

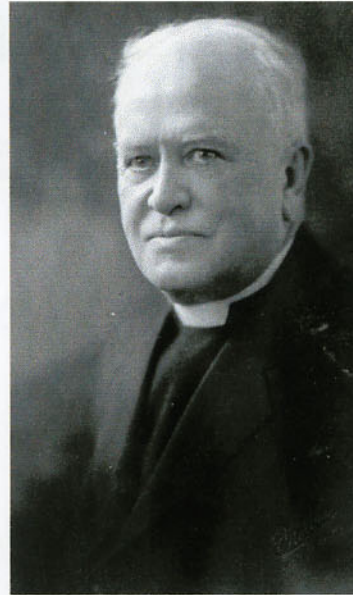
EPSOM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume III Number 3 M a r c h SPECIAL EDITION 2000

EPSOM HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION TO RESUME MEETINGS MARCH 26th

The IOOF Hall will once again host the March meeting of the Epsom Historical Association. The date will be March 26th, at 2:30 in the afternoon. It is the first meeting of the new millenium. The topic will be the EP-SOM SHOE FACTORY, and will be presented by Carleton and T.J. Rand. New information about the factory came to light when the records of the first meetings of the Epsom Shoe Factory Company became available last spring. It's history, and the many uses of the building, will make an interesting look at the business in our community around the turn of the century. The story of the building is only part of the influence it had on the town and its people - and it spawned other community stories as well. The program will also shed some insight on the lives of some of the people involved is setting in motion, the creation of the Epsom Shoe Factory Company.

Don't miss our first gathering of the new year.



WE NEED YOUR HELP - The two pictures above were found last fall in seperate frames in the attic of a home near the Epsom Baptist Church. The identities of the presumed Rev. and his wife remain unknown. The fact that the photos where found together, and their location, might suggest a connection with the local church. Does anyone recognize the individuals ? If so, please contact the Epsom Historical Association.

WILLIAM HASLET JONES

It has come to our attention, and quite by accident, that William Haslet Jones died here in New Hampshire last November. He had many ties to families of Epsom, and took alot of pride in his ancestors and heritage here. He visited often to do research, including this past year while completing his "Vital Records of Epsom, NH" and a similar book on Chichester, NH which was just published last month by HERITAGE Books. Mr. Jones was most friendly on his visits here to Epsom, and he will be missed.



Meet the Benjamin Lovering Locke Family

A recent visit to Epsom by Charlotte Hatfield of Maine resulted in the donation to the Epsom Historical Association of reprints of early photos of the Benjamin Lovering Locke family. These photos would probably be the earliest photos taken of Epsom residents seen to date. Based on the people in the photo, the year it was taken was 1850, as it matches perfectly the family as it would have appeared that year in the census.

He was the son of Levi Locke and Hannah Prescott, who moved to Epsom sometime after 1780. They resided at Lockes Hill, and Levi and his wife are both buried in the cemetery there (their names carved in a large rock which kind of reminds you of Plymouth Rock). According to the Genealogy of Capt. John Locke, Benjamin Lovering Locke was born Rye, but research by Charlotte Hatfield gives it as Epsom. He was married in Chichester by Rev. Carpenter on May 5, 1825 to Hannah Parker Moses, daughter of James Moses Jr. (1783-1812) and Betsey Chesley (1790-1860). In the fall of that year he was commissioned Captain of Co. B., Eighteenth Regiment of the State Militia, working up in rank by the time he resigned his last commission in 1840, to Major General. He retained the title General for most of his life.

In 1828 he built his hotel, which he called the "Suncook House" and he is referred to in various census lists as "merchant" and "Tavernkeeper." He ran this operation for 32 years. In addition he

purchased the home lot of Nathan Libbey, and continued to add to his holdings, giving as his occupation by 1860 as "Hotel and Farmer." By 1860 his real estate was valued at \$3,000 and his personal estate, \$1400.00. He probably sold the hotel around 1866 when he moved to Chichester, as by 1870 his real estate value was about five hundred dollars, and his personal worth \$4000.

His children were all born in Epsom and were:
Lucinda Maria, b. Mar. 30, 1826, married William McMurphy.

Henrietta Clarinda, b. May 5, 1828, d. Feb. 1830

Almira Elizabeth, b. Jan. 11, 1830, married Joseph G. Whidden

James Lovering Locke, b. May 14, 1832, married Sarah Maria Swallow. They resided in Massachusetts.

Marianna Jane Locke, b. May 5, 1834, and married William Hawes.

Ann Lovering Locke, b. Sept. 9, 1836, married George W. Lane

a still born daughter, b. May 1, 1838

Adela Augusta Locke, b. Sept. 4, 1840, married John D. Gale

Sarah Merrill Locke, b. Dec. 28, 1843, d. 1860

Benjamin Locke, b. Dec. 28, 1843, d. 1844

William T. Estes, b. July 5, 1850, d. Jan. 1861

Benjamin L. Locke died Mar. 26, 1883, his wife Hannah Jan. 26, 1885, both in Winchester, MA, and are buried under the willow tree in the McClary Cemetery.

YOUR MYSTERY TO SOLVE:

Where was the "Suncook House" ?

ASSOCIATION TEST

Colony of New Hampshire

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY

April 12, 1776

In order to carry the underwritten RESOLVE of the Hon'ble Continental CONGRESS into Execution, You are requested to desire all Males above Twenty One Years of Age (Lunaticks, Idiots, and Negroes excepted) to sign the DECLARATION on this Paper; and when so done, to make Return hereof, together with the Name or Names of all who shall refuse to sign the same, to the GENERAL-ASSEMBLY, or Committee of Safety of this Colony. - *M. Weare, Chairman*

Signing from Epsom: (*italics = Rev. War Vet*)

John McClary	<i>Francis Lock</i>
<i>Ebenezer Bracket</i>	Levi Cass
Samuel Blake	Samuel Rand
James marden	Israel Folsom
John McGaffey	<i>William Rand</i>
<i>Aaron Burbank</i>	George Wallis
Simon Cass	Simon Knowles
John Cate	<i>moses Locke</i>
<i>Elipht Sanborn</i>	<i>Ephraim Pettingell</i>
Reuben Sanborn	Henry McCrelles
William Nason	Obidiah Williams
<i>Ephraim Locke</i>	John mcreles
<i>Thomas Babb</i>	Joseph Towle
<i>Andrew McGaffey</i>	Isaac Lebbe
Samuel Daves	James Nelson
<i>George Sanders</i>	<i>Silvanus moses</i>
Benjamin Johnson	<i>Beneet Libbee</i>
Jethro Blake	<i>John McClary Jur</i>
Thomas Holt Junr	<i>Jeremiah Prescott</i>
John Casey	Jonathan knowles
Joseph Sharborn	Jeremiah Page
Josiah Knowles	William Drought
<i>Richerd treep</i>	<i>samuel ames juen</i>
<i>Ebenezer Wallias</i>	mark moses
<i>Waymuth Wallas</i>	George Uren
Nathan Marden	Benjn Gooddwin
David Knowlton	Abraham Walles
Nathaniel willes	Nathaniel Payn
<i>William McCreles</i>	moses Osgood
William Holt	Simeon Chapman
Ephraim Beray	Joseph Seavy
<i>Benson Ham</i>	hennery Seavy
<i>Neal McGaffey</i>	John Haneis
Samuel Ames	Samuel meses

Refused to sign: John Cass and William Odiorne

Note: The Association test signers also serves as a mini census of individual towns, as all males 21 years of age were to sign. It is possible that some members of the town were already engaged in service and not present to sign. Nevertheless, we know there were 68 signers and 2 who refused which gives the town approximately 70 families at the time of the Revolution.

GRAVES OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS

Epsom, New Hampshire

McClary (Epsom Center) Cemetery

Seth Bartlett
Mark Emerson
James Gray
Ephraim Locke
Francis Locke
Samuel Locke
Michael McClary
William McCrillis
Peter Pomp
Eliphalet Sanborn

Gossville Cemetery

Samuel Goss
Simeon Towle

Lear Cemetery

Samuel Lear

Joseph Sherburne Cemetery

Joseph Sherburne

Brackett-Libbey Cemetery

Ebenezer Brackett

Fowler-Lovejoy Cemetery

Symonds Fowler

Brown-Davis Cemetery

Samuel Libbey

Barton-Philbrick Cemetery

Daniel Philbrick

Yeaton Cemetery

William Yeaton

Haines Cemetery

Jeremiah Haines

New Rye Cemetery

Nicholas Dolbeer

Tripp Cemetery

Richard Tripp

Brown Cemetery

Enoch Brown

(*names in italics = no flag marker*)

UNKNOWN GRAVES OF
REVOLUTIONARY WAR
SOLDIERS
Epsom, New Hampshire

The following are Revolutionary War Soldiers that died in Epsom, but their final resting places are un-marked.

Samuel Ames (d. June 1822)
 Thomas Babb (d. Nov. 1, 1808)
 Samuel Bickford Jr. (d. 1831)
 John Grant (d. July 11, 1822)
 Benson Ham (prob. McClary, a flag is placed near the location, but there is no headstone. d. 1802)
 Moses Locke (d. abt 1799)
 Sylvanus Moses (d. Jan. 1832, listed in "Location of Graves of NH Revolutionary Soldiers" as buried in the Moses Family Cemetery, Epsom)
 Samuel Osgood (d. Dec. 13, 1819)
 Jethro Pettingill (d. Jan. 1831)
 Jeremiah Prescott (d. Apr. 25, 1817)
 William Rand (d. Sept. 1833)
 George Berry Sanders (d. 1805)

Letter from Captain Gray to his wife

Charlestown (No. 4) May 18th, 1777

My Dear Susie: As I would not, if possible, let any opportunity of writing to you pass unnoticed, therefore I embrace the present by the post to Exeter, viz: Mr. Waldo. I arrived here last Tuesday at night, as you will find by my Journal, transmitted to your Father; but it was attended with some difficulty, the roads being so excessively miry and my horse taken sick that I was obliged to walk a considerable part of the way; but at present am very well. I expect on Tuesday next to take my departure for Ticonderoga, to put my baggage upon my horse & travel through the woods, which journey is eighty miles from here. When I left Exeter I forgot my Coffe pot and thought not of it until I got to Keene, so that I am now at a loss hoe to make use of my coffee. Since I came here I have heard from my Brother, by Mr. Tucker, who left about a fortnight since in good health and high spirits. Capt. McClary has been very ill here, but has marched since through the woods. My Love and duty to the family. The reason of my putting my Baggage upon my horse or going on foot is because the wagon cannot get through the woods."

REVOLUTIONARY WAR
SOLDIERS with ties to
Epsom, New Hampshire

Joshua Atwood
 Benjamin Berry
 John Bickford
 Samuel Bickford
 David Blake
 James Blake (poss. died in service)
 William Blake
 Theophilus Cass (Corp)
 Solomon Chapman
 Jonathan Chase
 Richard Dowst
 John Dyer
 John Jenness
 Benjamin Kenniston
 Ozem Locke (died at Saratoga, NY)
 Simeon Locke
 John Mason
 Andrew McClary (killed at Bunker Hill)
 John McClary (died at Albany, NY)
 Andrew McGaffey
 Amos Morrill (Capt.)
 Abraham Pettingill (died at Chimney Point, NY)
 Benjamin Pettingill
 Jonathan Pettingill
 Noah St. Clair
 Simon Sanborn (died at Chimney Point, NY)
 John Wallace (killed at Bunker Hill)
 Weymouth Wallace

The above list includes Epsom Residents, some living here at the time of the Revolution; many were here at the time and moved away, while others may have moved here after the war and settled.

MORE INFORMATION ONLINE

Looking for more information on Epsom's Revolutionary War Soldiers ? Check it out online at <http://home.ici.net/~tjrand/>. Also there you can find information on Epsom's Civil War Soldiers and photos of all the gravestones of the Revolutionary War Veterans. New searching of the database can now be found on our new link to RootsWeb - see it as a new link on the Epsom Early Settlers Web Pages.