

THE HARTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

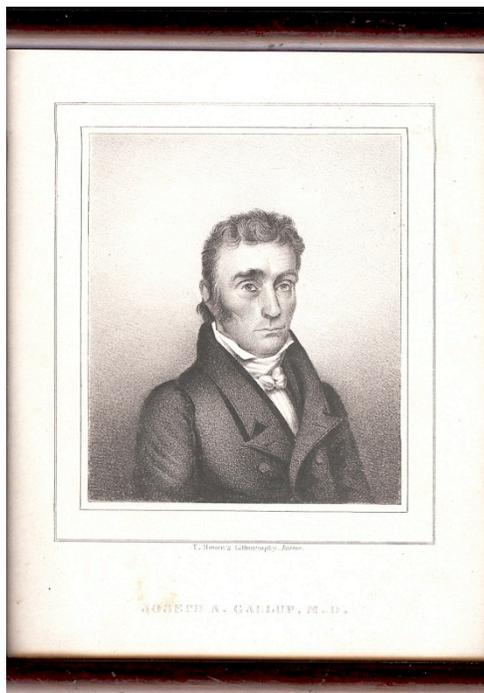
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SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2008

JOSEPH ADAM GALLUP

The Gallup family is one of the most remarkable to be found anywhere. Hartland was most fortunate to have many of its members settle here. One branch settled in the Weed District and we have a Gallup cemetery in that area and, at one time, there was a Gallup School. Another branch settled on what is now Rte. 5, where the Whites Dairy Supply is now located. The cemetery on the west side of Rte 5 is also a Gallup Cemetery, sometimes referred to as the Dunbar or Wyman Cemetery. Dr. Gallup was raised in a house that stood on the White land. Quoting from May Roger's work done in 1963 we learn the following.



Joseph Adam Gallup

“Joseph Gallup, born in Stonington, Conn., March 20, 1759, was about six years old when his father brought his family to Hartland. The means of his early education is not known but it included a command of good English, some Latin and Greek and the ability to read French. In 1787, when he was 18, he began his study of medicine under a “preceptor”, the method of instruction in this profession prevailing at that time. This supplemented by the required number of lectures qualified him to begin practice when he reached his 21st birthday Mar. 30, 1790, the earliest age when such practice could be legal. This practice began in Hartland and the neighboring towns of Bethel and Woodstock. In 1791 he bought property in Bethel and was established there in 1793. In May of 1792, by an appointment dated and signed by his uncle, Col. George Dennison, he became surgeon of the militia. In Sept. of that year, he married Abigail Willard of the Hartland’s Willard families, and their first child was born there in May 1793. For better location and a wider field of activity, he moved to Woodstock in 1800. He received the degree of Bachelor of Medicine in 1798, the first to receive an earned medical degree from Dartmouth as distinguished from the honorary degree which he had received earlier. He received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1814. Middlebury College conferred the degree of Master of Arts in 1823.

In these years, medical societies were beginning to be formed and a charter was granted to the Vermont Medical Society of Castleton, Vt. In Oct, 1813 Dr. Gallup was elected it’s president for ten successful terms until he refused in 1829. He was already a teacher and lecturer of high repute and a writer on medical subjects, being deemed the most prominent man in the profession in New England.

Progressively welcoming all advances in medical practice, he was first in the use of the new vaccination for small pox, a great scourge in those days. Upon the discovery in 1796, by Edward Jenner, an Englishman, of the much greater effectiveness of cow pox in the inoculations for this dread disease, it was tried, tested and established by Dec 16, 1804. Already, Dr. Gallup had advertized in the Vermont Journal of Windsor, issue of Jan. 11, 1803, that he was prepared to vaccinate with cow pox. A book written by Dr. Gallup on the subject was current in 1798.

Dr. Gallup’s election to the presidency of the Vermont Medical Society of Castleton occurred on Dec. 10, 1820. He held all the official positions by Jan. 1821, continued teaching there for 3 years but resigned in Jan. 1824. Dr. Gallup had long had dreams of a school of medicine and these were brought to fruition by the founding of the Medical College in Woodstock which he achieved in 1826, and of which he was the sole owner and supporter during its difficult early years, at times at considerable financial loss. The first session of the Clinical School of Medicine (the name adopted) was from March to late May of 1827. Midway in this session Dr. Gallup bought of Abraham Stearns about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre of land in the western part of the village of Woodstock. He paid \$325 for this plot of land and here he erected a building, still at his own expense, for the purpose of holding lectures in 1828. This fine brick building of 7 rooms and basement story was the home of this medical school until 1839, when the larger building was erected on College Hill. The original building was remodeled for residential purposes (still a home in 1969).

A difference of opinion arose between Dr. Gallup and two ambitious young medics, Drs Palmer and Parker. These men wanted to do outside teaching for the larger income. Dr. Gallup did not favor peripatetic professors as he felt it lessened allegiance to his College and also interfered with his cherished plan for continuous instruction throughout the calendar year. Bitterness mounted. The arrogant effrontery and caustic criticism of Dr.

Gallup by these men who had been professors on his teaching staff and received of his beneficence evoked his decision to resign. This so stirred the people of Woodstock that a meeting was called. A large gathering on the stormy evening of Jan. 6 1834, unanimously passed resolutions commending Dr. Gallup and saying that it was generally known and admitted that the Clinical School of Medicine of this place was projected and carried into successful operation by the exertions of Dr. Joseph Gallup, - "Resolved, that it is the wish of this meeting that Dr. Gallup would continue his efforts and use such means as he may think proper to continue the school and in so doing we will give him our support and influence." Dr. Palmer was not deterred by this. He usurped all prerogatives. Dr. Gallup resigned and severed all connection to the institution. Save for a few years in Boston, he continued to live in Woodstock, dying there on Oct. 12, 1849, concluding nearly 50 years of respected and highly esteemed citizenship. He and his wife are buried in the Wyman Cemetery in North Hartland."

Dr. Gallup and the Vampire

From Joseph Citro's Book "Ghosts, Ghouls and Unsolved Mysteries" we get this story. True? Or not? You decide.

....."About 100 years later, the most famous- or at least the most long-lived and publicized- case of Vermont vampirism came to the public's attention. It was reported in the Boston Transcript during the first week of October 1890. A more complete accounting of the remarkable events appeared as a one page story in Woodstock's own newspaper, the Vermont Standard. Imagine seeing this headline while sipping your morning coffee: "Vampirism in Woodstock"

The article recalled events that supposedly occurred in the 1830's when a local man named Corwin died of consumption.

His body was buried in the Cushing Cemetery. A while later, his brother - presumably also named Corwin - began wasting away. Of course the living Corwin may have been showing symptoms of his dead brother's disease. Or, as was the common wisdom, there might have been a more grisly alternative. Perhaps the dead Corwin had come back as a vampire, his spirit rising from the grave every night to feed on the blood of his living brother.

To find out for sure, the town fathers ordered the body disinterred. A horrifying discovery convinced them they were dealing with the supernatural. Dr. Joseph Gallup, the town's leading physician and head of Vermont Medical College, observed that "the vampire's heart contained its victim's blood" (though how he was able to determine that remains a mystery).

There was only one way to stop the spread of evil: concerned parties would assemble on Woodstock's boat shaped green and perform an exorcism.

Predictably, most of the town's population turned out for the event. Dr. Gallup and Woodstock's other physicians built a fire in the middle of the green, heated up an iron pot and cooked the undecayed heart until it was reduced to ashes.

Then they buried the pot and ashes in a hole fifteen feet deep, covered it with a 7 ton slab of granite before refilling the hole, sprinkled everything with bull's blood for purification.

Finally they forced the dying Corwin to swallow a ghastly medicine made of bull's blood mixed with some of his brother's ashes. They believed that this concoction would break the vampire's curse and stop the victim's body from wasting away.

Unfortunately, we never learn if Brother Corwin survived the disease, let alone the cure, but the town fathers were convinced they had rid Woodstock of vampirism forever."

THE MILL AT WATER QUECHEE (SUMNER FALLS)

In the last issue of the newsletter, we talked about the Ottaquechee Woolen Mill and as this is a related article, I thought it might be of interest. I don't know the story about the "mulish obstinacy" but it sure shows that Hartland knows how to give a party. This is from the Vermont Journal, Windsor, Vt. on October 3, 1885.

"Wednesday of this week was a day long to be remembered in Hartland. Never since the Connecticut valley was settled has the region around Sumner Falls been so densely packed with men, women and children. There were at the least calculation 2000 people on the ground, and many good judges think that too low an estimate.

The occasion of this great gathering was in honor of the Newton brothers of Holyoke, and in celebration of the victory they have gained over the mulish obstinacy of the Ottaquechee Woolen Company. After discussing various methods by which the town might give expression in some unmistakable way to the prevailing sentiment, it was decided to hold a grand town picnic. That picnic has been held, and more complete success never attended a human undertaking. By the princely generosity of the Newtons in supplying the substantials, supplemented by endless varieties of cake and pies of Hartland make, the tables, nearly an eighth of a mile in length were literally loaded down, and after the thousands had been fed the tables still looked as though other thousands might be accommodated.

The Newtons arrived by mail train, which let them off at the crossing near the grounds, from which place they were escorted to the tables by a procession of citizens headed by the Hartland band, which, by the way, performed excellent service through the day.

After leaving the table, W.R. Sturtevant, one of the citizens committee, mounted the band stand and called the vast multitude to order. In reply to comments given out by the master of ceremonies, W.R. Sturtevant, the first speaker called upon was Rev. W.L.Noyes of Hartland, he being followed by Rev. B.M. Tillotson of Woodstock, Hon. E.M. Goodwin of Hartland, and S.M. Pingree, Esq. of Hartford. E.C. Emmons of Taftsville, Henry Safford of Hartford, A.A. Martin of Hartland, and Rev. Graham of Plainfield, N.H.

One of the speakers, E.C. Emmons, made honorable mention of the names of David H. Sumner, Solomon Emmons, Frederick Freeman, Russell Freeman, John Burnham and several others, as veterans of Sumner's Falls who were engaged in active business there 40 years ago. We would gladly report, in substance, all the speeches, but the nearness of the

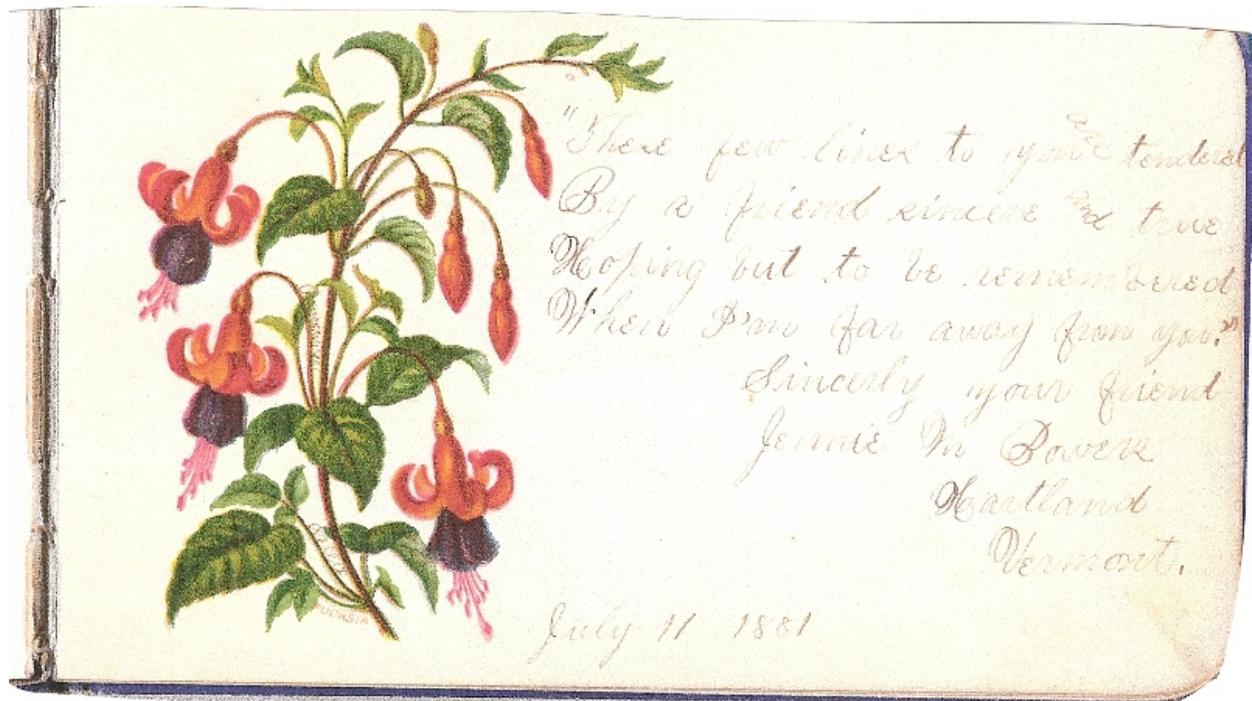
time of the Journal's going to press will not admit of this, but we can say they were all able and appropriate, and it is doubtful if better after dinner speeches were ever heard in town.

And now by the authority of the great meeting here reported, as well as by the late special town meeting, which exempted their property from taxation with only one dissenting vote, the Journal welcomes the Newtons to the town of Hartland.

VERMONT JOURNAL JULY 12, 1884 HARTLAND NEWS

JULY 26, 1884 One of the wildest storms of rain, hail, wind and thunder within the recollection of our oldest inhabitants broke over this village on Saturday last. At the lower end of Lull Brook lightning struck the house of J.F. Lyman, tearing off a few shingles and passing off by way of the waterspouts.

August 30, 1884 Some months ago we gave it as an opinion, based on information from other people that Lull Brook was gradually drying up. L.H. Merritt has known the brook for 50 years much of the time as a mill owner, and thinks the opinion is not correct.



Autograph books were all the rage in the 1880's here's one entry that we liked.

Carol Mowry, Editor

President's Note

The Hartland Historical Society will be a participant in the 9th Annual Vermont History Expo at the Tunbridge, VT Fairgrounds, June 21 & 22 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The 2008 theme is Industry & Innovation: Vermont Ingenuity. Inventors & Inventions is the title of Hartland's exhibit. There will be additional activities and presentations on 'Civil War Sunday' that focus on Vermont's Home Front during the civil war years.

Dues have been coming in steadily, and we want to remind those that may have forgotten that this is the time of year that they are due.

We wish to express our gratitude to the following for items donated:

Arthur Lamica - 1947 Hartland Fair tickets

Clyde Jenne – prize winner embroidered piece 1940

B. Livermore article – Beverly Lasure

Postcards – Steve Howard

CDs of In Sight of Ye Great River, Morgan Papers, Hartland The Way it Was, Valley News Article – Karl Kemnitzer

Restoring the Mails in Vermont, 1927 Vermont Flood – Ruth Warren

Center School Memories & Eshqua Bog Story – Rosemary Morancy

We also thank the following for their cash donations: Marcia Neal, Elizabeth Haartz, M/M George Little, Iloene Brennan, M/M Todd Lloyd, Barbara Sargent, Bev Lasure, Peter Welch, Marie Kirn, M/M Richard Taylor, Joanne Leier, Debby Luquer. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Special thanks to Hollie Bowen for her generous donation of \$82.00 in memory of her aunt, Polly French on what would have been her 82nd birthday.

We will be open from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. during the Hartland Old Home Day festivities on July 4. We are open to the public Mondays from 1 p.m – 4 p.m and Fridays from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. Closed holidays.

Rosemary Morancy