. No one seems to recall anything about him. At least, none of those contact-

ed. Several are strongly of the opinion that it was Cyrus Greeley, but that a typographical error was made in the printed laws of 1881.

Mr. Greeley, whose death occurred several years ago, was long prominent in affairs here and for many years was president of the Androscoggin County Savings Bank.

"J. (Joseph) H. Day had been mayor of the city and was prominent in business circles. Thomas Littlefield was sheriff of Androscoggin County, which goes to show that there can be little question as to the motives behind the incorporation of the school, for these men would not have been apt to have started with the idea of a fake or semi-fake school, as this evidently turned into.

As for Mr. York

One of the difficult pieces to fit into the story of the Eclectic Medical College is the man Benjamin York or "Ben" York, as practically all those who have any recollection of it refer to him. His name is not among those included as incorporators, neither does it appear anywhere in any of the published advertisements of the school which have been unearthed. Likewise he is not mentioned in connection with events which resulted in its doors being closed.

Whether there was such a school and if so, when and what about it, which started this hunt for information carried the further comment that "A Ben York had something to do with it."

Whether Mr. York was a resident of Lewiston at the time and originated the plan, or whether he came here from some other state and promoted the idea seems to be impossible of determination. There is some reason for thinking the latter to be the explanation.

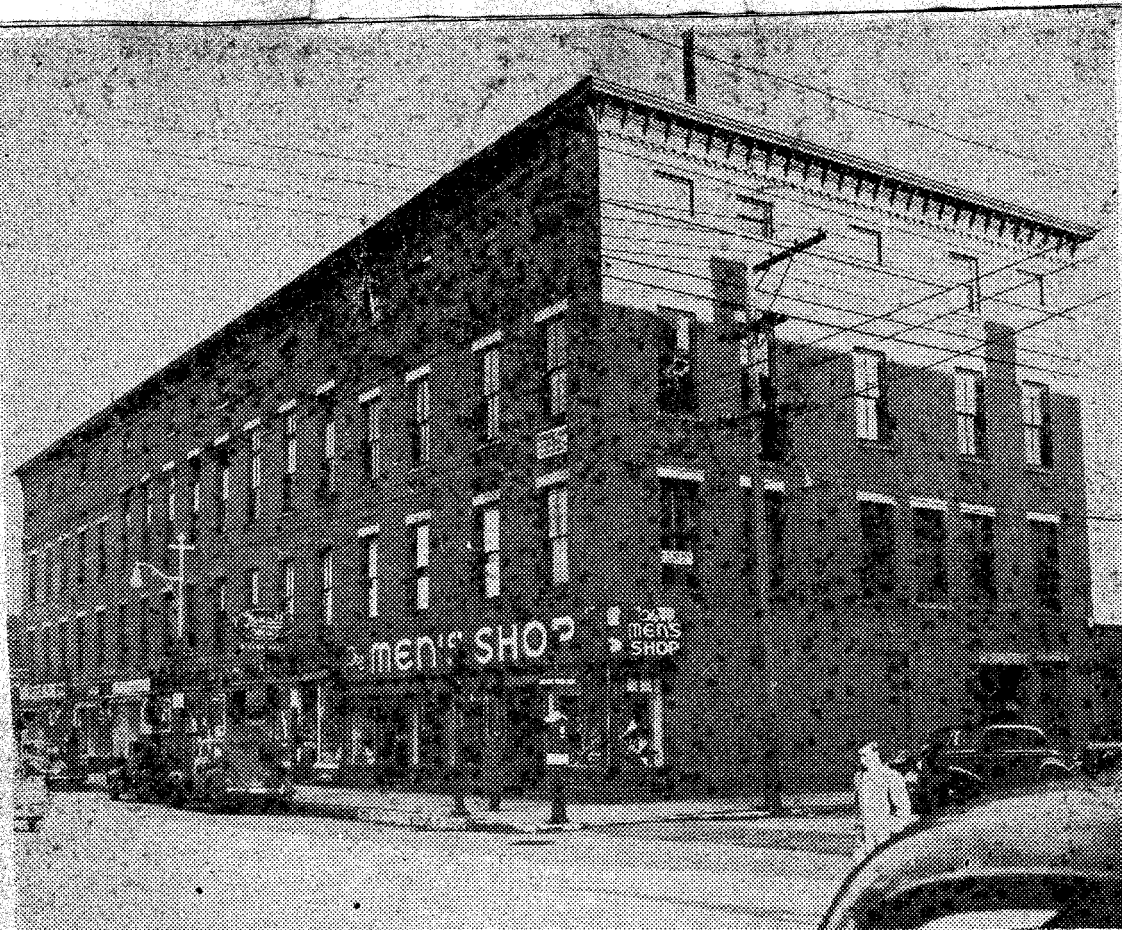
Such a System of Medicine

This particular inquiry wasn't the first knowledge the writer had ever had of such a college's existence. That came in the course of the trial of John Burke at Skowhegan in February, 1920, for the murder of Nelson A. Bartlett in Jackman the previous October.

When Dr. John M. Boothby, one of the medical examiners of Somerset County, who examined Bartlett's body, as well as treated Burke for wounds which he claim were inflicted by Bartlett took the stand on Feb. 15, 1920, to testify and was asked what school he graduated from he answered:

"The Eclectic School of Medicine of Maine in Lewiston in 1884."

But I had previously heard of the



BATES BUILDING LISBON and Chestnut streets, in which the Eclectic Medical School of Lewiston was located during its brief six years existence. In the school's advertisement they referred to it as "College Hall."

eclectic system of medicine. Among the papers of my Grandfather, who had been a doctor, was a pamphlet giving the outline of this system, which I had read many years ago. This last fact coupled with the difficulty of finding any trace of Ben York as a resident of Lewiston, previous to the establishment of the school, leads to the belief that he came here in the interests of the system, interested Horace Little and the others in the subject and induced them to establish the college.

Someone who it has not been possible to locate may know something further about this, but that is the sum total of today's information.

Powers Granted

The act of incorporation was not long. It outlined the rights which the college had and among the restrictions placed upon it was the provision in sec 5, that "no person shall be a trustee who is not an inhabitant of this State." Obviously that was written into the charter for the purpose of making it an 100 per cent Maine institution.

It is also possible that this provision is the explanation of why Ben York's name does not appear among the incorporators, especially if he, as believed, came from another state.

The portion of the charter which

granted authority to give diplomas and confer degrees, while it may have seemed mighty well guarded to those incorporators was, when you read it today, decidedly broad. This is found in section 7, which says:

Power to confer degrees and grant public testimonials to students who successfully complete one or more of the prescribed courses***provided all students receiving degrees must have completed three years under the direction of a practitioner of medicine who was a graduate of a college of medicine.

As said, that may have seemed ample, but subsequent events show that it didn't hold the college very closely to what it was supposed to.

Had A Faculty

There is no question but what the college had a faculty and that it had students and, as the story of Dr. Boothby of Bingham establishes, it did turn out at least one man who made a success in the practice of medicine. However, it must be remembered that Dr. Boothby was one of those men who wanted to learn, who was seriously in search of knowledge which would enable him to properly treat those who were ill. This is shown by the fact that his record after his graduation

shows that he was successful; that he was a good doctor.

It must also be recalled that, although he had then been out of medical school for 36 years, Dr. Boothby was still a student, for in answer to an inquiry by defense counsel in the Burke case, Judge W. R. Pattangall, he stated that every year he went to some of the big medical schools or some outstanding hospital for post graduate work, usually for a period of three months.

The first intimation of the existence of this school is found in the Maine register for 1882, when it is listed and the following list of officials and faculty is given: Horace C. Little, pres.; J. W. Perkins, treas.; W. Wadsworth, professor of principles and practices; S. P. Sprague, professor of materia medica and therapeutics; Albert J. Marston, M. D., professor of anatomy and demonstrator of anatomy; J. A. Rochette, M. D., C. M., professor of physiology; Richard C. Stanley, professor of chemistry; A. K. P. Knowlton, medical jurisprudence.

There is little information about any of these men other than that they were in Lewiston afterward. A year later, 1883, the same

source reveals that there had been some changes in the officials, as well as the faculty of the college and it becomes evident that one of the incorporators, J. M. Buzzell, was a physician here in Lewiston, for he has "M.D." after his name in the faculty list. This organization shows the following:

Preston S. Laughton, pres.; John Swan, M.D., secretary; Lorenzo D. Hamblet, treas.; J. M. Buzzell, M.D., dean, professor of surgery and theory and practice of medicine; S. E. Root, M.D., professor of anatomy and physiology; James Davis, M.D., professor of chemistry; B. H. Burrell, M.D., professor of materia medica and therapeutics; John Swan, M.D., professor of obstetrics and diseases of women and children; Hon. A. K. P. Knowlton, medical jurisprudence.

Many Changes

Nearly every year from then until the college went out of existence there were changes in the faculty until the last year, 1887, it was practically new, only one of the original professors, Dr. Buzzell, remaining on the staff. As listed for that year, 1887, the school was composed of the following:

James M. Fernald, pres.; William Aiken, vice pres.; J. M. Buzzell, sec.; Chas. S. Emerson, treas.; J. M. Buzzell, M. D., dean, professor of surgery; J. M. Lindsey, M. D., professor of obstetrics and diseases of women and children; Parmenes Dyer, M. D., professor of the theory and practice of medicine; A. Libby, M. D., lecturer on chemistry and microscopy; A. K. P. Harvey, M. D., professor of anatomy and materia medica; John M. Boothby, M. D., professor of physiology and mental diseases; Tascus Atwood, professor of medical jurisprudence.

While there is nothing to establish it, it seems reasonable to believe that the John M. Boothby here listed as a member of the faculty is the same who was medical examiner in Somerset County in 1919-20, already referred to.

Tascus Atwood, who was listed as the professor of medical jurisprudence, was an Auburn lawyer and for years one of the outstanding members of that profession in the state. He died a number of years ago.

Tuition Moderate

It is in this year, 1887, that the first intimation of what it cost to attend the college is had, for then in addition to the faculty announcement carried in the register there was in the advertising columns an announcement designed to attract students. This advertisement set forth that the college was located in College Hall, Lisbon Street, Lewiston and that its course of lectures would open on Jan. 6, and continue for 16 weeks.

College Hall was located in the building at Lisbon and Chestnut Streets, then, as now, owned by Bates College, being a part of the endowment which the man for whom the college was named gave Bates. The name College Hall, however, was bestowed upon it by the Eclectic Medical School of Maine, because it was then known in the city as Bates Hall.

The announcement set forth that the tuition for this course was \$75, but that female students were admitted for half price. The matriculation fee was \$5. Tickets, dissection etc., were \$10, while the graduation fee was \$25.

It was also announced that rooms and good board were to be had for \$3.50 a week.

Marked Busted

The school went through that term and then it ceased to exist, because the legislature of 1887, marked it busted and done, with chapter 272 of the private and special laws, which read as follows:

Section 1. Chapter seventy-four of the private and special laws of eighteen hundred and eighty one, entitled an act to establish the Eclectic Medical College of Maine, approved Feb. twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and eighty one, is hereby repealed.

Section 2. This act shall take effect June one, eighteen hundred and eighty seven.

"Approved, March 16, 1887."

From all that it is possible to find in the papers of the time this action by the Legislature came as a surprise, following an expose of the practices of the college early in February of that year.

Information Pours in On Medical College

JAN 3 - 1945

By SAM E. CONNER

Surprising how many people knew something about the old Eclectic Medical College of Maine here in Lewiston. But that was after the story about it appeared in last Saturday night's Journal Magazine. Before that; say, in an almost four months' dig for information on the school I was able to find but one man, Mr. Everett Davis, who could help much and he was frank to say that his knowledge was decidedly vague.

But Saturday night it was different.

I had the phone receiver to the ear a good part of the time listening to callers who began the conversation about like this:

"I've just read your story about the old medical college —"

From there on they told their recollections of it and of Dr. Ben York —Howard Teague thinks that his name was Samuel, not Benjamin. Some pointed out errors in the story, others merely recited incidents about the college and York, which they recalled.

It was all very interesting. Especially was it pleasing because those who suggested that there was an error also made the comment that it was surprising how accurate the story was as a whole in view of the long time since the school went out of existence and the difficulty of locating information about it.

Location

About the most uncertain thing about the story or rather the facts concerning the college was its location in the city. Mr. Teague had no recollection of it ever having been located in the College Hall. He thought it was at City Hall for a time, while George Elder asserted that it was in Greeley Hall which was on Main Street. In support of his claim was an advertisement which appeared in the Lewiston city directory during the eighties, which stated it was located there.

It seemed to be pretty definite that Greeley Hall was the place where the college was, but another gentleman, who declined to give his name, said he had very definite recollections of its being on Park Street.

It was, he was very positive, lo-

cated in a building which stood next to the old Park Street Church (now the Salvation Army headquarters.)

None of these things proved that the statement in the story of Saturday night that it was in College Hall was wrong. That was based on an advertisement of the college which appeared in the Maine State Register for 1886, which gave its location as "College Hall, Lisbon Street, Lewiston, Maine."

Likewise different editions of the Register were the source of information for the names of the school's faculty members.

Nice Old Gentleman

Most of those who phoned talked more about Dr. York, for he was a doctor, who practiced in these cities for a number of years. Mr. Teague as a boy and young man knew him very well, did chores for him at times. Dr. York, he says, lived on Park Street, in a building next to the church. The Teagues at that time lived on the same street in a building which stood next to where the Davis Cadillac Co., is now located.

He says that Dr. York was a nice old gentleman, who was an eclectic physician. Mr. Teague's father took some treatments from the Doctor. Howard recalls that Dr. York had some special treatments for certain diseases which, as he recalls, were electric.

I want to say in connection with Mr. Teague that any newspaper reporter seeking information concerning those earlier days here will find in them the two best sources and most authoritative in the city. Digging on this story I made a dozen or more efforts to contact Mr. Teague, but was unable to do so for one reason or another.

Keeping in mind what he says of the location of Dr. York's office it is not at all improbable that the gentleman, who was so positive about the location of the college, may have had that in mind.

Gave Baths

Frank Towle, retired veteran printer, for years a valued employee in the old Journal printshop, agrees

with Mr. Teague and adds some interesting information.

In his last years, according to Towle, Dr. York did have his office on Park Street, just as Teague says, but when he first came to Lewiston his office was located on Lincoln Street. He practiced there for a number of years, says Towle. As with Teague Mr. Towle says Dr. York was a very nice man. At one time or another, he says, he was a patient of York's.

The special treatments which Dr. York gave, according to Mr. Towle, were baths. He doesn't say just what they were but it is possible they were in the nature of what was at that time known as vapor baths and modifications of which are still used in some of the establishments which still use baths for the treatment of certain ailments. It is his recollection that a special bath which York gave was one in which he first anointed the patient with vaseline, then put him in the bath for a certain length of time and concluded the treatment with a vigorous rub down.

Member Of School Board

George Elder says that Dr. York was a respected citizen, which he feels is indicated by the fact that in 1873, he was a member of the Lewiston School Board.

He said that the statement that Joseph Blanchard, one of the incorporators, was a grain dealer was an error. He knew the man and never to his knowledge was he in that business. His place of business was in what is now the Prince Shoe Store on Bates Street. Blanchard, he says, was known as the richest man in Lewiston in his day. He built the big brick house on Main Street, which was the home of Dr. Ezra White for so many years. When he died, adds Mr. Elder, his estate inventoried but \$30,000.

Frank Sleeper of Sabattus has no recollections of the old college, but he does know that his father, the late Dr. Sleeper of that place was a member of the Legislature in 1887 and that he introduced and put through a bill which put this college, as well as about 13 others in Maine out of business.

In closing it may be mentioned that Mr. Teague is very much of the opinion that Dr. Charles Donnell, who operated a hospital and compounded many proprietary medicines at Thorne's Corner for a number of years and figured much in the news and courts 25 years ago, was a graduate of the old college.

Lewiston Became Incorporated Town 150 Years Ago

BY SAM E. CONNER

One-hundred-and-fifty years ago tomorrow, Thursday, February 18, 1795, an important event in history took place.

Lewiston became an incorporated town in the District of Maine, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

It was the 95th town to be organized in the district.

That same year there was established in the town a postoffice and Dan Read was named postmaster by President George Washington. Read held that position for 39 years and 9 months. Although he was not among the very first settlers of the town, not coming here until 1788, he was one of the outstanding figures in the community as available records demonstrate. He was one of the first selectmen, serving 26 years on that board and being chairman for 12. He was town clerk for 15 years and represented the town in the General Court of Massachusetts in 1804-5, as well as in the Maine Legislature in 1820, 1823 and 1825.

One cannot help but wonder what Dan Read and those leading men of Maine would say could they come back and take a look at this great industrial center in the heart of Maine today.

Had Seen the Start

Read died in 1854 and so had witnessed the start of the industrial development which began in 1834, when the Lewiston Falls Manufacturing Company was organized for the purpose of building a woolen mill here. The plant was built and started operations that same year. Lincoln Mill also was in operation nine years before his death, so that the old gentleman had an opportunity to see that the city was growing, for it went into operation in 1846.

The first mill connected with the textile industry upon which the prosperity of Lewiston has been built antedated the Lewiston Falls Company's plant by 25 years, for in 1809 Col. Little built a building near the Falls which he used for a saw mill, grist mill and a filling and carding mill.

Records aren't very clear, but the assumption is that this filling and carding mill was the purpose of meeting the needs of the farmers of the surrounding country. To it they brought their yearly crop of wool, after their flocks had been sheared in the Spring, where it was prepared for spinning. They took it back home and the women folks of the family, wives and daughters, spun it into yarn and then, without much question, wove the yarn into cloth from which the clothing of the family was made.

This assumption is upon the well known fact that this was the prevailing custom in the rural regions of Maine and most of the States at that time.

This mill burned in 1914, but was rebuilt and stood until 1850. Whether it continued in operation all

those years is something which is not easily determined. If it did, it is not at all impossible that after the Lewiston Falls manufacturing company started operations it did work for that mill, but that is merely conjecture.

First Canal

Many suppose that the canals which now supply the great cotton mills of the city with power were the first built here, but that is not correct.

In 1851, Col. Josiah Little, the same who built the carding mill, with others erected a saw mill at the head of the falls and dug a canal from the river to it and around below the falls to provide it with power. This mill was leased by Capt. Daniel Holland, another whose name figures prominently in the early days of the city. It burned the next year, 1852. It was rebuilt and operated, as is apparent from available records, by Capt. Holland until 1856, when S. R. Bearce & Co. took it over. Later it was acquired by the city and the original pumping station for the municipal water system was erected on its site.

Water was then taken from the river, pumped to a reservoir from which it was distributed to the city by gravity. This system continued for many years, before the present source of water supply, Lake Auburn, was taken on.

Early Settlers

On that day in 1795, when the General Court of Massachusetts moved Lewiston, which had been known as Lewistown, into the status of an incorporated place, with a regular organization of officials, it wasn't so much of a place, as compared to the present city. Another reasonable assumption that it was something like Lisbon Center, Sabattus, or Minot Corner. It probably had some wooden sidewalks, but that is only guess work. The streets were clay roads, with gravel coatings which were beds of mud in Spring and Fall, all but impassable. Chances are there weren't any street lights. If there were they consisted of a few oil lamps in the center of the business section.

All communication with the outside world was by stage coach and tote team, over roads identical with those in town. This is indicated by the term of the grant under which Lewiston was settled and developed. This grant was to Jonathan Bagley and Moses Little of Newbury, Mass., and was made in 1768.

Part of these conditions were that they should settle 50 families on the grant before June, 1774, and clear a road to Royalsborough (Durham) to meet one to be constructed from that point to Topsham.

Building Restrictions

Again it will surprise some of those who fume because they have to go to the municipal officers, represented by the building inspector, and secure a permission to erect a building by showing just what kind of a structure it is to be, to know that even then, back in 1768, there were imposed building restrictions here in Lewiston.

'Tis so.

A further condition of the grant was that all houses must be 16-20 and 7 foot posts. We'd call that a small camp for Summer use at some of the nearby ponds, but the guess is that the settlers regarded that as a fairly sizeable house.

As is probably fairly well known among the residents of the city, Paul Hildreth was the first settler to come here. He arrived in the Summer of 1770, built his 16x20 log cabin near the river bank, a short distance down stream from where the Continental Mill now stands. The next man to come was David Pettingill, who arrived in the Fall of the same year, as did Lawrence J. Harris, the third settler.

Harris was the first industrialist of the place, for he erected the frame of the first saw mill that Fall, completing it in the Spring of 1771. He did not bring his family here until the next Spring. It is not clear from records whether he spent the Winter of 1770-71, here or not, but there is some reason for doubting this. But his was the first mill in Lewiston and in it was sawed most of the lumber used by those first settlers in erecting their homes, stores, barns and other buildings.

Lewiston continued as a town until 1863, for while the act incorporating it was a city was approved by the Legislature on March 15, 1861, the completion of the new organization and putting it into operation was not completed for two years, March 16, 1863.

Lewiston's City Hall Dedicated 52 Years Ago

MAY 19 1945

BY EARL T. BARRON

Fifty-two years ago today Lewiston was celebrating a gala occasion, the dedication of the new city building. This structure was erected to replace the edifice destroyed in a devastating fire.

Dedication services were attended by a large crowd and, according to a program of the ceremonies, saved through the years, an elaborate affair was enjoyed.

The city of Lewiston put out a four page program for those attending. It carried a large picture of the new building on its front cover. In those days the city building was the only structure occupying the lot facing on Pine Street. The lot, where the building, now housing the Atherton Company, was located, was a beautiful lawn. Really, Lewiston now possessed an excellent piece of property and well worth an elaborate dedication.

So on Thursday, May 19, 1892 all eyes were on the new Lewiston City hall. The day opened with an inspection of the building. From 10 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon doors of the city hall were opened for the inspection. During these hours citizens of Lewiston, and, yes, other communities, moved through the building from cellar to attic; from one room to the other. Nothing but approval was voiced, according to one report. During the inspection hours, from 2 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon an orchestra from the Lewiston Brigade band helped pep things up with an "excellent" musical program.

Of course the evening events found a greater turn out of the population than during the afternoon. Promptly at 7:30 o'clock the full Brigade Band, with Fred G. Payne handling the baton, opened the program of the evening with a "stirring" musical program.

Following the opening musical program, Hon. Daniel J. McGillicuddy, chairman of the building commissioners, called the meeting to order. After a few words to the gathering Mr. McGillicuddy called upon Hon. William H. Newell, Lewiston's mayor, to preside the remainder of the evening. The Rev. George H. Howe, well known clergyman, was then called upon to offer prayer. Following which came singing by a chorus from the Lewiston public schools. This section of the program was under the direction of Prof. Melvin E. Chase. Master Dwight R. Pennell served as accompanist.

Mr. McGillicuddy then presented a report as chairman of the building committee in which he gave a detailed account of the progress of the construction of the new city hall from the time the first spadeful of

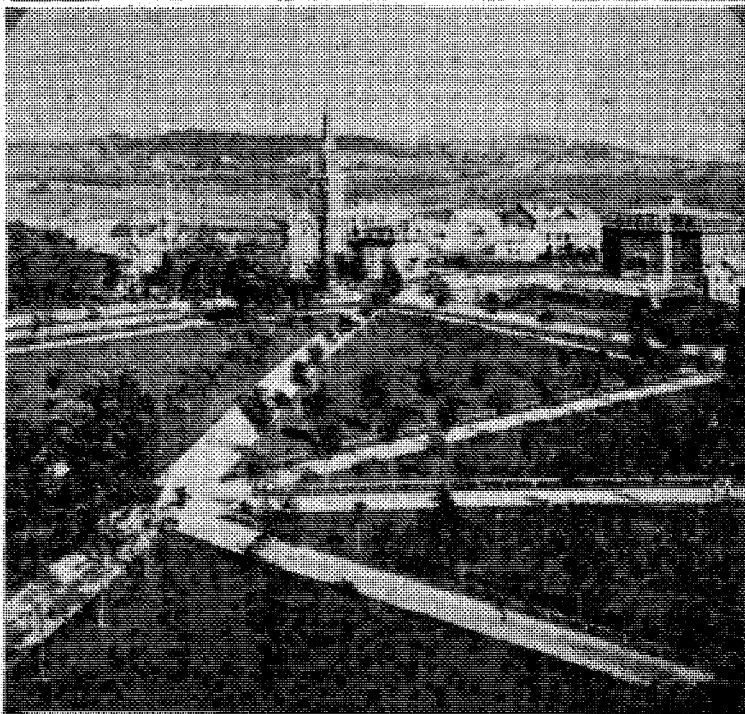
earth was dug up to the dedication services.

Then came the big event of the evening—the presentation of the keys of city hall to Mayor Newell who accepted them in speech of acceptance, well received by the audience. Following this feature the Brigade Band went into action again.

Next came a few well chosen words by Hon. William F. Frye and by former Governor Garcelon. These remarks were followed by the singing of the chorus of America. The audience then heard brief remark by Rev. Martyn Summerbelt, D. D., Rev. T. H. Wallace, Rev. D. V. Gwilym, Frank I. Noble, esq., "other prominent citizens and invited guests."

Winding up the evening the chorus was joined by the audience in the singing of "Home, Sweet Home."

In the dedication program the building committee was made up of: Hon. D. J. McGillicuddy, chairman, Cyrus Greely, Seth D. Wakefield, Roscoe C. Reynolds, George D. Armstrong, William Dickey, P. J. Cronin, secretary, under the heading city government were the names: Hon. A. M. Garcelon, Frank W. Parker, L. J. Martel, Arion C. Pierce, Thomas C. Spillane, Frank E. Wilcox, Frank Peltier. The citizens committee was made up of Hon. William D. Pennell, Col. A. B. Nealey, John N. Wood, Hon. Horace C. Little, Col. P. W. Dana, James A. Walsh, I. B. Isaacson. Special committee on the dedication program: William D. Pennell, George D. Armstrong, Cyrus Greely.



LEWISTON CITY PARK as it looked in the 19th century.

History of Early Lewiston Centers On Corner Now Known As Hospital Square

By MARY LOUISE STETSON

Hospital Square was not always a Quiet Zone. Back in the 19th century, it was the business center of the town of Lewiston. It was called Lowell's Corner after a storekeeper named James Lowell. He moved to Lewiston in 1812 or a year later. He selected a good site for a grocery store on Main Street near the corner of Main and Hammond. (On a map of 1873, Hammond Street is called Bridge Street. Lowell's Corner is indicated as that section of Lewiston where Bridge, Main and Sabattus Streets come together. For more than 40 years, the name of "Jim" Lowell was a familiar one in the business center of Lewiston. Trade must have been good for about ten years after Mr. Lowell's arrival, he built a two-story house for business where he kept store until his retirement in 1855.

In 1825, he built as a home a two-story house in the same neighborhood but farther up Main Street. When James Lowell retired, he sold both these buildings and moved to his farm on Webster Street. For many years, the Main Street residence was the home of S. R. Bearce. It is so marked in the Androscoggin Atlas of 1873. It is remembered today as the office building of the Central Maine General Hospital, a fine old house painted white with green blinds. As long as it remained at Lowell's Corner, it had the appearance of a home.

Other Business

But "Jim" Lowell was not wholly dependent for a living on his grocery store. He ran, also, a large tannery located on the south side of Main Street and prospered as a manufacturer of boots and harnesses.

Reverses came in 1847, however, when his bark mill was burned. He never rebuilt it. This early storekeeper and manufacturer of Lowell's Corner died at his Webster Street farm, July 27, 1858.

The First Store

"Jim" Lowell's was not the first store, however, opened in the business section of Lewiston that came to be known as Lowell's Corner. To David Davis, whose name figures conspicuously in the early history of Lewiston, belongs the credit as the first storekeeper. In fact, it was recorded that Mr. Davis's store "was sufficient to supply the settlers for a number of years."

A Competitor

The loss of a bark mill was by no means the only misfortune that befell the man who gave the name to Lowell's Corner. In 1815 or 16, Nathan Reynolds came to Lewiston. Just at the close of the eighteenth century, in 1799, David and Jackson Davis had built a house about where the Buick block now stands. The basement had been used as a store. The store, it seems, was vacant, though, when Nathan Reynolds needed a place to set up business at Lowell's Corner. He took it and soon became a rival of James Lowell, himself.

It was in 1822 that James Lowell built his two-story building for use as a grocery store. Soon after, Nathan Reynolds built a two-story building at the corner of Main and Sabattus Streets. That, too was to be used as a store, and the Reynolds building was made of brick. The Main Street residence of James Lowell had been built only two years when Nathan Reynolds built across the street a two-story brick residence. After Mr. Reynolds's death, the brick house was

Miss Mary Louise Stetson, whose sudden death occurred last Tuesday evening, was one of the Lewiston Journal Magazine's most valued contributors. Her knowledge of the early history of Lewiston-Auburn was equalled by only a few people in Maine. She was a tireless research worker who could present her findings in a readable, interesting style. Through the years that she had written for the Journal Magazine she had built up a large reading audience who will deeply regret to learn of her death.

The accompanying article on the early history of Hospital Square, Lewiston, was sent in by Miss Stetson only a short time before her death. Although she had considerable trouble with her eyes for the past year Miss Stetson continued her research work, with the aid of her sisters, and compiled a valuable record of the early history of these Twin Cities.

remodeled and enlarged. Back in the 1890's, it was the home of J. Y. Scruton, Esq. Today it is the home of Dr. Wallace Webber, only a stone's throw from the Central Maine General Hospital where once was "Jim" Lowell's two-story residence built of wood.

"Jim" Lowell's store, however, was the only one left at Lowell's Corner in 1849 when the railroad came to Lewiston. There may have been some comfort to the storekeeper growing old in the business that, though he wasn't the first to open a store at Lowell's Corner, he was the last of his contemporaries to keep one located there.

Reminiscences Of Lyman Prescott

Part of the data already given in this little story was gleaned from Lyman Prescott's Reminiscences of 1850. This Auburn man remembered the exact locations of several buildings familiar to the inhabitants of Lowell's Corner at the middle of the 19th century. Where the red brick Free Baptist Church stood in Mr. Prescott's day and where the vine-covered United Baptist Church stands in ours was then a schoolhouse already so decrepit that it was about to be torn down. An imaginary stroll up Main Street would bring a Lewiston citizen of today to the schoolhouse; to the building occupied by a cabinet maker named George Smith; to the one where J. P. Longley made harnesses; then to "Jim" Lowell's grocery store.

According to the History of Androscoggin County, published in 1891, J. P. Longley came to Lewiston from Greene in 1847. Though the firm name changed and perhaps, too, the actual location of the business, Mr. Longley had come to stay. The History contains the following bit of interesting information:

"This is the oldest business house in the city and manufactures and sells furs, fine harnesses, trunks, traveling bags etc., makes a specialty of trotting and racing boots."

Before the rise and fall of Lowell's Corner, Greene Corner was a popular business center for this community. It was, too, an intellectual center: Lewiston boys and girls were sent to Greene for "superior education."

Teachers, Schools at Lowell's Corner

In 1799, the year that David and Jackson Davis opened a store in the basement of their new house at the corner of Main and Sabattus Streets, or it may have been even a few years earlier than that, Dan Read, Esq. opened a school at Lowell's Corner. A house that belonged to Chase Wedgewood, the grandfather of Dr. M. C. Wedgewood, served very well as a schoolhouse. It was located not far from the town pump.

Merely as a teacher, Dan Read could not have earned his life. He was, also, a worthy citizen of the community, taking an active part for more than 30 years in affairs of the town. For 26 years, he served on the board of selectmen, twelve years as chairman. He was town clerk for fifteen years. In 1795 George Washington appointed Dan Read as first postmaster of Lewiston, a position held for almost forty years. While Maine was still a part of Massachusetts, he served as representative to the General Court in 1804 and 5. Maine became a separate state in 1820. The schoolmaster of Lowell's Corner was a member of the first Maine Legislature. He served again in 1825.

According to the Androscoggin County Atlas of 1873, "schools were taught undoubtedly more or less of the time in this district before the erection of the schoolhouse in 1804."

This is probably the building to which Lyman Prescott referred, for it stood at the corner of Main and Bates Streets. By 1850, it might easily have become "out of repair."

First High School

In the Summer of that year, a two-story schoolhouse was built on or near the present site of the United Baptist Church. When in the Fall, the village of Lewiston's first high school was organized, the two-story building erected on the site of the old one housed both the high school, taught by Mr. George W. Jewett, and the grammar school, taught by Miss Augusta Pillsbury.

Lowell's Corner in 1873

The compiler of the Lewiston and Auburn Directory for 1872-73 had his troubles as he clearly states in the preface of his work. Five years had passed since a directory of the two cities had been published. He writes, "The chief difficulty we have experienced in properly designating the residences or places of business of citizens, has been owing to the incomplete and irregular manner in which the streets, almost without exception, are numbered. Our canvassers state that they often found the same number repeated two or three times on the same street and in other cases, disparities of still more perplexing character."

Nearly three quarters of a century later, this writer of a feature article sympathizes with him heartily. However, assisted by what his canvassers and the Androscoggin County Atlas maker of 1873 accomplished, she attempts a word picture of Lowell's Corner in that year. Fortunately for her, St. Joseph's Church stands today exactly where it stood in 1873, on the corner of Main and Blake Streets. P. Maney, railroad contractor and truckman, owner of the Androscoggin Trotting Park, used the church as a signboard to his office directly across Main Street. Below his office, was the Free Baptist Church, replaced today by the United Baptist Church and above were several buildings, and then what, apparently, was the residence of J. L. Hayes for the grocery store

of J. L. Hayes & Company was located on Main Street but across Blake from the Catholic church.

The corner of Main and Bates Streets seems to have been a most desirable location for business concerns in 1873 and thereabouts. The directory gives that as the business address of Benjamin Litchfield, grocer; Halsey H. Richardson, painter; Charles F. Nevens, who kept a livery stable; Day, Nealey & Company, grocers; Charles H. Dearing, blacksmith; Nathaniel D. Smith, horse-shoer; and W. L. Lothrop, hairdresser.

Bonnallie's Block was located at the corner of Main and Bates Streets. Quite likely it offered housing facilities for some of the business concerns at that popular business section of Lewiston.

Sabattus Street was equally popular as a residential district.

Early Residents

In 1873, an M. Lowell lived at the corner of Bridge (Hammond) Street and Main and just beyond him on Bridge Street, a D. Lowell. The residences of M. Lowell, S. R. Bearce, E. H. Sleeper, and A. C. Mitchell occupied the lots now belonging to the Central Maine General Hospital. Just across Main Street, was the home of J. Y. Scruton, the high school building, and the homes of R. C. Pingree, and Dr. Edgcomb.

David Davis, James Lowell, and Nathan Reynolds, those pioneer shopkeepers, chose their location for business so well that a quarter of a century after the coming of the railroad, other business concerns took over the old sites at Lowell's Corner.

The years have brought many changes to Lowell's Corner, but not all of them are for the worse. The business district moved to Lower Main Street, then back up the hill to Lisbon and Main Streets. The Central Maine General Hospital, opened nine years before the close of the nineteenth century, is now in the twentieth, the outstanding feature of that neighborhood and certainly not one that with safety could be replaced by store or school or private residence.

Lewiston Incorporated as Town By Massachusetts 150 Years Ago

MAY 26 1945
BY MARION COOPER

A Lewiston resident standing in the busy center of his city, today, watching the lines of traffic continuously moving in and out of the business section, observing his fellow townsmen as they hurry to and from their work in the large factories and contemplating the many stores that offer their wares to the purchaser, has difficulty in visualizing this same Lewiston 150 years ago when it was first incorporated as a village.

For in February, 1795 when the settlements of Lewiston and Gore were granted a charter as the town of Lewiston by the Massachusetts Legislature, there was but a sprinkling of modest dwellings clustered about the great falls.

Although there are few records of Lewiston's early history, the directory, issued in 1863, contains a brief account of the pioneer days of this now flourishing manufacturing center.

Original occupants of this part of Maine were the Anasagunticooks, who had a fort above the Great Falls that was destroyed by the English during King Phillip's War in 1690. It was during this war that the Indians fell upon the first settler, Mr. Purchas, proprietor of the Pejepscot Grant, killed his cattle and carried away most of his effects, because apparently he had acquired large sections of land from them and they hated him. The Pejepscot Grant included about 200,000 acres in what are now Harpswell, Brunswick, Durham, Danville, Poland, Minot, Topsham, Bowdoin, Lisbon and Lewiston.

First Settler

Actual history begins when Paul Hildreth "a man of roving disposition, yet not wanting in courage," came here from New Gloucester, bringing with him his wife and child who was but a few months old. He erected a log house on the east bank of the Androscoggin, about a half mile below the falls. However, fire destroyed his home and he was forced to take his family back to New Gloucester for the winter.

Miller

The same year Lawrence Jackson Harris of Dracut, Mass., described as a "man of feeble constitution, besides having the responsibility of a large family, yet possessed of untiring energy and perseverance," with eight workmen for the purpose came to the wilderness in Maine of erecting a saw and grist mill pursuant with arrangements with Capt. Moses Little of Newburyport and Col. Bagley then the Pejepscot claimants, held by them under the Warumbee deed.

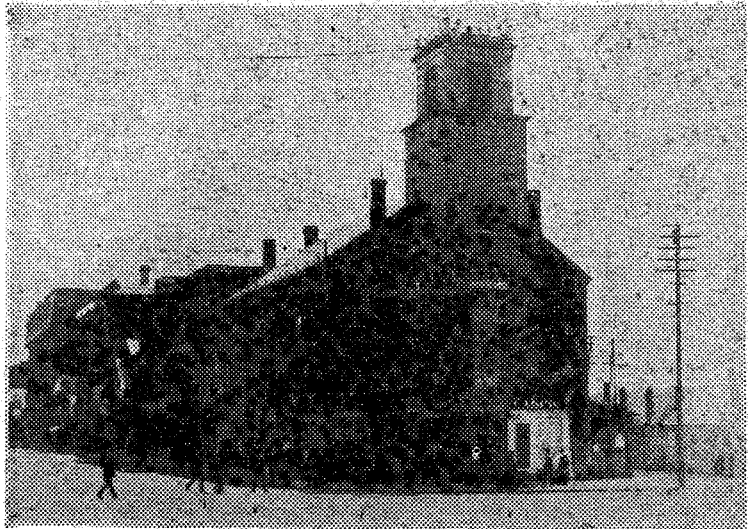
Mr. Harris' compensation was to be two large lots of land, embracing the entire village as far east as Lowell's Corner in addition to land belonging to the Franklin Company, the title to which remained in the family until 1810.

Each of his five sons was to have 100 acres.

Abner, the oldest son, remained with his father and succeeded him in his possessions. John claimed and developed the lot known as the Thompson farm, and Silas and Moses settled in Greene, where their sons succeeded them.

First White Child

The youngest son, Barron, was the



EARLY CHURCH in Lewiston was the Free Baptist at the head of Lisbon on the land now occupied by the Androscoggin Savings Bank.

first white child born in Lewiston.

After erecting the frame of a saw mill in 1770, Harris returned to Dracut and in the Spring brought his family back with him to settle permanently.

Pioneering

The story of their trip from Dracut, bringing their household possessions with them, is a tale of real pioneering. With his family and workmen, Harris embarked in two light boats in which they stored all their tools, goods and provisions. They went the entire length of the Merrimac river from Dracut to its mouth and then took their boats in tow of a sailing vessel. Disembarking at Freeport, which was then known as Harraseeket, they traveled through the wilderness for ten miles to Royalstown (Durham) where they took to the river again and "by hauling the great rips, they arrived at Twenty Mile Falls with safety to all those who embarked with them."

Previous to Harris' return, Paul Hildreth came back from New Gloucester, accompanied by David Pettengill and his family. A man named Varnum brought his family from Dracut and they all settled near the falls. John Harris, the second son, lived in the section where Main and Sabattus Streets join.

Amos Davis was the next to arrive, March 9, 1773. He surveyed and laid out 50 100 acre lots near the Harris mill location. Mr. Davis, who came for the Pejepscot claimants, made a permanent settlement and it was he who gave the land for the old Davis cemetery where he is buried.

Thomas and John Coburn came in 1773 and in 1775 Israel Herrick and family came from Boxwood, Mass., to "the plantation of Lewiston."

John Herrick and his son settled at Barker's Mills and for many years kept a public house. He was active in all the early organization of the town, for many years served as selectman as representative to the Massachusetts Legislature and as a delegate when the constitution of Maine was formed in 1820.

Early Names

During the Revolutionary War many more settlers came to the struggling new community. Among them were James Garcelon who came in 1776 with five sons and two daughters. One of the sons was William Garcelon, father of Colonel Garcelon, who is said to have "occupied a place of trust in the affairs of the town for many years and was universally esteemed for his urbanity of manner and sympathy for the oppressed and needy," and in the 1863 report was spoken of as being "among the few aged persons in town whose mind is in no wise impaired."

Previous to 1780 settlers included Josiah Mitchell, Joel Thompson, Stephen Coffin, Mark Pettengill, Joel and Jesse Wright and Solomon Cummings.

Lewis' Falls

There has been considerable conjecture as to the manner in which Lewiston received its name, many wondering why it was not named for the first settler, Paul Hildreth. The legend, according to the 1863 directory, is that the Legislature of

Massachusetts gave the settlement the name of Lewiston, deriving it from that of an Indian, Lewis, who perished in the following manner.

"His favorite beverage having mastered his reason, he embarked in his birch canoe above the falls, and when the rush of water was about to engulf him, he raised himself erect in his canoe and he said the falls should be called Lewis' Falls, which name was adopted for the town."

Governor Samuel Adams signed the act of incorporation, Feb. 18, 1795 and Benjamin Merrill was empowered to call the first town meeting. Until 1814, however, the town was still commonly called Twenty Mile Falls.

Dan Read came from Massachusetts to the Plantation in 1788. He was the first postmaster and served for 40 years. He was collector, treasurer, selectman, town clerk, and a representative to the Massachusetts Legislature.

Church And School

Lewiston had been a town for 17 years before it boasted a church structure, erected by the Society of Friends in 1812. In 1818 a wooden house containing 86 pews was erected by the Baptists at a cost of \$2,260. The first school was taught by Daniel Davis in a log house near the falls. Dan Read also taught school and William Bond, called Master Bond, taught part of each year from 1807 to 1839.

Manufacturing Starts

By 1857 there were 330 families. First development of Lewiston's manufacturing strength came in 1836 when the Great Androscoggin Falls Mill Dam, Lock and Canal Co. was formed with a capital stock of \$500,000. The name was changed in 1845 to the Lewiston Water Power Co., and the stock in 1849 was valued at \$2,000,000. In 1854 the Franklin Co. was incorporated with a capital of \$1,000,000 and in 1856 it bought out the effects of the Lewiston Water Power Co. Ten years later it owned all the water power at the falls.

Thereafter manufacturing was on the increase until at the time Lewiston became a city there were a number of large textile mills as well as "a corn and flour mill having four runs of stone capable of making 150 pounds of flour a day and a saw mill having one single and one gang of saws, capable of cutting five million feet of lumber annually."

Bates College was chartered March 16, 1855 under the name of the Maine State Seminary and seven years later was renamed Bates in honor of Benjamin E. Bates of Boston.

Growth Rapid

The town grew rapidly, for in 1850 the population was 4,584; in 1856 it was 5,873, and in 1863, 8,761. The first bank, the Lewiston Falls Bank, was incorporated in 1852 with a capital of \$200,000. Lewiston Light Infantry, instituted in 1855, had its armory in Lisbon block on Lisbon Street. First cultural organization was the Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Library Association, established in 1860 with rooms in the Lisbon block. It was established through "the liberality of the principal manufacturing companies located in Lewiston and is designed to extend to the citizens facilities for the culture of the mind, placing within the means of all worthy persons the priceless privilege of a first class public library." It contained 3,000 volumes.

First Tavern

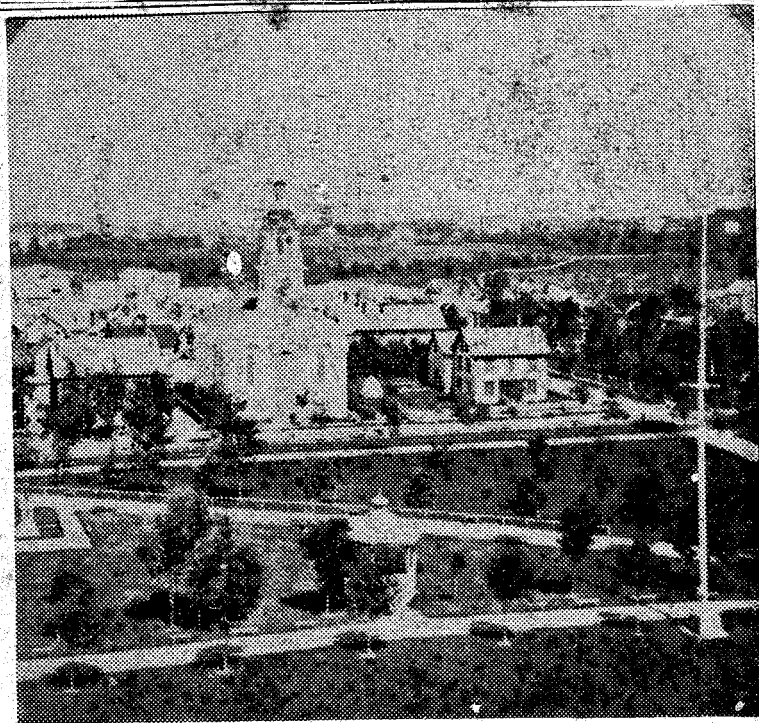
Col. John Nash, whose descendants still live in Lewiston, kept the first tavern. It was erected in 1824 on the site of the Henry A. Free dwelling at Main and High Streets. There was no Main Street then, but the tavern was on the Post road through Greene. The Nash farm was one of the oldest in the settlement and some of the Bates College buildings are built on part of the fields which are now College Street.

Col. Nash had one of the first clocks ever brought into Lewiston. It was purchased June 15, 1830 and cost \$25. In 1814 Col. Nash was town collector and served as deputy sheriff in 1827.

11 Town Clerks

In the 68 years that Lewiston functioned as a town there were but 11 town clerks and the last one, E. P. Tobie, held the office for 24 years. Likewise Mr. Tobie served the city in the same capacity until his death in 1875, making a total of 35 years in the service of Lewiston.

In his address at the first city inaugural exercises in 1863, Mayor J. B. Ham quoted from the few rec-



BATES STREET UNIVERSALIST CHURCH with Lewiston city park in the foreground.

ords extant showing that in 1807 Lewiston voted on separation from Massachusetts, forty for and 46 against. In 1816 the vote for 73 for and 83 against, and in 1819, 92 for and 36 against.

The original fire department, prior to 1849 was a single hand tub with no suction and about 100 feet of leading hose. It was dragged as near the fire as possible and then a double line fed with water. Men passed pails to each other from the nearest source of water supply and the women and boys handed the empty pails back down the line.

In 1849, a village corporation was formed for the purpose of fighting fires and two modern fire engines were purchased. These each had suction hose and each was equipped with 500 feet of hose. There was much rivalry between the crews and one crew accepted a wager in 1857, that it could move its engine from the station and pour water on the Putnam Block in Auburn within ten minutes. The feat was accomplished in four and a half minutes with no horses to drag the engine.

By the time Lewiston grew to city size there were 13 school districts. Each district, except No. 2, had one school each. That one had 16 schools: "One high of which J. D. Stetson, Esq. is principal; one grammar under the charge of J. B. Brackett; four intermediate and ten primaries. The schools of Lewiston rank second to none in the state as to the manner in which they are

conducted and the thoroughness with which every branch of study is pursued. Under the charge of able and experienced directors they cannot but be classed among the very first of the noble public schools of New England." In District No. 2 there were 1,790 pupils; in all there were 2,565.

There were seven church edifices; two Freewill Baptists, one Calvinist Baptist, one Methodist, one Congregational, one Episcopal and one Roman Catholic. Town evaluation in 1860 was \$3,864,616.

The Androscoggin time table for the 1860's stated that trains left the depot in the rear of the Jules block, Main street, for Bath, Brunswick, and Portland. The Maine Central Station was at the head of Bates Street.

There was a stage to Turner that went through West Auburn, North Auburn, Turner, North Turner and Livermore daily on arrival of cars from Boston, and connected with trains to Portland and Boston. Passengers were forwarded to Canton. J. J. Golder's line via Sabattisville and Litchfield Corner went to Gardiner every Monday and Friday, and Horace Wright ran a stage from Auburn to Livermore Center via West Auburn and East Turner, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

After Lewiston was incorporated as a city in 1863, the records were kept more carefully and progress and growth of the little city may be traced in more detail to its present flourishing state.

Growth of Library Facilities Has Paralleled Lewiston's Development

MAY 26 1945

BY EARL T. BARRON

In 1863, the year in which the city of Lewiston became incorporated, a group of the community's leading businessmen established a library. This decade, following 1860, has been noted as a period of remarkable progress for the "city by the falls." The population increased by leaps and bounds. From a community of 7,500 souls it increased to 13,600.

It was during this time of business activity that the men whose ability so much of the success was due, recognizing the intellectual need founded the Manufacturers and Mechanics Library Association. It was incorporated by an Act of Legislature, Jan. 26, 1861, financed by contributions from four mills: the Bates Manufacturing Co., Hill Manufacturing Co., Androscoggin Mills and the Franklin Co., by their agents contributing \$500 each, making the original fund \$2,000. The library was located in College Block until rooms were furnished it by the city when the new city building was completed in 1872.

Supported by Subscription

This was not a free library as it was supported by subscription fees of which there were two classes, membership and subscription. According to the constitution of the library, membership was possible for any person attaining the age of 18 years, of good moral character, "who also receives a majority vote of the government, pays \$8 into the treasury and subscribes to the constitution and by-laws" any resident of Lewiston or Auburn was eligible to enjoy the privileges by becoming subscribers on payment of \$1 per year of 50 cents the quarter. This library was well patronized and increased in number of volumes until it possessed in January, 1890, 12,000 volumes.

For nearly 26 years Manufacturers and Mechanics Library catered to the city's reading wants, collecting valuable books and pamphlets and earning the reputation of being "One of the best libraries in the State."

Disaster Strikes City

On Jan. 8, 1890 a great fire destroyed Lewiston's city hall. Not satisfied with this the fire reached its fiery talons out and destroyed the library. Which also was considered a huge loss to the community. Immediately following the destruction of the building the governors met to arrange for the collection of the insurance and for the care of the 670 books which had been saved because of being in circulation. The insurance amounted to \$8,000 and two years later, when the new city building was ready for their occupancy, the library opened to the



MISS ANNIE L. BARR, librarian at Lewiston library.

public June 20, 1892 with 3,000 volumes ready for distribution.

Free Library Sought

Although this library was doing splendid work in furnishing books of all description for the city's reading public it was not a free library and there arose a sentiment that the community should have a free library.

The first step toward a free library was taken at a meeting of the Mary Dillingham Chapter of the D. A. R. at the home of Mrs. Frank H. Packard in October, 1898, when the ambitious project of the founding of a public library was voted as work for the coming year. The ladies worked with much en-

thusiasm giving whist parties and soliciting gifts so that one year later they were able to have a room in Journal Block. Money and books were given generously by individuals and by the Women's Literary Union so that by June 1900 they had collected sufficient equipment to open a reading room well supplied with magazines and had a library of 200 volumes.

The D. A. R. recognized that this was only a temporary arrangement and began to devise plans to secure a building. At this time Andrew Carnegie, famous millionaire steelman, had given several free libraries in the State, so the secretary made an appeal to him. For some reason, according to an early story, he did not respond to the call and the members of the Chapter were discouraged at the prospect of the undertaking to raise the substantial money necessary for the building.

Senator Frye Helps

Because of the interest of Mrs. W. E. Frye and her daughters, Mrs. Wallace H. White and Mrs. Frank H. Briggs, all members of the local D. A. R. Chapter, Senator Frye, who was a personal friend of Mr. Carnegie, was persuaded to add some argument which would cause the great philanthropist to look with more interest at the need of Lewiston for a library. And it was through his intercession which brought a gift of \$60,000 to the city and resulted in the present library.

In 1901 the gift was announced, the conditions being that the city furnish a suitable lot and guarantee an annual appropriation of \$5,000 for the support of the institution. Mrs. Wallace H. White and Mrs. Frank H. Packard were the committee chosen to present the matter before the city government. The gift was accepted with enthusiasm. Then much discussion arose and many suggestions were given through the press and in other ways as to choice of the lot. City Park, on the spot



LEWISTON LIBRARY'S garden in mid-Summer.



LEWISTON CHILDREN enjoying the reading privileges in the library children's room.

where the flagpole now stands, was a favorite choice and another was the vacant lot on Ash Street next to the post office.

One woman, says an old report, in an elaborate letter wished it built on the site of the Haskell and E. P. Ham grain stores on Main Street, "Which," she said, "would be adjoining the impressive new building I understand B. Peck will begin to put up next Spring."

Pick Lot

The final decision was the purchase of the roller skating rink from the Franklin Co. for the sum of \$9,000 all the advantages and objections to which are apparent today as in 1901.

The architects chosen were Combs and Gibbs of Lewiston. The building contract was awarded to the firm of Greenleaf and Loring of Auburn, whose bid was \$44,187. The highest bid from a Boston firm was \$59,000 and nearer the real cost of the building. Mr. Carnegie's original gift was \$50,000 but when it was evident that the building could not be finished within that sum he generously added \$10,000.

As soon as it became evident that Lewiston was to have a library building the M. & M. Association with splendid public spirit offered to give all their books and property and pay a trained cataloguer to prepare them for circulation. As their library then numbered 10,000 volumes this was a gift of great value and comprised some of the best reference material available. In consideration of this gift the life members of the M. & M. Association were to enjoy the same privileges in the new library as in their own and the society was to be represented by one member on the board of trustees as long as it maintained its organization.

The management of the new library was to be by a board of trustees, seven in number of whom four were to be chosen by the city government; one by the M & M Association; one by the D.A.R. and the mayor to be the seventh, ex-off-

ficio. The first meeting of the board was March 4, 1902, when it organized with W. D. Pennell as president.

Building Completed

The building was completed during the Winter of 1902 and Jan. 12, 1903, at an impressive meeting in the reading room Mayor Furbush in behalf of the building committee officially presented the keys to the trustees. On Feb. 7 the building was opened to the public for inspection and on the following Monday, Feb. 1903, the distribution of books began.

The first librarian was Miss Josephine Beard who came to Lewiston to assist in catalogue work at Bates College. She served two years. Miss Sara Osgood, a lady of high professional standing from the Congressional library, was her successor. She resigned in September, 1906, after serving two years. Miss Evelyn Gilmore, who was already a cataloguer, was appointed and served for eight years.

In 1914, Miss Angie Tracy who had been in the library as an assistant from its first opening was elected librarian and served for five years, until August, 1919. The following year was a period of unsettled conditions as no librarian was elected. Three assistants carried on the work. Then in 1920, Miss Marguerite Chamberlain, a graduate of the library school Simmons College came to the task of attending to an accumulation of problems which made a difficult position for a young librarian.

In August, 1922, Miss Annie L. Barr took over the reins as librarian. Miss Barr has seen to it that the

Lewiston Public Library is as well equipped as any library of its size with general information on almost any subject. Alert, of a discriminating mind, Miss Barr judiciously selects reading matter to meet as far as possible, the demands of this city's reading public.

Advancement of the times have brought about many changes and improvements. Many gifts have given the library many fine books which would otherwise have been unavailable. One of Miss Barr's projects is the collection of fine sets, with duplicates for ordinary use. She says she is "keen on bargains" and if there is money enough to spend on a good trade for this collection she is on hand to buy.

Another project is the mother's library. This is a large section devoted to fine editions of children's books for mothers who want to read to their children. The children's library has a room by itself which is well patronized.

When Miss Barr established the rental section some years ago, persons interested in the library were rather skeptical. "It wasn't a question of doing but of pursuing," Miss Barr said. Volume by volume of fiction was added as money multiplied through rentals until today there is a splendid section of books by the best of modern authors. Many professional and business men are regular customers for the latest detective's yarns.

The art department has a fine collection of mounted prints, posters and the like. From time to time there are many exhibits in the main room of the library.

The library also has the latest editions of local, Boston, and New York newspapers and a wide collection of magazines. Each week the long table in the main room has a display of books and illustrations on some particular subject.

Not the least important project Miss Barr has initiated is the beautiful garden outside the library. Her interest in nature and gardening has made a barren lawn into an artful flower garden with blooms from early Spring to late Fall.

ANDROSCOGGIN Historical and Free PUBLIC LIBRARY

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

Daughters of the American Revolution

—OF—

LEWISTON AND AUBURN.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SECTION I. Subscribers may take one book at a time and retain the same one week, and no longer, under a penalty of six cents a week; but they can take the same volume twice in succession.

SECTION II. If any person lose or materially injure a book belonging to the library, such person shall furnish another volume of equal value or the equivalent in money.

BOOKPLATE of the Androscoggin Historical and Free Public Library, founded by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Frye, Hon. William P. No. 6057
AUG 8 1908 1513
Expires

I, the undersigned, apply for a reader's card in the Public Library, Lewiston, Maine and hereby agree to comply with all the rules and regulations of the Library, and to GIVE IMMEDIATE NOTICE AT THE LIBRARY OF CHANGE OF RESIDENCE.

Signature (in full).....*Wm P Frye*.....
Residence.....*457 Main*.....
School.....*Lewiston Me*.....
Occupation.....
Place of business.....

This card will not be accepted if soiled or folded

SEN. WILLIAM P. FRYE'S application for a reader's card in the Library.

Manufacturers and Mechanics' LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

This may Certify, That.....
is a Life Member of this Association and is entitled to all the privileges granted such a member by the Constitution and By-Laws of the same.)

NELSON DINGLEY, JR., PRESIDENT.

TREASURER.

LIBRARIAN.

Lewiston, 189

NOT TRANSFERABLE.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP CARD in the Manufacturers and Mechanics' Library Association

Miss Barr's charming personality has won her many friends among all classes of people who for one reason or another have found their way to the library. She was born at Belfast where she prepared for college. She was graduated from Wellesley. She was librarian at Belfast and at Rumford before coming to Lewiston.

One can readily understand the work involved in library work by studying the yearly report:

During the year 1944-45, 70,853 books were drawn from the library. This represented a decrease from pre-war years, a factor noted in other public libraries, the report said.

The Lewiston library was open 304 days during the year. It had a monthly average circulation of 5,904 books and a daily average of 233. February 24 was the largest single day of the year, with 407 books issued. November 30 was the duller, with only 76 books registered.

Juveniles took out 12,778 books during the year, or 18% of the grand total circulation. Through the year, 9,132 books in the French language were loaned by the library.

Number of Books

At the beginning of the year, the library had 58,555 books on hand, 2,060 books were added during the year: 52 by the State stipend, 1,702 by the city appropriation, 271 by gifts, 11 by the Kate Jackson Anthony Fund, and 24 by binding periodicals 71 were missing or lost at the end of the year. On April 1, 1945, the library had 60,203 books on hand.

1,229 new registrations for library privileges were received during the year and 297 renewals, a total of 1,526. There were 111 non resident cards and nine temporary cards issued.

The library had 157 magazine subscriptions, including gifts, and 23 newspaper subscriptions. A total of 4,887 overdue notices were sent out.

Fines levied against card holders brought in \$843.53 during the year; rental of books, \$196.02; non resident fees \$53.25; and paper sold, \$14, for a grand total of receipts of \$1,106.80.

Following is a classification of the circulation, as prepared in Miss Barr's report:

General works and periodicals, 249; philosophy, 194; religion, 192; sociology, including education, 1,014; language, 74; science, 267; useful arts, 655; fine arts, 688; literature, 1,470; history and travel, 3,020; biography, 2,102; fiction, 40,177; French fiction, 8,321; French non fiction, 652; juvenile fiction, 9,838; juvenile non fiction, 1,781; juvenile French, 159.

Railroad's Advent Into Lewiston Changed Town Into Thriving City

By WILLIAM A. WHEELER

MAY 18 1946

Lewiston, a century ago, was a little agricultural hamlet with a total population of 1,800. The tremendous natural water power which was later to make it a great industrial city was then available, but almost entirely unused. There were one or two small mills in operation, but for the most part the inhabitants of the little town devoted their energies to farming and to trade. In the year 1840, for instance, there were nearly as many cattle as people in the village—1,628 head, according to the census records. The total amount of capital invested in trade in Lewiston at that time was \$5,800.

Lewiston farmers, in that year, raised 39,593 bushels of potatoes; 2,976 tons of hay, and from locally bred sheep sheared 7,830 pounds of wool. All this outweighed in importance the very limited industrial activities of the little hamlet.

That the potential value of the natural water-power was realized, however, even in that day, is evidenced by a survey made in 1845, which estimated the flow over the dam as sufficient to operate 241,075 cotton spindles.

Railroad Arrives

In 1848, the iron horse made its first appearance in the little town; and when, two years later, the census of 1850 was completed, the population had grown to 3,384—almost double that of 1840 when the only transportation available was by horse-drawn vehicle and the ox-cart. That the coming of the railroad transformed Lewiston from a sleepy little agricultural settlement into a busy industrial city can hardly be doubted.

Auburn Important

It appears from the records, however, that at the time the railroad was projected, Auburn was a somewhat more important village than its neighbor across the Androscoggin. The census records do not give the population of Auburn prior to 1850, but it seems evident that the promoters of the Androscoggin & Kennebec considered that town more likely to grow than Lewiston. It was in Auburn that the company built a station, a round-house, and repair shops for the infant railroad; Lewiston was not even a "whistle-stop" for its trains. The first published time-table of the A. & K.—probably the first railroad time-table ever issued in Maine—does not show time at Lewiston for any trains; passengers from that town had to cross the river to Auburn when they desired to travel.

Original Survey

The original survey for the road, made in 1845, indicates that the line, starting from a connection with the Atlantic & St. Lawrence (now the Canadian National) at Danville, would "descend onto a flat plain west of the Academy at the village of Goff's Corner, two and a half miles, where there is a favorable location for a depot to accommodate this village and the village of Lewiston, opposite." And it was in Auburn, or "Goff's Corner," that the terminal was established. Whether or not the "accommodation" for Lewiston people was satisfactory is not recorded.

The rapid growth of Lewiston and its industries, however, changed the picture. In 1854, the records show there was "under contract and nearly completed a new, commodious brick passenger and freight station at Lewiston, demanded by the increasing business of that rapidly growing town." The record goes on: "The large capital employed there in manufactures and its magnificent water power destined it to become not only one of the principal cities in Maine but a rival to the other large manufacturing places of the world." Time has proven that prophecy true.

Train Service Increased

It was in 1854, too, that the growing importance of the traffic to and from Lewiston made it necessary to increase the train service. The records show that the two regular trains from Waterville to Danville, where they connected with the Atlantic and St. Lawrence, and the two trains in the opposite direction, were not enough to meet the demand; so, "by way of experiment," says the record, a third train was put on "to run in the evening to Lewiston on the arrival of the 2 o'clock train from Boston." The time table shows, however, that this train ended its run at Auburn, arriving there at 5.45 P.M., the return trip being made from Auburn at 7.25 the following morning.

The new "depot" at Lewiston was completed and opened to the public in 1855. The record states that it "has been a heavy item of expense, having cost about \$6,950, but the business of that growing town seemed to demand better accommodations, and it was not considered good policy to erect an inferior building at a point where business is so rapidly increasing."

Auburn Station

Even the new and "commodious" station at Lewiston, however, did not long meet the requirements of the two villages; and in 1862 it was planned to build "a new passenger and merchandise depot" at Auburn. This town, too, had grown rapidly, and the increasing traffic made the old railroad buildings obsolete.

The Androscoggin & Kennebec Railroad, the forerunner of the railroad which serves Lewiston today, was chartered in 1845 to build from Danville to Waterville. Construction was commenced in 1847, and in 1848 the line as far as Auburn was opened for business. A three acre plot of land was purchased in Auburn, and an engine-house 80 by 60 feet was built, with a 28-foot turntable, providing accommodations for three locomotives. The combined passenger and freight "depot" was 180 feet long; and in addition there were provided a wood-shed for the storage of fuel for the locomotives, a machine shop, and a car shop.

Lewiston Boom

The effect upon the little village of Lewiston of the building of the railroad was immediate and pronounced. Says Edward E. Chase, in his book "Maine Railroads": "It is more than a coincidence in dates that, as soon as a railroad was assured, the Franklin Company started operations in Lewiston in 1847 in developing water power for the cotton mills, which grew up immediately after the railroad was built." That was natural enough; there was little inducement for industry to build mills and produce goods until some means of transportation for those goods could be obtained, but as soon as the actual laying of tracks commenced, the development of Lewiston's tremendous natural water power kept pace with the building of the railroad.

It is idle, of course, to speculate as to what Lewiston would be like today had no railroad ever been built to serve the town. In 1840, when the population of Lewiston was 1,800, Bangor, with its water transportation, boasted 8,627. By 1880, Lewiston had some 2,000 more inhabitants than Bangor; and at the last census in 1940, it was more than 8,000 larger.

But in 1840, Lewiston was smaller and less important, except for its potential water power, than many nearby towns. Turner, for example, had a population of 2,479 as compared with Lewiston's 1,800; Livermore had 2,745. In 1940, Turner's population was 1,415; Livermore's 1,302. Would Lewiston be in the same category today except for the railroad? Who knows!

TIME TABLE.

Androscoggin and Kennebec Rail Road.

Commencing December 3, 1849.

UP TRAINS.		No. 2.	No. 4.	No. 6.	FREIGHT TRAIN.
Leave	PORTLAND.....	7.30 A. M.	2.30 P. M.	4.15 P. M.	
"	JUNCTION.....	8.45 "	3.45 "	5.30 "	10.45 A. M.
"	AUBURN.....	9 "	4 "	5.45 "	11.30 "
"	LEWISTON.....				
"	GREENE.....	9.25 "	4.25 "		12.15 P. M.
"	LEEDS.....	9.34 "	4.34 "		12.30 "
"	MONMOUTH.....	9.45 "	4.45 "		12.45 "
"	WINTHROP.....	10 "	5 "		1.15 "
"	READFIELD.....	10.15 "	5.15 "		1.50 "
"	BELGRADE.....	10.50 "	5.50 "		2.25 "
"	No. BELGRADE.....				
"	W. WATERTOWN.....	11.20 "	6.20 "		3.10 "
Arrive	WATERTOWN.....	11.45 "	6.45 "		3.40 "
DOWN TRAINS.		No. 3.	No. 5.	No. 1.	FREIGHT TRAIN.
Leave	WATERTOWN.....	8.45 "	2.45 P. M.		5.45 A. M.
"	W. WATERTOWN.....	9.10 "	3.10 "		6.15 "
"	No. BELGRADE.....				
"	BELGRADE.....	9.40 "	3.40 "		7 "
"	READFIELD.....	10.15 "	4.15 "		7.50 "
"	WINTHROP.....	10.30 "	4.30 "		8.15 "
"	MONMOUTH.....	10.45 "	4.45 "		8.45 "
"	LEEDS.....	10.50 "	4.56 "		9 "
"	GREENE.....	11.05 "	5.05 "		9.25 "
"	LEWISTON.....				
"	AUBURN.....	11.30 "	5.30 "	7.25 A. M.	10.05 "
Arrive	JUNCTION.....	11.45 "	5.45 "	7.40 "	10.30 "
"	PORTLAND.....	1 P. M.	7 "	8.55 "	

TRAINS Numbered Two and Three pass at Readfield, at 10.15 A. M.

TRAINS Numbered Four and Five pass at Monmouth, at 4.45 P. M.

TIME TABLE NO. 1 of the Androscoggin & Kennebec Railroad, probably the first railroad time table ever issued in Maine. Note that trains were not scheduled to stop at Lewiston, Auburn serving for both towns.

Steamboat Lewiston May Have Had Two Successors on Lake Auburn

DEC 29 1945

BY SAM E. CONNER

Mystery thick and plenty envelops the history of the old steamer Lewiston or, perhaps, one should say steamers, which used to ply the waters of Lake Auburn. The mystery comes in here:

Were there three Lewistons, one of which was a sidewheeler, or were there but two, both of which were driven by a propeller?

The last section of that proposition can be substantiated. There were, undoubtedly, two screw drive types of boats on the lake named Lewiston. The problem is whether there was a third boat bearing the same name but equipped with paddle wheels.

What thickens the mystery, complicates things a great deal, is the fact that there is no question but what a sidewheeler did operate on the lake at one time.

This sidewheeler, of which there is absolutely no doubt, was the Amariscoggin, which, according to some, was built in 1880, operated on the lake for a season and was hauled to Lake Maranacook by oxen, where she operated for a number of years before being hauled up on the shore to rot.

But for certain other facts, that would dispose of the mystery of the Lake Auburn boat, Lewiston, so far as the sidewheeler part of it is concerned. These facts are that a number of persons are very positive there was a sidewheeler named Lewiston on the lake 50 or so years ago.

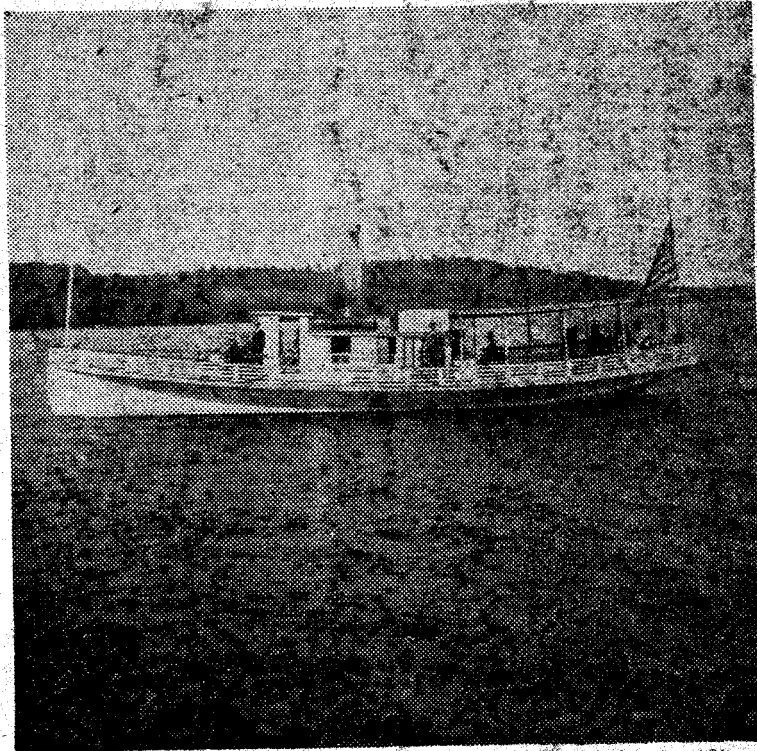
Very Positive

W. H. Waterman of East Auburn is among those who says there was a sidewheeler named Lewiston on the lake at about that time. He has a distinct recollection of the boat, painted white, with the name "LEWISTON" in gold letters on the paddle boxes.

He says he can remember seeing her go about the lake, running a regular route, taking out sailing parties and having an orchestra on board a good part of the time.

Mr. Waterman is one of the oldest residents of these cities and his knowledge of events, places and people is always accepted as authoritative. It is, of course, possible, that he may have in mind the Amariscoggin, but it seems rather inconceivable, because in telling me about the boat he went into many details of events around Lake Auburn in those long ago years.

This boat operated on the lake, he said before the Spring House, one of the tourist hotels which back in those days flourished on the lake, burned. This was the hotel at North Auburn, the foundation of which still stands. As he further recalls, it was about the time that E. T. Gile built the observatory on Mt. Gile. He isn't sure what the ultimate fate of this boat was, but is very positive as to its existence.



STEAMBOAT LEWISTON ON Lake Auburn back in the 1890s, of which Capt. Frank R. Whitney of Lewiston was commander.

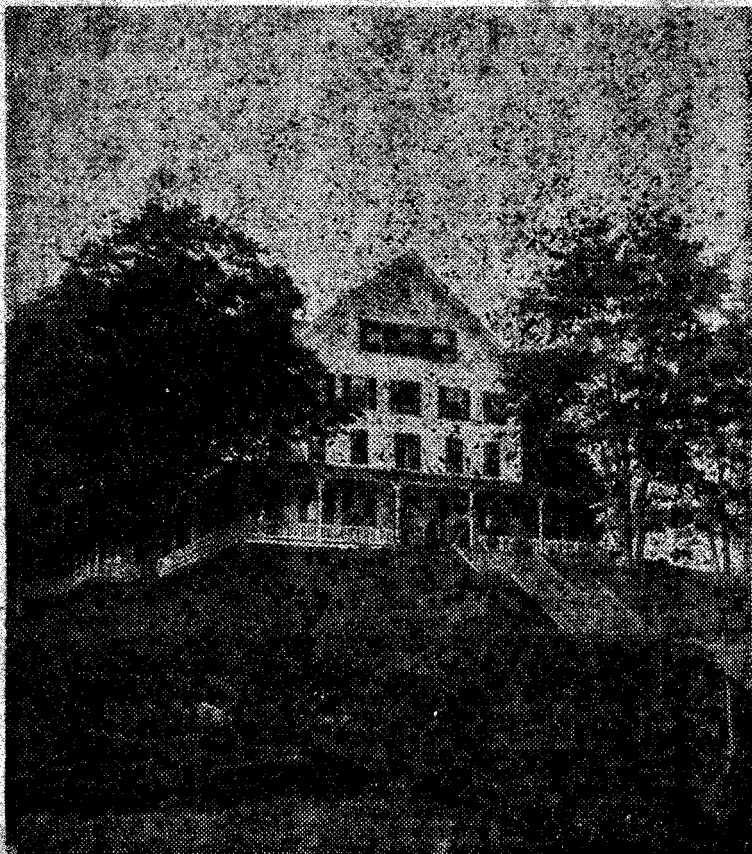
This record, which covers the period between 1879 and 1907, inclusive, is as follows:

Boats	Years Operated	Built
Yosemite	1879-80	
Auburn	1881-84 (went to Moosehead)	Bath 1881
Frank A. Hale	1884	
Lewiston	1885-1904	Bath 1884
Gypsey	1889-90	Auburn 1884
Nyad	1891-98	Lewiston 1891
Oweenee	1891 (went to Kennebec as Hazel D)	Lewiston 1891
Sea Gull	1895-98 (went to Little Sebago)	Greene 1894
Madge	1895-06	Auburn 1894
Vivia	1896-02	
Zanita	1897-06	Boston 1892
Dewey	1898-99 (renamed Marion)	Lewiston 1897
Carrie L	1899-08	So. Boston 1907
Nixie	1899-06	Lewiston 1897
Nald	1899	
Early Bird	1901	
Nokomis	1900-04	S. P'tland 1895
Rover	1904-05	Auburn 1904
Doris	1903-07	Lewiston 1903

Records Lacking

Edwin A. Patt of Barrington, R. I., who has devoted much time in the past few years looking up the history of steamboats on inland waters of Maine, and who is probably the best authority on the subject in New England, while not questioning Mr. Waterman's sincerity, thinks he is wrong.

Patt is very positive that the



NORTH AUBURN SPRING HOUSE as it looked in 1890s. It burned many years ago, but the foundations are still in existence.

only side wheeler ever to operate on Lake Auburn was the Amariscoggin and that there were two Lewistons, both screw type boats. He has searched the records of the steamboat inspectors of Maine and finds no record of a paddlewheel boat named Lewiston.

His record of the Amariscoggin is that she was built in 1880 at Lake Auburn, where she operated that year, going to Maranacook next year, where she operated until 1891, when she was condemned. She was owned by two Lewiston men, one named Lucas, who was an engineer on the Maine Central, the other Wagg, who was a road-master on that road. About 1893 or 94, they traded the boat with Simeon Davis for a race horse—trotter—named Jack.

He stresses the fact that there is nothing in the record of the State inspectors to show that there ever was a sidewheeler Lewiston on Lake Auburn.

Mr. Patt may be absolutely right. I'm very sure I don't know, but it is equally true that according to a copy of those records of the steam craft which have operated on the lake, which he has sent me, there is no mention of the Amariscoggin.

Unless the name the Amariscoggin was inadvertently omitted by Mr. Patt in preparing this copy of official records it would appear that they contained no reference to the boat as having operated on Lake Auburn. Such being the fact it would be equally fair to assume that they were similarly lacking with reference to the Lewiston. Either of which being correct is cause for regarding said official records as being of little value.

So there is the story of the side wheeler Lewiston, on the Lake, as I've been able to dig it out. It isn't entirely satisfactory, for, while I'll take Mr. Waterman's memory in preference to those early steamboat

inspectors' records, there are others who probably will not do so. It has been suggested that many people have confused the old coastal side-wheeler Lewiston, which for years operated on the Boston-Bangor and the Portland-St. John runs with the Lewiston on Lake Auburn.

This is possible, but exceedingly doubtful, because back in those years knowledge of the boats on the Lake probably was more general locally than was that of coastal shipping.

Other Lewistons

While there doesn't seem to be the least question but what there were two steamers Lewistons operated on the lake, using propellers, the record given in the foregoing shows but one. And right there it is not at all impossible there is a mistake and that but one such boat ever ran on Lake Auburn. This may sound absurd, but it grows out of the fact that information which is available is contradictory.

Herbert Whitney of Lewiston, whose father was captain of "a steamboat Lewiston," has advertisements for the boat, as well as tickets for passage upon it, and the captain's band which his father wore on his cap. One of these advertisements for the season of 1886 gives the daily schedule of the boat:

It announced that special trips would not be made for less than five passengers. Frank R. Whitney was captain and six round trips would be made daily. The first left Lake Grove at 7.40 in the morning and the last left the Spring House at 8 P. M. Among other mementos of

those days which Mr. Whitney has is a pass on the old Lewiston horse railroad, signed by J. Q. H. Coob, president, and F. M. Drew, treasurer of the road, issued to Capt. Frank R. Whitney of the Steamboat Lewiston in 1883. Whitney served as captain in 1882 for the first time. He also was engineer on the boat. He has the certificate of inspection by the State officials on July 19, 1885, as well as of the Steamboat Frank A. Hale, owned by the Lake Auburn Mineral Spring Co, Lewis C. Peck, manager. The paper shows that the Hale was built in Bath in 1884.

The Lewiston was allowed to carry 50 passengers. This boat, according to the recollections of many, was eventually hauled out on the shore at North Auburn to rot away.

That is the thing which throws more mystery into the matter of these steamers Lewiston, for Delpha C. Ford of Mechanic Falls owned and operated a steamer Lewiston on the lake. He bought the boat from William Briggs when it was under water, having sunk. It was raised, hauled out on the shore. This was about 1900 and the next two years was devoted to rebuilding the boat. It was just about ready to be launched and put into service when it burned and was a total loss. The insurance had expired two days before, so that Mr. Ford did not get any of the \$5,000 he had invested in the Lewiston back.

This boat was licensed to carry 200 passengers on regular trips and 250 on excursions.

Garcelon Cemetery on River Road

By ELOISE JORDAN

JAN 11 1947

Toward sunset on that frosty Autumn afternoon, with the last russet leaves flaming on the oak trees, we came in sight of the Androscoggin River and the Garcelon Cemetery, the most historic burying ground in this part of the country.

The green rolling fields worn bare by constant tillage, with the pine forest pushed back to the dark horizon, had the look of glacial formations deposited back in that amorphous time called the Ice Age, which baffles and intrigues us because of its very remoteness.

The drive had been through a sparsely settled farming country, mostly deserted and forsaken, with gaping cellars overgrown with pine and oak trees, and now and again a white farm house, reminder of the early days when this was a virgin country and the first settlers came to reclaim the land from the forests with hard labor and unrelenting toil.

The Garcelon Cemetery is old, but there is an older cemetery still, or the remains of it on the high plateau on the steep bank of the Androscoggin near the old Garcelon Ferry.

Original Cemetery

This original Garcelon, or Intervale Burying Ground with its stubs of rough hewn stones in the sandy dunes of the pasture, is thought by some to have been an Indian cemetery before the white men settled there. These graves were washed out by the celebrated Pumpkin Freshet prior to the spring of 1819. The surging flood waters were golden with bobbing pumpkins, and the fields where they washed in were abundant with them. The tides rose to such heights that the graves were opened, a thing impossible to imagine today.

Two or three stones remain in the rutted field, rough from the pasture, giving a primeval touch to a beautiful landscape. On one of them the word Ames is hardly discernible, with a date 1815. Initials may faintly be seen on some of the other stubs. There in the sunset hour, with the cold darkness creeping down the river and the sky crimson with the dying day, we thought of the long ago settlers who cleared this wilderness, and the red men who had come here before them.

Established 1819

On the brow of the western hill the present Garcelon Cemetery is a place of abundant quietude. A white fence encloses the lots with their white marble tombstones. This cemetery was established on May 17, 1819.

According to the diary of Thomas Hodgkins, a prominent resident of the district, the neighbors met after the death of Mrs. Mark Garcelon, to plan a new burying ground, and decided to pay Mark Garcelon ten dollars for an acre of land on the southeast corner of his lot. Mrs. Garcelon was buried in the upper corner next to the schoolhouse which stood nearby.

The Garcelons predominate here in death as they did in this section during their lifetimes, and this seems a fitting place to relate their history, which is well known, but may be forgotten in detail.

James Garcelon who was the progenitor of all the Garcelons in America, and who sleeps in this pastoral place, was born on the Isle

of Guernsey in the English Channel in 1739. He was the son of that renowned priest and preacher, Rev. Pierre Garcelon the rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church "St. Pierre du Bois", or St. Peter's in the Woods" on the Isle of Guernsey.

Rev. Pierre, who was born in Clermont, France, in 1685, was educated for the priesthood, but later changed his religion. Pierre was twice married, his first wife being Jeanne Bedat, and his second Annie Carey. An astute and brilliant clergyman, Rev. Pierre set an outstanding example of righteous living for

his son, James, and the long line of Garcelons who were to succeed him in America.

It is interesting to note in passing that there is reference to the parish where the Rev. Pierre lived in Guernsey in the famous novel "Green Dolphin Street" by Elizabeth Goudge, published a few years ago.

Sent To England

James Garcelon was sent to England as a child. His father then began to write to him the series of letters and sermons which have become renowned in the annals of the family, and have been printed in the original French for distribution among the Garcelon descendants.

The first letter written in 1750 when James was said to be ten years old, chides the boy for misbehavior and contains a threat to "set out for London and put you aboard a vessel bound for the other world."

In 1752 James, aged thirteen, left England as a cabin boy on a vessel bound for America. At Gloucester, Mass. he was apprenticed to Captain Daniel Gibbs, a merchant of that place.

The next year after James' arrival in America, his father writes him: "I pray you, dear child, behave like a young man well born and as a good Christian ought."

"Take courage and make yourself capable of earning your living by toil. All occupations are good and honest when one performs them honorably."

James married at Gloucester, Mass. in 1760, Deliverance Annis who was descended from Curmac Annis from Enniskelen, Ireland. Curmac's wife was Mary Chase, whom he married in Newbury, Mass., in 1666.

James and Deliverance were the parents of seven children: James, William, Peter, Daniel, Mark, Lucy and Sally.

Father's Gifts

In 1770 James was given his father's watch "on account of his birthright." Other gifts bestowed were "six guineas in gold, two silver tablespoons, six teaspoons marked with your name but designed for your wife, handkerchiefs for her, and a silver cup with two handles which last I designed myself for your son Peter who bears my name. Also a little silver brooch, one pair silver buckles, six yards of fine cloth, three pairs stockings, cloth for a waistcoat, etc." The Rev. Pierre goes on to write: "I am almost 85 and am very infirm, yet still perform my parochial duties."

Settles In Lewiston

James settled in Falmouth, near Portland, and lived there until the night before the British Commander Mowatt burned the town, whereupon he removed his family to Harsiseeket, now Freeport. He came to Lewiston Falls in 1776 and settled on land near the present cemetery, helping to build and maintain the Garrison which stood near the Ferry until quite recent times. The block house was demolished around 1850.

James also established the first ferry across the river close to the year 1778, and was a man of affairs, well worthy to be the ancestor of an outstanding race in the State of Maine.

Monument

On the tall white monument near the main entrance of the cemetery, erected by the descendants of James Garcelon, are interesting inscriptions.

James Garcelon

Only son of Rev. Peter Garcelon
Born in the Island of
Guernsey, England, April 4th, 1739.
He came to America in 1753.
Married Deliverance Annis of Cape

Anne, March 1760.

Settled in Lewiston, then a wilderness in 1776, near the spot where he now lies interred.

He raised a family of five sons and two daughters and died November 13, 1813, beloved and respected by all.

On the south side of the shaft is the inscription:

In memory
of James and Deliverance
Garcelon

The ancestors of all bearing the name of Garcelon now residing in America.

On the west side one reads:

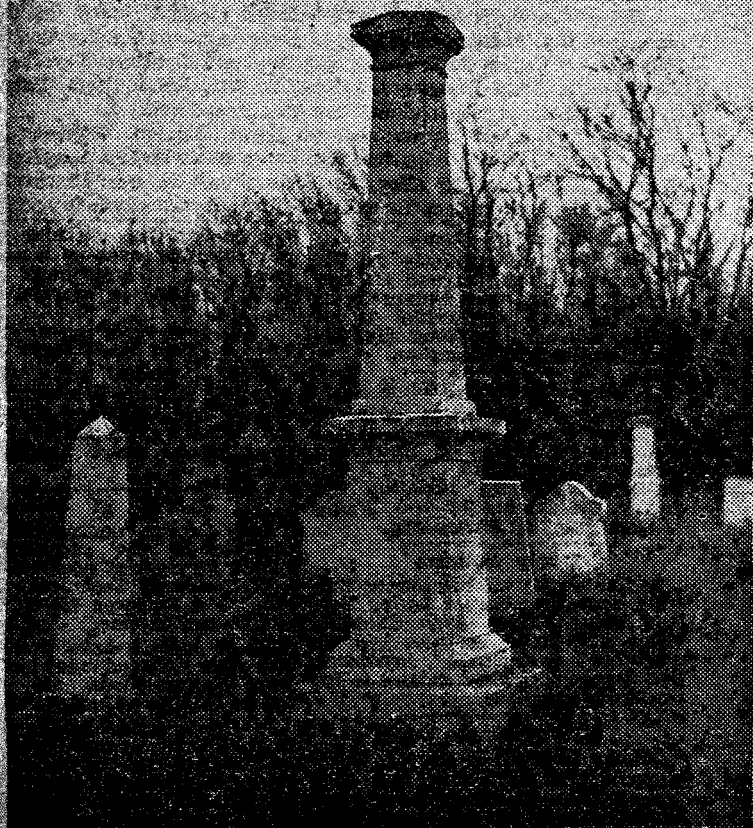
Deliverance Annis
Wife of James Garcelon,
Born in 1735. Died in Lewiston
November 16, 1828.

The inscription on the north side states that the monument was
Erected in 1867

To the memory of James and
Deliverance Garcelon

By their descendants of the third
to the sixth generation.

Many distinguished Garcelons are buried in the old yard, among them being Col. William Garcelon (1766-1872), father to the first Dr. Alonzo Garcelon, one-time governor of Maine.



THE MEMORIAL MONUMENT—The above monument in the Garcelon Cemetery stands close by the main entrance and was erected by descendants of James Garcelon. The inscription on the north side of the monument notes that he settled in Lewiston in 1776 near the spot of burial.



OLD TOMBSTONES—The graves shown above marked the resting spot for Ebenezer Ham and his wife, Sarah, and it is known that he was the second person to be buried in the Intervale. The Hams came to Lewiston in 1789. As can be seen from the tombstones, he died only two years after settling here, while his wife lived to be 91 years of age and survived him by nearly 50 years.

Many Landmarks

Not far from the yard is the old brick house under twin oaks where Asa Garcelon once lived. Captain Asa started a tannery there, which was in operation some years ago. This house was partially destroyed by fire, but its ruins above the river are picturesque, indeed.

Garcelon's Ferry crossed the river near the present cemetery. It seems that this was the post road between Portland and Augusta, and a big mansion on the Auburn shore was the Dingley Tavern owned by Jeremiah Dingley where horses were changed and travellers spent the night. Uncle Jeremy Dingley, son of the tavern keeper, was the ferryman. He later became the father of Governor Nelson Dingley. Hosea Garcelon also played Charon for many years to the people of the vicinity.

The Hams

The Hams were another distinguished family to be buried in the Garcelon Cemetery. In fact, Ebenezer Ham who came to Lewiston from Dover, N. H. in 1789 and settled on land near the ferry, was the second person to be buried in the Intervale Yard. He was a direct descendant of John Ham, born in Dover in 1649, whose son Joseph was killed by Indians. The two children of the victim were taken to Canada and were later redeemed by their mother who made the difficult journey into the wilderness to recover them.

Ebenezer Ham is said by some to have come from Shapleigh. He purchased two lots of land from the Pejepscot Company, one of which contained 10 acres of land near the Garcelon place, the other 76 acres. He built a log cabin, where he was found dead in 1789 by his neighbor a Mr. Carville. His son James, then ten or 12 years old, claimed the land, and upon reaching maturity built a large white house there.

Ebenezer had married Sara Field, who survived him by almost half a century, dying in 1837 aged 91 years. Col. E. B. Ham, their grandson, was long an officer in the State Militia, and was for many years Chairman of the Lewiston Board of Selectmen.

The Ham Range is one of the most important in the Garcelon Cemetery and extends down the left side of the main entrance. Ebenezer Ham was one of the first to be removed from the old Intervale Yard and buried there after the freshet.

The Carville and Holland families are familiar names in the Garcelon Cemetery. John Holland, a local settler of importance, was drowned at Harpswell in 1823, and is buried on the Holland Lot.

The Hodgkins settled a Garcelon's Ferry in April 1777. Jonathan Hodgkins who was born in Gloucester, Mass., in 1736 came to Lewiston with his wife, Betsey Meresvey and children, after the burning of his home. It is said that the only goods and chattles remaining to him was one chair. He was of English ancestry, descended from William Hodgkins who came to Plymouth in 1634.

Famous Diary

Jonathan's son Thomas, born in 1778, was well known for his famous diary, assiduously kept from 1809 until 1854, one year before he died.

This book has been much written about and quoted. In fact it is a most thorough record of years, and is invaluable for its historical data.

Thomas was a woodworker by trade, making plows, spinning wheels, furniture and caskets. He was present when the Intervale Cemetery was washed out, made the coffins, and helped bury the dead in the new yard. He compiled a list, in so far as he could, of the bodies removed to the new cemetery.

Thomas writes of visiting the ruins of the castle after a freshet, when the high waters were flowing through the stones on the sandy river shore near the ferry. For years this castle was a mystery, but it is now believed to have been the foundation of the block house destroyed in 1850.

Thomas wrote that in 1600 Thomas Purchase from Brunswick established fishing settlements up the Androscoggin River, and it was at first thought that the castle might have referred to such a ruin.

Aaron Davis who settled in South Lewiston had many connections with the Garcelon Ferry region, for it was he who built the old toll bridge which crossed the Androscoggin at South West Bend from 1817 to 1827, when it was swept out by flood tides. This Aaron Davis was a most interesting character. In 1785 he took over a tract of more than 200 acres of land. He owned and operated a sawmill, and was a builder of the Clough Meeting House in South Lewiston. One of his sons, David, gave his name to David's Mountain near Bates College.

In 1871 John B. Garcelon gave a tract of land to the city of Lewiston to enlarge the Garcelon Ferry Cemetery.

Association Formed

The Cemetery Association came into being on April 25, 1905, and was incorporated under the name of the Garcelon Cemetery Association for the permanent improvement, ornamentation and care of the cemetery. The act of incorporation which was drawn up by William E. Newell, Esq., Justice of the Peace in the county of Androscoggin, was signed by the following:

Mrs. Samuel D. Garcelon, Ferry Road.

William J. Dingley, River Road.

Abram W. Garcelon, Lewiston; Alfred E. Jordan, Lisbon; Daniel Garcelon, Lewiston; Mrs. John B. Garcelon, Lewiston; Miss Frances Garcelon, Lewiston.

The first officers elected to serve the Association were: Dr. Alonzo Garcelon 2nd, President; Abram W. Garcelon, Vice-President; Miss Frances Garcelon, Secretary-Treasurer.

The trustees were Abram W. Garcelon, Alfred E. Jordan and Mrs. John B. Garcelon. Albert P. Lincoln was Superintendent of the cemetery for many years. He was a descendant of the same family from which Abraham Lincoln also came, and lived all his life not far from the old Garcelon Cemetery.

Abram Garcelon gave land to the cemetery association in 1912 so that the water supply could be increased from the spring, and that a hydraulic pump could be installed in a small shed on the premises.

Present officers are: President—William F. Garcelon, Boston, sec.-

treas.—Mrs. Bertha Ham, Lewiston.

An Indian woman, mother or wife of Joe Vidito, was drowned in the Androscoggin river in 1816, was buried in the Intervale Cemetery, and was later removed to the new cemetery. She was a basket maker.

Strange Name

Among the sedate and puritan Yankee graves it is amazing to come upon a headstone with the following inscription: In memory of Antonio Fernandez who died in Spain, June 8, 1887, aged 66 years." Beside it is a stone marked "Mary C. Dyer His wife, died in Portland, Maine, 1897, aged 68."

Who was Antonio Fernandez? And how did his memorial come to be here? Imagination is in immediate play. Was he a sea captain or a sailor who married a State of Maine daughter? Fancy runs riot weaving romantic legends about the Spaniard who lived in that fascinating land of guitars, Don Quixote and bull fighters. They say that if you sail straight across the Atlantic you will touch the palm fringed shores of Spain, so quite likely Antonio Fernandez, like Columbus must have sailed west.

