

Hartland Historical Society

March 2007

Hartland News, Vermont Journal, Windsor, Vermont June 3, 1905
“The following was taken from the Woodstock Standard:”

A little pamphlet of sixteen pages; issued by Benjamin Livermore of Hartland and printed at the Vermont Chronicle office, Windsor in 1857, in possession of Henry Harding shows Mr. Livermore to have been a pioneer in the invention of the typewriter. It's object was to introduce “Livermore's Permutation Typograph” or “Pocket Printing Machine” which had just been invented.

“It contains a cut of the little machine, which in size is about four inches long, two and a quarter inches wide and one inch thick. It has six keys placed in one end. Within are the moveable parts, operated by the keys, and the type, ink and paper. A strip of paper twenty feet long may be put in and printed over without further attention. The twenty six letters of the alphabet, punctuation marks and the numerals are all formed by the operation of the six keys. The pamphlet contains many testimonials from distinguished people. President Lord of Dartmouth College, Alonzo Jackson, M.A. Norwich University; Honorable Edmund Burke, late commissioner of patents; William Lloyd Garrison and many others.



Among many press notices is the following from the Spirit of the Age, Woodstock: “We have examined the little printing apparatus invented by Mr. Livermore of Hartland, and certainly it is one of the new things under the sun, that Solomon never dreamed of. It is a very ingenious article, and no doubt would under a thousand circumstances be useful as well as convenient..

Mrs. A. A. Sturtevant of this village remembers distinctly seeing Mr. Livermore exhibit this writing machine at the Woodstock Fair, and it was so small that he worked it with the fingers of the hand with which he held it. The letters were script.

From Howland Atwood “Ernest and Analdo English told me that their uncle, Benjamin Livermore once lived on the Max Crosby place (Mrs. Lyle Horton's) (farm on right when traveling west on Rt. 12, just before entering Hartland Four Corners. Where the

Morgan horses are . C.Y.M.) in the original Judge Elihu Luce house. Byron P. Ruggles built the present house in the 1880's. Afterwards he took down the old Luce house which had stood in back of his new house. Benjamin Livermore died April 4, 1871 AE 52 yrs. Almira E., wife of B.L. Livermore, died Aug 22, 1846 AE 24. They are buried in the cemetery on the Plain. They had no children.

From Livermore family papers by Eunice Lyman “The machine was worked by six keys placed at one end of the box and pressed down after the manner of piano keys. He would print with it in the dark. He usually carried it in his pocket and could print it there, placing his hand in such a position that his fingers rested on the keys. After taking down the conversation of those he met, he placed it under his pillow at night to catch any stray thoughts, as he termed it. He took out letters of patent in England and America in 1863. It never was in public use as he died before it was introduced to the public.”

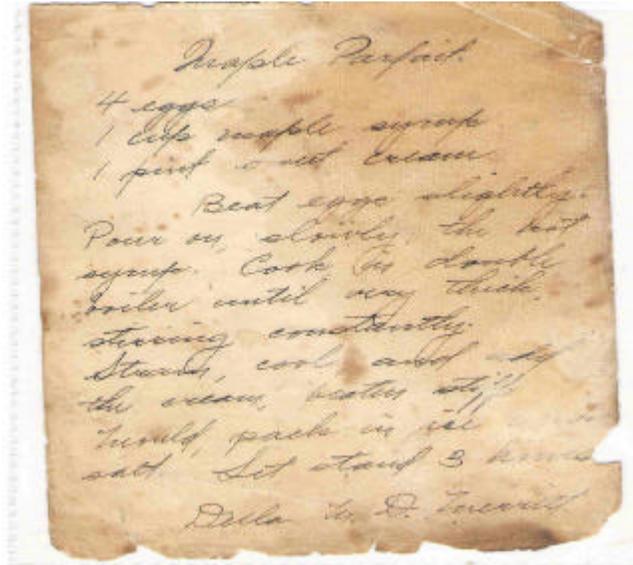
The Livermore's were very early settlers in Hartland. William who was born in 1752 in Leicester, Mass. died in 1806 in Hartland. All except his first child were born in Hartland, starting with Phebe in 1775. Benjamin's father, Joseph was born in 1789. He settled on a farm on what is now Rt 5 No. of Hartland village. There Benjamin was born in 1818. The typograph (which, by the way, can be seen in a case not far from the door by which one enters the main hall of the Patent Office in Washington) was not his only invention. He was part of a family of very busy inventors. His sister, Emily married into the English family. They all lived very close to each other and in some cases shared inventions. Benjamin was also responsible for inventing the machine by which cement pipes could be formed. Not surprising, cement water pipes didn't do as well in Vermont as they did in Rome. I would have expected him to figure that out ahead of time. We have some sections of these cement pipes here at the Historical Society. Other inventions that Benjamin can take credit for are a boot crimp in 1849 and an instrument for lasting boots in 1852. He had many outstanding ancestors. Maybe that's why there are seven towns in the U.S. named Livermore.

President's Message

I am happy to report that the Save Hartland Artifacts Responsibly for Everyone, SHARE, seems to be working well. As in every endeavor, there is always room for improvement. The exhibit planned for the Vermont History Expo at Tunbridge in June has had to be put on hold because of a lack of volunteers to plan it and set it up. The April 22 program “Interpreting the Forested Landscape” will be chaired by Les Motschman. The speaker is a forester. Beginning at 1 p.m. the first half of the program will be a talk at the library and the second part will be a field trip to see examples of what he looks at when examining a property. On May 6 at Damon Hall Connie Tessier will chair the always popular annual program of recollections of long time residents. May 20 will be the date for the annual meeting of the Hartland Historical Society. Please take time to read the article in this newsletter by Brad Hadley, our volunteer webmaster. Brad is an extreme example of the SHARE idea. We are receiving *many* hundreds of dollars worth of free expertise because of Brad's interest in his Hartland ancestors. I've been working with him to get the cemetery data typed into the spreadsheets and the photographs numbered so that they can be uploaded to the website. . Many hours have been put in behind the scenes to make this website viable. We are getting some very nice comments from viewers. Please plan to attend the April event because it will be a good way to welcome spring! Bev Lasure

A Tasty Seasonal Treat

Maple season is here. Give this a try. I made a bowl full and have found it to be especially good when more maple syrup is poured over it and some nuts are sprinkled on top.



Della M. Dunsmoor Merritt (1883-1982) was Henry Merritt's mother. This recipe was found in an autograph book. The owner of the book and the date are unknown but the owner chose to have her friends write recipes instead of the usual poem or other sentiment.

(In case you have difficulty reading the original: Maple Parfait)

4 eggs, 1 cup maple syrup, 1 pint sweet cream

Beat eggs slightly. Pour on slowly the hot syrup. Cook in double boiler until very thick, stirring constantly. Strain, cool and add the cream, beaten stiff. Would pack in ice with salt. Let stand 3 hours. Della M. D. Merritt)

Undated News Clipping

It is safe to say that our western friends, who for many years have depended on this town for their maple sugar, will look in vain for it this year. A large number of the maple orchards have been ruined by the forest caterpillars, and been cut into stove wood. Farmers, who have had in years gone by from one to two tons of sugar, or its equivalent in syrup, for New England and western friends, will have little, if any, for their own use. More than this, the season for sugar making is getting late, and still the snow's reported from 3 to 4 feet deep in the woods. We doubt very much if there will be honest syrup made to run the usual number of church socials. The truth is, sugar-making has become a lost art, where, a few years ago, it furnished our farmers with a source of no inconsiderable income.

Bine the Blacksmith

“The poem about Bine referred to a blacksmith named Bine Spaulding, who lived and had a shop where the first house in Martinsville now stands (The brick house on the corner is the old Lamb school. The next house is newer and the one referred to here is the next, red house, right next to Lull Brook where Ruth and Roger Flanagan lived for so many years. C.Y.M.). He and his wife occupied an upper room reached by a ladder, and when he came home in a rather unsteady condition she would say sternly, “Right up the ladder, Mr. Spaulding”. Enjoy!

Did you know about Bine, with the speckled dog?

Used to lead him by the for'ard paw;

Was a portly man with a baldish head,

And the bluest eye you ever saw.

Way under the hill he had a shop,

With a trip hammer and it's paddle wheel,

And its whack, whack, whack, and the stooping smith—

I can see him yet; I can hear it still.

He came to the village every night.

There were kindred spirits always there.

The journey up was a tiresome walk;

The going back was another affair.

One night we sat around the fire;

The smaller ones were snug in bed;

Aunt Rosaline rushed in through the door,

And” Bine’s in the brook “ was all she said.

My! What a rumpus was abroad!

Sure, in the brook was where we found him,

Straight as a gun rod sitting up,

With the rushing waters all around him.

“The water’s risin’! Lower a rope!”

That was the cry, more agonizing

With every breath of the summer air.

“Lower a rope! The water’s risin’”

The action of that pretty brook

Took out the sand beneath his quarter,

And every wave that kissed his side

Left him a-struggling in the water.

*Next morning in that little shop—
Since many years the grasses cover—
The anvil rang, the bellows breathed,
The mill-wheel flew; The farce was over.*

Wilbur Sturtevant

“Zebina Spaulding made guns in a shop opposite Martins Mill, Lull Brook- shot guns and other fowling pieces. He was fatally shot by the accidental discharge of an old Windsor revolver”
Nancy Darling 1913

This was in 1858 at the age of 70 C.Y.M.

Your Web Site www.hartlandhistory.org Brad Hadley, Webmaster

The Hartland Historical Society web site is your web site. Its contents are totally up to you, the members of the Society. It was designed to have a place for all of the different types of information the Society might have or create. This article is an overview of what is there and an invitation to add the material that you are interested in. Through the web site, we make Hartland artifacts available to those who cannot visit in person. By putting material on the web site, we add a new dimension to the idea of Sharing Hartland artifacts. The second benefit of putting information on the web site is preservation. Once we get the information into digital form for the web site, it is periodically backed up and copies distributed to multiple places. So, if anything happens, whether from a natural or man-made disaster, we don't lose the information.

In addition to the three "basic" pages (the home page, About Us page, and the News/Newsletters page), there are three sections for collecting and presenting Hartland artifacts:

The **Articles** page is the most important page for presenting Hartland History. Any article, long or short, formal or informal, serious or humorous can go here. Articles can, but don't have to, have pictures. Directories of the contents of the HHS museum, genealogies, pictures and write-ups about things in the museum or that you have, just about anything can go here. If you are working on a project for the Society, please consider including it here. The main challenge in getting things on this page is typing it into the computer, which you are likely doing anyway. We can take just about any format and quickly get it to the Articles page.

The **Pictures** page is our photo album. Here we can collect any Hartland-related pictures, postcards, or scanned (or photographed) paintings. Take a look at what we have there now for ideas. The directory for our album is divided into "People", "Places" and "Things". We can further divide these categories into sub-categories as we did with Places (Buildings, Geography, and Life in Hartland). There is space to include a caption for each photograph and longer notes are possible. If you have lots to say about a photograph, perhaps it belongs in the Articles page too.

The third page is the **Cemeteries** page. You can search for gravestones using a search form that looks through all recorded gravestones. You can browse through individual cemetery directories. Once you find a stone you want to "visit", you can see a picture, a transcription of the words on the stone, and additional information about the person. This section has the most content of any of the pages simply because there are a handful of people in the Society who are interested in them and are working to gather information. Right now we have information on more than 1100 gravestones, many with pictures and detailed information. This is a small portion of the stones in Hartland's 14 cemeteries; there is much more to do. We need volunteers to photograph gravestones, transcribe the words on the stones, and check the information already entered. There are enough gravestones in Hartland to keep a lot of people busy for a very long time!

How can you get the content you are interested in onto the web site to share with others (and to protect it)? The only requirement for material to get onto the web site is that it be in digital form. This means that if it is mostly words, it needs

to be typed into the computer (in any format). As an example, about 3/4 of the 1913 History of Hartland published in "The Vermonter" has been typed and put on the web site. We need a volunteer to type the remainder of the article. If you are working on a project for the Society that results in a typed page, that can, and should be put on the web site. Material that can't be typed can also be scanned. Many Society members have scanners and can help you get your material scanned. Other materials can be photographed using a digital or conventional camera. These pictures can be put on the Pictures page or, if you have words to go with them, you can create a piece for the Articles page.

The web site will reflect the interests of those who contribute the content. Whatever material you have, or whatever project you are working on for the HHS, there is a way to get it onto the web site to share with the world, and to preserve. Let's discuss how we can get your material added to the web site. Help it reflect your interests by contributing material for it. If you have an idea and don't know what to do with it, ask someone. You can always call me (Brad) to discuss you ideas (603-686-0991, or email brad@bradhadley.com), or with one of the other Society members who have provided material for the web site already. It is easy and there is a great feeling of satisfaction to see your material published on the web site for all the world to see.

Acquisitions

What would we do without all your great gifts?? Here are the latest!! Many, many thanks!

Cloth made from flax raised on the Leslie Hatch farm from Lillian Marcotte
Hartland P.T.A. book #3 starts 1964 and book #2 starts 1957 from the Elm School Library
Photo of No. Hartland bridge with remnants of the Ottauquechee Mill from Collamer Abbott
Anna Martin's report cards - 1930's- from son-Bob Mastic
L.E.Merritt thermometer from Beverly McKay , Bryantville, Ma.
Photos from Old Home Day 2006 from Carmen Summarsell
Handmade dollhouse and furniture- 1960s made by Dean and Maude Hoisington for
granddaughter Kim given by Kim
Letter from Jane Morrison Cabot Chandler to husband N.A. Chandler from Nathan Amos in Ca.

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DUES: Last but not least, June 1 is the date for renewing your membership. Please mail your check to Hartland Historical Society, PO Box 297, Hartland, VT 05048. Better yet, stop by on Monday afternoons or Friday mornings and drop it off.