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History of Cumberland County, Maine: Town of Cumberland

W. Woodford Clayton

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HISTORY
OF
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, MAINE:
TOWN OF CUMBERLAND

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED BY
PHILDELPHIA:
EVERTS & PECK
1880.
HISTORY
—OF—
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, MAINE:
TOWN OF CUMBERLAND
With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches
—Of—
Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.

Originally Published By
Philadelphia:
Everts & Peck
—1880—
The town of Cumberland was incorporated by an act of the Legislature of Maine, dividing the town of North Yarmouth, passed March 19th and approved March 28, 1821. The new town included all the lands lying to the eastward of a line beginning at the sea-shore at the southeast corner of the John Dahney farm, granted in 1735, on the dividing line between the lands of Alexander Barr and Reuben Loring, and extending northerly to the southeast corner of 120-acre lot 1; north, 26° west on the lot lines to the north corner of lot 5; south, 63° west on the line between lots 5 and 6, crossing lot 6 and following the south line of lot 2 to its south corner; following the western line of the 120-acre divisions west of Royal River north, 26° west to the gore annexed in 1734; following the original town line south, 64° west to the easterly corner of 450-acre squadron No. 2, and northwest to the Gray line, together with all the islands belonging to North Yarmouth, except Cousin's, Little John's, Lane's, Great and Little Moiser's. All persons dwelling on lands joining the division line were granted the liberty to elect in which town they should belong, with their lands, within ninety days of the passage of the act. From this privilege there resulted a long series of petitions and transfers form one town to the other. The town is eight miles long and three miles wide. It is bounded on the northeast by North Yarmouth and Yarmouth, on the southeast by Casco Bay, on the southwest by Falmouth, and on the northwest by Gray. The islands belonging to the town are Great Chebeague, Crotch, Broken Cave, Hope, Smooth Clapboard, Basket, Bates, Ministerial, Stove, Bangs, Sturdivant, Goose, Crow, Sand, and Jewell's Islands.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

John Phillips, a native of Wales, was the first settler in the town of Cumberland, on a point of land fifty feet above the mussel-beds which line the shore projecting from the hard, half-bared hills which rise a quarter of a mile farther inland. A beautiful stream finds its way through from the level meadows nine miles farther back, and falls in a series of cascades from the projecting land into the little cove. Here he erected a stone house, or garrison, and traded with the Indians. He sold his garrison to George Felt, of Malden, Mass., in 1640. Mr. Felt made his home here, and in 1643 completed his title by repurchase of Thomas Gorges. He had two sons born here, George, who was killed by the Indians on Munjoy's Island in 1676, and Moses, who was born here in 1650, and removed to Chelsea about 1733. Mr. Felt returned to Malden, after Mr. Felt's return to Malden, after the Indian outbreak of 1676, at the age of seventy-six years. Capt. Walter Gendall lived near the shore, next the Falmouth line, as early as 1665. John Plaice bought a piece of land between Gendall and Felt extending north to the creek. His deed, dated Nov. 12, 1670, says, “joining John Koleman.” These titles were lost, or merged in the general confusion attendant upon the Indian outbreak of 1676. Capt. Gendall, the first to return after the peace of 1678, built a strong house of heavy timbers, loop-holed for defense, and calculated to withstand the assault of the savage foe if occasion should again require. Displaying an intrepid bravery and keen business faculties, Capt. Gendall was made the chief of a committee appointed by order of Thomas Danforth, Esq., president, Sept. 22, 1680, to determine the place of resettlement, and lay out homes for settlers in a manner most capable of defense against any future Indian outbreak. In 1681, An-
Previous to the laying out of lots by Phinehas Jones, in 1732, a school-lot and two farms for John Powell and John Dabney had been preserved on Broad Cove, comprising the farms now occupied by W. Russell and S. Loring. The balance of the coast, except the Gendall farm, had been laid out in lots of ten acres each by Capt. Jeremiah Moulton and Benj. Flagg; those back to, and including the Grand Trunk Railroad, containing more land because of poorer quality, and back from the shore. The main part of the town is comprised in the “one-hundred-acre lots west of Royall’s River,” laid out by Phinehas Jones in 1732, and drawn June 20, 1733. Five of these ranges of lots run nearly the length of the town, and are divided by three roads, the first of which, to the southward, was opened in 1761.

In the drawing the former proprietors were first allowed to select lots; the remaining names were then put into a hat; the remaining numbers into another hat, the drawers pledged to the authority of the committee. The number following each name in the drawing was the number of the lot so chosen.†

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Lot 1</th>
<th>Lot 2</th>
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<td>Ashfield, William†</td>
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<td>Wyman, Francis*</td>
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<td>York, John†</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>York, Samuel†</td>
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</table>

* Capt. Weare was a son-in-law of Mr. Felt.
† The first column of the figures gives the number of the one-hundred-acre lots, the second of the home or ten-acre lots. Names marked with a star (*) became settlers; those marked with a dagger (†) were former settlers or their descendants.

The inhabitants, whose chief occupation was hunting, fishing, or furnishing lumber for the coasting vessels, complained that the best timber was sent away, and that their lands near the water were unfit for farms. All charges were met by tax upon the home lots. A home surveyor was employed that he might more readily be paid in home products. Wolves succeeded Indians. In 1738 six pounds bounty was paid for killing them.

Building of garrisons began again in 1740. In 1744, Jacob Mitchell and Edward King distributed the town’s stock of ammunition and flints to the inhabitants, and sentries were kept in the watch-boxes upon the walls.

June 16, 1746, Nathaniel Blanchard, who was riding near the Falmouth line, had his attention drawn to a thicket by the barking of his dog. Raising his rifle, he kept it turned upon the point until out of sight. Half an hour later, Joseph Sweat, of Falmouth, was shot from the same point and scalped, the Indian, who was in sight of the man in the watch-box, shaking the scalp in full view, then disappearing in the forest. Indians were troublesome until after 1760. The settlers were compelled, for safety, to live near together, and go armed to their work, which was commonly done in company, going from one man’s field to another.

The soldiers, both of the Revolution and 1812, were a part of the quota of North Yarmouth.

In the fall of 1780 the schooner “Rhoda,” Captain Gray, anchored in Broad Cove, near Anderson’s Rocks, leaving two boys, John Barr and Perez Drinkwater, to keep ship while the crew all went ashore. Next morning the “Rhoda” was missing, Arming themselves with whatever could be taken aboard. About eleven o’clock the night before, a boat from an English cruiser had slipped the cable and taken them off. The boys had overheard the mention of Monhegan. Steering for that place, by a pretended accident they ran into the prize, boarded her, and set sail for home. Falling in with a large English schooner off Sequin, the next morning, they captured her and proceeded to Portland, where they exchanged their prize for the more-needed substantials of life.

GREAT CHEBEAGUE ISLAND.

Great Chebeague Island contains 1800 acres of land. The first sale was from Mr. Rigby, an English proprietor, to Walter Merry. In 1743 it was owned by the First Church of Boston, Mass. The island is thickly settled, and supports two schools, two churches, and the store of Simon Hamilton, who is also postmaster. Mails are received daily by Portland steamboat. In 1865 it was voted that the islands be a separate ward, for general elections, but the Legislature did not approve the act.
BUSINESS INTERESTS.

Cumberland Centre, a beautiful village of 25 dwellings, contains also the town-house, built in 1832; church, Agricultural Hall, and stores of Blanchard Bros., established by M. Rideout & Son; C. H. Blanchard’s post-office and store; Dillingham Sisters, fancy goods; S. M. Rideout, wagons; B. W. True, smith.

A mile distant is the Cumberland Depot. In the north are James Leighton’s carding mill, built as early as 1800; shingle-mill; saw-mill, built by Geo. Hicks in 1817; grist- and saw-mill, H. R. Montfort, built 1865. L. H. Wilson, West Cumberland, postmaster, mails daily to Falmouth; office in the store of Leighton & Wilson; store opened in 1854. Poland Corners, eight miles from Portland, on lot 61, in the east of the town, is a scattered hamlet of some 20 dwellings, centering around the site of Charles Poland’s old store, opened in 1842, and now owned by John E. Dunn, and the Cumberland station on the Grand Trunk Railway, J. N. Dunn station-agent and postmaster.

The old burying-ground beside the church at Cumberland Centre is the oldest, and contains most of the early dead, and the tomb of Eliphalet Greely, founder of Greely Institute. That in the west, at the Methodist church, was opened in 1814. There is another on the Falmouth line, near the shore, and one on Chebeague Island. These are town property, in charge of a superintendent of burying grounds.

TOWN-MEETING.

At the first town-meeting, held in the Congregationalist meeting-house, Monday, April 9, 1821, David Prince, Esq., was chosen Moderator, and Rev. Cyrus Cummings opened the meeting by prayer. James Prince was elected Town Clerk, and sworn before Rev. Cyrus Cummings, Justice of the Peace; David Prince, William Buxton, and Beza Blanchard were elected Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor; Capt. Ephraim Sturdivant, Treasurer; Ammi R. Prince, Nathaniel Sweetser, Levi Sweetser, Benjamin Prince, John Marston, Jr., Jeremiah Shave, John Wyman, Elijah Allen, Nathan Titcomb, Solomon Loring, David Spear, Surveyors of Highways; Benjamin Sweetser, Constable; Nathaniel Sweetser, Collector; David Spear, Joseph Smith, John Clough, John Pride, Joseph W. Collins, Surveyors of Boards and Lumber; James Prince, Joshua Wyman, John Blanchard, Fence-Viewers; John D. Blanchard, Benjamin Sweetser, Levi Sweetser, David Buxton, William Merrill, Jr., Andrew Leighton, Alexander Barr, Moses Stubbs, Tything-Men; John M. Warren, Sealer of Leather; Joseph Sturdivant, Harbor-Master. For the Island of Chebeague,—Ambrose Hamilton, Collector and Tything-Man; Wentworth Ricker, Jonathan and Ambrose Hamilton, Fence-Viewers.
CIVIL LIST.

SELECTMEN.

1821: David Prince, William Buxton, Beza Blanchard.
1823: William Buxton, David Prince, Nicholas Hideout, Jr.
1830: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., David Buxton, Tristram Sanborn.
1831–32: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., James Prince, Tristram Sanborn.
1833: Ephraim Sturdivant, James Prince, Tristram Sanborn.
1834: James Prince, Ephraim Sturdivant, Moses Leighton.
1836: James Prince, Moses Leighton, Reuel Drinkwater.
1837: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., Reuel Drinkwater, James Prince.
1838: Tristram Sanborn, Moses Leighton, Reuben Blanchard.
1839: Reuel Drinkwater, Joseph Smith.
1840: Reuel Drinkwater, Joseph Smith, William Reed.
1841: Tristram Sanborn, Reuben Blanchard, Nicholas Hideout, Jr.
1842: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., Reuben Blanchard, James Prince.
1843: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., Ephraim Sturdivant, James Prince.
1846: Reuben Blanchard, Sewall Blanchard, Matthias Morton.
1847: Sewall Blanchard, Matthias Morton, Joshua M. Rideout.
1848: Sewall Blanchard, Alvan Sturdivant, Joshua M. Hideout.
1849: Matthias Morton, Alvan Sturdivant, Moses Leighton.
1850: Matthias Morton, Alvan Sturdivant, Ebenezer Hill.
1855: Ephraim Sturdivant, James Prince.

CIVIL LIST.

SELECTMEN.

1821: David Prince, William Buxton, Beza Blanchard.
1823: William Buxton, David Prince, Nicholas Hideout, Jr.
1830: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., David Buxton, Tristram Sanborn.
1831–32: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., James Prince, Tristram Sanborn.
1833: Ephraim Sturdivant, James Prince, Tristram Sanborn.
1834: James Prince, Ephraim Sturdivant, Moses Leighton.
1836: James Prince, Moses Leighton, Reuel Drinkwater.
1837: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., Reuel Drinkwater, James Prince.
1838: Tristram Sanborn, Moses Leighton, Reuben Blanchard.
1839: Reuel Drinkwater, Joseph Smith.
1840: Reuel Drinkwater, Joseph Smith, William Reed.
1841: Tristram Sanborn, Reuben Blanchard, Nicholas Hideout, Jr.
1842: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., Reuben Blanchard, James Prince.
1843: Nicholas Hideout, Jr., Ephraim Sturdivant, James Prince.
1846: Reuben Blanchard, Sewall Blanchard, Matthias Morton.
1847: Sewall Blanchard, Matthias Morton, Joshua M. Rideout.
1848: Sewall Blanchard, Alvan Sturdivant, Joshua M. Hideout.
1849: Matthias Morton, Alvan Sturdivant, Moses Leighton.
1850: Matthias Morton, Alvan Sturdivant, Ebenezer Hill.

TOWN CLERKS.


TREASURERS.


CONSTABLES.

Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., 1821; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., Wentworth Ricker, 1822; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., Stephen Bennett, 1823; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., John Blanchard, Wentworth Ricker, 1824; Benjamin Sweetser, Nathaniel Sweetser, Wentworth Ricker, 1825; Benjamin Sweetser, Levi Sweetser, Jonathan Hamilton, 1826; Levi Sweetser, Jonathan Greely, Barnwell Johnson, 1827; Levi Sweetser, Benjamin Sweetser, John Channing, 1828; Levi Sweetser, Moses Leighton, Wentworth Ricker, Reuben Hideout, Jr., 1829; Levi Sweetser, James Hamilton, 1830; Reuben Rideout, Jr., Matthias Morton, Daniel Morse,
1831; Levi Sweetser, Daniel Morse, 1832; Levi Sweetser, Charles Hill, 1833; Judah Chandler, Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., 1834; Benjamin Sweetser, Charles Hill, 1835; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., Benjamin Mitchell, Jr., 1836-37; Joseph Waterhouse, Ebenezer Hill, 1838; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., James Hamilton, 1839; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., Samuel Ross, Levi Sweetser, 1840; Daniel Morse, Jr., 1841; Benjamin Sweetser, Daniel Morse, 1842; Benjamin Sweetser, Daniel Morse, Jr., 1843; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., Ebenezer Bill, 1844-46; Benjamin Sweetser, Jr., James Hamilton, 1847; Benjamin Sweetser, Daniel Morse, Jr., 1848; Joel Prince, Jr., William Littlefield, 1849-50; Joel Prince, Jr., Jacob Sawyer, 1851-52; Joel Prince, Jr., James Hamilton, 1853; William Clough, Jacob Sawyer, 1854; William D. Sweetser, Albert Worden, 1855; William D. Sweetser, James M. Hamilton, 1856; Reuben Rideout, Samuel N. Brackett, 1857; Reuben Rideout, Robert Hamilton, 1858-59; Reuben Rideout, Robert Hamilton, 1860; Willard Clough, William Bennett, 1861; Reuben Hideout, William T. Littlefield, 1862; Willard Clough, Issac Stout, 1863; Reuben Hideout, William T. Littlefield, 1864; Levi Luftin, William T. Littlefield, 1865; Reuben Hideout, William T. Littlefield, 1866; Levi Luftin, Horace Henley, 1867; Levi Luftin, James Johnson, 1868-70; William S. Blanchard, John A. Hamilton, 1871-72; Levi Luftin, John A. Hamilton, 1873-79.

**COLLECTORS.**

Nathan Sweetser, 1821-22; William Reed, Jr., 1823; Levi Sweetser, 1824-25; Zenas Prince, 1826; Levi Sweetser, 1827-28; George Hicks, Jr., 1829; Beza Blanchard, 1830; Zenas Prince, 1831-32; Simeon Clough, 1833; Zachariah Field, Jr., 1834; Simeon Clough, 1835; Levi Sweetser, 1836-37; Joseph Waterhouse, 1838; George Hicks, 1839; Levi Clough, 1840; Beza Blanchard, 1841; Charles Poland, 1842-45; Willard Clough, 1846; Robert Leighton, 1847-48; Reuben Blanchard, 1849-52; Samuel True, 1853-60; Willard Clough, 1861; Samuel True, 1862; Jo seph M. Drinkwater, 1863-05; Samuel A. Sweetser, 1806-70; Asa Sawyer, 1871; Charles M. Farwell, 1872-73; Alvan Leighton, 1874-76; Charles M. Farwell, 1877; Charles E. Herrick, 1878-79.

*George Hicks died at Cumberland, on Sunday morning, Sept. 21, 1879, at the age of ninety-nine years and seven months. If he had lived till February next he would have completed his century of life. He had for many years been the patriarch of the whole community, easily remembering a time when not a living inhabitant of the town was born. His powers of mind and of body were wonderfully preserved, excepting only that his hearing of late years has been impaired. He was remarkable straight and wonderfully vigorous, easily reading without glasses. His whole life, or nearly all of it, had been spent in Cumberland. He was a very industrious and a strictly upright man in all his dealings—a kind friend and obliging neighbor. He served for some time as a fifer in the war of 1812, and was a pensioner at the time of his death. A short time before his death a friend said to him, “I hope you will live to be a hundred.” Mr. Hicks replied, “I don’t think I shall; I do not wish it.”

**SPECIAL COLLECTORS FOR GREAT CHEBEAGUE AND THE ISLANDS.**

Ambrose Hamilton, 1821; Stephen Bennett, 1823; Alexander Bart, 1824; Joel Ricker, 1828; John Hamilton, Jr., 1829; James Mitchell, Jr., 1830; Enoch Littlefield, 1833; Richard Hutchinson, 1834; Judah Chandler, 1835; Richard Hutchinson, 1836-38 and 1839; Ebenezer Hill, 1843-44 and 1847; Stephen Oot, 1852; James M. Hamilton, 1856.

**CHURCHES.**

The Second Congregational Church in North Yarmouth, now the Congregational Church of Cumberland, was organized at the house of Mr. Bethuel Wood, Sept. 3, 1793. It was recognized by an ecclesiastical council, Nov. 27, 1793. The original members were Ozius Blanchard, Benjamin Buxton, David Prince, Thomas Pratt, Joab Black, Stephen Harris, Asa Chase, Bethuel Wood, Jeremiah Blanchard, Samuel York, William Sweetser, Samuel Baker, Jr., William Blanchard, James Prince, Samuel Bacon, Nathaniel Luftin, John Shaw, William Hamilton, Nathaniel Blanchard, Jr., Eliah Mitchell.

A “Mr. Gregg”—probably Rev. William Gregg—and a Rev. “Mr. Porter”—probably Rev. Nathaniel Porter—preached here for a short time, and Rev. Rufus Anderson for some time before the organization of the church. Rev. Rufus Anderson was pastor from Oct. 22, 1794, to Oct. 1, 1804; Rev. Amasa Smith, from Oct. 22, 1806 to May 1, 1820; Rev. Samuel Stone, from May 9, 1821 to Nov. 21, 1829; Rev. Isaac Weston, from Oct. 29, 1830, to June 10, 1846; Rev. Joseph Blake, from March 3, 1841, to April 18, 1859; Rev. Ebenezer Jordan, acting pastor from Sept. 15, 1859, to May, 1870; Rev. Uriah Small, acting pastor from April, 1870, to April, 1871; Rev. Gilbert B. Richardson, from Aug. 27, 1871, to April 22, 1874; Rev. Freeman S. Perry, acting pastor from July 26, 1874, to the present time.
Congregational Cemetery.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The first Methodist class was formed in West Cumberland about the year 1800. A society was formed in 1813, with Edmond Allen, clerk, and a meeting-house erected by Ozuni Harris, Hezekiah Winslow, and Jonathan Pearson, committee. Rev. James Jaques was regular pastor in 1825, with a church of 15 members, including John Marston and wife, Sarah Wilson, and members of the Jordan, Brackett, and Winslow families. This church became a separate appointment in 1844, and has since been under the appointment of the following pastors:

Revs. J. S. Rice, 1844; J. Clough, 1845-46; David Copeland, 1847; J. Lord, 1848-49; S. S. Cummings, 1850-51; S. Ambrose, 1852; L. B. Knight, 1853; N. Hobert, 1854; Jesse Stone, 1855-56; N. D. Centre, 1857-58; A. A. Green, 1859; W. C. Stevens, 1861; I. E. Baxter, 1863; R. C. Bailey, 1864; S. V. Gerry, 1866-68; J. W. Howe, 1869; John Sanborn, 1870-71; E. Sanborn, 1873; J. S. Stave, 1874; E. Sanborn, 1875; C. S. Mann, 1876; M. Harriman, 1877; E. Gerry, Jr., 1878; G. W. Barber, 1879.

A parsonage was built near the meetings house in 1843.

The house of worship was rebuilt in 1848, and dedicated by Rev. Joseph Jenne.


The Cumberland and Falmouth Methodist Episcopal Society was formed as the result of meetings held by Rev. Joel Winch, in the school-house near the present church, in 1808. Edward Whittle, Martin Ruter, and Rev. Joshua Taylor also preached before a class was organized. In 1826 a class of twelve was organized by Rev. Mr. Taylor, and a church formed in 1831. The meeting-house was erected on the town-line, by a corporation of persons who were not members. Among the first members were Ammi Prince, Joseph York, Jr., Alvan, Cyrus, and Ephraim Sturdevant, Edward Small, Jane Titcomb, Lucy Burr, and Rachel Sturdevant. The pastors have been Revs. A. J. Webster, 1843; Joseph Hawkes, Jr., 1845; Benjamin Burnham, 1846. The pastors of the West Church have been Silas M. Emerson, 1847-49; Charles Mugger, 1850; Uriel Rideout, 1853; Swarton Banks, 1854; Ezekiel Smith, 1855; Jesse Stone, 1857; John Rice, 1858; Charles Blockman, 1860-61; John Cook, 1863; S. Banks, 1864; Alva Cook, 1865-66; Alpha Turner, 1867-68; O. H. Stevens, 1869; Ezra Sanborn, 1870-71; H. F. A. Patterson, 1872; O. H. Stevens, 1873-74; B. Pease, 1875-76; Charles Andrews, 1877; E. K. Colby, 1878-79.

The present membership is 31.


SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES.

In 1764, Nathan Titcomb, blacksmith, gave the ground for a school-house on his land (lot 61, now Poland), and David Mitchell taught school. The treasurer and selectmen were made trustees of the school fund of $1231, by the act of incorporation, in 1821. There were then seven districts on the main, with Nicholas Rice and Rev. Samael Stone committee; and two on Chebeague Island, Ambruso Hamilton and Wentworth Ricker, committee.

Greely Institute was founded by Hon. Eliphalet Greely, a native of the town, who bequeathed $7000 to erect a building, $20,000 as a fund for its support, and $1000 to purchase a library. The selectmen of the town are ex officio trustees. The principals of this institute have been Thomas J. Emery, 1867-68; Charles Chamberlain, Isaac Quimby, George M. Seiders, H. Hemmingway, John M. Hawks, Charles T. Hawes, and D. B. Fuller, 1878-79. There are now 10 districts in the town, with 412 scholars, and $5600 worth of school property. Supervisor of Schools, Lyman P. Sturdivant.
The town has had no lawyers.
Its physicians have been Frank L. Hall, M. D., located at Cumberland Centre, in 1867, succeeded by his brother, W. W. Hall, M. D.; and in June, 1879, by C. T. Moulton, M. D. These were all graduates of Bowdoin Medical College.

Among the prominent men of the town were Walter Gendall, John Powell, Seth Mitchell, Alexander Barr, Onesiphorous Fisher, Nathaniel Blanchard, Ephraim Sturdivant, David Prince, Col. Joseph Smith, Col. Samuel True, Nicholas L. Humphrey.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.**

**ALBERT RIDEOUT.**

Albert Rideout, son of Joshua and Elizabeth S. (Clough) Rideout, was born in the city of Portland, Feb. 28, 1830. His parents were natives of the town of Cumberland, where he now resides. His great grandfather, William, first settled in Cumberland upon the farm now owned and occupied by him, and was succeeded in possession of this farm by his grandfather, Reuben, and by his father, Joshua. The family of Rideout was among the first settlers of the town, and this time-honored homestead has been in the family for four successive generations, a view of which may be seen on another page of this work. The original purchase was some eighty acres, but now contains one hundred and fifty acres, but now contains one hundred and fifty acres.

At the age of nine years he went with his parents from Portland and settled on this farm, where he has resided since. In 1860, February 2d, he married Harriet S., daughter of Moses P. and Alsigail (Pratt) Thomes, of Cumberland. They have had three children, two of whom are living, viz., Elmer E. and Oscar L. Mr. Rideout ranks among the representative agriculturalists of Cumberland County, and is known as a citizen of reliability and integrity in all of his relations in life. He is a member of the Republican Party, and a promoter of all enterprises tending to the good of his town or its citizens.
ANDREW R. BASTON.

Andrew R. Baston, son of Daniel and Olive (Ring) Baston, was born in the town of North Yarmouth, May 31, 1820. He received only a common-school education, and upon reaching his majority started in life for himself by working on a farm. In 1844 he purchased a farm in North Yarmouth, and the same year married Lucy, daughter of Nehemiah and Bethiah (Maxfield) Lufkin, of that town. Their children were eight, four of whom are living, viz., Olive R., wife of Capt. Fredrick Crickett, who is now at sea commanding the ship “Bertha;” Sewall, of North Yarmouth; Lucy, Jane, and Isabel. Sewall Baston married Laura F. Swett, of Cumberland, June 14, 1874.

In 1856, Mr. Baston sold his farm and purchased the one now owned and occupied by his widow in the town of Cumberland, a view of which may be seen on another page of this work under his portrait.

Mr. Baston spent his life as an industrious farmer, never aspired to any publicity or political office, was identified with the Republican party, and known as a man of correct habits and integrity in all his business relations. He was a promoter of good, and a supporter of church and like interests. He died May 17, 1877.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

Capt. Joseph Blanchard was born in the town of Cumberland, on the farm where he now resides, June 17, 1803. He is the youngest child of Nathaniel and Christian (Loring) Blanchard, natives of Cumberland County. The Blanchards are of French and the Lornings of English descent. His father followed the sea the greater part of his life, and was drowned, at the age of fifty-eight years, at Jewel’s Island.

Capt. Joseph Blanchard received a good common-school education, and at the age of fourteen went to sea, with his brother Nathaniel, aboard the coasting sloop “Telegraph.” After four years he became second mate of the vessel for one year, two years first mate of the brig “Echo,” and then as captain of the vessel he made a trip from Portland to Charleston; thence with a load of rice to Cowes, on the Isle of Wight, for orders; thence to Antwerp.

Upon his return he made a trip with the brig “Rebecca” to Trinidad, Isle of Cuba, followed by two voyages in the brig “Catherine” to Europe. His next trip was with the brig “Echo” to Havana. On his return he was wrecked on Cape Cod, near the Highland Lights, with a total loss of the vessel, cargo, and one man. For nine years he ran the brig “Freighter” to Point Peter, Guadeloupe, followed by two trips to Europe. With the ship “John Cadmus” he made four voyages to Europe and two coast voyages, followed by two voyages in the “Freighter” to Guadeloupe, and two voyages in the next ship “John Cadmus” to Europe. He next made four voyages to the West Indies, and one coast voyage in the bark “Agnes.” He made one trip to France in the ship “Helen Augustus” during the famine in Ireland. He made two voyages to Europe in the ship “Element,” during which time he contracted to build the ship “Cornelia,” and upon his return with the “Element” he took charge of the ship “Cornelia,” and sailed her eight years to Europe. He made a sail from Gun Key Light-House, near Havana, to Boston in five days with his ship “Cornelia.” He also had charge of the “Vincennes” for one trip to Point Peter. He built the ship “United States,” commanded her two voyages, then chartered her in London for the East Indies, and put aboard as captain his cousin, John D. Blanchard, who made a successful voyage. Capt. Blanchard returned home, and with the ship “Cornelia” made three trips to Europe. At this time
the Rebellion broke out, and he retired from a seafaring life, putting Adam Woodside aboard his vessel as captain.

Since he retired from the sea he has taken charge of the old farm formerly occupied by his father in the town of Cumberland, and enjoys the quiet of life on terra-firma surrounded by his many friends, although he is still interested in navigation. He has been little connected with local matters at home, but has devoted nearly his whole time to the interests of navigation. His success as a business man has given him rank among the strong financiers of the county. He is a stockholder in the Merchants' Bank, Portland. He is said to have made more trips to the West Indies than any other sea-going man in Maine, having made eighty-four, being on the sea for upwards of forty years, during which time he made thirty voyages to Europe.

His many visits to foreign countries have made him familiar with the customs and language of other nations, and particularly in the French he is a ready and fluent conversationalist. Capt. Blanchard is a man of remarkably fine physique, sociable, and he possesses that resolution and force of character to carry forward to a successful completion whatever he conceives to be for his benefit. He married, on Oct. 4, 1829, Albertine Prince, of Cumberland. Their children living are Helen, Sarah F., wife of Royal W. Doughty, of Boston, Henrietta, and James A.

In politics Capt. Blanchard formerly belonged to the Whig party; and upon the formation of the Republican Party became a staunch supporter of its principles. He is a supporter of church and charitable interests.
Since his retirement from the sea, Capt. Blanchard has interested himself in local and State matters, and taken an active part in religious and kindred interests. He was selectman of the town of Cumberland for four years, and in 1853 represented it in the Legislature. Both he and his wife are members of the Congregational Church of Cumberland, and he has been a supporter of church and town interests for sixty-three years. In 1871, Captain and Mrs. Blanchard celebrated their golden wedding, an event seldom occurring in the history of married life.

CAPT. EPHRAIM STURDIVANT.

Capt. Ephraim Sturdivant was born in the town of North Yarmouth, Cumberland Co., Me., Feb. 14, 1782. He was third son of David A. and Jane (Greely) Sturdivant, who were of German descent but of New England birth.

Capt. Sturdivant met the usual obstacles to success in early life with that resolution and energy that characterized his manhood. The first twenty-eight years of his life, beginning at the age of twelve, were spent on the sea, and before he reached his majority he commanded a vessel, and ever afterwards until he retired from sea. In 1810 he imported a cargo of Merino sheep from Portugal, being the first ever landed in Maine. He then settled upon the farm now owned and occupied by his widow, Mrs. Mary T. Sturdivant, whom he married Nov. 5, 1843, she being his third wife. His first marriage occurred Jan. 12, 1809. Of this union were born nine children, of whom seven are living, viz.: Mrs. George Clark of Virginia; Mrs. William Sparrow, of Deering, Me.; Mrs. Stephen Allen of Hallowell, Me.; Mrs. Josiah Sawyer, of Alna, Me.; Mrs. Joshua A. Gray; Henry; of Freeport, Me.; and Mrs. John W. Smith, of Nagasaki, Japan.

His second marriage occurred Dec. 31, 1834, to Dolly S. Taylor. Of this union were born four children, two of whom are living, viz.: Mrs. Henry Newbegin, of Defiance, Ohio, and Mrs. Walter Wells, of Portland.

Of his third marriage, to Mary E. Greenly, were born four children, viz.: Sumner; Mrs. Marcellus Lowe, of Cumberland; Mrs. John E. Dunn, of Cumberland; and Clara S.

Capt. Sturdivant took an active part in local and State legislation, and as a member of the Democratic party was a strong advocate of its principles. He was selectman of his town for many years, and also treasurer.

For several years he represented his town in the Legislature, and for two years was State Senator. Capt. Sturdivant was continually before the public, and was a man of undoubted integrity, and high moral worth. In conjunction with Judge Preble, he bought the right of way for the Grand Trunk Railroad. Religiously he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a liberal contributor to church and kindred interests.

He received a limited common-school education while young, but his life was one of constant application and reading, and his general intelligence only limited by his opportunities. His sound judgment and ability was generally acknowledged, and he retained the confidence of all who knew him. He died August 31, 1868.

MOSES THOMES.

His father, Moses P. Thomes, was born Dec. 18, 1780, in Gorham, Me., and was the only son of Deacon Ebenezer Scott Thomes, who was born in Portland, and among its pioneers.
Moses P. Thomas was a farmer by occupation. He first married Jane Hasty. Their children were Abigail, Jane, Ebenezer S., Joseph, Moses, Robert H., Margaret A., and Mary.

He married, second, in 1830, Abigail, widow of Jacob Blanchard. Of this union was born one daughter, Harriet S., wife of Albert Rideout. He was a member of the First Congregational Church. He died March 28, 1870. His first wife died in 1825; his second wife died Dec. 18, 1858.

Moses Thomas was third son of Moses P. and Jane (Hasty) Thomas, and was born in Cumberland, Jan. 19, 1815, to which town his parents had removed from Scarborough in 1814. He received a fair education during his minority. Has spent his life as an agriculturist, except eight years which were spent at sea.

In December, 1845, he married Sarah A., daughter of Benjamin Whitney, of Cumberland. She was born in June, 1819. In politics Mr. Thomas, like his ancestors, is a Democrat. He is a member of the First Methodist Church of Cumberland.

Joseph Thomas, a brother of Moses Thomas, was born in Scarborough, May 10, 1812, and spent his life as a farmer, except three years at sea. He was a supporter of church and like interests, but never became a member of any church. He died Sept. 19, 1876. He was never married.

Robert H. Thomas, fourth son of Moses P. Thomas, was born in Cumberland, June 16, 1817. His early life was spent at home on the farm and at school. Upon reaching his majority he went to Missouri, and after two years began his journey to the far West, crossing the Rocky Mountains in 1841. He was among the first to undertake this, then, hazardous journey. On arriving at San Francisco (then nothing but commons) he engaged in building houses and real-estate operations. In 1844 he took up land, receiving deeds from the Mexican government which were afterwards ratified by the United States government. He paid particular attention to raising fine-bred horses and cattle, and at one time owned a herd of ten thousand cattle. He became the owner of twenty thousand acres of land, and amassed a large fortune. Prior to his death, March 26, 1878, he made large sales of his land to stock-growers, and sold the land where the village of Tahama (six hundred population) now is. He had no great desire for political notoriety, and cast his vote with the Republican Party. He was a supporter of religious interests and of good society. His remains are buried in Tahama Cemetery, the spot being marked by a beautiful polished granite monument. His portrait accompanying this sketch is a contribution from his sister Jane. He was never married.
OREN S. THOMES.

His father, Ebenezer Scott Thomes, son of Moses P. and Jane (Hasty) Thomes, was born in the town of Cumberland in 1810, and died in 1837. He married Dolly Rideout, a native of the same town; received only a common-school education, and spent several years at sea. His wife died in 1847, leaving an only son—Oren S.—who was born May 27, 1827. His early manhood was spent with John Blanchard, working at the carpenter and joiner's trade. He afterwards engaged in general merchandise trade, with the firm-name of Thomes & Blanchard, at Cumberland Centre.

In the fall of 1877 he disposed of his interest in the business to attend to the settlement of the affairs of his uncle, Robert H., who died in California, leaving a large estate. In 1878 he returned from California, and has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married, Jan. 15, 1861, Abbie, daughter of Levi and Elizabeth Kempton Evelth, of New Gloucester. Mrs. Thomes is a native of Farmington, Me., being born Sept. 23, 1842. They have two chil-