

PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
SHARON
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF
SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS

NO. 3 — APRIL, 1906

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BOSTON
PRESS OF H. M. HIGHT
76 Summer Street
1906

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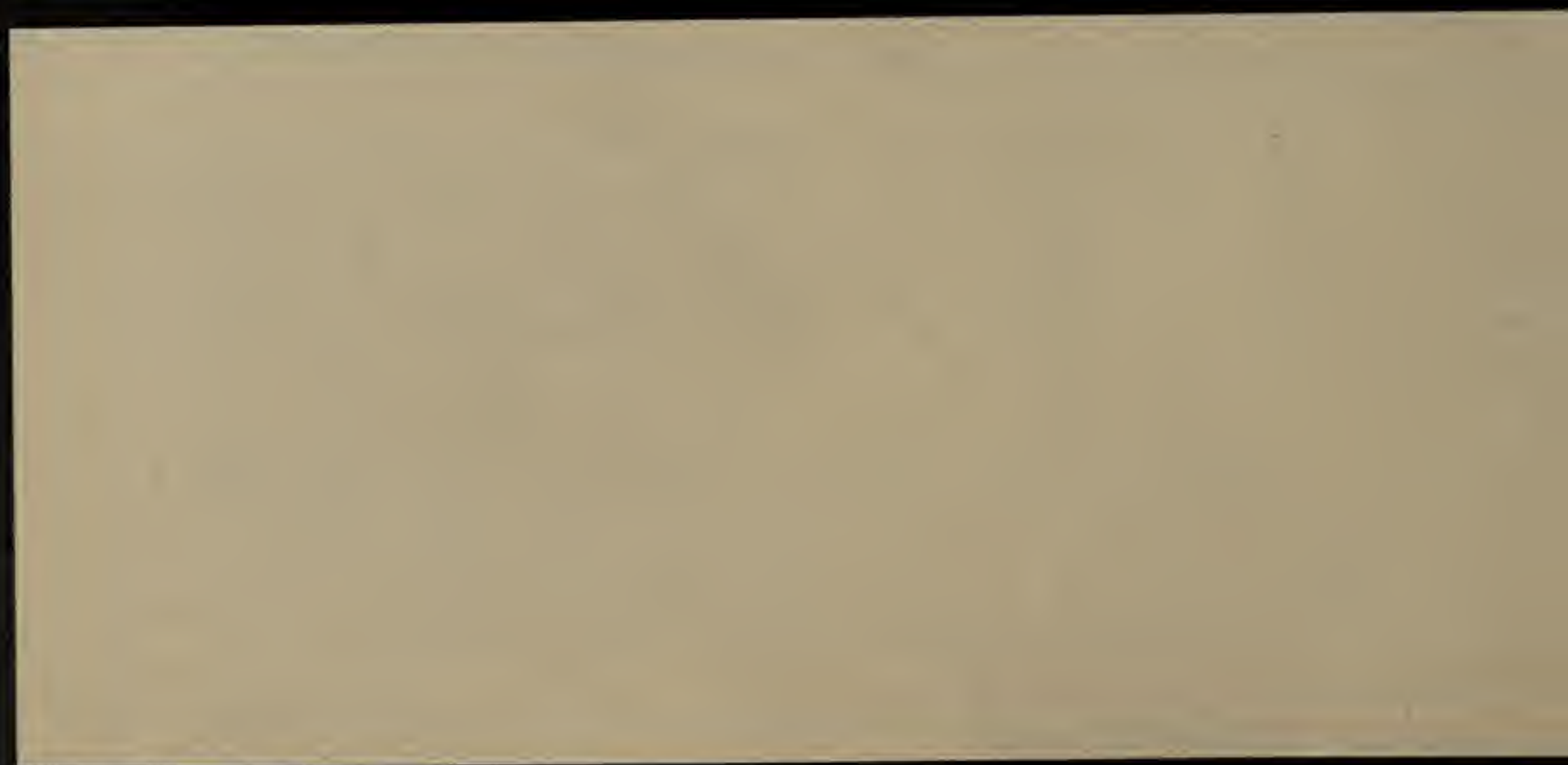


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A BUILDING FOR AN HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Compliments of
Sharon Historical Society



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Vol. 3

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By SHARON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

REVIEW OF THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS,

BY JOHN G. PHILLIPS,

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

A review of the year, while it shows in a frank manner what has been done, also encourages the society in its efforts to do another year's work. The study of the work done will lead to discrimination in the choice of suitable work for the future.

In closing the records of three years of continued growth, the Sharon Historical Society feels that it has passed the experimental period of life and may justly claim a right to enter the ranks with those which are looked up to, as entitled to speak with some authority. But this comparative maturity by no means indicates that its full growth has been reached or its final work accomplished. On the contrary, it is the work that has not been done, but for which the experience of the past serves as an inspiration, that may well be our cause for congratulation.

Starting in 1903 with limited numbers and modest enthusiasm, our society has never been a precocious child to attract the wonder and at the same time the fears of its friends; but we feel that its development has been, in every respect, a normal one, steady and

sure, giving promise of a long existence and a well rounded character.

While we take just satisfaction in viewing the past, our expectations for the coming years are even more deserving of interest. We have undoubtedly learned much that has been of assistance from the experiences of sister organizations. It has been our aim, not to imitate other societies, but to appropriate from them only that which seemed to us of especial value in a general way, while making a careful study of our own individual condition and environment, and marking out such a course as seemed best for ourselves.

In some respects we may have pursued a somewhat unusual, if not altogether original, course for an historical society; but this experience has taught us that novelty is not only not incompatible with usefulness but may even be a potent means to that desired end.

Having in mind the familiar adage that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," we have adopted at our quarterly meetings the method of mingling exercises of a popular, though not inharmonious character, with those which indicate the serious purposes of our society; and the results seem to show good judgment.

Our earlier meetings were held in the small hall of the town house, but of late the growing attendance has justified us in making use of the main hall for the quarterly meetings of the past year. These meetings have been held in April, August, October and January. The times for holding these proved to be acceptable. The fourth Thursday in January is much better than a date earlier in that busy month; the fourth Thursday in

April and in October are in settled weather and do not conflict with other gatherings; and the meeting on the Thursday of Old Home Week is one of the best of the year, being very appropriate to the time.

The meeting of April 27th, 1905, was the annual meeting at which the reports of the several officers were read, and the president gave a general review of the work of the year. Nine new members were admitted and the previous officers of the society were re-elected. Mr. Frederic Endicott, of Canton, the guest of the evening, presented a paper giving a description of the shores of Massapoag, and Mrs. Mann read an account of life in Sharon sixty years ago, written by our vice-president William R. Mann. The exercises were interspersed with music; the Concord Hymn of Emerson, set to original music by Mr. C. C. Stearns, who on this occasion played the accompaniment, was sung by a local quartette, and during the intermission refreshments were served. This meeting was of a distinctly local character.

Quite different was the meeting of August third in Old Home Week. After the usual business meeting, at which eleven new members were admitted, his Honor Lieutenant-Governor Guild delivered a most entertaining and appropriate address, which was followed by an informal reception. During the evening there was singing by a picked quartette. The society invited the public to attend and join in the reception to the distinguished guest, and the occasion was a popular event.

The October meeting was held as appointed with Hon. James H. Flint, Judge of Probate Court of Norfolk County, the guest of the evening, who delivered an

interesting address. A list of gifts to the society was read and also a record of the doings for the last quarter. Instrumental and vocal music was rendered. Tea was served during the intermission, which was followed by a paper by the president of the society on the origin of the several historic names of the town. Eight new members were admitted. This meeting was mainly one of local interest.

At the mid-winter meeting of January 25th, 1906, six new members were admitted; and after the usual business had been transacted, the popular exercises were in order. The date of this meeting happened to fall upon the anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, and was appropriately celebrated as the "Burns Festival." Rev. Edward A. Chase of Wollaston delivered a scholarly address upon the life and works of the poet, and that bonny son of Scotland, Mr. John R. Anderson, delighted the audience with Burns recitations and dialect stories. A fine quartette sang Scotch songs. The refreshments consisted of tea and Scotch scones, served by young ladies clad in Scotch plaids; and every one of the large audience present, including the public which was generously invited, was an enthusiastic son or daughter of one or another Scottish clan for the evening.

The town of Sharon is of ordinary historical interest, and of average size as to territory, presenting perhaps rather more than the usual diversity of surface, and geological interest and scenic beauty for eastern Massachusetts, with few markedly interesting features; but to the careful observer, much may be discovered to attract the attention of the student of science or of history.

The old abandoned iron mines and foundry sites which mark the chief claims to historical recognition, the lakes and beds of primitive lakes, the geological eskars and glacial hills and boulders, are an interesting study; and the ancient cellars and family grave yards, eloquent of the life and the succession of generations of our original settlers, and the forgotten paths of our ancestors, are all worthy of the attention of the sons and daughters of today. The unusual variety of forest trees is also worthy of notice.

All these considerations invite the members of the Sharon Historical Society to take rambles from time to time over the domains of their own town. The Historical Society last year conducted nine interesting outings. Such excursions are admirably fitted to inculcate town patriotism, as they promote appreciation and love for the rocks and rills and woods of the home environment and give the opportunity of study at first hand in local history. Books do not teach all.

“One impulse from a vernal wood
May teach you more of man,
Of moral evil and of good,
Than all the sages can.”

On May 13th, 1905, eight persons, our two venerable vice-presidents among the number, started from the Square and walked about a mile to the saw-mill. The special objects of interest were the old Savel's Tavern; the site of the school house, the next to the oldest in the village, near the corner of the lot where now stands the Congregational Church; the house occupied by Rev. Philip Curtis, the first minister of the first parish, built

about 1754; the cellar of the old Deacon Estey house; the site of the first school house where the old men and the women and children gathered on June 17th, 1775, to watch the smoke and hear the booming of the cannon from the battle of Bunker Hill.

On May 27th, a walk was taken by a party of twelve, who visited the old dam and the ruins of the old hydraulic works near the railroad station, and several ancient houses of interest, returning by a romantic path through the pines.

The third ramble on June 10th was enjoyed by twelve ladies and gentlemen. The party took the electric cars to Cobb's Corner where the historical Cobb's Tavern was viewed. From there the walk began, past the beautiful grove of hemlock trees, up Bay Street to the old Belcher homestead, thence to Devil's Rock and Devil's Bridge on Massapoag Brook, where a lady of the party sang the song, "Meet Me by the Running Brook."

Sixteen persons made up the party for the ramble of June 24th, through North Main, Maskwonicut, Richards and Canton Streets. Mr. Solomon Talbot was the leader, who gave an interesting description of the old saw-mill which stood in 1737 near the present railroad bridge. Chestnut Tree Cemetery was then visited and the epitaphs on the ancient headstones deciphered. A stop was made at the Talbot home where refreshments were hospitably served and the party returned by the trolley cars.

The Old Home Week outing of August 4th was the chief undertaking in the line of rambles, when the

Historical Society conducted a large party of members and guests to the ruins of the Revolutionary foundry of 1770, situated near the Foxborough line. The trip was made in barges. An interesting historical paper was read.

The sixth ramble on September 9th was undertaken part of the way on foot and partly by carriages. A party of twenty-one persons paid a visit to Rock Ridge Cemetery where are located the graves of Deborah Sampson and Edmund Quincy, and to the site of the birth place of General Benjamin Tupper, all of Revolutionary renown. From here the top of the ridge was followed through the woods a mile or more to Massapoag Pond. A letter from George W. Field, Ph. D., was read, giving a scientific account of the formation of this geological eskar. The return was made by carriages through Pond Street.

On September 23d a party of twenty-four took a trip to Massapoag, and Mr. Frederic Endicott of Canton explained the peculiar formation of the banks at the north end of the pond. A sail about the pond was enjoyed in the launch, "Marion," and several interesting historical houses and sites were visited on the way home through Gunhouse and South Main Streets.

On October 14th thirty-six people took a drive northerly to the site of the old Roebuck Tavern and from there over the old Post Road of Colonial days, five miles, to the site of the old Billings Tavern in the extreme south part of Sharon. On the way home a stop was made by invitation at the club house near Wolomolopoag Pond.

Thirty-seven people took a walk on October 28th, the last ramble of the season. A visit was made to the old Ellis place and to the ruins of the dam and iron forge, across the railroad track on Beaver Hole Brook. On the return across the fields, once a part of the farm of the first minister, a pause was made at the house of the president of the society, where afternoon tea was served and a pleasant half hour passed.

Both the quarterly meetings and the field days of the society are improved in a literary way by a narrative of the occurrence, written by a member and published in the town newspaper.

As long as the interest continues in these rambles, it seems wise to conduct them. Last year two rambles a month in May, June, September and October, with another ramble in Old Home Week, were well patronized; and the directors have planned for the present year a list of eleven outings which is printed elsewhere in this number. All persons living on the routes taken in these outings are especially asked to join in the excursions and give to the ramblers the peculiar information which they possess of points of interest on the routes. The interest in these rambles increased very noticeably during the season of 1905, passing from the experimental stage to that of assured success.

Volumes two and three of the Scrap Book have been bound during the past year. Volume four is nearing completion. Thus permanency is reasonably secured for the books, which, although not published as the cost is too great, are substantially bound and ought to last for generations, furnishing a rich store house for future

historians, as well as matter for occasional readings in meetings and on outings.

We urge members and friends to investigate some subject of town interest and make a written report in the form of a contribution to the Scrap Book. Will members please notice that what is desired is not necessarily what they already know, but a narrative of something desirable to be investigated and perhaps now quite unknown, but remaining to be investigated and then written up. The historian's work is not the machine work of writing from memory or copying merely, though that is valuable, but it is the investigation, the search for sources of information, the comparison of different accounts, and the sifting of evidence, and finally the logical arrangement and interesting manner of writing the narrative. Apart from the value of the result obtained will be the delight in the search of truth, and the pleasure in the exercise of the mental operations of comparison, judgment and luminous expression in composition.

Our society has joined the Bay State Historical League within the past year. This tends to the stability of the local society and gives a broader outlook. Federation has proved useful in other lines, and will no doubt prove so in historical lines. New England is peculiar in having historical societies in its small towns. Federation is the more necessary here to promote life and good work.

In this connection, it is to be noted that the American Historical Association, a highly respectable body incorporated by Congress, in whose printing office its

reports are printed, holds its national meeting this next December in the near-by city of Providence. The zeal of our society should be exhibited in a considerable attendance at the meetings which cover several days; and we would be glad to entertain in our homes some of the guests of that gathering if we can secure their good company. The society is indebted to our efficient Congressman, Hon. John W. Weeks, for the gift of annual reports of this national association containing over twenty-four hundred pages.

The subjects mentioned in this paper by no means include all the work that our society could do. Without neglecting the interesting matter already begun and still in progress, such as enthusiasm in attendance upon the meetings, and participation in the historical excursions, and contribution in writing and gifts, there are other interesting lines of work for the future. A collection of plans of lands, history of titles of estates such as an examiner of titles could compose, and abstract of probate proceedings at Dedham in Sharon estates from 1793 to 1878, for which an index of names is already furnished in the Scrap Book, photographs of houses in Sharon, copies of family registers in old Bibles, are to be desired. Another piece of work which the busiest or the idlest person can, without much trouble, furnish, is to inform the officers of the society of the existence and whereabouts of historical matter, of letters, diaries, account books, memoranda and relics. It is not infrequently the case that some fact of importance, well-known to a few, is unknown to all others.

Each member can help the society by some effort

to enlist the interest of natives of Sharon residing outside the town and many other non-residents who, for one reason or another, are connected with Sharon.

Association with neighboring historical societies by the interchange of visits at the meetings has been thought of by the officers, but remains to be carried out. A simple plan to effect this association would be to invite specially to each regular meeting a delegation from some one kindred society and to send delegations from our own society, from time to time, to the meetings of other societies. In this way, as the clergy phrase it, we could do good and get good.

The Sharon Historical Society does not exist for the mere purpose of work, but for the purpose of doing its appropriate work. A considerable share of such work concerns this town alone, but there is also a line of work in town history which is a part of national history. To thoroughly understand the life, character and achievements of the fore-father, of the soldier in the Colonial, Revolutionary and Civil wars, of the minister, the school master and the yeoman of olden time, is to understand in a most vital way, the history of our glorious country.

The president desires to express indebtedness to the corresponding secretary for his substantial encouragement in the preparation of this paper, and feels himself in honor bound to recognize and publicly acknowledge, his very material assistance and contribution, without which, this review could not have been written.

MASSAPOAG POND BANK.

BY FREDERIC ENDICOTT, OF CANTON.

When the town of Dorchester received the "New Grant beyond the Blew Hills," the most prominent topographical features of the newly acquired territory were Blue and Moose hills, and Ponkapoag and Massapoag ponds. The iron mines, several of which were near Massapoag pond, were supposed to be very valuable. The lands next in value were the meadows all ready to furnish hay, and the cedar swamps heavily wooded with large trees suitable for splitting up into posts and rails.

You will occasionally see a white cedar rail from this old growth, but they are now scarce. The second growth cedars are not nearly as good, as even fifty years of growth only give a soft tree without wearing qualities. I do not remember more than two or three of the primeval cedars, and they were cut long since.

As a consequence of the value of these swamps, meadows and iron mines, the surveys and plans of them were carefully made and coincide very closely with surveys of the same lands made at the present time. The maps of the two general partitions of common lands, called the Twelve Divisions and the Twenty-five Divisions were necessarily more roughly made. Massapoag pond was situated between these two sections and is only roughly sketched on either of them; but several

of the swamps and small lots which were accurately surveyed and shown by plans on a much larger scale, adjoin the pond at its northwesterly and southeasterly portions. Ponkapoag and Massapoag ponds, in common with other great ponds (that is, natural ponds of over ten acres in extent), were surrounded by pond banks of which I shall speak later.

In December, 1870, I made for the Revere Copper Company a survey of Massapoag Pond showing the line of the water as it then stood, and the ancient line of the pond at the edge of the pond bank. At this time only the first ripple of the real estate wave had reached its shores, so that the pond bank was nearly in its original state. There were only a few houses near the pond. On the east side was the Boyden house; at the northeast was the Lake House, and near it Mr. Otis Johnson's house. On the north shore were Mr. Stillman Morse's and two others; and, near where the Boston Ice Company's ice-houses stood at a later time, were Mr. Warren M. Holmes's and the Snow house.

The streets were mostly built upon the beach of the pond. In the records of the Proprietors of Common Lands in the New Grant, we find that Mr. John Capen, (and I think others,) petitioned for liberty to use the shores of the pond for a way from his house to the rest of the town. The Proprietors kindly granted his request, although they had no rights in the matter at all, as the land below high water mark belonged to the province or state, and all above high water mark had already been granted to individuals. As the beach was dry enough to be used as a roadway, it appears likely

that the pond had at that time been drawn somewhat lower than its natural level.

At the time of my survey, one of the objects was to get the lines of the pond bank; and from that cause I took much more notice of its formation than I otherwise should have done. Where high land came down close to the pond, the bank was merely pushed up against the hill, as is seen near the site of the Boston Ice Company's ice-houses, now burned down. Where the land adjoining the pond was low, the bank was a ridge or bank ten feet more or less wide at the top and two or three feet high, with slopes both toward the pond and away from it. This was the case where the road to the hotel passes over the pond bank at the Sandy beach, and also where the swamp adjoins the pond at its northwest corner.

At the northeast corner of the pond the bank had been obliterated by the streets running from the pond in three directions and by the building of Mr. Morse's house. In 1871 the town widened the road along the east side of the pond, beginning the work about the first of November, and this obliterated nearly or quite all the bank on that side. From the gate house to Mr. Morrell's house (then Boyden's), there was almost a continuous bank, sloped on both sides; and upon the top of the bank were several large chestnut trees, one of them whose rings I counted being 128 years old. There were also several large hemlocks, one of them 98 years old, and a so-called hornbeam, properly a tupelo. These trees were cut down, and the material composing the bank was used in grading the street.



WATER

LEARNERS STRAITS

WATER

WATER

WATER

WATER

WATER

WATER

WATER



MASSAPOAG POND

SHARON, MASS.

SURVEYED BY

Frederic Endicott

1871.

SCALE 1000 FEET TO AN INCH.

RED LINES INDICATE THE POND BANK.

Magnetic Meridian

SNOW

WILLIAM TOLMAN

DAM.

LEWIS MORSE

JOHN

CAPEN

AND BARNABAS D. CAPEN

OTIS JOHNSON

OUTLET

O. JOHNSON.

S. MORSE

JADEZ K. GAY.

HARVEY MORSE

E. & H. MORSE

LEPRELETTE MORSE

HOLMES

M.

WARREN

The improvements around the hotel have smoothed out the distinctive characteristics of the bank at that place, and filled in a gap which existed in the original bank, where in 1870 there were a dam and flume holding back the waters of the stream which flows from the swamp back of the hotel. The building of the Burkhardt ice-houses and railroad swept away the most interesting part of the bank, as at this point were the largest boulders on the borders of the pond. These were shattered by dynamite, one of the nitroglycerine compounds made, I think, by Carl Dittmar. The boulders were six or eight feet high, as I recollect them, and composed of the peculiarly crystallized white and greenish stone so abundant in the neighborhood. There have also been smaller changes in several places. The question naturally arises,—what are the causes of pond banks? They all have the same general characteristics, showing that they are pushed up by some mighty force. If there are boulders even of considerable size, they are pushed along to high water mark, and sand and gravel are thrown up at the borders of the pond. The force of the waves of a small pond could not move even the smallest of these boulders. We know that the freezing of water in the joints of a rock will split it to pieces, and that the same effect would be produced in the strongest cannon; but in these cases the water is confined in every direction. Glaciers carry along everything before them and deposit rocks and gravel as terminal moraines, but their motion is supposed to be due to the force of gravity acting on ice capable of flowing very slowly down hill.

Those of us who have lived within hearing of a large pond in winter are familiar with the booming of the ice in a very cold night; and, if skaters, may have found by sad experience that great cracks are formed in the ice at such times. Passing over the pond next day we shall find that the water in these cracks has frozen solid, and the day after that we may find more cracks filled up in the same way, some of them perhaps crossing the first. The fissures are caused by the unequal contraction of the ice, some parts cooling faster than others.

On a bright sunshiny day following one of these cold nights, if we are on the ice at the edge of the pond we may hear it grinding over the pebbles as it expands by the heat from the sun's rays. By fastening one end of a pole upon the shore with stones, and letting the other end extend out over the ice, we may perceive the motion of the ice under the end of the pole. This action of contracting, filling the cracks with ice and then expanding, keeps on as long as freezing weather lasts. The net expansion of the ice is equal to the sum of the widths of all the cracks; and as some of these will measure three or four inches, the expansion is considerable. As the ice sometimes attains a thickness of 18 inches or more and lies in a uniformly flat sheet, it can push a very large rock before it. In this way the boulders, sand and gravel are carried along, and as the pond in its natural state maintained a nearly uniform level, the pond bank was gradually formed.

The original bank was probably finished years before the country was settled; but since the water has

been drawn down, boulders which were before too low to be taken, have been caught by the ice at a lower level and moved along many feet. As they were carried along they cut a furrow in the bottom of the pond, and this may be seen at several places when the pond is down, the furrow running from the boulder towards the centre of the pond.

As will be seen from the map, there were two breaks in the pond bank both showing that they were caused by a force acting from the direction of the centre of the pond. At the extreme southerly end of the pond where the old flume stood, the bank which curves around to the south protected the land up towards the swamp and made the break which is seen. Also, where the pond makes in towards the swamp behind the Burkhardt ice-houses, there is a break at each side of the bay, and we find a piece of a bank with many boulders several hundred feet further inland. This bank still exists in its natural state and can be easily found.

At the present time many natural features are disappearing, more or less rapidly. Streams are being taken up as water supplies; ridges or glacial moraines are used for filling up land or building roads, and many other changes are taking place. Historical societies have a peculiar interest in preserving a memory of those things that are passing away, and in this paper I have endeavored to record a remembrance of one of these minor features which has been nearly destroyed.

A FIRE-PROOF HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING.

BY ROBERT TAPPAN.

In recent years many historical societies have been formed in New England country towns, and it is a matter of great concern with them where to bestow their goods. In some cases an old-time wooden building is appropriated, which, while fit for such use on account of its antiquity, is not safe for its contents, except as some valuables are specially secured in safes or vaults. The town hall may afford accommodation, though town halls, like city halls, are none too large for usual municipal purposes; and there is the chance that as the needs of the town increase, the historical society may have leave to withdraw. Moreover, the rural town hall is constantly let for fairs, plays, dances and other assemblies, rendering it less secure from fires.

Owning a handsome fire-proof building of its own would contribute to the growth and perpetuity of the society. Choice relics will more readily be given to the society when it is seen that they can be thus kept more safely than their owners can keep them. Such a structure would confer distinction upon the society. While it would be a museum of great interest to the townspeople and returning sons and daughters, it would afford a proper place for study on the part of officers and his-

torical students, and form a centre of interest in the village where it is erected.

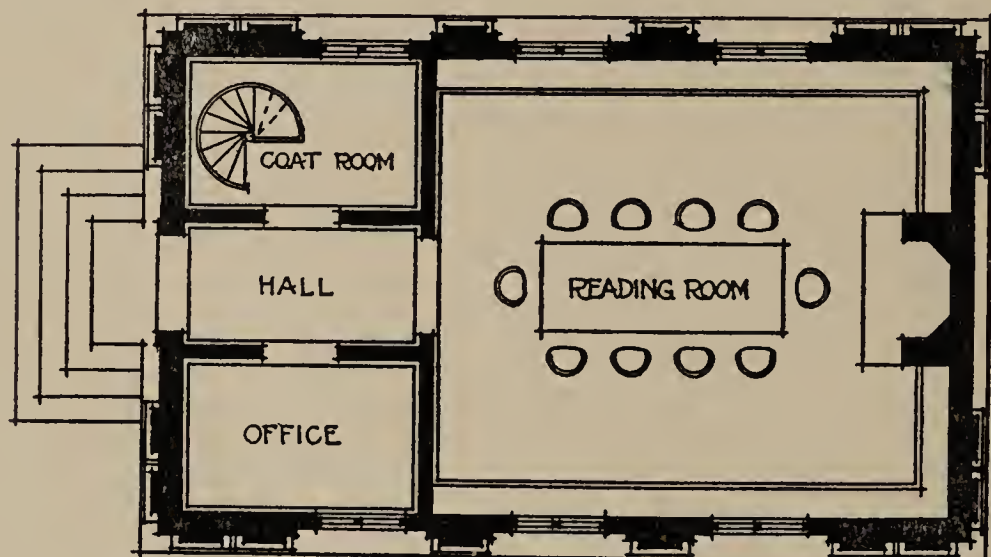
This historical building is wanted now, while the society is young and flourishing and doing good work. The most serious objection is the supposed cost. But if it can be shown that a practicable structure can be built for a few thousand dollars, a young society might take heart and get the building, doing all it could itself and receiving assistance from its friends outside the town. For those living in many an old country settlement are not as numerous as those living away from the old homesteads and still interested in the town's welfare from reasons of kinship or former residence.

The frontispiece and plan here given are presented with the above statements in mind. Concrete is chosen as the building material on account of its strength and ease of handling, and also because the entire house, walls and floors, may be built of it. The style is colonial, very appropriate for the use to which the building will be put, as it suggests at once the earlier period of our nation's history. The familiar Holden Chapel at Harvard College was in mind when this sketch was made, as its design made it both appropriate and possible to be followed in a small structure of this sort. The white arcaded walls and red tile roof, with a background of foliage, would make an interesting picture in any country town.

Stepping inside the building, we enter a small hall. On each side is a door. The one on the right leads into a little office, big enough, however, for a desk, chair and a small safe. Visitors might register here. The room

on the left of the hall gives access to the basement by a small circular stairway. The walls of this room may be used for hanging coats and wraps.

At the end of the front hall is the principal apartment, the reading room. This room is about 18 feet wide by 20 feet long. Space is arranged on three sides of the room for drawers, with exhibition or other cases above reaching to the sills of the windows. At the end of the reading room is a great four-foot fireplace of concrete. This serves a double purpose, for besides its use for warmth and cheer, it affords ventilation for the



room. In the centre a large reading table may be placed. There is ample wall space for pictures above the cases and on the front wall of the room.

In the basement several things might be done. The whole floor space could be one large room used for storage of the more bulky gifts; or it might be divided into three rooms, a storage room, a heating room and a large vault for valuables. The basement would be lighted, in either case, by small area windows not show-

ing above grade. The entire structure is small in area, covering about 600 square feet.

Below is printed an estimate of the cost of this building. It is interesting as it shows in a detailed way how thoroughly fireproof a small historical society building could be built for a comparatively little sum. Certain items might for economy's sake be omitted, reducing somewhat the cost.

BOSTON, April 11, 1906.

We estimate the cost of an Historical Society Building and according to sketches submitted to us to be built entirely of reinforced concrete, to be the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000). We have estimated on the following items of work for the building: Excavations, footings, foundation wall, basement floor with granolithic top, areas around basement windows, entrance steps of granolithic finish, the base course with a hammered finish, the walls and cornice of cinder concrete with cement plaster finish, the first floor with granolithic surface, roof supported on steel trusses and having neat tile finish, furring, lathing and plastering of interior partitions, ceilings and inside of walls, chimney with fireplace, cement base around all rooms, windows and doors and circular stairs to basement; the outside door to be of wood covered with sheet copper, panelled about as shown; the interior doors to be of wood covered with copper-plated sheet steel panelled to suit. We have not included any electric wiring, piping, heating, interior decorating or other work except as mentioned above.

Yours very truly,
Eastern Expanded Metal Co.,
WILLIAM T. REED, Engineer.

LIST OF OUTINGS

IN SHARON, IN 1906, TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE SHARON
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SATURDAY, MAY 5.

Walk to Devil's Bridge, going by way of Billings street, and returning by Glendale road.

SATURDAY, MAY 19.

Cobb's Corner and site of Lieut. Holmes' house, going and returning by electric car.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2.

Ride to ancient house site on Old Post road, with a walk over "Uncle Amasa's path" at Wolomolopoag pond.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16.

Drake cemetery and the grave of a revolutionary soldier, in the rear of Mansfield street, in the extreme south part of Sharon. Take 12.15 steam cars from Boston for East Foxborough. Walk one and one-half miles through Willow street to Mansfield street. Return by the 4.53 train from East Foxborough.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30.

Farquhar's plants and flowers on Garden street at Sharon Heights. Take electric car.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3. (Old Home Week.)

Coach ride over North Main, Bay, and Mountain streets, with lunch on Rattle Snake hill.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Ride to Biological Farm, and walk to "Robbers' Cave."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Ride around Massapoag pond.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.

Old John Randall farm, and Benjamin Randall tavern on South Main street. Take electric car.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13.

Drive to Viaduct street farms, with walk to old stone bridge.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27.

Walk to Beaver brook, and through the woods to Upland road.

On August 3, the coach ride will commence at 10 a.m.; the other outings will be in the afternoon of the days assigned. The start, generally, will be made from the Central square. A narrative of each ramble will be written by one of the company. All persons interested are welcome to join in the excursions.

HISTORICAL SCRAP BOOK.

The following is an alphabetical list, with authors' names appended, of the articles included in volumes 2 and 3 of the Scrap Book. These volumes have been substantially bound during the year, and are in size about 8½ inches by 11 inches, and one inch thick, with a full index to each volume:

Alger, Rev. William R., reminiscences of, Nath'l Seaver, Jr., Scituate
 Aunt Lucy and Aunt Sally's ride . . . Mrs. Warren Johnson
 Backward Glances . . . Mrs. Adeliza A. Winship, Lynn
 Baker homestead . . . P. Howard Baker and Miss Emma A. Baker
 Billings, Osmond J., His ordination, Eugene Tappan and John F. White
 Cannon, casting of the first, Henry F. Talbot, Waterville, Kansas
 Center School Association, with picture . . . John G. Phillips
 Church bells, town . . . William R. Mann
 Epidemic of 1816 . . . Miss Isabella Reynolds
 Gannett, Deborah Sampson, visit to Albany,
 Miss May Childs Nerney, Albany, N. Y.
 visit to Providence, Clarence S. Brigham, Providence, R. I.
 notices of reprint of her address, Newspaper clippings

- Hewins, Amasa, sketch of life Eben N. Hewins, Boston
 Copious selections from his diary,
 Arranged by Eugene Tappan
- High School examination questions, 1879. Sidney A. Weston
- Home, Song of Cassius C. Stearns
- Kimball's Rev. John C., Good-Bye John C. Kimball, Greenfield
- Meetings of the Society Eugene Tappan
- Massapoag pond bank Frederic Endicott, Canton
- Moose and other wild animals formerly in this vicinity,
 Miss G. E. Holbrook, Sherborn
- Music in Sharon, history of Miss Harriet C. Billings
- Octagon house on Beach street Mrs. Warren Johnson
- Old Home Week in Sharon, 1905 Eugene Tappan
- Perambulation of town boundary lines Edward J. Fuller
- Probate cases. Sharon, 1793 to 1878 Eugene Tappan
- Rambles conducted in 1905 by the society, Miss Mattie T. Eddy,
 Miss Carrie W. Fernald, William L. Haskel, Miss M. Adele
 Haszard, John G. Phillips, Eugene Tappan, George H.
 Whittemore.
- Revere bell in Sharon, picture of Robert Tappan
- Revolutionary incident on the Bay road, Mrs. H. Rebecca Johnson
- Robert Raikes' Sunday School scholar in Sharon,
 Mrs. H. Rebecca Johnson
- Sabbath-day, a typical Sharon John G. Phillips
- School, on my way to Mrs. F. Adelaide Talbot, Canton
- Sewing circle at the parsonage Mrs. Catherine A. Shedd
- Sharon artillery company, roster of, Samuel Dalton, Adjutant General
- the best town to live in William B. Wickes
- early history of Solomon Talbot
- hydraulic company William B. Wickes
- rich in historic interest Frank E. Burbank
- spring William L. Haskel
- Smith, John, in Sharon Newspaper clipping
- Social life in Sharon, 1840 to 1850 William R. Mann
- Stoughtonham Furnace Solomon Talbot
- Stoughtonham Institute, history of, Miss Elmira S. Winship, Lynn

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| Sunday in Sharon, June 30, 1889 | Elia Leslie |
| Tax, ministerial, with list of persons taxed | Eugene Tappan |
| Temperance in Sharon, history of | Mrs. Agnes P. Haskel |
| Tomb, the village | John G. Phillips |
| Tupper, Benjamin. Letter from his granddaughter, Miss Mary C. Nye, Marietta, Ohio | |
| Tupper, Mrs. Remember | Solomon Talbot |
| Wickes, William B. boyhood of. By his sister, Mrs. L. Whiting, Westwood | |

GIFTS TO THE SHARON HISTORICAL SOCIETY DURING THE YEAR 1905-6.

- S. WARREN BULLARD. Fowling piece used by him for 61 years.
- MRS. O. A. CHENEY, Natick. Package of old Morse deeds. Commission to Ezra Morse, Jr., as captain of 3d foot company in Dedham of 1st regiment of militia, 1745. Review of first fourteen years of South Natick Historical Society, 1884. Natick manual.
- CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY, Washington. Report of librarian, 1905.
- GEORGE WILLIS COOKE, Wakefield. History of the Clapboard Trees, or third parish in Dedham. [Westwood.]
- CHARLES S. CURTIS. Programme of rhetorical exercises of Stoughtonham Institute, March 28, 1871. Subscription list to Sharon library association, 1857, with constitution and by-laws. Sermon against duelling, by Lyman Beecher.
- REV. MINER R. DEMING, Revere. *Boston Institute Seashore Messenger*, with picture of new building at Massapoag pond.
- EDWARD DENHAM, New Bedford. Old Dartmouth Historical sketches, Nos. 1 to 12, 1903 to 1905.
- ARTHUR P. FISKE. Money draft, dated July 23, 1764, accepted by John Hancock. *New York Herald*, revolutionary extra edition, April 19, 1875. *Boston*, a souvenir paper, September 17, 1880.
- ALBERT A. FOLSOM, Boston. Orderly book of Jeremiah Fogg at the siege of Boston.
- ROBIE G. FRYE. *Manila Cable News*. 2 copies of Philippine newspaper.

- VERNON GOULD, M. D., Rochester, Indiana. The original copy of declaration of independence, read by the minister in the church, and copied in the town records, 1776. Autographs of several governors.
- EBEN N. HEWINS, Boston. Framed photograph of "Uncle Amasa's Path" at Wolomolopoag pond.
- COL. EDMUND HART HEWINS. Elements of War, by Isaac Maltby, 1813. Geography made easy, by Jedidiah Morse, 1804. American first class book, by John Pierpont, 1831. Writings of Miss Fanny Woodbury, 1815. Cradle belonging for successive generations to the Hewins family.
- MISS LOUISA HEWINS, Boston. Card of Amasa Hewins, portrait painter.
- MRS. ELIZABETH B. HINCKLEY, Milton. Framed sketch of Blind Ellis and his house, [Edward Ellis, Sharon,] by Thomas Hinckley, her husband.
- RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS, Boston. Dorchester celebration, 1889. Dorchester Day, 1905. Historical tablets in first church in Boston. Historical sketch of Norfolk Conference of Unitarian churches, 1900.
- IPSWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Publications XIV, containing reprint of "The Simple Cobler of Aggawam."
- MRS. LOUISA JONES, Stoughton. Piece of cotton cloth printed in colors by Benjamin Hewins about 1773. Mounted and framed by Mr. and Mrs. George Kempton.
- MRS. ELIZA J. KEMPTON. Copy of "Annals of Sharon" sent to Sharon in 1861 by Dr. Vernon Gould. Reprint of *Boston Gazette*, containing account of Boston Massacre.
- LINCOLN N. KINNICUTT, Worcester. Indian names of places in Worcester County, 1905.
- MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY; Historical Register (a quarterly).
- LORING M. MONK. Newspaper clipping, Robert Burns.
- NANTUCKET HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION. Proceedings of annual meeting, 1905.
- NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Report for 1904.
- JOHN NOBLE, Boston. Record of Court of Assistants, 1673-1692.

- ARTHUR W. PEIRCE, Franklin. Program of bi-centennial of Benjamin Franklin's birth. Souvenir number of *Franklin Sentinel*.
- MISS SARAH E. PETTEE, East Walpole. Framed photograph of the Fales house in East Walpole in which the peace ball was held at the close of the revolution. Framed by Mr. and Mrs. George Kempton.
- JOHN G. PHILLIPS. Plan of land [Curtis farm] in Sharon formerly owned by the Congregational Church. Bird's-eye view of Sharon.
- CHARLES F. PIDGIN, Boston. Aaron Burr Memorial, 1903.
- DR. LORING W. PUFFER, Brockton. *The New Yorker* (Greeley's newspaper), 1837. *The National Gazette and Literary Register*. Philadelphia, 1835. Deed given by Zebediah Kinsley of Easton, 1772. Old printing of rhymed will of Mathew Abbey, janitor at Harvard, and Yale janitor's proposal to the widow.
- BENJAMIN RAYNOLDS. Sharon tax lists. U.S. taxes. Impeachment of Judge James Prescott, 1821. Plan of Henry Flint's land.
- MISS ISABELLA RAYNOLDS. Abiel Holmes's sermon at ordination of Rev. Jonathan Whitaker in Sharon, 1799. Ordination in Stoughton with right hand of fellowship by Rev. Philip Curtis of Sharon, 1792. A lot of printed sermons and addresses. Oath book kept by Benjamin Raynolds.
- STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI. Proceedings of annual meeting, 1903. Biennial report, 1904. Catalogue of publications of Missouri authors.
- EUGENE TAPPAN. Bound volume of *Boston Evening Transcript* (notes and queries, and genealogical notes).
- ROBERT TAPPAN. Old etching on painted glass made with the point of a pin.
- WILLIAM S. TILDEN, Medfield. *Ye Fayerbanke Historical*, Nov. 1904.
- RUFUS B. TOBEY, Boston. Pine board from North Carolina. Petrified wood. Civil-war exchange certificate (\$1.00). Writs and officer's returns, Thomas Sweetser *vs.* Supply Dean, 1783, and Samuel Nutting *vs.* Ebenezer Howard, 1773. Tobey Genealogy (limited edition). Twelfth report of Boston Floating Hospital, 1906.

JOHN W. WEEKS, M. C., Washington. Reports of American Historical Association, 1903, 1904.

WESTBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Story of the cotton gin, by Edward Craig Bates, 1899.

Officers of the Sharon Historical Society, 1905-6.

President, JOHN G. PHILLIPS.

Vice-Presidents, SOLOMON TALBOT, WILLIAM R. MANN, D. WEBSTER PETTEE.

Recording Secretary, GEORGE H. WHITTEMORE.

Corresponding Secretary, EUGENE TAPPAN.

Treasurer, ARTHUR D. COLBURN.

Custodian, LORING M. MONK.

Auditor, JOHN A. BOWMAN.

Additional Directors, EDMUND H. HEWINS, TIMOTHY F. QUINN, AMANDA M. EDDY, EMMA A. BAKER.

The board of directors consists of the president, secretaries, treasurer, custodian and the four additional directors.

The next four quarterly meetings of the society will be held in Sharon town hall on the evenings of August 2 and October 25, 1906, January 31 and April 25, 1907.

Mr. W. A. Butterfield, bookseller, 59 Bromfield St., Boston, is the authorized selling agent of the Society's reprint of Mrs. Deborah Sampson Gannett's address delivered by her in various places in 1802. The reprint is neatly bound and sells at 75 cents a copy.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SHARON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Marcellus H. Allen, South Main St. | Frederick V. Brittain, Glendale Road. |
| Arthur A. Bailey, Highland St. | Marie Hilda Brittain, Glendale Road. |
| Minnie C. Bailey, Highland St. | Charles F. Bryant, Billings St. |
| Emma A. Baker, Billings St. | Frank E. Burbank, South Pleasant St. |
| Abel T. Barnes, Boyden Pl. | Sarah C. Burbank, South Pleasant St. |
| Cynthia Bates, Upland Road. | W. Winthrop Capen, South Pleasant St. |
| William H. Bense, Canton. | A. Alden Carpenter, Upland Road. |
| Elinor M. Bense, Canton. | M. Imogene Carpenter, Upland Road. |
| Abbie C. Billings, Worcester. | Sanford I. Carpenter, Billings St. |
| Osmond J. Billings, Worcester. | Erminnie O. Carpenter, Billings St. |
| Ella F. Boehm, South Main St. | Harriet M. Chapin, Maskwonicut St. |
| Abner H. Bowman, Station St. | Calvin G. Coggins, South Main St. |
| Kate E. Bowman, Station St. | Gertrude M. Cobb, Bay St. |
| John A. Bowman, Edgewood Road. | Arthur Dwight Colburn, Depot St. |
| Winnibel Bowman, Edgewood Road. | Emma P. Colburn, Depot St. |
| Thomas W. Bradshaw, Upland Road. | Floyd C. Coon, Billings St. |

- Guild A. Copeland, Boston.
 Jennie S. Copeland, Boston.
 Cadwallader Curry, Pleasant St.
 Charles S. Curtis, Pond St.
 Clara E. Curtis, Pond St.
 Lillias C. Davenport, Ames St.
 Marion A. Davenport, Ames St.
 Walter H. Delano, Billings St.
 Gertrude H. Delano, Billings.
 Miner R. Deming, Revere.
 George A. Dennett, North Main St.
 Elizabeth O. Dennett, North Main St.
 Charles T. Derry, Washington Pl.
 Almira W. Derry, Washington Pl.
 Daniel DeVoe, Norwood St.
 Lucy W. Dinsmore, South Main St.
 James M'E. Drake, Upland Road.
 Maria Upham Drake, Upland Road.
 Dorothy Drake, Upland Road.
 Almon J. Dyer, North Main St.
 Lizzie J. L. Dyer, North Main St.
 Amanda M. Eddy, Billings St.
 May L. Felt, Maple Av.
 Adelaide M. Fernald, North Main St.
 Carrie W. Fernald, North Main St.
 George W. Field, Moose Hill St.
 Mary Bell Field, Moose Hill St.
 Arthur P. Fiske, Pleasant St.
 Mary Adela Fiske, Pleasant St.
 W. Perry Fiske, Summit Av.
 George B. Fowler, North Main St.
 Bernice W. Fowler, North Main St.
 Robie G. Frye, North Main St.
 Edward J. Fuller, Viaduct St.
 Erastus O. Fuller, Canton St.
 Helen E. Gannett, East St.
 Louis F. Gates, Highland Av.
 Lillian C. George, Scituate.
 Mary F. Giberson, Belcher St.
 N. Newton Glazier, Summit Av.
 Joseph Goddard Viaduct St.
 Faith Goddard, Viaduct St.
 Mattie H. Green, Pleasant St.
 Walter A. Griffin, Everett St.
 Charles E. Hall, South Main St.
 Carrie M. Hall, South Main St.
 Mary A. Hall, South Pleasant St.
 William F. Hall, Sylvan Road.
 William L. Haskel, Chestnut St.
 Agnes P. Haskel, Chestnut St.
 G. Ashley Haszard, Station St.
 Eben N. Hewins, 85 Francis St., Roxbury.
 Edmund D. Hewins, Highland St.
 Ora A. Hewins, Highland St.
 Edmund Hart Hewins, South Main St.
 Kate M. Hewins, South Main St.
 Katharine P. Hewins, South Main St.
 Louisa Hewins, 4 Hamilton Pl., Boston.
 Martha M. Hewins, Norwood.
 Harry M. Hight, Maple Av.
 Margaret D. Hight, Maple Av.
 Arthur S. Hixson, Brook Road.
 Florence Hixson, Brook Road.
 C. Augustus Hixson, North Main St.
 Mary L. Hixson, North Main St.
 Edgar M. Hixson, Brook Road.
 Mary E. Hixson, Brook Road.
 Theodore W. Hixson, Brook Road.
 Albert D. Holmes, Auburn Ct., Brook-
 line.
 William B. Holmes, Bay St.
 Ellen J. Horace, 32 Longwood Av.,
 Brookline.
 C. Elbert Howard, Mansfield St.
 Harriet A. Johnson, Depot St.
 Louisa Jones, Stoughton.
 George Kempton, Pond St.
 Eliza J. Kempton, Pond St.
 John C. Kimball, Greenfield.
 Charles H. Kittredge, Upland Road.
 Elizabeth F. Kittredge, Upland Road.
 Arthur C. Kollock, 12 Equitable Bldg.,
 Boston.
 M. P. Woldemar Kreutz, off Depot St.
 George P. Lawrence, 53 Tremont St.,
 Boston.
 James E. Leach, Boston.
 Lizzie N. Leonard, Summit Av.
 Dora M. Leonard, Depot Street.
 H. Frank Leonard, Pond St.
 Mary J. Leonard, Pond St.
 Marcus E. Lincoln, Pleasant St.
 Frank P. Long, Cottage St.
 Carrie A. Long, Cottage St.
 Albert W. Lyon, Boston.
 John W. Mackintosh, Walnut St.
 William R. Mann, East St.
 Julia A. Mann, East St.
 Fred W. Mansfield, Belcher St.
 Sarah M. Mansfield, Belcher St.
 Nelson L. Martin, Viaduct St.
 Mary E. Martin, Viaduct St.
 Henry F. Maxwell, Rindge, N. H.
 John W. McCanna, Deborah Sampson
 St.
 John D. McLaughlin, Boston.
 Edmund F. Merriam, North Main St.
 Percy R. Middleton, Pond St.

- Dora Middleton, Pond St.
 Eliza B. Mills, South Main St.
 Loring M. Monk, East St.
 Laura D. Monk, East St.
 Rodney E. Monk, East St.
 Susan G. Moody, East St.
 Bushrod Morse, Harvard St., Brookline.
 Velina F. Myrick, Pleasant St.
 Herbert F. Nelson, North Main St.
 Cyrus A. Noyes, Cottage St.
 John O'Brien, East Foxborough St.
 Mary A. O'Brien, East Foxborough St.
 Gertrude G. O'Brien, East Foxborough St.
 Alvin D. Packard, Walnut St.
 Bernard L. Paine, Highland St.
 Carrie L. Perkins, Summit Av.
 D. Webster Pettee, Pleasant St.
 Myra F. Pettee, Pleasant St.
 John G. Phillips, Pleasant St.
 Mary W. Phillips, Pleasant St.
 Mary N. Phillips, Pleasant St.
 Anna G. Phillips, Pleasant St.
 Amelia H. Pollard, Pond St.
 Ralph L. Pollard, Depot St.
 Bertha M. Pollard, Depot St.
 James N. Pringle, Billings St.
 Thomas S. Prouty, Chestnut St.
 Timothy F. Quinn, South Main St.
 Elizabeth L. Quinn, South Main St.
 Benjamin Reynolds, South Main St.
 Ruth A. Reynolds, South Main St.
 Isabella Reynolds, South Main St.
 B. Frank Rhoades, County St.
 Bessie F. Rhodes, County St.
 E. Gilmore Richards, South Main St.
 Gertrude F. W. Richards, South Main St.
 Lydia G. Richards, Stoughton.
 Mary T. Safford, Pond St.
 Laura A. Sage, South Main St.
 Alfred C. Sampson, Glendale Road.
 Carrie C. Sampson, Glendale Road.
 Elmer B. Shaw, Brook Road.
 Maud E. Shaw, Brook Road.
 Catherine A. Shedd, Roxbury.
 Horace S. Shepard, Ames St.
 Anna M. Shepard, Ames St.
 Willis A. Shepherd, Oakland Road.
 Alice M. Shepherd, Oakland Road.
 A. T. Smith, Oakland Road.
 Jennie P. Snow, North Main St.
 Fred D. Stanley, Pleasant St.
 Isabella H. Stanley, Pleasant St.
 Silas A. Stone, Billings St.
 Amanda Sussman, South Main St.
 Ezra Otis Swift, Box 2587, Boston.
 Solomon Talbot, Maskwonicut St.
 Henry F. Talbot, Waterville, Kansas.
 Edmund H. Talbot, 35 Congress St., Boston.
 F. Adelaide Talbot, Canton.
 Eugene Tappan, South Pleasant St.
 Crosby Tappan, South Pleasant St.
 Muriel Tappan, South Pleasant St.
 Robert Tappan, South Pleasant St.
 Willis Thompson, Summit Av.
 Minnie Bnshee Thompson, Summit Av.
 L. Robert Tidd, Summit Av.
 Julia F. Tidd, Summit Av.
 Otis S. Tolman, Pond St.
 Elizabeth W. Trafton, North Main St.
 Frank M. Trafton, North Main St.
 Ida A. Tuck, South Main St.
 Alice M. Tuck, South Main St.
 Margaret H. Walton, Moose Hill St.
 Benjamin Welch, South Main St.
 Dora Welch, South Main St.
 Sidney A. Weston, Maple Av.
 Mille Louise Weston, Maple Av.
 Eliza L. White, Chestnut St.
 John F. White, Maple Av.
 George H. Whittemore, Chestnut St.
 Elsie A. Whittemore, Chestnut St.
 Eva C. Woodbridge, Billings St.

Total, 217.

