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Centennial

Souvenir

# History of Hermon

Penobscot County, Maine



(Supposed to be the first Frame House built in Hermon)

1814 - 1914







*Composed by the Centennial Committee*

Centennial Souvenir  
and  
History of Hermon  
Penobscot County, Maine



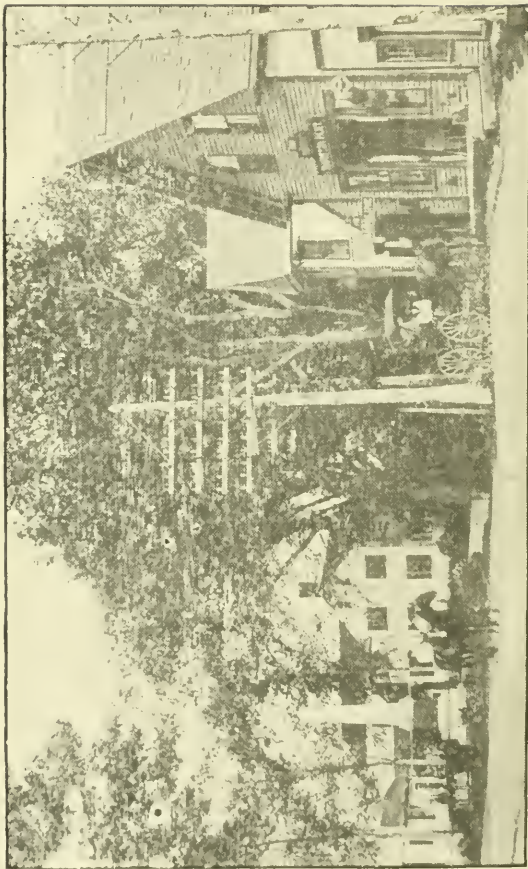
1814 - 1914



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## PRELIMINARY

To appreciate the hardships and privations endured by the early settlers, it is necessary to contrast the conditions which existed at that time, with those of the present day.

Plantation No. 2, now Hermon, was settled as early as 1783, near the close of the Revolutionary War.

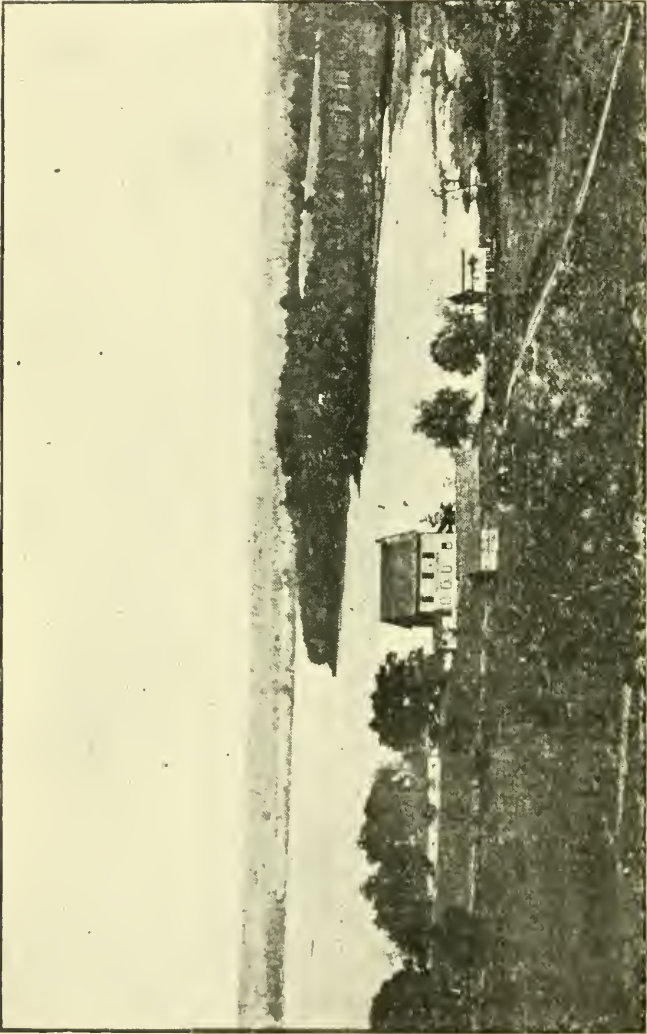
### AT THAT TIME

George Washington had about 16 years to live. The population of the United States was only a fringe on the Atlantic border. There were no railroads, steamboats, steam engines, telegraph or telephone lines and no lucifer matches on earth. It took about two weeks for a letter to reach Boston. Maine was a part of Massachusetts. Wheelersborough, now Hampden, was a thriving settlement.

Hermon was an unbroken wilderness. The early settlers lived in camps and log houses. Men, women and children wore homespun. Furniture and dishes were homemade. They subsisted on game, fish, wild berries, sorrel, molasses and what could be raised in the clearing. New England rum was 25 cts. a gallon. Communication with Wheelersborough, and with neighbors, was by water and by spotted trails. Flint and steel were used to start fires. Bears and wolves were troublesome. Natural meadows were mowed and the fodder stacked to feed the stock in winter. Religious meetings and schools were held in private houses.

### TODAY

Our population is over 1200. The tax valuation of the town is \$464,770.00 There are 3 R. R. Stations in our town and 25 or more trains daily. We have 3 Churches, 12 Schools, 7 Stores, 6 Fraternal Organizations, 60 miles of Streets and Highways, Modern Machinery, Daily Mail, Improved Stock, Automobiles, Wireless Telegraphy, Telegraph, Telephones, and countless conveniences and luxuries unknown to the world a hundred years ago.



Partial View of Hermon Pond



## EARLY SETTLEMENT

It is not definitely known who the first settler in Hermon was, or the exact date when he came. Reference to the copy of the petition to the General Court herein given, signed by 16 early settlers, who state therein that they had taken up the land on or before January, 1784, fixes definitely who was here at that date. (Three of the signers were also petitioners for the incorporation of Hampden in 1777, viz: Daniel Neal, Joseph Pomroy and Gustaveus Swan.) It is believed that all, or nearly all of the 16 petitioners above referred to came from Hampden and settled on the south and west sides of the Pond afterward known as "Hewes Pond", later "Hermon Pond" and now called Lake Hermon.

At the Penobscot Co. Registry of Deeds there is a map showing the lots given to the petitioners. The lots are numbered, having the settlers names and the figures "84", showing conclusively just where these earliest settlers located and who they were.

## HISTORICAL MEMORANDA

The following petition from Hermon, is a copy from the Massachusetts Records.

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives: in General Court assembled.*

The petition of inhabitants and settlers on Township No. 2, in the second range, west of the Penobscot River, humbly sheweth, that your petitioners are now residing on land in the aforesaid Township: and was taken up and improved, on and before January in the year of our Lord, 1784, and the interest of your petitioners wholly depends on our possessions or improvements. Your petitioners humbly pray that an hundred acres of land may be granted to each of your petitioners names; as is set forth in the following plan: and that a committee may be appointed, where applications may be made for deeds by paying the money for each hundred acres of land

so assigned to each of your petitioners, and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

(Signed)

Daniel Neal, Ebenezer Garlin, Benjamin Page, Gustaveus Swan, Charles Blagdon, Joseph Pumroy, Joseph Pomroy Jr., James Pumroy, John Blagdon, Jaramiah Swan, Paoli Hewes, Charles Blagdon Jr., William Hewes, Julius Hewes, John Swan, John Smith.

Township No. 2, in the Second Range, 7th of November, 1795.

The foregoing petition was favorably acted upon and in 1797 the lots were surveyed by Eliocheb Delano by order of the General Court of Massachusetts.

This is the first plan of Hermon on record, and is recorded in Hancock County.

No public records can be found showing what took place in Plantation No. 2, from the time the survey of 100 acres of land to each petitioner was made in 1797, until Jan. 12, 1814, when the settlers petitioned for incorporation of the town of Hermon, stating that 40 families were then living upon the Plantation.

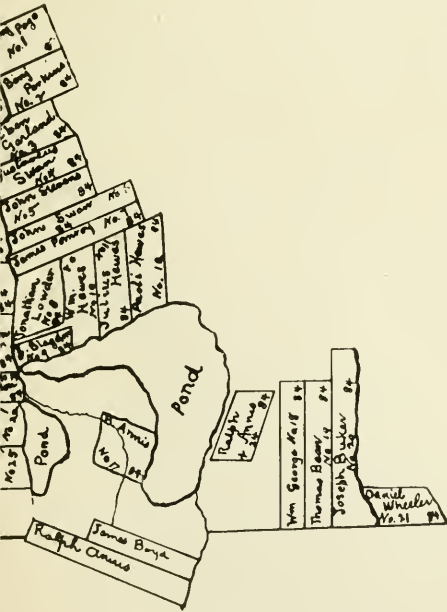
The plan above referred to, showing the survey of lots to the settlers that were here in 1797, shows by the figures "84" on them who the settlers were, on, or previous to January 1784, (23 lots are so marked), the other lots shown on the plan, not so marked, but marked with the settlers name, show who came here between 1784 and 1797. The names are James Boyd, John Pumroy and Wm. Pumroy, making 26 families here in 1797. These figures show that from 1797 to 1814, a period of 17 years, only 13 families came to Plantation No. 2.



#### First Map of Township No. 2, (Hermon)

This map is the first made of Township No. 2 (Hermon). The survey was made by E. Delano by order of the General Court of Massachusetts, called the "Quieting Act." This plate was made from a copy made by F. A. Bishop of the Historical Committee from the Penobscot Co. records. It shows who the early settlers were and their locations.

The lots on this Plan Marked with the figures 84 on them were settled upon before the first Day of January / 1784 and the others not marked was settled since



First Map of Township No. 2, (Hermon)

## EARLY SETTLEMENT OF NO. HERMON

In 1804, Oct. 30th, a survey of lots of the early settlers at what is now known as North Hermon, was made by E. Delano, of lots granted by Genl. Salem Town, according to the Resolve of March 7th, 1804, to the following persons, viz:- Jothan Mason, Amos Mann, James Mayhew, Jephtha Clark and Benjamin Clark.

These lots are shown on a plan of Hermon now in the Penobscot County Registry of Deeds and is a copy of the original plan recorded in Hancock Co. (Belfast).

This plan, above referred to, also shows lots in the south west part of Hermon granted to Gabreil Johannett, Mr. Wheeler, John Patten Jr. and Wm. Patten 2d. It seems certain from this showing that the persons above named came to Plantation No. 2 between 1797 and 1804.

While but little is definitely known of the doings of these early settlers from about 1783 to 1814, (except as herein recorded), mention of a few experiences of this rugged pioneer life may be of interest.

Deacon Julius Hewes, who was born in Boston and came to Hampden with his father Elihu Hewes, (who was chosen by the petitioners for incorporation of Hampden (Wheelersborough) to represent them before the General Court of Massachusetts), was one of the first settlers in Hermon. Soon after his arrival he married widow Hannah Grey, who lived only a few years. Julius afterward married a sister of his first wife, Betsey Ann Annis. Before roads were built many trips had to be made to Hampden, their market place. Mrs. Betsey Ann Hewes made many of these trips, often carrying a baby. She would put the grist and the baby on the horses' back with herself, and on reaching the Pond, would transfer the load to a boat which she would row across the Pond, (about one mile), the horse swimming beside the boat without saddle or bridle. On reaching the opposite shore the load would again be placed upon the horse and the journey continued by spotted trail.

When the grist was ground, the luncheon eaten and the trading done, she would return in the same way. On one of these trips she was chased by a bear. Deacon Julius Hewes was the father of 13 children, three by his first wife. He was a prominent member of the Universalist Church at Hermon Corner. He died July 11th, 1855 at the age of 87 years, 11 months and 15 days.

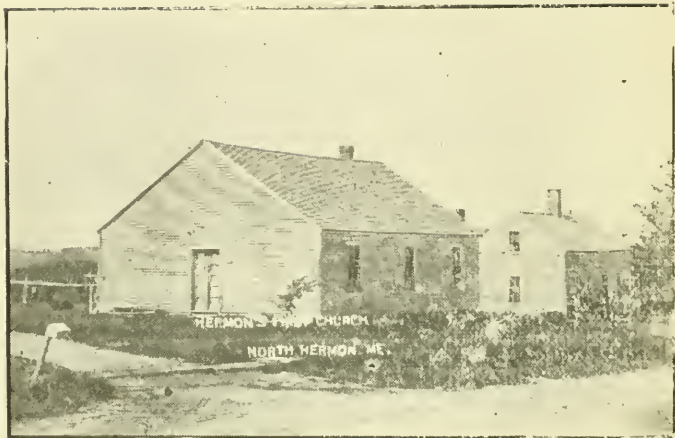
Mr. Chesley Webber who lives at Hermon Center and who is 87 years old says that his mother, Mrs. Isaac Webber, when living in the old house now standing on the farm of Geo. H. Klatte formerly called the "Tracey farm", and by some believed to be the first frame house built in the town, going out to feed the swine, drove a bear out of the hog pen with a pitch fork. On another occasion when she went with her children where her husband was at work "piling", the bears came out of the woods and drove them to the house.

It is known that John Miller who settled on "Miller Hill", carried corn on his back by spotted line to Wheelersborough (Hampden). Mr. Miller was an officer in the Battle of Hampden. He was a lumberman and riverman on the Penobscot for 26 years.

In those days women were skilled in spinning, weaving and knitting; men in hunting and trapping and in lumbering and driving. Children were brought up to work, and when they became young men and women they had shoes to wear to meetings. To economize they went barefoot until near the place where the meeting was to be held and then put on their shoes and stockings.

The shoes were mostly "cowhide" but stylish young swains and schoolmarms sometimes wore calfskin. Old boot legs were made into shoes for the children.





From 1783 to 1814, a period of 31 years, Hermon was Plantation No. 2, and grew in population from 23 families (as shown by the plan referred to) to 40 families, as stated in the following petition for

#### INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN

*To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled:*

We the humble petitioners feel to labor under disadvantages in acting in the capacity of an unincorporated Plantation and as we have had a State and County tax assessed upon us for two years, and there are forty families living on said Plantation, we, as the obedient subjects and obedient petitioners, would intreat your goodness to grant us the act of incorporation and the name of Hermon if your honors see fit and best, we in duty bound would ever pray.

The above is the wish and sense of a legal meeting of the inhabitants of Plantation No. 2, in the Second Range north of the Waldo Patent.

Signed in Presents and in behalf of said Plantation, January 12th, 1814.

WILLIAM PATTEN, Plantation Clerk.

The foregoing petition was favorably acted upon, the Town of Hermon being incorporated June 13th, 1814, by virtue of the following

### ACT OF INCORPORATION

CHAP. XXXIII, LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

*An act to establish the Town of Hermon, in the County of Hancock.*

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, that the Township numbered two in the second range of townships north of the Waldo Patent, in the County of Hancock as contained within the following boundaries, be, and hereby is established as a town by the name of Hermon, viz: east by the town of Bangor: south by the town of Hampden: west by the town of Carmel: and north, partly by the town of Levant, and partly by the Township numbered one in the third range of townships: and the inhabitants of said town of Hermon, are hereby vested with all the corporate powers and priviledges, and shall also be subject to the same duties and requisitions, as other corporate towns, according to the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth.

SEC. 2. Be it further enacted, that any Justice of the Peace for the County of Hancock, is hereby empowered upon application therefor, to issue a warrant directed to a freehold inhabitant of the said town of Hermon, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof to meet at such convenient time and place as shall be appointed in the said warrant, for the choice of such officers as towns are by law required to choose and appoint at their annual town meetings.

Approved by the Governor, June 13th, 1814.

Hermon was the 207th town in the State and contains 23,360 acres.

## CALL FOR THE FIRST TOWN MEETING

*To Collings Howes inhabitant of the town of Hermon in the County of Hancock:*

GREETING:- You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to summons and notify the freeholders and other inhabitants of said town qualified by law to voate in town meeting, viz: Such as pay to one single tax beside the poll or polls a sum equal to two-thirds of a single poll tax. To assemble at John Swan's dwelling house in said Hermon on the 23rd day of March instant (1815) at one of the clock in afternoon to act on the following Articles, viz:

(Nine Articles follow, all for choice of town officers)

Signed and dated March 9th 1815

JOSIAH KIDDER,

Justice of the Peace

At this first town meeting, held in persuance to the foregoing call, the following officers were chosen viz: Moderator, John Patten; Clerk, Collings Howes; Selectmen, Collings Howes, John Patten and Julius Hewes; Constable and Collector of taxes, Elisha C. Grant at 4 1-2 per cent premium; Town Treasurer, Collings Howes; Highway Surveyors, John Swan, Andrew Perry, Elisha C. Grant, John Wiley, Benjamin Clark; School Committee, Dist. No. 1, Wm Patten, John Patten, Peter Gubtil; Dist. No. 2, Isaac Webber, Stephen Emerson, Andrew Pomroy; Dist. No. 3, Joseph Pumroy, Jeramiah Swan, Elisha C. Grant; Dist. No. 4, John Hopkins; Fence Viewers, John Swan, Isaac Webber, Nathaniel Garland, Benjamin Clark; Hog Reeves, Stephen Emerson, Benjamin Hopkins, William Waterman, John Miller; Tithingmen, John Swan, Joseph Pumroy Jr. and Seth Thompson.

“Voated that horses shant run on Commons without fetters.”

Voted to “take up rum” from Aug. 10 to Dec. 20th.

Voted \$100. for schools, \$800. for highways and \$40. for town expenses.

Voted to have a spot of ground for a Pound at Mr. John Swan's brook south of his dwelling house.



## SCHOOLS

Before the incorporation private schools were kept in dwelling houses. Hepsiboth Dempsie Gilpatrick was one of the early teachers. At the time of the incorporation there were four school districts in town. At the first town meeting (1815) \$100. was raised for schools. At the 1816 town meeting it was voted to build three school houses and \$600. was raised for the purpose. This vote was afterward reconsidered.

In 1819 School District No. 1, (Hermon Pond) raised \$200. for the purpose and voted to build a school house 20 x 22 ft., 8 ft. posts, with square roof, shingled on one side and one end and clapboarded on the other sides, the chimney to be of stone to the mantle piece and finished with brick. Two years later District No. 2, (Garland) did the same thing. In 1833 there were seven schools and 328 scholars in town. In 1913 there were 350 pupils of school age. \$3587.01 was expended for schools.

The citizens of Hermon have always made liberal appropriations for educational purposes. At the present time there are 13 schools in town. The school houses and grounds are receiving more attention each year.

Among the successful educators and superintendents during the past 40 years may be mentioned Rufus Robinson, W. F. Harding, Dr. H. J. Webber, E. E. McLaughlin, Annie Mayhew, and the present incumbent Mrs. A. Linnis Snow, who, during her three terms in office, has kept in almost daily touch with the school work, promptly attending to every detail and meeting with great success.

Several School Leagues have been organized in town.

In the early days when school houses were to be built a committee was chosen who notified each tax payer in the district to deliver his proportionate part of the materials on or before a stated time and those who failed to do so had to pay their part of the expense in money.



Residence of Thurston Hunt, Hermon Corner

### **SOLDIERS**

In the Revolutionary War, James Mayhew served 7 years and afterward became a settler at North Hermon.

#### **WAR OF 1812**

John Miller was a Captain and Elihu Hewes, P. Henderson and Eleazer Webber were privates in the war of 1812 and participated in the battle of Hampden.

#### **CIVIL WAR**

The men of Hermon were loyal in the time of their Country's need. The town's quota was promptly filled each time a call was made for volunteers. Citizens loaned money to pay bounties and the town was soon free from the war debt. Women, young and old prepared lint and bandages for the wounded and sent many useful articles to the Sanitary Commission and to the boys at the front.

The following list of Soldiers of the Civil War, compiled from the Adjutant General's Report of enlistments in this State, may be incomplete.

Benjamin Additon, Sanford Annis, J. P. Annis, Gideon Andrews Jr., Simon Annis Jr., C. F. Barrett, M. C. Burgess, H. L. Barrett, George Brackett, Albert Bryant, John C. Bowen, O. J. Dorman, Martin V. Bryant, S. S. Buzzell, Elwin Barrett, Thomas S. Bryant, J. H. Booker, J. T. Bradley, H. H. Crocker, E. T. Clifford, William Clark, Geo. Clark, J. F. Clark, J. F. Clifford, C. R. Clark, G. W. Clifford, T. T. Clark, S. W. Dawson, E. K. Drew, Sylvester Drew, Daniel Emerson, David Emerson, M. T. Emerson, Ithamar Emerson, C. W. Fletcher, A. W. Grant, C. T. Green, Michael Gallagher, Howard Grant, M. M. Grant, Charles S. Grant, Samuel Grant, C. J. Hammond, F. J. Hammond, Franklin Hammond, J. E. Holt, Clark Hammond Jr., Cyrus E. Hewes, John Hall, H. A. Higgins, John Haskell, W. D. Jenness, Frank H. Jewell, P. P. Kimball, Stillman Kelley, Henry Kelley, A. J. Kimball, H. P. Kimball, Edward Kelley, B. L. Kimball, A. R. Lord, Geo. H. Light, Henry W. Light, Andrew J. Light, H. W. Leathers, Chas. A. Mansell, Lyman Moses, C. A. Mannell, C. H. Maddocks, Thomas Miller, Emory Morrill, M. T. Miller, E. R. Maddocks, Robert H. Nowell, Francis Overlock, Lemuel Overlock, W. F. Overlock, Newell Pomroy, L. K. Patten, Samuel Pomroy, James Patten Jr., C. H. Patten, C. H. Pickard, Henry H. Parks, Reuben Prescott, E. S. Pierce, J. F. Reed, J. J. Reeves, Lucius Rankins, G. F. Sanborn, John Sawyer, Samuel Sidelinger, A. J. Smith, Geo. H. Smith, Samuel Snow, Robert Swan, A. M. Smith, F. C. Sawyer, C. F. Staples, G. C. Spearing, Frank Smith, G. A. Tash, C. C. Tracey, A. J. Taylor, L. H. Tibbetts, Moses Wyman, Thomas Wyman, T. H. Worster, Benjamin Webber, R. D. Worster, Chas. A. Woodbury,

A. R. Witham, R. M. Whittier, James Wyman, S. L. Watson, G. A. York, S. N. York, Chas. B. Dore, Henry Derry, Hiram Emerson, Peter K. Patten, Alexander C. Hewes, Eleazer Webber Jr., Geo. F. Annis, John W. Garland, Wm. F. Johnson, George F. Luce, Wm. H. Pettee, Danforth Snow, George E. Tibbetts, Amasa Overlock, Obediah Banks, Alvin Overlock, Emery Leathers, Perry O. Bryant, Benjamin York, Lafayette Brown, D. W. Barrett, J. R. Bowen, A. K. Lord, C. H. Tuesley, J. W. Tuesley, F. G. Thompson, Wilson Hammond.

Of this number, if facts were known, many thrilling experiences incident to a soldiers' life might be cited. Capt. Benjamin York died in Libby Prison. Chas. B. Dore spent considerable time as a prisoner at Libby Prison. When finally paroled he brought home a farewell message to relatives of Capt. York.

Among the survivors at the present time is Robert H. Nowell who served in Company E, 11th Maine Infantry. One of his experiences was serving on the detail that did the work with the "*Swamp Angel*." 40 men were detailed and Mr. Nowell was among them. When the big gun burst an Oldtown man was thrown into the Swamp at such a distance it took a boat to rescue him, but he survived.

Another survivor, Martin V. Bryant who served in Company D, 11th Regiment, was taken prisoner and confined in Andersonville prison for a period of six months. He tells that the only shelter which he and two other fellow prisoners had from the storms and burning sun during that terrible experience, was a blanket stretched on four stakes driven into the sand. He secured the blanket by trading an overcoat with a rebel soldier. After one of the three died the other two had more room, he says.



### **G. A. R.**

DANIEL CHAPLIN POST ,No. 72, G. A. R., having a membership of over 40 residing in Hermon and Levant, flourished for 10 or 15 years. Meetings were held first in Levant but finally the Post moved to Hermon and met in the Grange Hall. Soon after the dedication of the Soldier's Monument at the Corner, in which the Post members participated, the charter was surrendered.

### **W. R. C.**

DANIEL CHAPLIN W. R. C., No. 39, auxillary to G. A. R. Post No. 72, had about 40 members and did a noble work for many years among the sick and destitute, disbanding in 1904. The members were the promoters of the

## **SOLDIER'S MONUMENT**

Erected at the Corner in 1901 and costing \$905.88.

Standing in the Village Square, enclosed by an ornamental steel fence, and surrounded by fragrant flowers growing in tasty beds well kept by loving hands, this beautiful Monument, a tribute to the living and dead alike, will ever perpetuate the memory of those who in the flower of their youth responded to their Country's call.



Soldier's Monument, Hermon Corner

The Monument bears this inscription.

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ERECTED A. D. 1901

IN HONOR OF

THE DEFENDERS OF OUR COUNTRY

1861 - 1865

BY THE

CITIZENS OF HERMON

AND MEMBERS OF

DANIEL CHAPLIN W. R. C. NO. 39

THE PROMOTERS

## ON DECORATION DAYS

in the cemetery at Snow Corner the Wyman and Barrett family burial lots are marked with three flags in *each lot*, in memory of soldier boys who never came back, a sad reminder of those dark days.



"Snow Corner," Hermon



## INDUSTRIAL

In the early days Samuel Ames ran a saw mill on the Wheeler Stream at Snow Corner and there was a steam saw mill at the Center.

About 1820 C. H. W. Tuesley had a brick yard at the Corner and did quite a business.

A Cheese Factory, producing three tons of cheese daily, flourished for a time in the 70's.

A Paper Box Factory was located, for a time, at the Corner.

Before the Railroads were built Hermon Corner had four stores and a Carriage Shop.

During the 60's - 80's quite an extensive Cooperage business was carried on, largely by N. D. & J. G. Eaton.

These industries are a thing of the past although there is something done in Cooperage yet.

At the present time Hermon has a Creamery at the Pond doing a big business.

Since the location of Hermon Junction in the town, the Railroad business, in various forms has given employment to a large number of men. The Eastman Heater Plant is located at the Junction, also extensive Coal Sheds.

C. W. Uetz is proprietor of the Picnic Grounds at Hermon Pond, a favorite resort for fishing, boating and picnickers in large parties. Chas. Hopkins and Emery Luce each have resorts at the Pond.

Agriculture is the principal occupation in the town. The soil is fertile and well adapted for raising crops of hay, potatoes, fruit, grain, and strawberries. The poultry business receives considerable attention. Shipping facilities are good there being three Railway Stations in town. Bangor, five miles distant, is a good market for farm products.

Hermon originally was well supplied with pine, spruce, juniper and hard wood lumber most of which was driven to market in the streams and disposed of at prices that today would seem trifling. Pine, spruce and hemlock logs in the water were worth \$2. per thousand and hemlock bark \$2. per cord.

## PROFESSIONAL

The first resident Doctor was Chas. H. Kates, about 1870. Dr. S. W. Otis came next, afterward removing to Carmel. Dr. F. P. Whittaker has been practicing here for about twenty five years. Dr. H. J. Webber practiced here a few years. Dr. L. J. Wright has practiced in town for about nine years.

## FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

LYNDE LODGE No. 174, F. & A. M. owns and occupies the upper story in the Town Hall and the basement is used as a dining hall. This lodge was instituted soon after the close of the Civil War.

JONATHAN HUNT CHAPTER, No. 9, O. E. S. also use the Masonic Hall. Both of these orders are in a thriving condition. The Chapter sewing circle members are good workers and do much charitable work. It was organized 17 years ago.

UNION GRANGE, No. 26, owns and occupies the old Universalist Church. Among the prominent early workers were the Halls, Moores, and the Cushmans. Owning this fine property, and having a large and active membership, the future success of this Grange seems assured, especially as great interest is being shown throughout the State in the work of the Grange, the membership exceeding 60,000.

TRIUMPH LODGE, No. 119, I. O. O. F., EASTERN STAR REBEKAH LODGE, No. 36, I. O. O. F. and HERMON ENCAMPMENT, No. 55, I. O. O. F. have their home in the Odd Fellow's Hall. This fine building, erected in 1907 to replace the one burned in 1906, is thoroughly built on a concrete foundation and cost \$5000. The basement is used for a kitchen and banquet hall, the first floor is used for entertainments and dancing, and the second story contains the lodge room, ante and preparation rooms. The building has hard wood finish and floors and steel ceiling. All three of these lodges are active and prosperous.



Odd Fellow's Hall, Hermon

The meetings and work of the six organizations above named furnish abundant opportunity for the social and fraternal intercourse necessary to promote united effort for the betterment of the community.

Perfect harmony exists between them and many friendly courtesies are exchanged. A notable instance of this occurred at the time the Odd Fellow's Hall was burned, when the Masonic Lodge generously gave the use of their hall, rent free, for about a year to the I. O. O. F. Lodges.

Two large stables in the rear of town lot are equally convenient for use of Grange, Masonic and Odd Fellow members, and the three dining halls, which combined seats over 300 people, can be and are all used on special occasions.

## CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

### ADVENT CHAPEL

The Advent Chapel at North Hermon was built in 1845. For many years the interest was good and the meetings largely attended. Among the most active early workers were George and John Brackett, Wm. Clark, Chas. E. Phillips, Cyrus Tibbetts and Hussey Dore. After a time the interest abated and the building not being much used became sadly out of repair. About ten years ago the people of that section felt the need of a place of worship and a society was formed, largely Advents, who have been untiring in their zeal.

They have quite thoroughly repaired the building and meetings are held regularly. A steel ceiling has been put into the Chapel this year. Rev. Joseph A. Snow is conducting the meetings at the present time.

### UNIVERSALIST

The Universalist Church at Hermon Corner was built in 1848 by Rev. Wm. Patten who was its first pastor. This society was a large and very active one for many years. Rev. Amory Battles, Rev. E. E. Peck, Rev. E. Case, Rev. Luke Rand, Rev. J. H. Sawyer and Rev. Geo. W. Quimby were pastors during the period of its greatest activity.

For lack of support the church got out of repair and in 1900 the society presented it (practically) to Union Grange No. 26. The steeple was removed, the building repaired and additions made, making a nice home for this thriving Grange.

### FREEWILL BAPTIST

This society was organized Mar. 13, 1869. Geo. D. Higgins, J. G. Eaton, James Taylor, C. H. W. Tuesley, Mary Swan, Zeruah Taylor, Hepsiboth D. Higgins and Florence Goss were charter members. They chose J. G. Eaton, Clerk and Geo. D. Higgins, Deacon and voted to join the Exeter Quarterly Meeting.

Services were first held in the Town Hall and the village school house. C. D. Garland was the first pastor. Preaching Services were held every fourth Sunday. N. F. Weymouth was chosen pastor in July following and served about one year.

A Sunday School of 30 to 40 members was organized in 1871.

Other preachers who have officiated here, most of whom have been settled pastors were: Rev. F. C. Bradeen, Rev. A. W. Reed, Dea. Geo. Higgins, Rev. S. C. Whitcomb. Students from the Bangor Theological School supplied the pulpit for a time:- Mr. Robbins, Rev. John Banks, Rev. J. Bean. Rev. Otis P. Frost came about 1890 and served six years when he resigned. He soon returned and remained until 1903. Mr. White a Seminary student officiated for a time, succeeding Mr. Frost. Arthur Black of Bangor served as pastor some little time during which the society was very active.

This church was erected in 1870. The bell was donated by Mr. Lorenzo Peabody. The organ was purchased in 1903. In 1910 the church was thoroughly repaired and painted inside and outside, a steel ceiling put in and a new foundation made. Recent pastors have been Arthur Black, Rev. Frederick Banks and Mr. Rankin a Seminary student. The society has 32 members at the present time and is without a settled pastor.



### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

This church was organized by S. S. Nason in the District school house on the Read Hill, Oct. 15th 1860.

Rev. E. K. Drew led a reformation in Hermon about 1871 - 2 which created a great interest in this society.

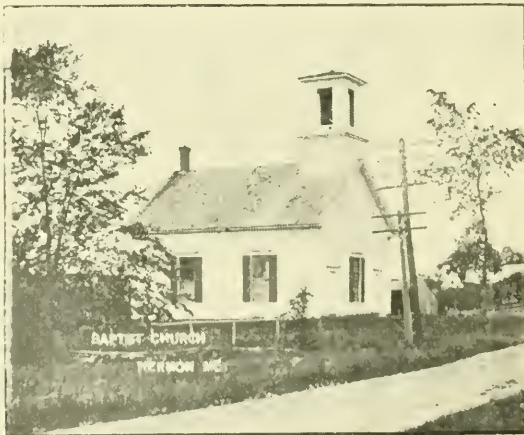
Geo. F. Luce, one of the members, bequeathed the sum of \$320. to build a church and in 1892 it was built on a lot given by Mr. Luce's widow. It was dedicated Oct. 4 of that year, Rev. Joshua House of Corinna officiating.

This Church is open to all Evangelical denominations.

Rev. S. S. Nason served as pastor until 1864 and was followed by Rev. Mr. Gowin until 1869, then Elder Otis 1869 to 1872. Regular monthly conferences were held. Other pastors have been, Revs. Jacob Durgin, Ephriam Drew, Timothy Humphrey, and Charles E. Hewes, one of the most zealous workers. Rev. Jos. Grindall of Bangor served from March 1897 for one year. Rev. S. H. McKeene, 1898 - 1900, Rev. Stacey Burrill and Rev. Rufus Bartlett and many others have labored here.

This society was duly incorporated May 9, 1891. The organ was bought in 1898. At the present time Mr. & Mrs. Eben Clement are very active members. This church has been repaired this year.

Rev. Oscar Overlock has conducted undenominational services for the past few years. Mr. Overlock is an Advent preacher.



Baptist Church, Hermon

## MERCHANTS

Warren & Burnett, Gen. Hersey, William and Daniel Hewes & Julius Hewes were among the early traders. Afterward, Benj. Swett and the firm of N. D. & J. G. Eaton who kept a General Store at the Corner, then John Kimball, John H. Kimball, George W. Moore, Geo. F. Moore, Thurston Hunt, J. J. Royal. Franklin Perry, W. S. Pike on the Fuller Road in Burnett Dist. Mr. Libby at No. Hermon. Kimball & Bishop succeeded by F. A. Bishop at Snow Corner. A. J. Kenniston, Vassar Vafiades and Mr. Crowley at Hermon Junction. The above list comprises the traders in town, past and present, although incomplete.



## POPULATION OF HERMON

1800 - 82	1850 - 1374
1810 - 179	1860 - 1432
1820 - 277	1870 - 1489
1830 - 533	1890 - 1282
1840 - 1042	1900 - 1183

## TAX VALUATION

1812 - \$9,229.02	1880 - \$399,999.00
1820 - \$22,056.00	1900 - \$361,142.00
1860 - \$197,120.00	1914 - \$464,770.00

In 1880 the State Valuation Commission added about \$100,000 to Hermon's valuation. The Valuation Commission of 1890 made a reduction of about \$56,000.

## NUMBER OF POLLS

1812 - 33	1903 - 349
1833 - 146	1914 - 344

NOTE - The increase in valuation from 1900 to 1914 of \$103,627 has been largely due to the establishment of Northern Maine Junction in the town during that time.

The population has increased since 1900 from the same cause.

**PROMINENT SONS OF HERMON**

Among the prominent sons of Hermon resident in other States may be mentioned:

CHAS. OVERLOCK, now serving as United States Marshal, Ex-Mayor, Bisbee, Ariz.

LEMUEL OVERLOCK, Banker and Broker, Bisbee, Ariz.

WM. OVERLOCK, Banker, Merchant, Hop Raiser, Ex-Mayor, Kent, Washington.

FRANK SPRATT, Principal High School, Providence, R. I.

FRED L. BRYANT, Capitalist, Manufacturer, Chicago, Ill.

WALDO T. McLAUGHLIN, Custom House Broker, Boston, Mass.

GEO. W. HALL ESQ., Government Clerk, Washington, D. C.

HARRY LEATHERS, Draughtsman, Boston, Mass.

DR. H. H. KIMBALL, St. Paul, Minn.

JASON M. PATTEN ESQ., Retired Farmer, Minneapolis, Minn.

FRANK YORK ESQ., St Louis, Mo.

CHAS. AMES, Retired Manufacturer, California.

BENJ. W. GUBTIL, Inventor, Saginaw, Mich.

LEON M. HEWES ESQ., Manufacturer, Boston, Mass.

MADISON M. MILLER, Furniture Dealer and Mover, Dorchester, Mass.

LORIN CLARK ESQ., Mining Expert, Atlantic City, N. J.

ALTON CLARK, Somerville, Mass.

DR. W. W. CUSHMAN, Claremont, N. H.

DR. ELMER E. SHAW, Walla Walla, Wash.





Residence of Mrs. L. D. Snow, Snow Corner, Hermon

**EARLY TOWN OFFICIALS**  
**SELECTMEN**

- 1815 Collings Howes, John Patten, Julius Hewes
- 1816 Collings Howes, Wm. Patten, John Swan
- 1817 Wm. Patten, Collings Howes, John Swan
- 1818 Wm. Patten, Collings Howes, John Swan
- 1819 Wm. Patten, Francis Jenness, Julius Hewes
- 1820 Wm. Patten, Julius Hewes, Francis Jenness
- 1821 Wm. Patten, Joel Read, Francis Jenness
- 1822 Wm. Patten, Joel Read, Francis Jenness
- 1823 Joel Read, Francis Jenness, Johnathan Hutchins
- 1824 Joel Read, Julius Hewes, Francis Jenness
- 1825 Wm. Patten, Julius Hewes, Joseph Maddocks
- 1826 Wm. Patten, Jos. Maddocks, Francis Jenness
- 1827 Wm. Patten, Joel Read, Francis Jenness
- 1828 Wm. Patten, Francis Jenness, Joel Read
- 1829 Joseph Maddocks, John Maddocks, Ebine Taylor
- 1830 Wm. Patten, Jos. Maddocks, John Maddocks
- 1831 Wm. Patten, Joseph Maddocks, John Maddocks
- 1832 Wm. Patten, James Taylor, Sam'l, Verril

- 1833 Wm. Patten, Sam'l Verril, James Taylor  
1834 Wm. Patten, Sam'l Verril, Samuel Ames  
1835 Joseph Maddocks, Elihu Hewes, David L. Jennis  
1836 Elihu Hewes, Samuel Ames, Sam'l Verril  
1837 Samuel Verril, Samuel Ames, Ebenezer G. Patten  
1838 John Miller, Isaac Emerson, Joel Read  
1839 Wm. Patten, Samuel Ames, James Patten Esq.  
1840 James Patten Jr., Alanson Grant, Lionel D. Phillips  
1841 James Patten Jr., Wm. F. Full, Joseph Maddocks  
1842 James Patten Jr., Wm. F. Full, Joseph Maddocks  
1843 Joseph Maddocks, Samuel Ames, John Kimball  
1844 John Kimball, Alanson Grant, John Maddocks  
1845 John Kimball, James Patten Jr., John Maddocks  
1846 John Kimball, Wm. Hewes, John Maddocks  
1847 John Kimball, Oliver Patten, John Maddocks  
1850 James Patten Jr., Chas. D. Bryant, Geo. W. Patten  
1851 John H. Hinckley, Hiram Harding, John Patten  
1852 Isaac G. Decrow, Hiram Harding, John Patten  
1853 John Kimball, Stephen S. Hewes, Alanson Grant  
1854 I. G. Decrow, J. H. Johnson, Harvey Harding Jr.  
1855 John Kimball, Stephen S. Hewes, Alanson Grant  
1856 - 57 J. Kimball, Silas Miller, Enoch Leathers  
1858 James Patten Jr., Lewis Kimball, Rufus Robinson  
1859 James Patten, Lewis Kimball, Jno. M. Bickford  
1860 J. M. Bickford, Hiram Harding, Henry Barrett  
1861 John Kimball, H. Barrett, Enoch Leathers  
1862 - 63 J. Kimball, J. H. Hinckley, Enoch Leathers  
1864 J. H. Hinckley, Alanson Grant, N. D. Eaton  
1865 John Kimball, N. D. Eaton, Henry Barrett  
1866 John Kimball, N. D. Eaton, Wm. H. Leathers  
1867 John Kimball, N. D. Eaton, James Patten  
1868 John Kimball, James Patten, Levi Allen  
1869 - 70 John Kimball, N. D. Eaton, Albert Hall  
1871 N. D. Eaton, Albert Hall, R. Robinson Jr.  
1872 John Kimball, D. M. Hall, John W. Leathers  
1873 J. H. Hinckley, D. M. Hall, Harvey Harding  
1874 John Kimball, J. W. Leathers, Seth K. Ames  
1875 John Kimball, S. K. Ames, G. W. Hopkins

## CHRONOLOGY

### PLANTATION - TOWNSHIP NO. 2

- 1784 Early settlers came on or previous to Jan. 1, 1784.
- 1793 Polly Clark, born.
- 1794 Betsey Swan, daughter of John Swan, born.
- 1795 Richard Casey, born.  
Early settlers petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts for 100 acres of land each.
- 1797 Synthas Mayhew, born.  
Survey of land made by order of Mass. General Court giving 100 acres of land to each petitioner in persuance of a resolve called the "Quieting Act."
- 1813 Petition for incorporation of the town of Hermon?

### TOWN OF HERMON

- 1814 Date of Incorporation, June 13th, 1814.
- 1815 First Town Meeting held at John Swan's house.
- 1816 Voted to build 3 school houses, 1 - 2 - 3.  
Voted to raise \$600. to build 3 school houses.  
This vote was afterward rescinded.  
Voted "To keep all thisels down on every man's land on penalty of \$20. fine. The selectmen to see that the thisels were mowed to clear the fine."
- 1817 Voted to "Keep the road open from Isaac Webber's S. W. Corner lot to Collings Howes' South line without gates or bars."
- 1818 Voted to have "Priviledge to kill patridges and robbins"  
25 votes cast for Governor.  
Raised \$200. for schools.  
Pauper sold at vendue for 92 cts. per week, board and clothing.
- 1819 Town meeting held in No. 1 District School House.  
Voted on separation of Maine from Massachusetts, passed.  
Wm. Patten chosen delegate to convention called to frame State Constitution.  
Voted to accept Constitution.  
Salaries for town officers for 1819,  
Constable, \$1.00; Clerk, \$1.00; Treasurer, \$2.00 per year.

- 1820 Voted "to allow Peter Gubtil five dollars for 1-2 acre of land for a "berrying" place and five dollars for the privilege of getting to it."  
 "Elisha C. Grant bid off the fencing of it at nineteen and one-half dollars which is to be done with good posts and rails between this and next winter. He is also to clear up the bushes and make a "desent" gate and "hawl" in a load of suitable gravestones."
- 1822 Built School house in No. 3, (at No. Hermon) then called Mansborough, a district 2 miles square in the N. E. Corner of the town, named for Amos Mann one of the early settlers in that part of the town.
- 1825 School house in No. 4, built.  
 School house in No. 3, burned.  
 March 6th, Ezra Patten, Chesley Patten, Daniel T. Emerson, Isaac Webber and Eleazer Webber petitioned for a district meeting to build a school house in No. 2.  
 School house in No. 2, built.
- 1828 9 School Districts in town.  
 Paid \$10. for 1-2 acre of ground at No. Hermon for a burying ground.
- 1830 Road, Hermon to Glenburn laid out.  
 School District No. 9, established.
- 1832 Voted to allow gates to road through Maddock's farm.  
 115 voters registered in town.
- 1833 \$400. for schools, \$2500. for roads.  
 146 legal voters in town.  
 7 schools and 328 scholars in town.
- 1834 Billings Road accepted.  
 Voted to build Town House.  
 Voted to build Avenue Road.  
 Burying ground on "Boston Road" accepted.  
 Selectmen met at John Hinkley's Inn to grant license to retail liquor dealers.

- 1835 Selectmen appointed a committee to petition Capt. Lowder for land on which to build a Town House.  
Voted to build bridge across Wheeler stream. Reconsidered at later meeting.  
May 25, voted to build a Town House.
- 1836 Voted to build " Bog Rd." and use \$300. raised to build Town house.
- 1837 Mar. 31, Disposition of State Surplus Funds talked up.  
June 15, Distribution of State Surplus Funds.  
Samuel Ames, James Taylor and Patrick Crogan, chosen a committee to receive the State Surplus Funds and distribute it among the inhabitants.
- 1845 300,000 ft. Hemlock and Pine logs in water at "Cross Bridge" sold for \$2. per m. for logs, and \$2. per cord for bark.  
Voted to build School house in No. 6.
- 1847 Town House built.
- 1848 Universalist Church built by Rev. Wm. Patten, its first pastor. Benj. Bussey, former owner of the town of Hermon, died in Roxbury, Mass.
- 1867 Raised \$3,000. by taxation to reduce the war debt.
- 1870 Baptist Church built.  
Voted to pay the State and County tax out of State bonds in the town treasury.  
Town voted to erect a suitable monument to our deceased Soldiers. Reconsidered at later meeting.
- 1874 Town House enlarged and made into two story building, the Masonic Lodge sharing in the expense and occupying the upper story since that time.
- 1890 Odd Fellow's Hall built on part of the town lot.
- 1900 Universalist Church sold to Union Grange for one dollar.
- 1906 Odd Fellow's Hall burned. This was a two story building, 30 1-3 x 55 ft.
- 1907 New Odd Fellow's Hall built on same site, size 32 x 65 ft. with 23 ft. posts.



Residence of Frank A. Bishop, Snow Corner, Hermon

### REMARKS

We cannot close this brief history covering a period of 131 years, without expressing our admiration for the undaunted spirit of the strong men and women, who, leaving behind them the comforts of civilization, braved the dangers and hardships of pioneer life to make for themselves homes in the unbroken wilderness, and whose sturdy descendants are today scattered throughout this town and the nation. Of the earliest settlers many are buried in the cemetery at Hermon Pond. Peace to their ashes!

The changes which have taken place in Hermon in *One Hundred Years* is in a slight degree typical of the wonderful development of these United States during that period. A transformation so seemingly magical that it is the wonder of the world, and is beyond the power of pen to describe.

The committee are indebted to the Town Register, published in 1904, for information on church matters and statistics.

## CENTENNIAL COMMITTEES

General Committee	R. H. PATTEN, Chairman
Entertainment, Invitation and Reception	J. MELLETT TAYLOR, Chairman
Historical Committee	F. A. BISHOP, Chairman
Music Committee	ALBERT WING, Chairman
Parade Committee	L. S. McLAUGHLIN, Chairman
Printing and Publicity Committee	R. W. SNOW, Chairman
Decorative Committee	A. LINNIS SNOW, Chairman
Banquet Committee	MRS. DAISY HUNT, MRS. LIZZIE WING, MRS. EFFIE BISHOP, Chairmen
Athletic Committee	T. T. DUNN, Chairman
Souvenir Committee	ANNIE M. SMITH, Chairman
Program Committee	ERNEST BISHOP, Chairman
Antique Committee	MRS. OLIVE TIBBETTS, Chairman
Improvement Committee	F. A. BISHOP, Chairman
Refreshment Committee	MABELLE MOWATT, Chairman

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This "History of Hermon"  
was compiled by the Historical Committee.  
Frank A. Bishop, Chairman,  
Roscoe W. Snow, Annie Mayhew.



# Official Program

HERMON, MAINE, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19th, 1914

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## A. M.

- 5.00 Ringing of Bells
- 9.00 Band Concert
- 9.30 Civic and Industrial Parade
- 11.05 Drill of Emergency Squad
- 11.15 100 Yard Dash, Bitlings Road opposite Town Lot
- 11.25 Potato Race, Town Lot
- 11.45 Tug of War, Town Lot
- 12.00 M. 25c Dinners Served in Town Hall, I. O. O. F. Hall and Grange Hall.

## P. M.

- 1.00 Band Concert
- 1.30 Literary Exercises
  - Meeting called to order by J. Mellen Taylor, Chairman of Entertainment, Invitation and Reception Committee.
  - Prayer.
  - Address of Welcome,
    - Russell H. Patten, Chairman General Committee.
  - Singing of Star Spangled Banner by School Children.
  - Address, Chas. E. Jackson of Portland, Maine.
  - Selection, Band.
  - Letters from Absent Ones.
  - Singing of America by Assembly.
- 3.15 At F. O. Prescott Place. Barrel Race
- 3.30 Base Ball Game, followed by 3 Legged Race, Broad Jump, High Jump, and Base Ball Throwing Contest.

Exhibition of Antiques at Grange Hall during the day.









LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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