



# The Waterford Echoes

Volume 3 Number 2

June 1982

Waterford Historical Society



Haynes Photo  
Agnes Lahti, left, and Margaret Sawyer, right, book committee, look over a few of the 552 reprinted "History of Waterford 1775-1875." (See ad elsewhere for both histories).

## NEW AT OUR NORTH WATERFORD MUSEUM

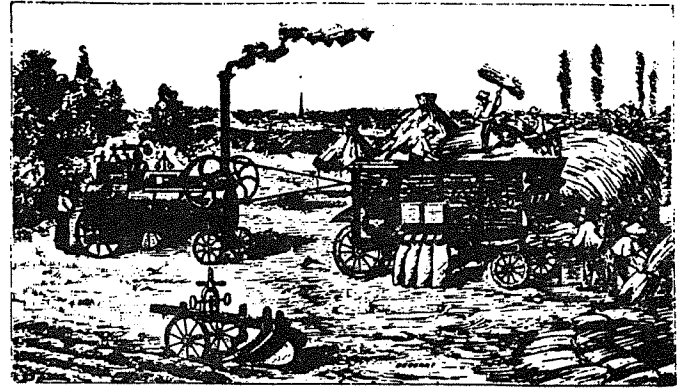
Two snapshots from Howard and Jean Day of Bridgton of the original America Hamlin house in Skunk Alley taken in the late 1930's.

Nineteen thirty-six photos in an album of rebuilding the Birch Mill after a fire at the North Waterford Spool Company. Also in the album, 1936 March flood scenes and winter scenes, given by Raynor Brown and probably taken by the late Winfield Brown.

Sixteen old Waterford Town reports from Elizabeth and Stanley Lord of Bethel.

Genealogy items from Col. Keith F. Brown (Ret.) of San Diego, California regarding early Brown families; Photostats of pages from *Decendants of Walter Haynes and Peter Noyes of Sudbury, Mass.* by Frederick Haynes Newell published in 1893; Information taking him and his Brown ancestors back to John Alden of the Mayflower, and information on other Waterford families from Massachusetts records.

Lillian Herrick contributed "The Poetical Writings of Rev. Truman S. Perry, including a historical sketch." He was a minister here many years ago. She also contributed three Xeroxed pages, "Episode in The Life of Mrs. Horne, a full-blooded Penobscot Indian" (whose Penobscot Indian name was Wakseeja). (This is corrected from the last "Echoes".)



## THE FIRST LUMBERING

(from History of Waterford, Maine 1775-1875)

The first lumbering done in Waterford was in 1808. (The accessible timber in the coast towns had been exhausted as early as 1790. In 1798 and earlier considerable timber was hauled into Sebago pond from Raymond and Standish. One man in Raymond in 1798 sold logs to the value of \$1,100.) This was done below Bakers Falls on Crooked River. The price paid was \$2.00 a thousand for logs in the river. No timber was cut less than twelve and commonly not less than fourteen inches through. These logs would average not far from three to the thousand. Of course the stumpage could not have amounted to much, perhaps seventy-five cents. In the winter of 1813 there was logging on lot 10, R. 10 and on lot 10, R. 13.

All the best timber in Waterford on the Crooked River, except the Perley and Warren lots, was cut previous to 1830. It did not average to bring seventy-five cents a thousand on the stump. The amount cut from some of these lots was enormous. From the Knight lot, L. 7, R. 13, 6,000,000 feet were drawn off. The Perley lots were not sold until about 1850. They were said to have brought over \$40,000.

The timber on the Warren lot, L. 6, R. 14, was sold about 1843 for \$5,000. The timber on Crooked River all went to Saccarappa; most of it to Nathaniel and John Warren, and Joseph Walker. Phineas Eastman of Lovell, Daniel Brown and Thaddeus Brown, Sr., of Waterford were also engaged in lumbering for many years.

It is questionable if the white pine, the proudest tree in the American forest, has not been a disadvantage to the town. It certainly has led to a great deal of shiftless farming. Men neglected their farms, knowing that a winter's work in the woods for some lumberman, or a winter's logging from their own lots, would pay the over-due store bill or tax. Still the pine is the most profitable crop for some of our lands.

NOTE: Two years ago the Town of Waterford realized over \$32,000, that year from their town farm lot of about 200 acres. (1980).

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Record of Marks of Sheep in the Early 1800's

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Jonathan Robbins, viz - a swallow's tail up on the right ear. Recorded upon old manuscript in 1814 by David Farrar, Town Clerk.



A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Elijah Richardson, viz - a notch under the right ear - Recorded upon old manuscript by Calvin Farrar, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Samuel Brown, viz. the right ear has the end cut off and two slits cut running toward the head. The left ear has a piece cut out on each side - Recorded upon old manuscript May 24, 1820 by David Brown, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Jabez Brown viz. the end of left ear cut off, a notch under side of the right ear. Recorded upon old manuscript Jan. 30, 1821 by David Brown, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Ebenezer Watson viz. a swallow's tail on the right ear and end of the left ear cut off. Recorded upon old manuscript Dec. 18, 1822 by David Brown, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to the Heirs of Calvin Farrar, deceased viz. a hole through the left ear. Recorded upon old manuscript, Dec. 18, 1822 by David Brown, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Malbory Brown viz. a hole through the right ear and the end of the left ear cut off. Recorded upon old manuscript Dec. 18, 1822 by David Brown, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Abraham Whitcomb, Jr. viz. a hole through the left ear. Recorded upon new Town Record, page 66 Dec. 16, 1826 by David Brown, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Thaddeus Thompson viz. a square hole through the left ear. Recorded May 6, 1826 by Charles Whitman, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Eber Rice viz. halfpenny under the right ear. Recorded April 3, 1827 by Charles Whitman.

A record of the mark of Thaddeus Brown's sheep viz. a hole through the right ear and crop off the left ear. Recorded May 10, 1828 per Charles Whitman, Town Clerk.

A record of the mark of sheep belonging to Charles H. Rice viz. halfpenny under the right ear. Recorded July 6, 1864 per D. W. Noble, Town Clerk.

(The above sheep markings were selected from 22 recordings in the early 1800's. Three recordings on the last page were made in 1864 and one has been copied above.)

Calvin Farrar, town clerk, in the second item was the maternal grandfather of the humorist Charles Farrar Brown, known the world over as Artemus Ward. In the sixth item the sheep belonged to the "Heirs of Calvin Farrar".)

### WATERFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS FOR 1982

President: JAMES TYLER  
Vice President: HELEN BUCHERT

Secretary: AGNES LAHTI  
Treasurer: MARGARET SAWYER  
Program: LYNN BAKER and MARGARET SAWYER  
Newsletter: INDIA BAKER  
Trustees: WILMA WHITING  
JOSEPH BLACKHAM  
JOHN INGRAHAM  
GLADYS KNIGHT  
LYNN BAKER  
DOROTHY ERICKSON  
DR. STEPHEN DEWING  
RAYNOR K. BROWN  
PHILIP BUCHERT

### FOR SALE

The History of Waterford Maine 1775-1875, reprinted from an 1879 publication \$10.00, plus \$1.10 if mailed. Waterford, Maine 1875-1976 published in 1977, also \$10.00, plus \$1.10 if mailed. Both books are available from the Waterford Town Office, Mrs. Curtis Millett above Waterford Memorial School, and from the Waterford Historical Society, Waterford, Maine 04088, and L. R. Rounds & Co. store in Waterford Village.

ADV.

### SINCE DECEMBER

#### JANUARY 7

Marilyn Baker hosted the Waterford Historical Society meeting at The Artemus Ward House. MPBN-TV's documentary about Artemus Ward by Joe Perham was enjoyed on video tape.

#### FEBRUARY 4

Agnes Lahti hosted the Society meeting. Summer activities were discussed including the 4th of July parade.

#### MARCH 4

Helen and Phil Buchert hosted the Society's annual meeting. Officers were elected for 1982. At our winter meetings all kinds of subjects are discussed.

#### APRIL 1

Alice Rounds hosted the Society meeting. Finishing the fireplace at the Mary Gage Rice Museum before we have it open for summer visitors was discussed, as well as landscaping. Agnes Lahti offered to get white stain for the Museum so we could have an old fashioned garden in back of the Museum. It was voted to have a 4th of July parade.

#### MAY 6

Margaret Sawyer hosted this meeting. (Bill was attending a county selectmen's meeting elsewhere). A schedule of hours and days open has been sent to Down East Magazine and Yankee Magazine. Agnes brought very attractive Museum signs and has purchased the white stain for the Museum. After a discussion of a hand railing at the Museum Mike Durgan offered one he had stored to the Society and they accepted it, subject to it fitting the space needed. (Since the meeting Agnes Lahti, Helen Buchert, and James Tyler have spread the gallon of white stain on the Museum back wall.)

## POSTAL FACILITIES

(From History of Waterford, Maine 1775-1875)

I have said that Mr. Longley opened the first post-office within the present limits of Oxford county, except at Fryeburg and Paris. Of course at the time of its establishment the weekly mail was very small. Probably the volume of mail for an entire year —and Waterford post-office supplied all of western Oxford county except below and around Fryeburg — did not equal that brought into Waterford now in a single day, although the town then, 1801, was nearly half as large as now (1875).

Until 1814 the people in western Oxford county, except about and below Fryeburg, depended upon chance persons to bring them their mail matter from Waterford Flat. During these years and later we did a considerable business with Albany and the Androscoggin Valley. Cars ran from that valley to Waterford Flat, at first over the Scoggin trail, later through Hunt's Corner (Albany). They consisted of long poles of tough, well-seasoned wood lashed to either side of a horse, dragging on the ground. Across the lower ends of these poles was fastened a box, in which "salts", made by boiling down ashes, were brought to the potash factories at Waterford Flat and exchanged for light groceries or spirits. These "cars" generally came in trains to give assistance in case of need. This mode of conveyance was common in early times. The first mail carrier between Portland and Waterford was Jacob Howe; Seba Smith followed him. Mr. Howe made the round trip once a week, reaching Waterford Friday night. His route was through Windham, Bridgton (east side of the pond) to Waterford Flat, thence through Norway, Oxford, Poland and Gray to Portland. In 1814 post-offices were established at Bethel and Rumford, later at Albany, Greenwood, Woodstock, and in the towns in western Oxford county; but until about 1830 Waterford was the distributing office for western Oxford county.

That year the mail from Portland reached Waterford Friday. Saturday the postman made a circuit through Sweden, Lovell, Fryeburg, Denmark Corner, South Bridgton, Middle Bridgton back to Waterford Flat, fifty-two miles.

Monday he went to Swifts Corner, Norway, Norway Village, Paris Cape, Paris Hill, Woodstock, Hamlins Gore and Rumford Corner, forty-four miles.

Tuesday he returned to Waterford Flat by way of Bethel Hill and Hunts Corner, thirty-three miles. For all this horseback torture he received \$190 a year. The postman carried his papers in saddle bags, his letters in a mail-bag by themselves. As he approached a house or village on his route he sounded his horn and threw out the papers to subscribers.

The rates for postage were as follows at that date: Twenty-five cents for four hundred miles and over; eighteen and two-thirds cents for one hundred and fifty to four hundred miles; twelve and one-half cents for eighty to one hundred and fifty miles; ten cents for thirty to eighty miles; six cents for any distance less than thirty miles. This was the postage on single sheets of any size and accounts for the size of old-fashioned letter paper. Newspapers paid one cent each, if published within the State or one hundred miles outside the State; one and one-half cents if at a further distance.

There was no postage stamps or envelopes in those days. The postage due was generally marked on the letter, although it could be prepaid. The post-master collected it from the party to whom the letter was sent. The postage on papers was a prerequisite of the postman. No wonder that people made postmen of their friends, a custom the origin of which I

used to wonder about when a boy. The older of you will recall the poor or mean men who collected around a stage tavern fifty years ago to find some traveler who would carry a letter for them and so save them the postage.

## LIFE MEMBERS

BRETT, George and Virginia H. - Waban, Mass.  
BROWN, Georgia and Raynor - North Waterford  
BROWN, Keith - San Diego, California  
BROWN, Royce F. - Omaha, Nebraska  
DAVIS, Dorothy Hale - Bridgton  
DEANS, Rachel Rice - S. Portland  
d'ERRICO, Angela - Worcester, Mass.  
FILLEBROWN, Joan and W. William - S. Portland  
HAMMETT, Jane W. - Stamford, Conn.  
MONROE, Miriam S. - Waterford  
PERKINS, Richard - Norway and Redington Beach, Florida  
RICE, Albert H. - Waterford  
RICE, Ella E. - Fairfield, Connecticut  
ROUNDS, Alice - Waterford  
WARDWELL, Thora H. - N. Waterford and Bradenton, Florida

## OTHER MEMBERS, 1982

BAKER, Lynn & India - Waterford  
BEAN, Edward N. & Irene K. - Norway  
BEAN, Malcolm - Nashua, N.H.  
BROWN, Winola - N. Waterford & Inverness, Florida  
BUCHERT, Helen & Philip - Waterford  
COOK, Anita - South Paris  
DeMERRITT, Hazel - N. Waterford & Newtonville, Mass.  
DEWING, Bess & Stephen - Waterford  
DURGIN, Orris (Mike) - Bridgton  
ELLIOTT, Olive M. - Waterford  
ERICKSON, Dorothy - N. Waterford  
GARDNER, Annie R. - S. Waterford  
GORDON, Charles A. & Clara M. - West Paris  
GRAYBER, Ethel & Irving - Waterford  
HAMLIN, Arthur Tenny - Wiscasset  
HILTON, Merrylyn Sawyer - Augusta & Weld  
HOLT, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas S. - Waterford  
HOWE, Idamai (Betty) - N. Waterford  
HOWE, John G. & Debbie - N. Waterford  
HOWE, Stanley R. - Bethel  
KIMBALL, Edith & Prentiss - S. Waterford  
KING, Lois J. - West Haven, Conn. & Waterford  
LAHTI, Agnes - E. Waterford  
LUNDSTROM, Laurence - Waterford  
MILLETT, Irene & Curtis - Waterford  
MILLETT, Jennifer - Waterford  
MILLETT, Nancy - Waterford  
PRATT, Sylvia Sawyer - Castine  
ROBERTS, Beatrice & John - Waterford  
ROUNDS, Ruth E. - West Haven, Conn. & Waterford  
SAWYER, Jill - Waterford  
SAWYER, Margaret and Billie - Waterford  
STOCKWELL, Sara and William F. - Deerfield, Mass. & Waterford  
TACEY, Evelyn F. & William S. - Pittsburgh, Pa. & Waterford  
TYLER, James - Waterford  
WERNER, Margaret S. - S. Waterford and Coconut Grove, Florida  
WERNER, Meade - S. Waterford and Berkeley, Calif.  
WHEELER, William A. - Unionville, Conn.

### IN MEMORIAM

James M. Orr, husband of Charlotte Longley Orr, died at Stephens Memorial Hospital last July 26, 1981. He had been a long-time summer visitor to Waterford and had attended a joint meeting of the Waterford Historical Society and the Bethel Society at Bethel three weeks before his decease.

### COMING UP

#### JUNE 3

This meeting will be held at our North Waterford Museum at 6 p.m. with a pot-luck supper. A work meeting at the Museum has been scheduled for May 26.

#### JULY 1

The Bethel Historical Society will meet with us at the North Waterford Museum. Members and guests will bring a picnic lunch, and our Society will furnish beverages and dessert. We will show our North Waterford Museum and our Mary Gage Rice Museum to the Bethel Society. (Parking will be available in the Museum yard at N. Waterford, the Grange yard, and the Post Office yard - both downhill from the Museum. Cars parking on the roadside should park only on the Museum side of the road.) 6:30

#### AUGUST 5

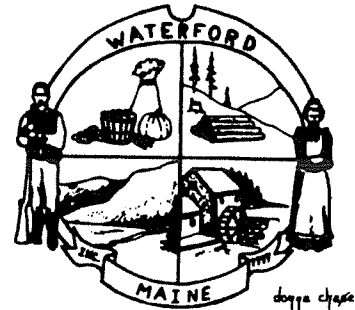
Arthur T. Hamlin, grandson of Cyrus Hamlin, will speak about his famous ancestor at our North Waterford Museum at 7:00 p.m. (The steam engine invented by Cyrus Hamlin in 1834 will be run at Homecoming in October at Bowdoin College this year.)

The program committee needs help in securing programs for the remainder of the year.

Waterford Historical Society  
Waterford,  
Maine 04088

adv.

### FOR SALE



6" square tile includes cork back, hanger and gift box. Sepia on tan background.

\$3.00 plus .15¢ sales tax

4 1/8 x 5 3/8 notecard with envelope  
Package of 10 - \$2.50 plus tax

Available at local stores and Town Office

adv.

Join the Waterford Historical Society. Check appropriate category and mail to Box 2, Waterford, ME. 04088.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEMBER CLASSIFICATION

___ Life-Couple	\$75.00	___ Senior Citizen	\$ 1.00
___ Life	\$50.00	___ Student	\$ 1.00
___ Patron	\$25.00	___ Sustaining	\$ 2.50
___ Honorary	\$35.00	___ Contributing	\$10.00