

ited with twenty-one weeks' work — housework and nursing — \$10.50, and with an umbrella (the first in the Long Meadows and yet in a condition to be used), \$3.00. She is charged with "a yard and a half of baize, 75 cts.; Pair of calf skin shoes, 1.12; Six yards of calico and a fan, 2.06; Five yds. drugget, 2 1-4, checked, 3.50."

1803 to 1806, another girl, who worked for fifty cents per week, is charged: "Horse and side-saddle to Bow, 16 miles, 83 cts.; Sheeting, 50 cents, & India cotton, 42 cts.; [This India cotton was a very coarse and thin cloth, not so good as the lowest priced shirting of the present day] 1 1-2 yds. striped linen for a loose gown, 50; 8 yards of calico, at 3s. 8, and a pair of mitts, 5.65; 4 yds. of woolen cloth for a great coat, & making, 4.83; one pair silk gloves, 1.08, 1 pr. calf.skin shoes, 1.04,— 2.12; 6 yds. cotton and linen cloth, 3.00; Yellow baize, 42 cts. per yard."

In 1819 he charges another girl, who, I have good reason to know, was one of the very best, who worked for sixty-seven cents per week at house-work, including spinning, milking, and nursing an invalid woman, "1 pair cow-hide shoes, 1.34; 1 pair calf-skin shoes, 1.42; 1 pair morocco shoes, 1.57."

THE DATE OF SOME OF THE HOUSES IN CHESTER.

Capt. Samuel Ingalls was the first settler, had the first child born, and built the first framed house about 1732, which was taken down several years since to give place to the one where Humphrey Niles lives, on Walnut Hill. Probably the oldest house now standing is the old Fitts house. Dea. Ebenezer Dearborn deeded to his son Benjamin home lot No. 132, in 1735, and he is rated for a D (two-story) house in 1741, and the house was probably built between those periods. Dearborn sold to Nathan Fitts, in 1767. Lt. Ebenezer Dearborn was married in 1730 or '31, and the L part of the house (where James R. Gordan lives) probably was his first house, and older than the Fitts house. He afterwards built the front part, date not known. Francis Hills says that the house where Benjamin Hills lives, built by his great grandfather, Benjamin, Sen.,

was a garrison, and that the port holes may yet be seen through the boarding, though covered on the outside with clapboards. If that be the fact it was probably built as early as 1750. Wells Chase and a fellow apprentice by the name of Moses Haskall took their tools on their backs, at Newbury, and came to Chester and built a house for Stephen Morse, in 1755, being the old part of the house where Gilman Morse now lives. The L part of the John Bell house, where William Greenough lives, was built by the Rev. Mr. Flagg; time not known, but probably as early as 1750 or '60. It was moved back, and the front part built by John Bell, Esq., in 1806. Col John Webster built what is now Bachelder's hotel, in 1761.

Probably the oldest house in Auburn was built by Joseph Calfe, who was married in 1746, and it might have been built previous to that, or they might have lived awhile in a log house. Barnard Bricket built the house where his grandson David P. Bricket lives, in 1766. Wells Chase built a one-story house where his grandson, Pike Chase, lives, in 1771; second story added in 1828. Col. Stephen Dearborn built a house the north side of the Borough road, east of the saw-mill, in 1761, but soon moved it on to the hill, and it is a part of the L or low part of the present house. The front, or two-story part, was built in 1776 or 1777. Samuel Murray lived in the cellar kitchen while building his house in 1781. Isaac Blasdel built the house in which John West lives; Lt. Josiah Underhill and Jacob Chase built houses in 1785. Tappan Webster built where Mr. Orcutt lives, in 1787.

1788. William Hicks built where Woodbury Masters lives.

1791. Dr. Benjamin Page's house was burnt, April 5; a new frame raised April 30, sold to Joseph Robinson, who finished it.

1793. Alexander Eaton built the house opposite the Long Meadow meeting-house.

1794. Dr. Thomas Sargent built his house where John White lately lived. Cornet Isaac Lane built where his son Isaac lives.

1796. Nathaniel Woods and Joseph Linn built at the Long Meadows, and the Rev. N. Bradstreet where John W. Noyes lives.

1798. Samuel Underhill built where Geo. S. Underhill lives.

1799. Amos Kent built where Mrs. Aiken lately lived.

1800. Daniel French, Esq., built his house. Joseph Wetherspoon built where Henry Moore lives. It has been occupied by Moses Emerson, Charles Goss, John Bryant, and others.

1804. Gilbert Morse built what has been the Congregational parsonage, where Sarah Robinson lives.

1807. Jacob Elliott built about this year.

1808. Thomas Anderson built where his son Samuel now lives, in Auburn. Capt. David Hall built where Hazen Davis lives, in Auburn. Joseph Mills built about this year.

1809. Benjamin Hills built at the John Powel place, where Daniel Wilson lately lived. He had not moved into it before the cold Friday, January 19, 1810, and the wind moved it on its foundation.

1812. Josiah Haselton built where Lewis Kimball lives, on Walnut Hill.

1822. Thomas Coffin built where Rev. James Holmes lives.

1832. Jay T. Underhill built where Mr. Chamberlain now lives.

1833. Hon. Samuel Bell built his house.

FIRES OCCURRING, SO FAR AS ASCERTAINED.

Samuel Eastman and Samuel Eastman, Jr., house and goods, Candia, 1759; James Fullonton's house, Raymond, 1763; David Bean's mill and house burned in Candia; Dea. Richard Hazelton had his grist-mill burned, time not known; Jonathan Berry's house, April 15, 1786; Phillip Griffin's house, March, 1788; Nathaniel Head, two barns and six oxen, Nov. 25, 1788; John Crawford's house, July 10, 1789; Dr. Page's house and barn, April 5, 1791; Joseph Blanchard's clothier's shop, July 10, 1795; Capt.

Locke's saw-mill, March 27, 1796; Haselton's barn, October, 1799; John Haselton's house, June 14, 1800; Daniel True's house, Jan. 6, 1801; James Stevens' blacksmith-shop, Dec. 12, 1801; Silas Cammet's house, May 1, 1802; Moses Preston's shop, Sept. 7, 1805; John Melvin's blacksmith-shop, Dec. 11, 1807; Capt. Fitts's blacksmith-shop, Jan. 7, 1814; John Clark's house, July 15, 1818; William Coult's fulling-mill, and two carding-machines and clothiers' tools, 1820; Samuel Anderson's tavern-stand in Candia, including a large two-story house with L, a large stable and barn, and all of the contents, including twenty-three horses and eleven swine, Oct., 1821; the house of the widow of Robert Forsaith at Walnut Hill, May, 1822; the saw-mill and grist-mill of Samuel Hook and Sebastian Spofford, April, 1825; the grist-mill and old nail-shop at the Blanchard mills owned by Col. S. D. Wason, burned in the fall of 1825; the house of John French of Candia, April 21, 1831; Zaccheus Colby's house, May 24, 1837; Candia meeting-house, Jan. 25, 1838; Jesse J. Underhill's edge-tool shop, 1841; the Hall grist-mill, owned by Noah Clark, about 1845; the Knowles saw-mill, 1847; Ephraim Kelly's house and shop, April 25, 1850; William P. Underhill's barn and L to his house, Sept. 20, 1850; John Moore and John Wason's saw- and shingle-mill, 1851; Samuel Colby's house and barn, March 2, 1853; Hale True's house, formerly the house of Robert Wilson, Esq., 1853; Richards and Greenough's store, and school-house No. 1, Dec. 28, 1856; William P. Underhill's house and barn, Dec. 20, 1857; Capt. Moses Haselton's barn by lightning, 1862; Pollard's steam saw-mill, 1864; the Perley Chase house, June, 1867.

TREES.

Paul and Sylvanus Smith came from Hampton to Chester about 1730. Soon after making an opening they brought from Hampton some apple-trees on horseback and set out, one of which bore a peck of apples in 1868. A large elm at the Templeton place, at the Long Meadows, was set out when Matthew was just large enough to steady it, probably

about 1745. Barnard Bricket came to Chester in 1765, and the great elm, whose top now extends eighty-five feet, and whose trunk at four feet from the ground, which is its smallest place, girts about fourteen feet, was then a small sapling, which he then pruned. It has several large branches, so that it is larger ten or twelve feet from the ground. The elm at Isaac Lane's was either a sapling growing there when Cornet John Lane came there in 1749 or set soon after. The elms in front of the French office, opposite the house, were set by H. F. French about 1829. The other trees above the old Melvin place were set by Mr. French, aided by T. J. Melvin and others, from 1831 to 1834. Those opposite the Melvin place were set by Mr. Melvin and John White in 1843. The trees on the Haverhill road, near where the old Baptist church stood, were set by Silas F. Learnard in 1845. The three elms nearest the house of the writer, were set by Benjamin Chase, Jr., in 1855. The other elms and maples were set a year or two later. The maples in front of the house were set in 1867.

CHAPTER XVI.

TOWN OFFICERS, OR THE OFFICIAL HISTORY.

It may not be improper, preliminary to giving a list of town officers, to say something about the duties of some that have become obsolete. There probably were laws on the subject previous to those I have examined.

DEER INSPECTORS.

It was supposed to be beneficial to preserve the deer and to destroy the wolves, though deer, being the natural game of the wolf, probably had a strong tendency to preserve the wolves.

By an act of the 14th of George II, it is enacted that no deer shall be killed from the last day of December to