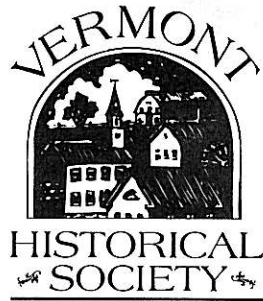


THE BUILDING OF A VERMONT TOWN  
A History of the Town of Mount  
Holly from the Beginnings to  
1866

by Clarke Lyon



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factory located in Mechanicsville. D. B. Weston was the proprietor.

By 1840 there was only one grist mill located in Mount Holly. I have not been able to determine its location.

Edward Chilson of East Wallingford built a small furniture and chair-stock factory in west Mechanicsville. The factory was later taken over by a Mr. Greenwood in company with Edward Parmenter.<sup>8</sup>

In the Census of 1840, quoted in Walton's Vermont Register, 1842, of Mount Holly's 1,356 inhabitants-- 341 were reported to be engaged in agriculture, 35 in manufactures and trades, 8 in the learned professions, and 3 in commerce. The overwhelming majority of ~~the~~ men engaged in agriculture is the key to the town's wealth. In the production of almost every kind of farm produce Mount Holly rates in the top third of Rutland County. In the number of neat cattle the town ranks third, in the swine, seventh, in bushels of wheat, eighth; in barley, first; in oats, fourth; in buckwheat, seventh; in potatoes, first; in tons of hay, eighth; in pounds of maple sugar, second; in value of orchard products, tenth; in value of home made goods, first; and in value of dairy products,<sup>9</sup> first in the state.

Almost the entire population was engaged to some extent in agriculture. It was the custom of the day, regardless of one's occupation, to spend some of one's time in

farming. Doctors, merchants, and so on all did some farming on the side. Though manufactures grew rapidly, farming maintained its predominance and the town remained fundamentally agricultural.

### THREE: 1840-1869

Though this study covers the history of Mount Holly from its beginnings to 1866, the most reliable and comprehensive source is the Beers Atlas of Rutland County published in 1869. But it is probably safe to assume that most, if not all the industries reported in 1869 were in existence in 1866.

There were in Mount Holly in 1869 fourteen saw mills. As before many of these were connected directly with factories producing furniture, rakes, toys, and so on. Examples of this are the two saw mills in Mechanicsville; one connected with the Chase Toy Factory, the other with the Frank Parmenter chair factory. Also in Mechanicsville was a saw mill run by Edward Parmenter specializing in birdseye veneer.

Perhaps the most important saw mill in Mount Holly at this time was Warren Horton's establishment in Healdville. Warren took over the water-powered mill of his father, Andrew, applied steam to it, developing and expanding it until it handled from 250,000 to 300,000 feet of spruce lumber a year, besides \$10,000 worth of ~~spruce~~ ~~lumber~~ ~~x~~ ~~xxxx~~ chair-stock work a year, and one hundred

thousand feet of general custom work. At its height the Horton mill employed from twenty to thirty men who were housed in two tenements built for them by Mr. Horton. Also connected to his chair-stock factory, Mr. Horton had a grist mill. Warren Horton started in the lumber business when he bought the Dickerman saw mill in 1845. He sold this mill to Williard Russell about 1850.<sup>10</sup>

In the 1850's Marshall Tarbell began his career which, after preliminary difficulties, was to make him one of the richest and most successful men in Mount Holly. In March, 1852, he bought an interest in his Uncle Calvin's saw mill. In September of the same year, in company with his father, he bought on credit the old Smith starch factory and rebuilt it into a factory for the production of all kinds of rakes and handles for tools. He was fortunate in getting the services of Addison Warner who, though blind, was an expert lathe worker with much experience in the business. But, after Tarbell's mill had moved out of the red figures and into the blue, the whole factory was completely demolished by fire in the evening of February 4, 1858. At the same time Mr. Tarbell lost his home. Unfortunately, it was a complete loss, for nothing was insured. However, undaunted, Tarbell and rebuilt his factory bigger and better than ever, ~~xxxx~~ and was doing a booming business. His factory continued to grow until it turned out probably more/<sup>rakes and tool-handles</sup>than any other factory.

in New England.<sup>11</sup> In 1867 he constructed an additional shop for the production of chair-stock.

In Goodellville, J. W. and A. Goodell, were running a chair factory. W. B. and J. P. Hoskinson had a steam saw mill in Healdville. Timothy Richardson had a chair factory in the same hamlet. A. C. and I. A. Randall had a chair-stock factory in Mount Holly.

Derby and White were still running their tannery in 1866.

A new Mechanicsville general store was built by Samuel Hemmenway in 1843. Hemmenway was succeeded by Parker Sawyer, then E. R. Fay with Frank Parmenter. The next owner was Harvey Dickerman who kept it for four or five years when he was succeeded by D. L. Dawley. Mr. Hemmenway also ran a hotel in Mechanicsville for several years. He was succeeded here by Mrs. Abigail Livingstone.<sup>12</sup>

The Mount Holly store was built about 1846 by Jonah Ives. Mr. Ives ran it in company with his son-in-law for many years. In 1866 the store was being run by R. H. Clark.<sup>13</sup>

There were in 1869 two mills engaged in the manufacture of cheese boxes and butter tubs. One was located in Hortonville and the other in district fourteen. There were two small cotton factories in Bowlville, one of which specialized in cotton battings. The wooden bowl shops of Horton and Earle of this hamlet and D. B. Weston in

Mechanicsville. There were six blacksmith shops--one in Bowlville, one in Tarbellville, one in Mount Holly hamlet, one in Mechanicsville and two in Healdville. There were two chair factories in Mechanicsville, one in Goodellville and one in Tarbellville.<sup>14</sup>

A new industry was introduced into the town in 1863 when A. F. Chase constructed a toy factory below the outlet of Jackson's Pond in Mechanicsville. A. F. Chase was bought out soon after he began work by his brother Philip E. Chase. This mill turned out all sorts of children's wagons, wheelbarrows, and other toys.<sup>15</sup> The story of how this mill grew until it was one of the largest toy factories in the country, and how its economics affected the whole history of Mount Holly belongs to a later period than the one we are discussing.

#### FOUR: MODES OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

Before the advent of the railroad travel and transport were difficult tasks for out of the way communities. As the town of Mount Holly grew and its production became sufficient to begin an export business, the exporters found their task an arduous and dangerous one. Even up to the time of the completion of the railroad through Mount Holly, the journey to Boston was a hazardous one. An example is the experience of Chauncey Cook, a Mount Holly farmer, who for fifteen years engaged

in the transport trade on the side, making from ten to twelve trips between Mount Holly and Boston every year. On a journey, about 1846, he was waylaid at the point of a gun by two highway robbers. The crooks rifled his pockets, taking his wallet but leaving at his request a letter which he was carrying to Boston for a local merchant. The envelope contained \$500.<sup>16</sup>

However, besides the dangers from the highwaymen, the trip was a hard one in itself. The methods of transport were by sled in the winter and horsedrawn wagon in the summer. For travel there were stage coaches which were a good deal more comfortable.

In the late 1840's a spectacular race was in progress between the Central Vermont Railroad and the Rutland Railroad to see which one would be the first to get a train through from Boston to Burlington. The Rutland railroad was unrolling its ribbon of tracks at breakneck speed. One of the greatest structural difficulties it encountered was the cut through Mount Holly. At one point a cut ten to forty feet deep had to be made for a distance of one hundred and eighty rods through a hard bed of gneiss. The cut was an engineering triumph for the day, and it set the stock-holders back a tidy sum.<sup>17</sup> As the Burlington and Boston segments approached each other it became evident that they would meet in Mount Holly. This was just what happened and amid great ceremony the last spike joining ~~the~~ Boston and Burlington was driven at the summit of the

Mount Holly pass. A train had come down from Burlington and another up from Boston with directors and other prominent officials aboard. As the last spike was driven a cannon was fired and a barrel of New England rum ~~upladed~~ and served to the large crowd which had gathered to witness the occasion. The affair turned into quite a party and, amid great cheering, the Boston train was joined to the Burlington one which drew the former to Burlington. At the end of the triumphant journey a cask of water from Boston harbor was poured symbolically into Lake Champlain. The Rutland railroad had won the race by a two-weeks margin.

The benefits of the railroad to Mount Holly are obvious. Now outside markets were readily accessible. The former export difficulties would inevitably disappear. Another effect that was not to be felt for many years was that the town would be able to build up a tourist trade.

#### FIVE: THE MOUNT HOLLY ELEPHANT

While making the cut through Mount Holly the railroad workmen discovered the remains of an ancient elephant or mammoth. It is believed that at the time of discovery most of the skeleton was intact, but, before anyone of authority had heard about the find the workmen and curio hunters had carried off most of the animal. Zadoc Thompson got hold of a tusk which was eighty inches long and forty inches in diameter. The eminent geologist, J. R. Agassiz, managed to obtain a plaster cast of one of the

molar teeth. The weight of the tooth was eight pounds and it had a grinding surface of eight inches by four inches. Both of these specimens are now on display in the museum in Montpellier. (19)

## CHAPTER - V - RELIGIOUS HISTORY

## ONE: THE CONGREGATIONALISTS

The Congregationalists were the first church to be organized in Mount Holly, October 27, 1799. This sect also had the first resident minister, Silas Biggham, who moved from Timmouth to Mount Holly in 1799.<sup>1</sup> He was born in Andover, Connecticut in 1765 and received his education at Yale. He remained in Mount Holly until 1804, when he removed to New Haven. He died there in 1853.<sup>2</sup> The next preacher to work in Mount Holly was Waters Warren. He did not reside in the town, nor for that matter did any subsequent Congregational preacher, until Edward Bassett came in 1857.<sup>3</sup>

In 1820, under the leadership of Daniel Packer, the Baptist parson, a Union church was built in Mechanicsville, embracing, besides Congregationalists, Universalists, Methodists, and Baptists. The latter were in a majority by a good deal.<sup>4</sup>

After the departure of the Reverend Mr. Biggham in 1804, the Congregationalist sect went into a slow, steady decline. When the followers joined the Union church they seldom heard ministers of their own denomination; At times a pastor of their faith would drop in for an occasional sermon. Men who preached in this manner were Waters Warren of Ludlow and Weston, then Ezra Jones of Dorset and Fairhaven. In 1857, the 30-year-old Edward B. Bassett began

his ministerial career in Mount Holly, but he remained little more than two years. He settled in Shrewsbury and then in Cooperstown, New York.<sup>5</sup>

The Congregationalists kept up their weakening organization until 1865, when, by that time, deaths, departures, and the absorption of some of their members into other, more vital denominations had so depleted their ranks that Congregationalism was dropped.<sup>6</sup>

#### TWO: THE QUAKERS

The Quakers were never very numerous in Mount Holly, but their organization was early and they were the first to build a meeting-house. This small chapel was built in east Mechanicsville in 1803.

Among the early Quakers were men prominent in the building of Mount Holly; Abraham Jackson, Jethro Jackson, Samuel Cook, George Crowley, Peter and Stephen Baker, Snow Randall, Daniel Kelley, David Southwick, Uriel Crowley, Asa Abbott, and Daniel Cook. The society met every other week for twenty years.<sup>7</sup>

The ranks of the Quakers were never replenished, and, as in the case of the Congregationalists, departures, deaths, and the failure of their offspring to follow the faith--wiped out the Quaker society by 1825. Their meeting house was moved to the center of Mechanicsville, and sold as a private home.<sup>8</sup>

*Alva Pierce built one meeting house in Mt. Holly 1840 73 have the whole account book from 1821-1851.*

*Sumner Meadow Mass. M. Pierce Stark*

### THREE: THE BAPTISTS

Generally the most active and numerous church denomination in Mount Holly from the beginning on, were the Baptists. It will be remembered from Chapter I, section three, that the west and east settlements in what was to become Mount Holly met for the first time in the midst of a good old Baptist exhortation, being delivered by Ichabod Goodyear Clark in his cabin.

As the town grew, so did the Baptists. Like the Congregationalists they met in the houses of various members. The first Baptist house of worship was a wing added by the members of the sect to the house of Jacob White. The church began its official career on December 6, 1804 when its petition to the Wallingford church for a release of the Mount Holly members was granted. The Mount Holly church began with twenty-three members, the majority of whom were women. The first officers were: Edmund Bryant, head deacon; Lyman Dickerman, and Ichabod Clark, were a sort of advisory committee. Elder Syrus Andrews became the first resident pastor.

In 1811 Daniel Packer came to Mount Holly to preach. He had been baptized in 1807. In 1810 he "felt the call" and without any formal preparation began to preach to any and all who would listen. His first sermons were delivered in his father's barn. Then he branched out into wider fields until he landed in Mount Holly. He was offered a home and one hundred dollars a year to settle in the town

as regular preacher. He accepted the bid and after going back to get his wife settled permanently in Mount Holly on March 11, 1811. Thus began the remarkable career of Daniel Packer.

In 1812 during June he was ordained. He 35 years of uninterrupted service in Mount Holly was marked by ~~an~~ un-  
 married success. Under his vigorous leadership the Baptists  
 grew rapidly. In 1815 their first meeting house was built  
 in north Mount Holly. *built by Alva Pierce my great grandpa thru*  
 Five years later at the instigation *m. P.*  
 of the Reverend Mr. Packer the Union church was erected in *start*  
 Mechanicsville. To pay for the construction of the latter *I*  
 building the pew rights were auctioned off to prospective *have*  
 members. The original subscription paper is still in ex- *the*  
 istence, complete with the amounts the various subscribers *records*  
 paid for their pews. *+ prices*

The Baptists enjoyed an unusual growth and inspite of  
 the loss in 1830 of 42 members who joined the East Walling-  
 ford church and the loss in 1833 of about 42 members who  
 joined the Clement and Shrewsbury churches, the Baptists  
 in Mount Holly in 1842 numbered 466. They made up the  
 largest Baptist church in the state. During his pastorate  
 the Reverend Mr. Packer brought in new members almost every  
 month. In all he baptized more than 1600 new members.

In 1846, after 35 years of service, Daniel Packer  
 retired, to live out his last years on the farm of Judson  
 D. S. Packer, his son. He came out of retirement from  
 1852 to 1857 to preach in the East Wallingford church.

With the retirement of Daniel Packer, the Baptist church went into a brief decline. Joshua Clement, the next pastor, got himself into serious trouble in 1848. A special ecclesiastical council was called and he was dismissed.<sup>10</sup> Ariel Kendrick was called in to finish out the year. Richard M. Ely was the next resident minister of prominence. He halted the decline that had set in. In 1851 both the Mount Holly and Mechanicsville churches were torn down and replaced by more modern structures complete with bells.

In 1852 Richard Ely departed. The year was finished out by Winthrop Morse. Sanford Gustin came in 1853 and remained until 1855. The church once more was in decline. In 1855 Charles Coon came and saved the situation. In his five years of service he brought in more than forty new members. He was succeeded by T. H. Archibald who kept up the good work for the remainder of the period we are considering.<sup>11</sup>

#### FOUR: THE METHODISTS

Records of the history of the Methodists in Mount Holly are far from adequate. Authorities disagree on many points, mainly on the names of the various pastors.<sup>12</sup> This much is generally agreed upon: the Methodists began between 1805 and 1810. They were active in the early days of the town. In 1815 the Reverend Jacob Beeman organized the group into a regular society. Their meetings were

held in private homes and barns. Their preachers, when they had any, were "saddle-bags-men", first from the New York conference and after 1844, when the Vermont conference was formed, from the latter. As their society became larger they began to meet in the Mechanicsville schoolhouse, until 1820 when they joined the Union church. Prominent members of the society were Captain Joseph Kinney, David and William Poland, Luke and Silas Warner, Clark Haven, John Chandler and Matthew Wing. As to the pastorate various sources are not well agreed. Smith and Rann, and Abbe Hemmenway, are in substantial agreement. Among those preachers they list are: John B. Stratton, Buell Goodsell, Tobias Spicer (~~or Spencer~~), Cyrus Prindle, John M. Weaver, Joshua and David Poor, John Alby, C. B. Morris, Ira Bentley, J. F. Chamberlain, and Hubbard Eastman. Walton's Vermont Register has other ideas, for one---from 1830 to 1845 Jerial Andrews, the son of Ebenezer Andrews, and a resident of Mechanicsville is mentioned almost every year as a Methodist clergyman in Mount Holly. No other source even mentions Mr. Andrews in any capacity. If the Register is correct, it would seem that Jerial Andrews was a very important man among the Methodists in Mount Holly.

In the latter part of the period we are discussing, all authorities are in substantial agreement. The preachers were Hubbard Eastman, 1861-1863; C. A. Stephens, 1863-1864; A. Newton, 1864-1866.

## FIVE: THE MILLERITES AND THE SECOND ADVENTISTS

During and after the tremendous religious revivals of 1800 to 1837 and the constant reemphasis on the bible, there were many who felt that they should take the lead in bringing about the prophecies of the "good book."<sup>14</sup>

One of these "missionaries", and perhaps the most famous, was "father" William Miller, who, after a thorough perusal of the bible, found somewhere among its many pages, convincing proof that the second coming of Christ was at hand.<sup>15</sup> In fact, the good gentleman was able to present the world with an "irrefutable" set of calculations which "convincingly proved" that the second advent was scheduled for the year 1843! In four separate calculations the answer was the same: 1843!<sup>16</sup> William Miller was fortunate in the propagation of his remarkable discovery in getting ~~an~~ a<sup>valuable</sup> backer in the person of Joshua B. Himes, a Baptist minister in Boston, a strange man who loved fanatical crowds and wild and emotional actions. Himes served as a combined press-agent and propagandist for the "profit". He put Mr. Miller and the second advent on the map.<sup>17</sup>

Mr. Miller travelled all over warning people from the lecture platform to prepare for the return of Jesus Christ. Vermont was fertile ground for the seed of Millerism.<sup>18</sup> In 1833 supernatural fears had been aroused by the spectacular meteoric display which took place on November 13. From 2 o'clock at night until daybreak the fireworks continued.

Although these displays were common in the Arctic regions and had been seen many times in other parts of the world, New England had never beheld anything like this "rain of stars." <sup>19</sup> All the latent fears and superstitions of the people were aroused by this puzzling and terrifying display. Why did it happen? Millerism held the "answer", so people flocked to the faith. The followers of Miller believed that the exact date of the event would be March 21, 1843, but to their surprise and disappointment that <sup>20</sup> day passed uneventfully. There was no evidence that any of the "good" had ascended to heaven. Miller's second prediction, March 21, 1844, also proved misinformed, but the historians were blamed for misrepresenting the dates that Miller used in his calculations. "The father" worked hard to keep up the waning interest in the imminence of the "day of reckoning." However, the whole affair eventually <sup>21</sup> passed into history.

Mount Holly had its quota of Millerites. Frequent visits of "disciples of the prophet", such as Locke, Lyon, Bosworth, Tiff, Dow, and Bundy. In common with their fellow believers elsewhere, some of the Mount Holly Millerites began preparing for their "glorious ascent to heaven." They left their fields unharvested, and gave up any sort of work for a livelihood. Things earthly were no longer of any use to these chosen ones. But the majority of the freemen of the town thought otherwise. Their innate industry and conservative was shocked severely by the presence of these

fanatics in their midst. In a town meeting called on November 25, 1844, they decided to act on the question. It was voted "to petition the probate judge to appoint guardians over persons deluded with Millerism and squandering away their time and property." <sup>22</sup> In 1846 in their March meeting the freemen themselves appointed guardians over two of the "deluded". Some of those who gathered to meet the Lord on His return to earth were Daniel Chatterton, Horace Newton, Rufus and William Jackson, Nathan Doolittle, Gabriel Bishop, Orlin Russell, and Laren Horton. <sup>23</sup>

<sup>24</sup> In 1846 Elder David Bosworth organized the believers into the society of the Second Advent. A small chapel was constructed around 1851 in Bowlville at a cost of around \$1,000. The society was never very large or influential in the town, however, ~~they were~~ <sup>it was</sup> still in existence in 1886, but was showing signs of approaching death. <sup>25</sup>

#### SIX: EPISCOPALIANS, UNIVERSALISTS AND CATHOLICS

The Episcopalians were never very numerous or important as a sect in Mount Holly. They never had a church of their own, and at one time John Hoskinson and his family occupied the only Episcopalian pew in the Union church. Mr. Hoskinson used to hire a preacher of his faith once a year to keep his right to such a service.

There have always been some Universalists in the town, who have held pews in the Union church. Their numbers

have never been large. Most of them were absorbed into the more numerous sects. Royal T. Sawyer went out from the town to preach this faith.<sup>26</sup> In the period we are discussing the Catholics were never organized and did not become prominent until some time later.<sup>27</sup>

#### SEVEN: CLERGY FROM MOUNT HOLLY

Up to 1866 Mount Holly had supplied the Christian world with twelve clergymen. There were six Baptists,<sup>28</sup> five Methodists and one Universalist. Among those who became Baptist ministers were Cyrus Andrews, William Grant, Jared Doolittle, Larkin B. Cole and Harvey Crowley.<sup>29</sup> As mentioned in the last section Royal T. Sawyer became a teacher of the Universalist faith.

## CHAPTER VI - MILITARY HISTORY

## ONE: REVOLUTIONARY WAR

As we have noted, settlement in Mount Holly had not begun until after the surrender of Cornwallis. Many of the men who settled in Mount Holly, nevertheless, were worthy veterans of the Revolution. It is impossible to compile anything like a complete list of Mount Holly veterans; so I shall detail the careers of only a few of the more notable ones.

Abraham Jackson---served as a private under Colonel Seth Warner in the expedition of Vermonters into Canada in 1775. The next year, having been promoted to the rank of ensign, he served for a few days in November for a few days under Colonel Gideon Warren. On April 18, 1779, he went North with Colonel Warren to defend the border against the advancing Britishers. In 1781 Jackson had been promoted to the rank of Captain with forty-five men under him. He and his company served in the October alarm at Castleton in 1781.

Stephen Clark---served for twenty-eight days as a private under Captain Gideon Brownson in 1776. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in the regiment of Colonel Ebenezer Allen. In this capacity he served eighteen days in October 1780. He was again promoted and served as an ensign at the Castleton alarm 1781 under Captain Abraham Jackson.

Joseph Randall---was also at the above mentioned Castle-  
ton alarm in the rank of lieutenant.

Jonas Holden---was wounded at Bunker Hill and also fought  
at the battle of Lexington.<sup>1</sup>

Ebenezer Andrews---was with Ethan Allen at the capture of  
Ticonderoga.<sup>2</sup> He was promoted to the rank of Corporal in  
Colonel Seth Warren's regiment, seeing service in February,  
1779, and in Colonel Warren's expedition to Ticonderoga  
and Bull Wazzy's Bay in May, 1780. In Colonel Lee's reg-  
iment he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, seeing ser-  
vice during October and November 1781.

Nathan T. Sprague---saw a good deal of service as a pri-  
vate. In April, 1778, May to November 30, 1779, in March  
and October, 1780, and finally at the Castleton alarm in  
1781.

Silas Proctor, Royal Crowley, Ichabod Clark, Abijah Foster,  
Silas Bingham, Obidiah Noble, and Chauncey Clark saw a good  
deal of service as privates.<sup>3</sup> The U. S. Census of pension-  
ers for 1830 lists Mount Holly pensioners as Silas Proc-  
tor, age 88; Royal Crowley, 74; Ichabod Clark, 85; Ebenezer  
Andrews, 86; Mary Foster, widow of Abijah Foster, 77.

Walter Hill Crockett reports that Ebenezer Andrews and  
Jonas Holden are buried in Mount Holly.<sup>4</sup>

## TWO: CIVIL WAR

Abelition was a popular crusade with the people of  
Mount Holly. In 1840 the Woodstock Baptist convention of  
which Daniel Packer was a prominent member, went on record

as being in favor of abolition.<sup>5</sup> By 1844 there were 24 freemen voting for an abolitionist government. The next year this number was increased to 50 and it continued to grow until the Republican party absorbed the abolitionists.<sup>6</sup>

But when the Civil War came, after the first enthusiasm, the town had<sup>a</sup> little trouble in inducing its men to join the service. High bounties had to be offered as sugar plums. In addition, the town rapidly got out of patience with Lincoln's "war to save the Union". They wanted the government to declare war on slavery. In their September meeting, 1862, the following resolutions were passed:

"Resolved: that while making ample provision for those who have gone or may go from among us to fight the battles of our country, and while we are ready cheerfully to endure every sacrifice that may here or in the future be necessary for the prosperity and the welfare of our glorious republic--we at the same time, deem it our right and our duty to express our decided and earnest conviction that every obligation of right and every consideration of expediency unite to demand that the whole legitimate authority of the government should be employed for the complete extinction of American slavery, the great cause of the trouble and sanguinary struggle in which our country is involved.

Resolved: that the town clerk cause to be published the foregoing resolution in the Rutland Herald.<sup>7</sup>

In a special meeting May 8, 1861, soon after the fall of Sumner and Lincoln's first call for state militia, a committee was chosen to look after the families of volunteers. Other acts of the freemen of the town in regard to the war were, chronologically:

1862--Voted a bounty of \$100 to nine month volunteers and \$10 to those already in the service.

Jan. 1863--Voted increased taxes to raise money for soldiers' bounties.

Nov. 1863--Voted to pay each subsequent volunteer \$100 upon enlistment and \$7 per month subsequently. If a volunteer should be killed in action the \$7 per month should be paid to his dependents until his former associates shall terminate.

Dec. 1863--The bounty raised to \$500.

July 1864--\$500 bounty to be paid for three years service and in proportion for less service.

August 1864--Bounty raised to \$550.

Nov. 1864--Committee chosen to report on  
8  
Mount Holly soldiers in the war.

One of the reasons for appointing the last mentioned committee was that some of the early enlisted men in the army who had gotten only \$10 bounty had left the army to reenlist and they were trying to collect the \$500 or \$550

bounty. The question which was put before the freemen by this committee in 1865 was should these men get the larger bounty? The freemen refused to even consider paying the bounty to the reenlisted men. The soldiers involved in this question were: Myron E. Hubbard, Lorenzo A. Dodge, Hazy Rogers, George H. Martin, Perry G. Wells, Barney Parmon, Rudolphus Briggs, Henry P. Morehouse, and John King. The committee also reported on bounties paid:

Number of Men	Bounty	Time of Enlistment
80	\$10	"Early in the struggle"
9	\$500	Call of 1863
13	(eight paid) \$100	Call of 1863
16	\$550	Call of July, 1864

In the spring of 1863 Eli Johnson and John Clark enlisted. They were credited to Mount Holly, but neither of them claimed nor received any bounty. Issac Randall enlisted the following year under the same circumstances. Up to and through 1864 only one drafted man from Mount Holly entered the service--Darius A. Martin who entered in the spring of 1863. The rest apparently paid commutation.<sup>9</sup>

Though high bounties had to be offered to induce men to enter the service Mount Holly, as a town did as much or more in proportion to its size than any other town in Rutland county, in the prosecution of the war effort; and the freemen did it willingly.

## CHAPTER- VII - PERSONAL HISTORIES

The biographies of Stephen Clark and Abraham Jackson have been fairly thoroughly covered in preceeding chapters in this paper. Something more should be said, however, about them.

Abraham Jackson---was born in Cornwall, Connecticut<sup>1</sup> in 1750. In 1773 he migrated to Vermont with his father. He was a man typical of the times--a rabid and omnivorous speculator in land. His name appears frequently in petitions to the general assembly for land from the time he came to Vermont until 1782. Among his petitions are one for land in Tinmouth,<sup>2</sup> in Starksboro (1778),<sup>3</sup> one for a grant of land to adjust for the depreciation in the continental money paid to the members of Colonel Lee's company (1778)<sup>4</sup>. A petition for two townships near Lake Memphremagog (1781).<sup>5</sup> In the last petition most all of the signers are Massachusetts men with the exception of the ubiquitous Mr. Jackson and one or two others. He was also in a grant of land August 8, 1781.<sup>6</sup> In addition to all these, there was of course the grant of Jackson's Gore, February 23, 1781. With all these land interests it is no wonder that the hard times after 1808 hit Jackson hard, finally disgusting him to the extent that he sold out all his holdings and moved to New York.<sup>7</sup>

Abraham Jackson, until he departed in 1810, was always prominent in the affairs of Mount Holly. He was representative to the general assembly in 1793, 1794, and 1798. He was delegate to the state constitutional convention of 1793.

Stephen Clark---before his departure in 1815, was a frequent office holder. He was the first town clerk and was representative to the general assembly in 1795, 1796, 1797, 1799, 1801, and 1807.

Daniel Packer---was, during his life, one of the most prominent and highly regarded men in Mount Holly. His early days and his work with the Mount Holly churches has been outlined in chapter five. But more should be said about such a worthy man.

Mr. Packer was very active in the Woodstock association of the Vermont Baptist convention and in the convention itself. In 1824 he was chosen a trustee of the latter organization. The next year he was chosen vice president. Through his influence the convention met in Mount Holly in 1827. The presence of so many Baptist notables probably brought Mr. Packer added prestige and added members to his church.

Packer was always active in the educational pioneering of the convention. He was an original trustee of the Brandon Academy, set up in 1831.

In 1837, Packer was chosen to represent Vermont in the bible conference in Philadelphia. In the controversy

that split the conference over the acceptance of Adoniram Judson's translation of the bible into Burmese, Daniel was a big gun behind the famous missionary. For his efforts Packer was made vice president of the Vermont Bible Association.

Reverend Packer was always a successful solicitor of funds for worthy causes. On one occasion when he soliciting funds for the Vermont Branch of the Northern Baptist Education Society, he was that his audience was not "coming across" with the proper generosity; and, reaching into his own pocket, he produced a contribution of \$150. This saved the day, a veritable avalanche of contributions followed.

Besides his religious services Daniel Packer served as town clerk from 1815 to 1846 and also in many other town offices.

The good pastor died on his son's farm at the ripe age of eighty-six.

Dr. John Crowley---also was a leading light in Mount Holly history. He was the son of John Crowley, one of the early settlers of the town. In Mount Holly, May 27, 1805, he was born. He fitted himself for his chosen profession at Chester Academy and then in study with Dr. Alvin McAllister of Queensbury, New York. Crowley met him while the former was practicing in Mount Holly (1821-1824). He then attended Castleton Medical School, passed his New York examinations, and began practice in Moreau, New York

in partnership with a Dr. Billa J. Clarke. After one year the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent and Doctor Crowley returned to the place of his birth in 1828 and remained there for the rest of his life. During his first few years of practice in Mount Holly he had some hard times for there were already two or three experienced doctors there. But he didn't give up. He taught school and some times worked as a hired man to eke out a living. These, dark days, however, didn't last long. He became a very popular man not only in his own town but all through the countryside. He was a fine doctor and highly regarded by his colleagues. After 1836 Doctor Crowley had a Mount Holly practice substantially to himself.

In 1842 he was elected a member of the state medical society, and in 1865 he was elected president of the Connecticut Valley Medical Association.

His popularity is shown by his frequent elections to this general assembly---1843, 1845, 1848, 1862, and 1863. And further, he was elected state senator in 1849, 1850, and 1851. He was the only Mount Holly man ever to receive this honor. In 1868 and 1869 he was elected assistant county judge.

By 1879 Doctor Crowley had substantially retired, after a highly successful career. Much of the history of Mount Holly which is known today is due to this man's scholarly interest and appreciation of local history. He contributed his findings to various historical publications frequently such as Abbe Hemmenway's Vermont Historical Gazetteer.

Nathan T. Sprague---is one of Mount Holly's four contributions to Who's Who. He came to Mount Holly in 1810. His Revolutionary War career is outlined in the previous chapter. In Mount Holly, he ran a profitable store and tavern on the stage road and also farmed extensively. By careful and shrewd investments he accumulated a fortune unequalled in the history of the town. He was prominent in the affairs of the town, having been representative to the general assembly seven times, a justice of peace and many other local offices. In 1833 he left Mount Holly and settled in Brandon. <sup>10</sup> He was assistant county justice from 1834 to 1839. <sup>11</sup>

His subsequent career was marked by great success. He became a wealthy financier, a railroad president, president of the Howe Scale Works in Rutland, founder of the Sprague National Bank of Brooklyn, New York, and later president of the City's Savings Bank, also of <sup>12</sup> Brooklyn.

NOTES

## CHAPTER I - EARLY HISTORY

1. Vermont in the Making, Matt Bushnell Jones, Cambridge 1939, p. 21.
2. Ibid, pp. 21, 22.
3. Except for the inevitable adjustments which held over.
4. State Papers of Vermont, vol. V, Brattleboro 1941 ( Mary G. Nye ) — p. 388.
5. The Crown Point Road, Mary F. Charlton, Vermont Historical Society Proceedings, Montpelier, Vol. II, No. 4, 1931.
- 6a. Highlights in the History of Mount Holly, Harriet Parmenter ( manuscript ).
6. History of Rutland County, H. P. Smith and W. S. Rann, Syracuse 1886, p. 673. ( Since I make so many references to this work in the course of this paper, I shall in the future refer to it in this manner: S. and R., page so and so, etc. )
7. State Papers of Vermont, Vol. III, Part II ( Proceedings of the General Assembly ), Bellows Falls 1924, p. 156
8. See appendix I for a complete list of these names.
9. State Papers of Vermont, Vol. II, p. 105; S. and R., p. 673.
- 9a. Clark Papers, edited by Abbe Maria Hemenway, Burlington 1878, p. 3.

10. Census of the Heads of Families in Vermont, 1790,  
Washington, 1907, p. 45
- 10a. Ibid. p. 61.
11. Clark Papers, p. 2.
- 11a. Ibid., p. 2.
12. For the forgoing account I am indebted to the  
Clark Papers, pp. 3-8; also S. and R. pp. 674,  
675; Vermont Historical Gazetteer, Abbe Maria  
Hemenway, Claremont, 1877, Vol. III, pp. 845,  
846.
13. Census of the Heads of Families, 1790, pp. 45, 61.
14. S. and R. , p. 675.
15. S. and R., p. 676.
16. S. and R., p. 675; Clark Papers; p. 7; Vermont  
Historical Gazetteer, Abbe Hemenway, p. 845.
- 16a. It is said that because of his special efforts  
in the making of the town of Mount Holly,  
Stephen Clark was given the honor of naming  
it. It may be true that he did give the town  
its name, but where the name came from is  
hard to determine. I do not believe, as many  
say, that it came from his home town in  
Connecticut, for, as I have said, there does  
not seem ever to have been a town of this name  
in Connecticut. The only Mount Holly I have  
been able to locate is in Burlington County,  
New Jersey.
17. Hemenway, op. cit., p. 845
18. Ibid, p. 845.
- 19.S. and R. p. 677 /// 20. Ibid.. p. 897.

## CHAPTER II - FOUNDING THE TOWN

1. State Papers of Vermont, Vol. III, Part I, pp. 27, 126; Part II, p. 4; Part III, p. 166; Part IV, p. 179.
2. Ibid, Part IV, p. 3
3. Ibid, Part IV, p. 65.
4. Ibid, Part III, pp. 274, 278, 279, 287.
5. Ibid, Part IV, p. 110
6. Ibid, Part IV, p. 137.
- 6a. Clark Papers, p. 6.
7. Vermont Laws, 1792, pp. 20, 21, 22, 23; also Zadoc Thompson's Vermont, Burlington, 1842, Part III, p. 123.
8. Town Proceedings ( in the Town Clerk's office at Mount Holly ) Volume I.
9. Hemenway, op. cit., Vol III, p. 847
10. Town Proceedings, Vol. I
11. S. and R. p. 676.
- 11a. Town Proceedings, Vol I.
12. This account is based on information accumulated from the Vermont Register, 1813, 1815, 1816, 1818-1866; and from Volumes I, II, III of the Town Proceedings. I have not made specific page references to the Proceedings because the pages of the Volumes are numbered haphazardly and sometimes misleadingly. In the second place the information on elections and parties-- what little there is-- is to be found under the October meetings of each year.

## CHAPTER III - GROWING PAINS

1. Thompson, op. cit., Part III, p. 123.
2. S. and R. p. 673
3. See note 1.
4. Migration From Vermont, Lewis D. Stilwell, Vermont Historical Society Proceedings, Montpelier, 1937, Vol. III, No. 2, p. 95.
5. Ibid. p. 95.
6. See Appendices II and III for further population figures.
7. See Census of the Heads of Families 1790, p. 45.
8. Hemenway, op cit., p. 846.
9. U. S. Census of Manufactures, 1840, pp. 82, 83.
10. Ibid, pp. 82, 83.
11. See source map Appendix IV; also Appendix VII.
12. Geology of Vermont, Albert D. Hager, Claremont, 1861, p. 934
13. Town Proceedings, Vol. I
14. Census of Munufactures, 1840, pp 82,83.
15. Statistical View of the Number of Sheep, C. Benton and S. F. Barry, p. 24. Professor Stilwell, in his Migration from Vermont , p. 172 (map), is mistaken in putting the number of sheep in Mount Holly over 5,000 in 1836. The number given by Benton and Barry, p. 24, is 3,085.
16. The forgoing account is based on the Town Proceedings, Volumes I, II, III. passim.
17. Thompson, op. cit., Part III, p. 123.