



### **C.S. Bickford - Orrin Merrill House, 243 New Orhard Road, Epsom, NH**

John Cate, son of John Cate (1732-1821), settled on this part of his fathers farm, and died only 8 years after his father. One of his daughters, Hannah, had married Joseph J. Moses, who bought out the other sister's interest in the farm, and lived there until 1869. Local newspapers reported his leaving Epsom; "Messrs. Cass & Cox, who have done quite a thriving business during the past two years, butchering and carrying meat to Concord, are closing up affairs in Epsom, and preparing to move to Manchester where they will continue the business. The desirable farm of J.J. Moses Esq. is advertised for sale in this paper, and he will go with the above firm to Manchester." He also had interest in the local mill.

Henry E. Dotey, according to Epsom Historian George H. Yeaton who lived next door, "was a civil war veteran, his wife's name was Adelia and they had a daughter, Carrie M., who married Everett B. Edmunds. Henry E. Dotey, at one time, lived in Dublin, New Hampshire.

Henry Bickford and his son Charles, lived next to the Stanley farm, and bought the Dotey farm in 1907, and was the home of Charles S. Bickford and his wife Katie A. Rand, and their two sons. They kept the farm for almost 20 years before selling to Orrin and Janet Merrill, the house remaining in their family through the year 2000. The CAI property card dates the house as 1796.

#### **CHRONOLOGY of owners (not necessarily resident):**

1732, Lot 100, original right of William Cate of Greenland; 1773, John Cate of Londonderry from William Cate (father) and Eleaser Cate, yeoman of Greenland; About 1821, Samuel and John Cate, sons of John Cate, inherit the farm; 1829, Son John Cate dies and Joseph J. Moses, from Enoch French and wife Eliza (Cate), Joseph S. Dolbeer and wife Polly (Cate), and John M. Heath and wife Abigail (Cate), their right to the homestead farm of John Cate; July 6, 1870, Jeremiah Tripp, William Tripp and Warren Tripp from Joseph J. Moses of Manchester; November 26, 1870, Henry E. Dotey from Jeremiah Tripp, William Tripp and Warren Tripp; March 16, 1907, Charles S. Hall from Henry E. Dotey; March 30, 1907, Henry & Charles S. Bickford from Charles S. Hall; 1926, Walter C. & Anna O. Melhorn and Gustave E. & Minnie Melhorn from Charles S. Bickford; NH Savings Bank from Walter C., Anna O., Gustave E., and Minnie Melhorn; 1935, Janet Grace Kennedy, alias Janet J.K. Merrill, wife of Orrin Merrill from NH Savings Bank; 2001, Christopher and Edwina Saltmarsh of Concord from Edmund J. Waters Jr., executor of Will of Janet K. Merrill, late of Epsom.

**GENEALOGY:** William Cate of Greenland married Elizabeth Sherburne and had children: Moses, Hannah, William, Mary, Elizabeth, John and Samuel. Son John married in 1766, Abigail Sherburne, daughter of Samuel and Mercy (Wiggin) Sherburne. Deacon John and Abigail had for children: Abigail who married David Griffin; Ebenezer who married Phebe Gilman; John who married Mary Towle; Martha who married Josiah Knowles; Betsy who married Mark Moses; Samuel who married Abigail Prescott, daughter of Ebenezer and Phebe Prescott; and Mary who died young.

John Cate and Mary Towle married 1797 and had children: Abigail who married John McClary Heath, son Simon Ames Heath and Elizabeth McClary; Eliza, who married Enoch French of Pittsfield; Hannah who married Joseph James Moses; and Polly who married Joseph Sherburne Dolbeer.

Joseph James Moses and Polly Cate had at least one daughter, Elizabeth S., who married Sherburne D. Cass.

Charles Sumner Bickford was the son of Henry Warren Bickford and wife Orilla H. Locke, daughter of Simeon P. Locke and Sarah B. Cass. Charles S. Bickford married Katie A. Rand of Vermont and they had for children: Elmore A. who married Hattie Ambrose; and Orville Sumner who married Jennie Johnson.



Above - the Henry W. and Charles S. Bickford house next to the Stanley Poultry Farm on New Orchard Road. This house no longer stands, and son Charles S. Bickford lived further down the road in what was later the Orrin Merrill home.