The Construction and Dismantling of Fort Pointe-à-la-Chevelure (Chimney Point, West Addison, Vermont), 1731-1735

Joseph-André Senécal

Wilson Bentley and the Northern Lights

Gary Parker

The Power of Erasure: Reflections on Civil War, Race, and Growing Up White in Vermont

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About the Cover Illustrations
Tarbell Family Papers

Rarely does the Vermont Historical Society acquire a collection of family papers as extensive and fascinating as the Tarbell Family papers, donated to us in 2011. The collection contains materials from four generations of three inter-related families from North Sherburne (now Killington), Wallingford, and Clarendon. The families were involved in Vermont agriculture for over 100 years as farmers, orchardists, and nurserymen. The papers, filling more than sixteen storage boxes, are one of the largest family collections in the VHS’s manuscript collections.

VHS volunteer Marge Garfield spent more than two years processing this collection. In her finding aid she writes, the collection’s “broad scope touches on a variety of occupations and personal interests, including family farm records, travel records of a ‘snow-birding’ family of average means, literary endeavors, photography, and small-scale retailing.”

Among the agricultural records in the collection are detailed dairy and general farming records covering farm expenses, living expenses, revenues, insurance, banking, labor records, loans, and real estate transactions of Harold W. Tarbell (1875-1951) and his son, Charles (1920-1970). One of those documents is a 1910 rental agreement between Harold and his father-in-law, Charles Doubleday (1849-1936) to “carry on the farm in a workman-like manner.” Also included are extensive records from Vermont Gardens, a nursery in Wallingford operated by George Richards (1891-1951), Harold’s son-in-law.

The family maintained a strong connection to Florida. In the fall of 1926, 77-year-old Charles Doubleday, his daughter Mary (1876-1973), and his 18-year-old grandson, Harold Prior Tarbell (1908-1927), drove to Tangerine and built themselves a home which they named “Killington Kottage.” The rugged, five-month process is documented by Harold’s letters and Mary’s photographs. Mary owned a camera in the early 1900s and made her own prints. She took stunningly beautiful
images of her Vermont surroundings and her many trips. Her photograph of her mother, Cora Doubleday, is on the front cover of this issue.

Charles Doubleday and his grandson Harold Prior Tarbell clearing their land in Tangerine, Florida.

For a complete description of the Tarbell family papers, go to www.vermonthistory.org/documents/findaid/TarbellFamily.docx. For additional photographs from the collection, visit www.vermonthistory.org/tarbellphotographs.

Paul A. Carnahan, Librarian

Front cover: “Mother fishing.” Kate Doubleday Tarbell fishing somewhere in Rutland County. Photo by Mary Doubleday Gay.

Back cover: Charles Doubleday with some of his sheep on his farm in North Sherburne.
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