

John Martin's Journal
Bangor February 16th 1864
No 130 Centre Street

Purchased of David Bugbee & Co for the
sum of Six Dollars In Stricklands Block
on the Kenduskeag Bridge western side

Contributed by Maine Historical Society and Maine State Museum

Coll. 1972; 1997.16.4

Date: 1864-

Description: John Martin's Journal, pages i-73

Remarks concerning John Martin's

Two acres on page 2 Austin's Cove.

Commencing this volume in the form of a history I did not intend at first to give any drawings only illustrate by description but in writing and refreshing my mind about locations which very much changed since the days I were familiar with them I could not convey ideas to satisfy me unless I give some plan. Consequently began to give simple outlines but as I progressed I found I could with a little extra labour give a very correct drawing of buildings and lands and have made some drawings since I have written the volume through. My father's home being first I passed by it without leaving a space in its proper page and have drawn it on page 2 and now give some associations connected with it. I have also found a cut in an old history which gives the shape of the dresses as they looked when seven yards made a full skirt also females wore stays to make them small around the waist and wooden busks, ruffles around the neck were worked in scollops the edge being full of ilot holes thus [drawing] and when I was a boy I frequently drew on my slate dresses to immitate the fashion of the lower half of the skirt [drawing] About my father's dress I know nothing about, he being a tayler the presumption is that had good taste or he never would have secured the best custom. In regard to the ground I have given on page 2 the piece from the road to the bank of the river was almost a level rounding just enough each side north & south to make it dry. The fence on the road was a post & rail with a gate made of pickets with a rustic top, the fence on each side was a slab fence set up pitch pole fashion made from the slabs which landed at the Cove by cords, No 11 on page 2 is the location where he used to lay up slabs to dry above high water mark, No 10 is a few several growth pines which grow after the heavy timber was taken off a number of years before they came up and they were so hard some that my father let them grow to adorn the premises. My recollections are distinct about the shal down they were painted yellow & the trimmings and the door trimmings on the ship the house was boarded & shingled I think the finish outside & the front door was not painted at all. The trees on square point were extremely large many of them and the logs represented at figure 12 was where my mother took one and a saw knife many a time to go a gumming whenever spruce ones were on the landing. The piece of ground painted brown is the place where the garden was and all the remainder was one smooth piece of grass these molins belonged to the Lenoxcot tribe & now dogs built their camps & broke back slabs.

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[Continued on next page]

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[Continued from previous page]

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Introductory Remarks

The design of this record has been contemplated by me for several years, which is nothing more nor less than in part a history of my family, A Chart to be made up in my own editorials from time to time giving my children in a condensed form the most useful and important points in my own & others experience whereby they may if they feel so disposed profit and guard against many errors at the same time have a clear view of the manner in which the Pioneers of this section of the Country procured their education and livelihood, enjoyed their amusements &c. The above will constitute the first half or three hundred pages,

The last half or three hundred pages will be reserved to record future events as a Journal for reference. If my health is preserved a time sufficient to complete the volume I intend to make it a valuable book for every member in the family to have equal privileges in perusing its pages and hope it may be preserved for many generations to come,

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[illustration]

[labels on illustration]

Card's Cove

Cards Brook Squaw Point

cards mill

Austin's Cove

John Martin's Ten Acres

House Shed and Taylor Shop

1823

This space represents the
portion for a garden

Beals Brook 1823

[sideways at left]

Card's mowing field

Tinkers Road to Sullivan South

[sideways at right]

Union River

[attached illustration at left]

2 Wooden ball to shoot at on moose hide string

3 Board target with white centre

4 Squaw with picked black broad cloth cap & cue

5 Sanup with cap like the squaw fashion

6 Canoes turned over on dry land

7 Fathers boat dug out of a log called a punt

8 Strattons Brick yard Mothers uncle

9 The exact fashion my mother dressed

in when I was from 4 to 7 years old the rim of
her hat being broad & straight the crown not quite so high the veil
& trimming & work on the bottom of the dress peaks on
the bottom are the same The work has the same ruffle a
round the neck the fashion of the Sleeves and all regular
gentlemen wore snug bodied coats & smooth front pants
but the hats were more bell crown thus [illustration]

Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths
of the great grand Parents to my children.

Henry Jones born in
Dighton Mass April 13-1752
O S Married in Taunton
Mass Died July 1827
aged 75 years.

Phoebe Richmond born
in Taunton Mass. married
in Taunton at the age of 19
Died in Turner Maine
Oct 17 1831.

Luther Cary born in
Bridgewater Mass 1766.
Married in Raynham Mass
was 15 years old when
the Revolution War com-
menced. Died in Turner
July 12 1848

Abigail, or Nabby King
born in Raynham Mass.
Married in Raynham.
Died in Turner, was 3
years younger than her
husband.

James Stratton born at
Natick Massachusetts August
27 1774. Married in Boston
by the Rev DD Parker of Boston
1796 Died in Ellsworth Maine
October 1808

Abigail Prentiss born at
Cambridge Mass August 25
1781. Married to James Stratton
1796. Died at Cambridge
In the year 1809

Grand Parents

John Martin born at
Cromwell England in
1800. Married to Anna
Stratton at Ellsworth 1822.
Died in Ellsworth February
28 1824

Anna Stratton born at
Natick Mass. February 14
1799 Married to John Martin
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Rev Peter Nourse. Married
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Married first to
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Mass. Married second
time July 11 1819 in
Hebron. Died in
Hebron Sept 2 1831

Joanna Jones born
at Turner February 28
1787. Married to
Cassander Cary
July 11 1819 by Rev
Allen Greely at her
Father house.

Parents

John Martin son of
John Martin born at
Ellsworth March 24
1825. Married at
Bangor March 27 1850

Clara Cary, born
at Hebron November 30
1830. Married to John
Martin at half past
7 o'clock PM Bangor
March 27 1850 by Prof
essor George Shephard

at his residence adjoining
the Theological Seminary

Births of the Children

Ada Martin, born at
Bangor May 22 1851 in
the Harris House, Market
Street a few steps north
of the Bangor, P.C.&RR Co
Depot. 5 o'clock a m.

Annie Martin, born
at Bangor July 1 1855 in
the second house
above Clinton Street on
Centre Street No 130 known
as John Martin House between
the hours of 3 & 4 a m.
died Aug 30 1899
with heart disease which
ended in consumption of the
blood

Junior Martin born at
Bangor July 21 1857 in our
own House No 130 Centre St
being the one that Annie was
born in at 15 minutes to
11 o'clock a m.

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[sideways at left]
Died at no 270 Centre St
am
at 1/2 past 7^h March 29th
1902 Thoraletic Shock
Struck March 28 1902

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at 1/2 past 7^h March 29th
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| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Elmer Ellsworth Martin. born at Bangor May 26. 1860 in our own House no 130 Center Street being the same House that Annie and Junior were born in at 15 minutes to 5 P.M. died Oct 15 1874 of Scarlet fever ending in Dropsy</p> | <p>Frank Martin born at Bangor July 6. 1862 in our own House 130 Center St at 1/2 past 5 A.M. lived between 2 & 3 hrs Mabel Martin born at Bangor May 15. 1866 in our own House no 130 Center St at 1/2 past 11 <small>A M. in the 3rd year of her life was taken on a cold & Typhoid Pneumonia in the sitting room the same house at 1/4 past Saturday March 25 1899</small></p> |
|---|---|

The history of Grand Parents I know but very little about further than like the most of the early settlers in the state of Maine they were the children of the first settlers of Massachusetts who seeking for Lands and a climate to produce the best crops found the same on the waters of the Kennebec Androscoggin and Penobscot Rivers. These lands were covered with a heavy growth of hard wood & Pine Timber and as a large amount of labour was required to clear the land before a sufficient crop could be produced to support a family they could resort to their timber which they could exchange with what merchants there were although on a very limited scale and by this means manage to sustain life sentice their Potatoes Corn and wheat patches were ready to harvest in the fall. We can easily imagine what their privations must have been in those days when we even now glance at our own pioneers who have roads Stages RailRoads and a market for every thing the earth produces at a high cash price when the great grandparents were obliged to convey their short lumber such as shingles cedar Posts Ribs and barrel staves for miles on hand sleds for which they exchanged for Tea Sweating Tobacco and such necessities as our own soil could not produce. Nothing but high minded determined and interlectual people could ever survive these privations and for this one reason we conclude that

Elmer Ellsworth Martin.
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our origin was made up from the very best material the world produces, therefore we have high and binding reasons to reverence both the names and the lands of our fore Fathers for their bravery intelligence and industry as well as their bequeathment of their high mixed political sentiments which they maintained for our benefit at the point of bayonet & sword. We must consider that these people were not a race born to be governed by any other principles than that of equality and rights as they manifested in every act to their offsprings by establishing free schools, free churches free political thoughts and a code of manners which for their excellence the world has never surpassed. They educated their children to obey their parents right or wrong assuming the responsibility that in after years benefits to rising generations would develop themselves which were not visible at that period.

John Martin

As I have but a limited source to derive any statistics relative to my Father John Martin I make a brief record of the portion of life during his sojourn in this Country as given me in my childhood from time to time by my ever honored mother. He was born in Cromwell England in the year 1800 and if he was now living he would be 64 years old. he learned the trade of a Taylor in his own country after he had acquired a good education and he was one of the finest Penman in his section. I have no recollection of ever seeing a scrap of his writing, but one incident which occurred supposing it to be ludicrous establishes in my mind that I never enjoyed the day that I could produce the Penmanship that he could, some years ago. My sister Nancy discovered that she was a

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powerfull writing medium under the influence
of my Brother George, she called up the spirit of
my father and he wrote a piece which I have
among my papers and if I can find it I shall
put it in this book, My mother was not present at
the time and in a short time after the writing was
shown to her desiring her to state if she could
tell whose writing it was. she immediately re-
cognised it as my fathers hand writing and said
it was a perfect facsimile. This transaction is
singular but nevertheless it is true. In regard to his
trade he served eleven years as was
the custom in his Country and he acquired every
portion of it thorough. His embarkation to this
Country I know nothing about but my mother
became acquainted with him in the Town of
Columbia near Mount Desert while she was
teaching school and as Ellsworth was her home
he removed to that place and married my mother
and boarded a short time then kept house for a
time on the western side of Union River just above
the bridge and as he had a beautiful taste for
gardening he purchased two acres of pasture
land of Joseph Card in what was known then
as the Austin Cove which was about one half
mile south of Ellsworth village, built a story and
a half house a long shed and a Taylors shop
on the end of the shed, finished a part of the
house inside shingled the roof put on trimming
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reached his strength by sewing nights and labouring
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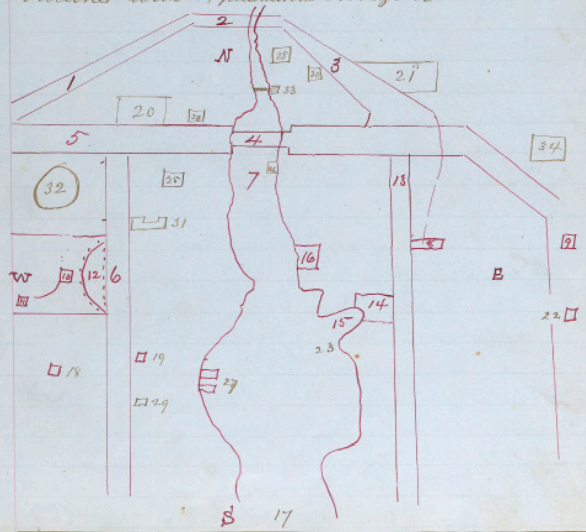
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over a year he died on the 28 day of February 1824 thus ended his short career on this earth and I have many seasons to bless him although I was but eleven months old when he departed and of course have no recollections of his person or features still he left behind his taste for a home, his impressions of politeness and his good feeling toward mankind upon my mothers mind so strongly impressed that she never for a day forgot to caution me and her other children to follow the path of duty, He thought every thing of manners and education, he always held that a man could be a gentleman in whatever occupation he might follow and any man that did not come up to the standard on this point degraded himself. This probably induced him to come to this Country where labour was respected and if a man respected himself others would respect him. It will be seen by refering to the Record that he was only 24 years old when he died. I consider from this not knowing anything of his parentage that he was a smart man and more so if his parents were of limited means, acquiring as he did a good education, learning a trade that occupied seven years coming to this Country and securing the very best customers in the section he lived, getting married and making a start as far as he did on a homestead all go to show that he was a man of no small calculation and good taste. The spot of ground which he ended his short career on is as hallowed to me as though I had served my minority on it although I left it when about five years of age the little cove, its scenery of tall trees The masses of drift wood on the shore. The portion of Penobscot Indians who encamped on the point during the summer and the mansion of

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Coln Black exactly opposite, old Daddy Beal in the rear with his ox team are as fresh in my memory as though I were there this day. I love the very village and if I am fortunate enough to write a sketch of my own life I shall detail at length my pleasures and sufferings in the beautiful Town of Ellsworth. My mother being now absent I cannot say much about my fathers funeral I dont know who preached his funeral sermon but he was buried in the orthodox or Congregationalist Church burying ground (as each church had its own burying ground) very near the north east corner of the meeting house and no stone or number marks his grave. Knowing how my mother was situated for a few years after I attach no blame to her but it would seem as though a lack of energy on her part was more the cause than any lack of affection for she ever spoke of him in the highest terms. In order that my children may form an idea of the situation of the above homestead I herewith give the outline with Explanations on Page 10



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[illustration]

Explanation To The Outlines Of Ellsworth Lower Village

- n for North S for South E for East w for west
- 1 Road to Ellsworth Falls
 - 2 The Bridge that crosses the Falls
 - 3 Road from the Falls to Ellsworth village
 - 4 Ellsworth Bridge
 - 5 Road E & W through the village
 - 6 Road west side Union River to Castine Main Hill
 - 7 Rips below the bridge
 - 8 Jellerson House in Jellerson Flat
 - 9 Old Daddy Beales Farm house
 - 10 Coln Blacks mansion Agent for the Bingham heirs
 - 11 Coln Blacks Tomb
 - 12 Terrace of about 5 acres set to Elm Trees
 - 13 Road on the Eastern Side of the River to Mashias
 - 14 John Martins two acres and homestead
 - 15 Austins Cove
 - 16 Steammill Flat and wharves
 - 17 Entrance to Pattens Bay
 - 18 Doct Pecks old Residence
 - 19 Parson Nourses Seminary
 - 20 Baptist Church & burying ground
 - 21 Congregational Church & burying ground
 - 22 Joseph Cards Farm
 - 23 Indian Point
 - 24 The First Frame House built by mr Joy
 - 25 Widow Hubbards mansion
 - 26 Tainters wharf
 - 27 Bonds wharf head of navigation
 - 28 Dutton Farm of Ten acres for sale for 10 thousand Dolls
 - 29 Doct Adams Residence
 - 30 The house where I first went to school
 - 31 Landons Tavern
 - 32 Spruce Grove about Ten acres
 - 33 Blacks Dam & mills
 - 34 General Muster Field

Explanation To The Outlines of Ellsworth Lower Village

n for north S for South E for East w for west

- 1 Road to Ellsworth Falls
- 2 The Bridge that crosses the Falls
- 3 Road from the Falls to Ellsworth village
- 4 Ellsworth Bridge
- 5 Road E & W through the village
- 6 Road west side Union River to Castine & Blue Hill
- 7 Rips below the bridge
- 8 Jellerson House in Jellerson Flat
- 9 Old Daddy Beales Farm house
- 10 Coln Blacks mansion Agent for the Bingham heirs
- 11 Coln Blacks Tomb
- 12 Terrace of about 5 acres set to Elm Trees
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- 33 Blacks Dam & mills
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In the outlines of Ellsworth village I have not given any store shops nor any condensed or compached line of buildings but as the place is a small city very full of Store Law offices & Dwellings it would be useless to attempt to describe them by plan but when a description is given of the place and more particular when my mother lived there the outlines will convey a very fair idea

Anna Martin whose Maiden
Name was Anna Stratten and the
Same Person now being Anna Raynes

Anna Stratten was born in Natick Massachusetts February 14th 1799 and when but a small girl her parents removed to Ellsworth In a very short time her Parents both died Sent her Father in Ellsworth in October 1808 her Mother being left a widow wished to provide for her child and return to her friends to Cambridge and whether as a matter of friendship or from a liking to her promise if she had an opportunity of being an exelent schollar I never learned but Doct Adams adopted her in his family with obligations to bring her up and educate as he did his own children Doct Adams was a man of high rank, he owned a Farm kept a store on Bonds wharf was the best Physician in Hancock and High Sherif of the County, He coincided with the ever one idea that education was the first and maine point. His failings I shall mention in connection with this description at some future time. He had two sons and one daughter His daughter's name was Mary and she was younger than My Mother The sons I do not remember their names The house was situated as described no 29, the school house was on a hill near Landens Tavern The rules of his family were severe and rigid in the extreme from the fact that the Doctors natural disposition was stern and excentric. everything must be done as he said and no question asked, it was enough for children

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No obey marks of manners to be observed by younger to older people and all those kind of things adhered to strictly every article about the premises to be in its place on penie. Parson Nourse was the settled minister over the Congregational Church endowed with a small Salery and a Parsonage or small Farm both of which were not sufficient to support his family in addition to which he taught the district school and like Benj Franklin he managed to have a little time to manage a dominion. He therefore built a small building the location no 19. The building was about 12 feet square something in the form of our summer houses shingled both the walls & Roof. The building was standing with the same shingles on the walls and roof on my last visit to Ellsworth which was about 1859. Parson Nourse was a finished scholar his College education he received in mass. My mothers health during her teens was remarkably good as will be seen by her coarse of studies. She commenced with a class a few of which I know. Mary Adams was not in her class at First but by forced lessons she joined it. Rebecca Joy was about mothers age, John Black, one of Mr Hales sons, one of Mr Ponds sons, and one of Mr Peters sons who was a brother to John A Peters Esq of this City and others enough to make 12 the best scholars in the vilage. They attended school days & studied evening untill mother was 12 years old when she was considered she was considered sufficiently advanced in English to take up Greek and Latin. her duties then became quite severe. In order to hold her position in her class she used to rise early and do her portion of home work and perhaps glance at her common lessons before school time in the morning then repair to school and as the school house was some distance often take her dinner with her as she wished to gain time on study. then

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at night attend to her domestic affairs till all was finished, then repair to the seminary and study untill 9 in the evening. Richard Tinker, who has since been warden of the State Prison at Thomastown and was murdered about a year ago was a member of her class, and Margaret Jellerson, both of which I have heard her relate many anecdotes, one of which I will here relate. Dick Tinker (so called) Parents were farmers and lived south of Ellsworth village on the Machias road some 1 1/2 or 2 miles. Margaret Jellerson lived on the Sullivan Road ditto. Some Family in the village gave a party and invited the two above persons. Tinker always manifested a desire to be remarkably polite, more especially when he was in company of the first class. and during his school days he & Miss Jellerson were very precise in selecting words that would solicit the attention of whom might be present. On the occasion at this party the people as was customary had nice candle sticks with Mould candles, the candle sticks being trimmed with tishue paper cut in various forms and on the table on a mat lay the snuffers and tray. In a well regulated house of those who had servants it was customary for the servants to come in and snuff the candles sometimes, the lights would become dim and some member of the company would volunteer to snuff the candles. Tinker watched the candles at the same time perhaps framing his request when he addressed the Lady of the house thus.

Madame, shall I strike the alarm, to call the domestic to take the incumbrance from the illuminary.

His politeness was so ludicrous that it became a subject of general remark and he became a laughing stalk as he traveled the streets. In his dress he was so precise that he never laid off his coat at home unless he run a pole through the arms to keep it from wrinkling

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There was nothing of note concerning her life during the space from the time she was 12 years old until she was about 17 except that she laboured incessant at her studies and a rigid form of requirements in the family only during the time as carriages were scarce, horsemanship was the leading feature of amusement and science. Doct Adams had a pacing horse for his wife and children and colts and fast horses for his own service. My mother acquired such an ease in this art that as a recreation she would often go to the stable or yard and bridle and saddle the wildest colt mount him ride out on the road and challenge any young gentleman whom she might meet to trot or run a race with her and as a general thing as Rebecca Joy told me when Rebecca lived in Brewer Anna Stratton always came out a head. she never in all her hair breadth escapes was thrown but once until after she moved to Bangor and in this case she had a young horse which ^{was} not thoroughly trained to a curb bit and in managing him she drew a little too hard on the bit and he reared up so high that her heft on the saddle broke the girth and landed her over his back upon the ground.

In regard to Doct Adams treatment to my mother she always remarked one thing, and ^{that} was that he gave her equal clothing recesses, books stationery access to their social gatherings and every privilege with his own children, every prospect was bright in her own view but those who are doomed to misfortune will surely receive it sooner or later. Doct Adams wife from Mothers account was one of the most Lady like, mild disposition, and worthy women the Town afforded but she had her trials which was best known to herself Doct Adams although haughty and straight forward

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in governing his family, correct in his business, and a Scientific Physician ~~but~~ from time to time he had been partial to a young Lady more or less and as time passed on transactions grew riper until Mrs Adams was informed by some friend that the Doct was paying her schooling abroad and educating ^{her} for what she knew not. Mother describes that when informed of the same Mrs Adams never showed the least difference towards the Doct but held her peace but she (mother) could see a change in Mrs Adams which stung her to the quick, every thing went on quiet for a time when one day mother was passing over the door yard she picked up a billet directed (If I rember right) to Miss Jellerson she took the note and handed it to Mrs Adams opened the note and found it contained a piece of gold. she then requested my mother not ^{to} say a word about it to no person and I think she requested mother to keep it but am not sure for about the year 1836 mother gave me a piece of gold to get changed at the same time saying that she had kept it unbeknown to any one but as she needed the money very much she had to resort to its use. I took it when I came to Bangor & got it changed at the Merchantile Bank, it was a gold ninepence and brought about two dollars and a half.

Not long after this transaction when all the children were at school the Doct. sent his hired man to the mill with 15 bushels of grain with orders to stay until it was ground.

While the man was gone and every thing was quiet he took an axe and a boot jack and murdered Mrs Adams. No person knew any thing about it until my mother and Mary Adams returned from school they being a head of the boys went to the end door as usual and found it fast. they then went to the front door and entered, mother being the first one who witnessed Mrs Adams lying on

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the floor wetting in her own blood.

They gave the alarm and the other boys came in and Doct Adams was sent for and found at Landens Tavern. On his arrival at the house he rushed in and looked at his wife, then went to the closet in search of his silver which was gone. He next went to his Bureau in pursuit of his pocket book which was also gone. He then said somebody had robbed his house and murdered his wife, and made an effort to get her on the bed but was deterred from doing so because an inquest was necessary. Doct Adams was soon secured for trial whether ^{her} funeral service or not I do not know but the news of Mrs Adams death cast a gloom and surprise all over the eastern section of Maine, Coln Black being agent for the Bingham Purchase which lands lay all about in various sections of Hancock County which then included Penobscot County, Doct Adams being high sherrif of the County brought these gentlemen together both in business and social affairs in such a manner that they ^{became} quite intimate, but when this affair occurred it set the vilage in such a state of surprise that like a thief in the night, every dwelling was filled with thoughts of deep regret that such an amiable and fine woman should be thrown out of existence in perfect health and without any known fault.

On examination a complicated case presented itself, no evidence could be produced, other than the Doct's partiality towards Miss Tellerson and no possible chance of any person but himself being about his premises at the time. From what appeared as before stated, Mrs Adams was sitting in a high back chair knitting with her usual cap on her head the cap being

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rather small. The boot jack was split in seven pieces and seemed to save suspicion of Mrs Adams the Doct might have taken down the boot jack as she supposed to take of his boots at the same time giving her a blow on the back of the head stunning her then to make the case sure death he took his axe & nearly severed her head from the shoulder. The fact that she received the first blow from the boot jack was proved from her having the teeth of her comb drove in her skull.

Castine being the shire Town of the County of Hancock Doct Adams was put in Jail at that place and kept one month so that matters could be investigated in order to get evidence and when the trial came on my mother was one of the maine witnesses. a portion of the road was not passible for waggons consequently she had to ride from Ellsworth to Castine on horse back and after the trial return on a pillion behind a man as was customary for two to ride on one horse sometimes. After a long and tedious trial he was acquitted at the same time the Judge remarking that although no one see him strike the blow yet every circumstance was against him and more especially the Public mind.

His intercourse with Miss Jellerson had been so clearly shown to the world in his trial that he never dare marry her. After the murder of his wife my mother stayed and kept his house about one year during which time he put out his children in various families and made other arrangements to leave his homestead and every thing that should have been dear to him to ~~him~~ and his children for to become as secluded as possible from the eye of the world. His reputation as a Physician he had lost all confidence and his highest aim was to become blotted out of existence (some boys in play ing in the brook below the school house found his silver spoons, probably he put them there while on his way to Landons Tavern and his pocket book was found in the woods not but a short distance from his residence westward by a man out gunning it was thrown out one sided

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of the path to his wood lot. I have read the trial of this murder and have forgotten the title of the book.

My mother with every prospect before her bright and happy before this transition perceived that she was thrown for a second time on a world that self was first and she was last.

Now that she had become a first class scholar the question came up how to make use of her talent. The country settlements were small Bangor the Queen City of the East now numbering 20,000 people was not a quarter as large as Ellsworth she finally concluded to go to Columbia and teach a school. During her stay in Columbia she became acquainted with John Martin and in less than a year he removed to Ellsworth and they were married in 1822.

Mother now being married had many strong friends some of her class mates never forsook her although she had married a mechanic no one disputed his quality as a gentleman only some of the straight old Massachusetts aristocracy left her out entirely some of them always respected her as long as she lived in Ellsworth, Mrs Dean Dutton, Pond, Jarvis Peters Beale Widow Hubbard Grant the Blacks Nurse all the Joys, Whitcombs, Tinkers & Beales were all her friends while the Hathaways, Pecks & a few families left her out. She was happy again for a year or so when my Father's health was pronounced past cure.

Doct Adams when mother left him gave her what they considered in those days a library which was a set of such books as she studied Greek Latin and French and Philosophy &c her manuscripts were the handsomest many of which

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she preserved until I was some seven or eight years old I shall describe them soon but will follow still further the Doct's career. After he had divided his family and made other arrangements he moved eleven miles in the dense forest west from Ellsworth not quite half way to Bangor where he built a log camp and supposed no mortal man would ever trouble him in his solitudes but he had not been in the place but some two or three years when two more families settled so near him that an application to the County according to State Law gave a County Road to Ellsworth, thus the road was made and settled to such an extent that in 1833 or 1834 the balance of the road was built west to Bangor. His Maria a sister to Mr Manns wife who settled at the half way point and has been known for 30 years as the half way house and in his last days for six long years he never laid on a bed but sat in a chair afflicted with Phthisic. Of his reflections in regard to his first wife while he was in the wilderness but little is known. He took up an exelent piece of land and in a few years he built a large two story house which stands there now. His younger children I know nothing about but Mary Adams taught school about Ellsworth and was my first teacher which was aprivate school. My Mother in my Fathers last dys had hardships which were little know except by her most intimate friends My Father had invested perhaps the last dollar in making payments on his homestead and there remained the last payment and his health failing he would cut garments sew the most difficult parts and mother would make the remainder untill he was obliged to hire a man. Sickness and his death left her with all his best wishes a good set of Furniture the homestead four fifths paid for and that was all he

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possessed and in the course of some three or four years she being unable to do any more than support herself and me. The laws in regard to Real Estate being such that no terms for sale could be obtained The miserable Joseph Card sold ~~the~~ the balance due on the mortgage to Mr. Austin not allowing her the right of redemption because it had run a short time over just what the Law prescribed and she was obliged to leave the premises which almost broke her heart.

In collecting my recollections of these affairs I get before my story and writing at different times interrupted by business and children it is hard to keep up the connection.

There was a trouble about letting in a miserable Family by the name of Heart or as he was known by the name of the man that stole a house. This family was let in by Mr. Card and the house being partly finished subjected her things to the mercy of thieves and to get rid of them as Mother had lost contrall of the house she moved to the Jellerson House (which is no 8 on the outlines.) Immediately on her removal Heart began to build a house near Joseph Cards and he stole the finish on one room even to the Iron Mantlepiece and put it in his own house. The House was then sold according to Law and the destruction of the house made it worth but little more than the dues therefore If Mother had sold immediately after my Fathers death she would have saved quite a sum. but resting on others to do the business she soon lost the whole. I remember well when we moved from my Fathers house to the Jellerson House which is marked no 8 I wore for a suit Red Salisbury flannel red moroco Hat and red moroco shoes. I was born March 24 1823 My Father Died in Feby 28 1824

possessed and in the course of some three or four years she being unable to do any more than support herself and me. The laws in regard to Real Estate being such that no terms for sale could be obtained The miserable Joseph Card sold the balance due on the mortgage to Mr. Austin not allowing her the right of redemption because it had run a short time over just what the law prescribed and she was obliged to leave the premises which almost broke her heart

In collecting my recollections of these affairs I get before my story and writing at different times interrupted by business and children it is hard to keep up the connection.

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Mother while she lived a widow set up Milenary and took in a Miss Moor as partner and Miss Moor was to direct, to business Mother was to furnish material also Mother used to copy notes do up nice cambrich bassems and Ruffles which were crimped in various forms with two case knives one case I remember she sit up all night. The Jellerson House is a house of note with her and now I will describe a few things as a starting point the house was just one room wide and two rooms and an entry in the Centre long with a basement below built for a shoe shop a brook running E & West to the river a large pasture in the rear, the border of the River in front and the road between, she kept a few Geese who spent the most of their time in this brook also Thomacods came up in such quantities in this brook and over the rips that holes were often cut and fish caught with the hands. They used to dip these fish at the dam in Cartloads cut off their heads & eat some then feed their hogs on the balance, many were caught with wooden Tongs, I have told this story and had it disputed but there is a plenty of living proff up to this day. cut a little hole in the Ice make a pair of shears or Tongs thus, with common Brads filed sharp run them down and in a moment clench them and draw out perhaps from 2 to a Dozen.

While Mother occupied the Jellerson House Solomon Babson Raynes who ~~was~~ at that time peddled Tin and bought wool skins, and who had been doing business for a concern in Westbrook of which he and Preserved B Mills of this city were hired moved their head quarters to Bangor and Mr Raynes had the Machias, Sullivan, and down East Section for his route, he became acquainted with the Joys and the Miss Moor a half sister of

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*Solomon B Raynes, Anna Martin
And John Martin*

his finally married Benj Joy. This Mr Raynes was the subject before my mothers eyes about this time He was as handsome a man as ever traveled any road in Maine straight person handsome features large arms and legs small around the waste and as smart as he was handsome. In the course of a short time although I cannot make the record lap exactly right according to the way I have it given me but as will be seen they were married May 7th 1826 This wedding gave me my first pair of pants for I had a pair made by Mr Austin on purpose for the wedding I remember very well that wine was carried around at the wedding and now I will describe the way some families furnished sideboards and liquor was fashionable in all houses of the upper Ten Families of fair standing used to spread a piece of green base on top of the bureau sit on a decanter of Brandy or new Rum a sugar bowl with Loaf sugar cut in square Junks about a tea spoon full in a piece and a nutmeg and a grater so whenever a friend come to visit or call if they were not treated they would think something was improper This was a custom all over this new Country as the newer a Country the deeper and more close the friendships. This custom was never fully done away with until the Washingtonian Times in 1840 My Mothers Parlor Furniture consisted of high posted bed with copperplate curtains & cover [illustration] Posts about 7 feet long made of cherry wood with a round top made of mahogany the bed spread white with a fringe and tassels called a counter pin & pine bureau 6 yellow chairs no carpet the floor scoured nice and sanded with white sand, Two metallic candlesticks and a Japaned Tin Tea Trunk that was made to hold one pound of tea which was kept with nice Tea for company

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Solomon Raynes and wife
Ellsworth May 7 1826

23

This Tea Trunk is in my possession and a British lustre sugar bowl Tea pot and cream pitcher, which I keep as a keep sake so as not to forget entirely the things of those times I never knew that my new Father furnished 10 cents of house keeping utensils except a pair of candlesticks. He had not long been married before he began to show signs of intemperance but his feats even in liquor was astonishing he could put his hand upon a five rail fence and one bound bring himself over clear. He could put his foot behind his head and hop across the room. He would stand a gourd stick up against his thumb and not touch it with his hand swing it back and fourth and ask if he was not a teamster and perhaps a dozen different feats such as crawling through a broom handle running wrestling jumping in which I never saw his equal outside of some shaw. These capers he had learned from time to time in his travels and he was a good singer every thing was fine except the Drinking. This did not come out so conspicuous as first as after but let follow along and see how things move. He peddled during that summer and in the fall sold out hook and line after peddling tin for several years and went to making shingles (at this time there was but just one Irishman in all Ellsworth and that was a man than done the drudgery for Lawyer Dean and now they have a Catholic Church in that place and my word for it the country will rue the day that ever Paddy built a building on the soil we shall have civil war with them and the Pope to back them up) The means of emigration in those days was limited to what it is now Ships that carried Deal from St Johns to Ireland would bring Paddies back and land them to St Johns then they would travel from St Johns to Bangor and from Bangor to Boston Boston to New York on foot so on one cold morning when Mr Raynes was on the road to

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Sullivan he met an Irishman firing clubs at a wood-Pecker and at the same time in a great rage, he asked Mr Raynes what kind of a feathered fowl he called that, in reply Mr Raynes told him it was a wood-Pecker and the Irishman wanted to know if he was a boatswain to him because there was so many Irishman passing along that way. The fact was so many Irish coming from the east This man fired a club and the wood Pecker would fly round behind the tree and pick again as though nothing had happened this made the Irish man mad because he thought the bird was making fun of him.

In the following season Mr Raynes formed a Company with Calvin Bakeman who had about a 20 ton boat trading around the Islands and up to Ellsworth & Bangor They done well his cute propencities for exchanging one commodity for another and his judgement on wooskins he could make money one week and spend it the next. His market being at Bangor he projected moving thither and as Coln Black had finished his new mansion and left his old one he wished for some one to take care of the premises so my folks moved across the river and this was in the spring for I held the trees in front of Coln Blacks mansion for him to set out and his negro planted cucumbers under the window and told me when they grew to take a green one every morning for nine mornings and rub my warts on my hands which were covered and I done so and it carried away every one of them.

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25

In Coln Blacks house and Removal to Bangor

In the fall when we were in Blacks house Mr Raynes left the boat went to Waterville & Learned to cut profiles and for six weeks Mother did not know any thing about where he was finally she received a letter stating that he was getting up a new business and he intended to remove to Bangor that fall. That she intended to have the furniture carried by cartine up the Penobscot and his cousin Eben Merrill would come around by the town of Orland Bucksport Blue Hill &c for Mother myself and my half sister Rebecca who was then perhaps one year old.

This Letter drew tears from Mothers eyes and well it might, for to come to Bangor among strangers and perhaps never to see many of her friends again was a task which she little dreamed of but nevertheless she put on good cheer and resolved to obey the call.

Mr Merrill came round as we expected and arrived before the boat so he stopt several days for Mr Raynes & Bakeman to get the boat up to Bonds wharf. The things were put on board the little small schooner and the great fat Eben Merrill my Mother myself and sister Rebecca started I think on Friday. Oh My heart if I ever past through a dream it was in leaving my native River and hills for parts which I knew nothing I wept bitterly but Mother as I sat in my little chair in the waggon bid me be of good cheer God would guide us and perhaps it was all well as we passed down the road on the side of Union River I would rise up every now & then to see if I had lost sight of my native ^{hills} until they were entirely lost and I never saw them again until about 1842. I carried Rebecca over when instead of going 40 miles around we went 26

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Removal From Ellsworth To Bangor

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In the morning it rained (a pouring storm) we had no umbrella but Mr Merrill bought one as the next day was Sunday and we pasted for Bangor Storm as it did. we were out long enough to travel from Orland to Bangor in a drenching rain and when we arrived to Bewer Ferry we crossed in a Gundalow, no horse boat nor no bridge.

We crossed the river and went immediately to Eben Merrill's father on the Levant Road about one and a half miles from the Kenduskeag Bridge which was then a Towl Bridge, and here Rebecca my sister-like to die, she was so thoroughly drenched that she was taken with the cholic and for nearly half the day she was in perfect misery.

We had no accommodations at Mr Merrill's and we went to the Elm Hotel kept by Moses Rowe Esqr, the father of James & Frank Rowe and boarded there six weeks. During our stay which was for the purpose of completing Merrill house so we could occupy one half of it my mother taken sick probably from disappointment and other causes and as Doct Rich was considered the best Physician in this section he was sent for and he gave her an old fashioned emetic which came very near ending her

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Removal From Ellsworth
To Bangor

27

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Bangor as it was when I
was a Small Boy

I now leave the family and represent Bangor and vicinity as it was when I first became acquainted with it. For making up the years I have lost the exact run of time. The city then was a Town and the next year was incorporated as a city which was either in 1832 or 1831. I remember well how the stores looked and where they were situated some of the most prominent such as John Barker Joseph Carr & John Ham had small stores on what is now known as the City Point Abner Taylor occupied the corner now Wheelwright & Clark Main St was mostly dwelling and the Hatch House Tavern where the Bangor House is was a vacant lot. The seminary was on the outskirts and the old First parish Church was a wooden house which was burnt the next year. The principal churches were the Unitarian the City Hall the old Methodist and the school house on Union street. The Old Ferry was run with lumber and two Wherrys. From Thomas Hill as far as the eye could extend west was a wilderness except a strip now & then on each side of the Levant Road where settlements. The Penobscot Exchange the old part of it was the largest building in the Town where David Bugbees mansion is now stood the American House and Coombs wharf at the upper end of the Eddy

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was the head of navigation small vessels run up to Coombs store untill a Toll Bridge was made, Timothy Colby the ever renowned Ham curer built a brick house in the woods known for many years as the Wilder place on Levant Road The Merrill house was on the west side of the street and a patch of about five acres fell and Joseph Merrill his youngest son & I cut cedar & hauled it into the door yard say 20 rods from the house. The avenue was a dense pine & hardwood growth some beech & maple trees as large round as a barrel handsome as a picture There was but one truck horse in the city and his name was Cony all the rest of the hauling was done with oxen and in the winter the roads were just so wide between the ruts with a ridge in the middle and every sled had to be made just so wide to follow the rut in the snow Joseph & I used to take a gourd stick stand on top a hill run the stick to the bottom of the hill at one push in these ruts. Sleighs were rigged in the new Hampshire style that is set the Thills out half the width so the horse could follow one ox path and the runner the other. The principle Lumber hauled to market was cedar & pine Shingles Cedar Rails Posts cord wood &c which they bartered off for corn molasses Tea Rum Tobacco &c Levant had quite a settlement and I counted 50 some odd Teams pass the house before 9 o'clock in the morning every team had a bundle of hay a bag of corn in the car and a red round box containing a morn's food the tavern keeper said a man carried his house and barn with him Henry Rowe & I when we boarded at the Elm house frequently had to give up our beds to accomodate the

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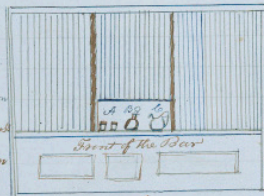
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County men who put up for lodging and the house would be full so the Bar Room floor would be covered with men sleeping on the floor 12 cents for lodging 12 cents a yoke for barn room for oxen and from 50 to a hundred yoke I have seen at a time at the Elm house barn & sheds Tye up sheds they were called in those days The house had a bar the front like the following outline so it could be locked up new rum 3 cents a glass rum & molasses & hot slings

Short Slats
the portion that
slides up & down
The Bar runs across
one end of the room



A Tumblers.
B Decanter.
C water Pitcher.
The door came in
from the rear room

The principle revenue to a Public House was the barn room for cattle the Beds and Rum. Mr Merrill's house had a chimney in the centre a room on each end fire places for each room a big oven Beans Pudding and Rye & Indian Bread. This country wheat were the staple food. The house not being clapboard nor shingled on the walls my mother stuffed & chinked the cracks with cotton wool and we lived in it untill about the first of the next July and when it came June we had to build a cow manure fire in the yard nights so as to keep off the mosquitoes which were in such masses that no person could sleep for them

During the fall while at the Elm House I used to take a small line & Hook go down to Kenduskeag stream and catch any quantity of yellow bellied Perch and Eels which made very good pan fish I have caught them and put them back in the stream for fun they were so numerous and in one instance

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I caught an Eel so large that my folks and the neighbours dare not eat him. I caught him under a ledge with no sinker on my line and carried him home and kept him for a show several days. Mr Finsons oldest son camped about where Dunning's farm is now on the Avenue all alone and cleared a farm there he being a bachelor his patch was the only opening there at that date. Thomas Finson who keeps a meat stall now 1864 in the old Abner Taylor Store Pickering square taught a writing school in his Father's house next house above the Elm stand and every Pupil had to furnish their own Candles Paper Ink & quill and lead Plummets and rule, Terms 50 cents for 12 evenings. During the Spring a private school was opened by Roxana Merrill (who soon after became Thomas Finsons wife) in the rough chamber of Tim Colbys house and I went to school and furnished my own chair and when the boys went out we used to jump about from one stump to another in the yard. after we moved from this place I never see it again untill 1844 when one Sunday I walked up to see the place and the broad fields were covered with butter cups and they looked as though they had been settled for 50 years, about the time we left the district was making a move to raise money to build a school house. The land at this time in a wild state was considered worth from three to five dollars an acre I have seen trees cut down and the limbs loped to learn that if they were standing on the same ground one of them would buy an acre of ground at that date.

Bangor as it was when I was a boy

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Removal from Bangor to Brewer.

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About the last of June my step Father in cruising about the country cutting Profiles came across a large Farm in Brewer about two miles below the Ferry known as the Skinner Farm which had been lately purchased by Capt Zenus Lawry who was then running a Packet from Bangor to Boston. It contained a hundred acres about 50 acres in grass and a wood lot of popple & white Birch with a shore privilege and a large double two story house which stands there yet. Capt Lawry being all the time at sea in the summer offered to let his farm as follows furnish half the seed and give half the hay to anyone on the farm wood and house rent free. My step Father came home and wished Mother to go and see the premises she had not disposed of her riding dress which was as short as any other dress so she procured Mr Wileys horse and mounted him and started for Brewer on her way by the side of the road was a spring or brook just behind Thomas Hill she thought she would let the horse drink and as she had watered a horse so many a time she drove down and the drinked. The mire around the place was soft and as the horse stood to drink he sank down so when he was done he went to draw out his fore feet to step back when he came out so sudden that he threw my Mother exactly under him. He made one more spring and brought his fore feet behind her as a miracle and she found herself somewhat bruised and mud from head to foot she mounted the horse again and returned home This was the last ride she had on horse back till when she lived in Hampden.

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Removal from Bangor To Brewer

My Stepfather made up his mind to move and about the first day of July we packed up bag & baggage and moved, I found we had a nice situation I never created any affection for the Levant Road. The place was so green and every thing so far below the standard of Ellsworth that as young as I was I wanted to get somewhere where I could see at least one gentleman and Lady.

Brewer Lower Village

was far in advance on many points they had a factory, a Tan Yard, a mill two Stores, Law office, the Residence of Judge Perham a fine large school house (with a Bellfry on it) which the Village used on Sabbath for a meeting house and the school was taught the year around by a men teacher.

The season had so far advanced that we done no planting only a few potatoes around the Barn which I planted myself putting the seed on the top of the ground and around them with sandy Loam, we occupied the north half of the house and kept Larry three three men at work repairing the house a long time from shingleed and various other repairs untill after haying. This Farm looked better than it really was. It was a splendid surface smooth and clear but the soil was so sandy that the was no strength to it but it yielded a fair crop of hay and here is when I commenced my haying.

Anecdote

I had always worn a heavy cloth cap till seeing the boys in the neighbourhood have thin hats

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Skinner Farm in Brewer
1832

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I wanted one bad and my Step Father told me if I would be industrious and help get the hay he would get me a thin hat so he commenced mowing between the house & road which was some six hundred feet and in the afternoon he raked up the hay in winrows and let it lay. On that evening he went to Bangor and bought me a chip hat same as the body of a Tarpaulin hat without the covering and paid the enormous sum of ten cents for it. Come home & waked me up & told me he had got my hat. I felt so pleased about it that I got up extra early & lo it was a different hat from what I wanted for I wanted a Palmleaf but nevertheless I liked the shape of it and I got up about 5 in the morning put on my hat took the fork and spread two large winrows of hay before breakfast thinking I was extra smart to do so much before breakfast. When my Step Father saw what I had done he laughfed well. The hay aught not to be spread before the dew was off this I did not know. He asked me what the Joiners said &c but I looked out next time and asked about those kind of things

I had all sorts of fortune in this abode the place for amusement labour and study were one to be admired. the site of the City of Bangor is the best on the River almost the whole City could be seen at a glance, all the shipping passing up and down all the fires and those Kind of things I could set in the window & witness. I went to school some in the summer but as my book was different from the others I had to recite alone. I did not

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Skinner Farm in Brewer 1832

go to school long before I left to throw up wood on the shore. I collected quite a pile of wood and in those days if a Bangor Boy caught a Brewer Boy in a snug place he must cave in or fight, all in fun. The Bangor Boys had fast boats which they took great pride in. My playmate were the Seaverance boys Tebbetts Boys Henry K Robinson and a Greely boy and a Ryder. Grand Pay Kenny was Henry Robinsons Grandfather the Robinsons or Kenny farm joined Capt Lawrys north Tebbetts farm south Seaverance west which had a wier privilage. The Bangor Boys came down one Saturday P M on a sail and stumped the Brewer Boys to combat. The Brewer Boys armed themselves with Stones at my landing and when the Bangor went to land we showered them with Stones so they could not land and we finally threw such large ones that we came very near swamping their boats and they withdrew at which we gave a cheer and ever after they let us alone.

Birth of Alonzo

My Brother Alonzo was born in the Skinner house September I was at work at the time collecting wood to the house from the shore with an oak vessel wheelbarrow Doct Leachings of Brewer Village was his Doct and I think it was in the P M I saw something unusual was going on around the house and I was afraid to go to the house and I stayed away untill I see the Doct go away. During the fall I worked considerable for Henry K Robinson on the farm harvesting &c and his

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Skinner House in Brewer
1832

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brother older than him had land adjoining the old Farm Henry and his brother did not agree very well and their cattle grazed in the same past &c Henry took care of his Grand Father & Mother for the farm reserving one acre in front of the house which the old Mom always planted to corn &c as long as she lived The old mom had a husking old style he filled several Jugs with rum piled his corn at the end of his acre asked his neighbours and husked the corn on the ground

Anecdote

Henry had a caper in his head like this, his brother had about eight acres all piled up handsome being mostly stumps which he intended to burn the next spring, after harvesting one day Henry said he had some old logs he wished to burn and wanted me to go with him so about one P M we started with a fire brand setting a log now & then on fire up through the field till we came to the 8 acres, here we laid down on a knoll a spell when the wind breezed up smart, Henry tossed a brand in a pile of dry stumps and in a short time the whole piece was all a blaze we fought it a spell when he laid down and said let it burn while we were admiring the sight Henry began to grow sentimental and religious and broke out as follows (Lo what a spark kindleth) Thinking his mother might detect his design He told me how we would get out of it, he said he would smut my face all over and I must do the same to his and then we was to tell his mother that the fire accidentally caught and we worked very hard to prevent it so we went home a he planned told his mother

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Skinner House and Brewer 1832

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Henry had a younger brother who had a defect in his right ankle he had studied to make a minister. he was proud and a fine young man but his lameness mortified him so that in a year or so he hung himself

During this fall my stepfather hauled up the wood which I had on the shore and some wood from the woods I had a favourite hatchet which I put a long handle in and commenced to cut the shore wood but it was wet and froze and my hatchet glommed and cut my shin which laid me up all winter and I came very near losing my leg. The scar remains to this day and I feel the affects every now & then. I could not go to school and I wanted to be doing something and my Stepfather found a peg machine the marked the head of peg block for shoemakers and sharpened the ends but the pegs had to be rived so I had a long knife fixed with a hook on the end and I took a piece of board and drove a staple in the board then I put the block under the knife bore down and rive off strips then split them the other way I used to earn about two shillings a day in this way but I suffered with my leg and the Rheumatism all winter

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At this time I think the City was incorporated as a City. The place where the Bangor House now stands was a Rough Board Theatre which was a mean disgracefull concern and according to the City Charter they were obliged to have a licence, on the night when the City was illuminated the Citizens perhaps a little groggy they concluded they would get rid of one nuisance so they pulled the Theatre down piled up the lumber and made a bonfire of it, I also witnessed this from my window. As the travel when the new Road was cut through to Ellsworth increased the travel across the Penobscot a company put on a Horse boat which at that day was a great curiosity People came for miles to see the Monster Boat. During this winter according to the strict terms of word not only my family but many others experienced hard times Flour was extremely high Pork was the same we had to eat some pretty poor meals we could always get plenty of meal we had wood in abundance but sweetening & so forth were scarce in the extreme We lived in the Skinner House untill the first of April when my Stepfather found another Farm at Ball Hill cove known as the widow Dilly Snow Farm He made arrangements to move which was his very nature, move, move, was always uppermost in his ever roving mind. This spring was remarkable as an early spring. The snow all went off very early and by the first of April the river was all clear of Ice and the ground dry and so much so that the fields showed green grass and every thing was far advanced for the season of the year We put our furniture all on board

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Removal From Brewer
To Ball Hill Cove on the
Line at Frankfort & Hampden
1833

a Gundalow Family & all about the first of April the day was one of the finest that ever shown perfectly calm and the water was as smooth as glass as we dropped down with the tide I had become now of the age that my feelings were braced by hopes that in a short time I could visit Brewer and I experienced less the feelings I had when I left Ellsworth and as I had suffered much in Brewer I left it as though for a while. The scenery on the River was grand new hills and buildings greeted my eye while my Mother was perfectly sad. I cannot remember what time in the day we arrived but I remember hearing the academy bell ring at Hampden whether for nine A M or twelve at noon I am not certain but when I beheld the academy a thrill of spirit ran through me as though who knows but what I may go to school there. We passed down the River and reached the beautiful Cove as it was then full of Fish weirs and business and landed in the north cove we then footed our way to Mrs Snows Farm perhaps a quarter of a mile when our new home was all in sight another good two story house and a large good looking Farm the road was dry ~~and~~ and the ground warm and I noticed it was all clay in the Road my back was stiff and hard and I remembered wanting to take them off and go to the house barefoot but I believe Mother objected to this. Now then here was new people new scenery but I could not help admiring the looks all round but the worst of all was we had to live up stairs

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Ball Hill Cove
1833

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This Farm lay on each side of the mail route to Frankfort and was the south farm in Hampden it contained about 60 acres all in mowing except perhaps 14 or 15 acres on the western Bank of the River which was so stony that it was used for a sheep pasture. The soil was the most part clay loam very easy to work but not very rich. Mrs Snow had one son about 12 years old named William and one daughter say 10 years old named Eliza. Mrs Snow was the oldest daughter of Old King Swett of Hampden and a sister to Mrs Rowe who was married to Thomas Henry Rowe father who kept the Elm House when we boarded there. Mr Swett derived his rich name from the fact that he was the King Farmer or the best one in that section. My Stepfather took hold of farming in good earnest his share was on the same terms which he took the Skinner Farm. He planted some three acres of the old fashioned round white potatoes and a few say half an acre of red potatoes and one bushel of the Shenango being about the first of that seed in this country King Swett let Mrs Snow have the seed and when the Shenango were dug there was just 8 bushels and they were so tender on the peel that my Stepfather and another man carried the potatoes from the field on their shoulders to the bottom of the cellar & poured them down for fear of roughing them up. The next year Capt Benj Lawry a brother of Capt Zenus Lawry carried a cargo of Shenango potatoes from Ball Hill bound to Bastin & Sort vessel & cargo. The seed increased wonderfully and they were the best potatoes in this country until the potatoe disease struck them when they were the first & worst to decay. They were such a favourite that in Philadelphia and Baltimore they brought a large price and millions of bushels were shipped there from Maine. My health was quite good while we lived on Mrs Snows Farm the soil was easy & I could work it with ease and I began to have a fancy for tools.

Ball Hill Cove

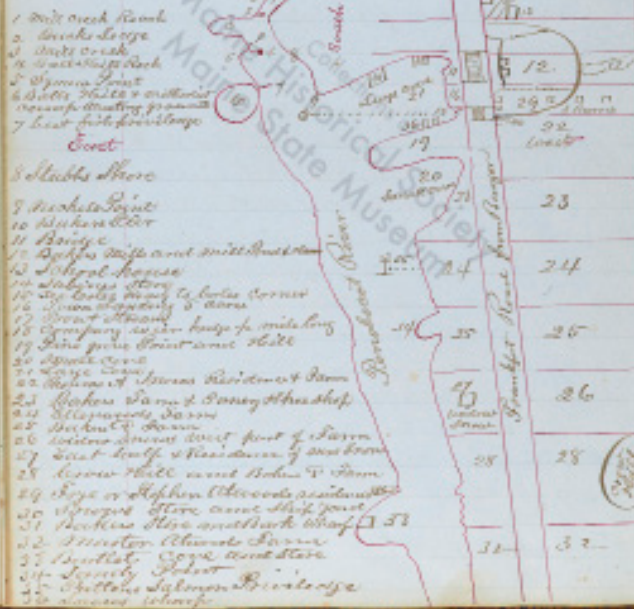
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Ball Hill Cove

The longest on the Farm from the first of April to about the first of March. being on the lower end of the district I had to go to school up in what was known as the Doct Rogers nei bourhood which was a good long mile. My mistress was Clara Herrich the daughter of Gent Herrich who resided at Hampden Corror She was such a kind woman that I always admired the name as will be seen that my wifes name is Clara. I became acquainted with several boys a good many of which have made smart men. Ball Hill Cove had at that time Four Stores a School house a grist mill a clapboard mill Four wharves a Town landing and several Fish houses. as a matter of reference I here give an outline because many little incidents occurred at this place



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[Illustration at right]

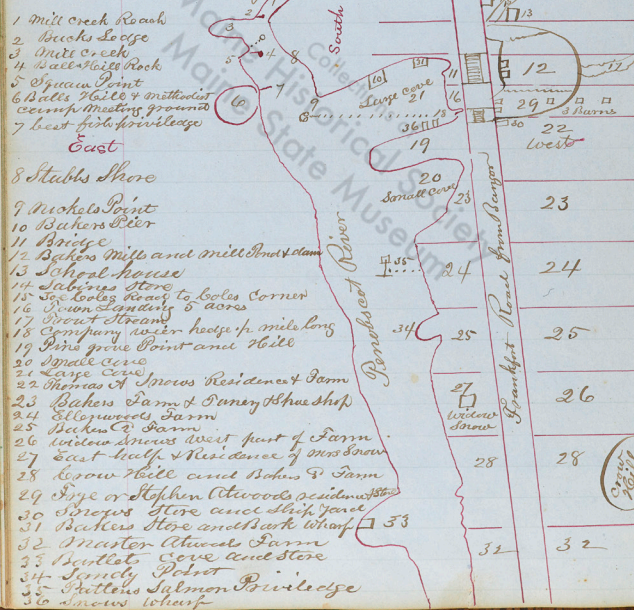
[at left]

- 1 Mill Creek Reach
- 2 Bucks Ledge
- 3 Mill Creek
- 4 Ball Hill Rock
- 5 Squaw Point
- 6 Balls Hill & methodist camp meeting ground
- 7 best fish privileged

[continued on next page]

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[Continued from previous page]

- East
- 8 Stubbs Shore
 - 9 Nickels Point
 - 10 Bakers Pier
 - 11 Bridge
 - 12 Bakers Mills and Mill Pond & dam
 - 13 School house
 - 14 Sabines store
 - 15 Joe Coles Road to Coles Corner
 - 16 Town Landing 5 acres
 - 17 Trout Stream
 - 18 Company wier hedge 1/2 mile long
 - 19 Pine grove Point and Hill
 - 20 small cove
 - 21 Large cove
 - 22 Thomas A Snows Residence & Farm
 - 23 Bakers Farm & Tanery & Shoe shop
 - 24 Ellenwoods Farm
 - 25 Bakers [symbol of tree] Farm
 - 26 widow Snows west part of Farm
 - 27 East half & Residence of Mrs Snow
 - 28 Crow Hill and Bakers [symbol] Farm
 - 29 Frye or Stephen Atwoods residence & Store
 - 30 Snows Store and Ship Yard
 - 31 Bakers Store and Bark Wharf
 - 32 Master Atwoods Farm
 - 33 Bartlett Cove and Store
 - 34 Sandy Point
 - 35 Pattens Salmon Priviledge
 - 36 Snows wharf

Ball Hill Cove

41

W^m Snow was a smart bright boy and we soon became chums. all the leisure time I could get or he either we spent in fishing in the brooks & mill pond & stream for trout and perch as the farm occupied the most of fare weather we sometimes took rainy days to build small boats wheelbarrows &c and about this time general muster was the greatest event of the season preparation for muster in the way of getting money was on its mussle all the summer. My Step Father Just before muster told me if I would do well he would give me some potatoes to sell for Muster Money. Stephen Atwood had perhaps a Men & boy digging potatoes & among the rest was Isaac Snow & myself. about the middle of the afternoon one day he told me I might set the cart and Isaac & I might dig what potatoes we could to sell for Muster. I set the cart on a knowl of fine clay and we went to work till sundown when we found on picking up the potatoes that we had 40 bushels. My dady though we must have worked remarkable steady however he sold them and I got about 20 or 40 cents for muster money. White potatoes sold then for 12 1/2 cents a bushel and a Barrel of flour cost 8 dollars consequently 64 bushels were required to buy one Barrel of flour we used to make bows & arrows & try to kill crows which owing to a pine growth on no 28 marked crow Hill being the nearest lighting place to the sam on priviledge the small fish being thrown out of the nets they collected in thousands and roosted in the trees and the first dawn in the morning they would arouse the whole neighbourhood in getting their breakfast. Bill Snow & I used to secrete ourselves under the trees in bush camps and fire at them but we always come home mad for they would always outwit us.

Ball Hill Cove

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Ball Hill Cove

The Boys whom I made acquaintance with
were as follows and all through life thus far
I have met some of them from time to time in
business and amusements

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 William Snow | Son of Dilly Snow |
| 2 John Richard & George Patten | " " of Moses Patton |
| 3 William Cross | Adopted to Moses Baker |
| 4 George Snow | Son of Thomas Augustus Snow |
| 5 Otis Stone | " " Lemuel Stone |
| 6 George Cally Atwood | " " Elijah Atwood |
| 7 Sylvanus Snow | " " Sylvanus Snow |
| 8 Isaac Snow | " " " " " |
| 9 Abisha Higgins | " " Cyrus Higgins |
| 10 Cyrus Higgins | " " " " " |
| 11 Richard Stubbs | " " Richard Stubbs |
| 12 Asa Stubbs | " " " " " |
| 13 Elbridge Fifield | " " Fifield |
| 14 Joseph Wardwell | " " Wardwell |
| 15 Joshua Downes | " " Joshua Downes |
| 16 Samuel Baker | " " Samuel Baker |
| 17 Nathan Baker | " " " " " |
| 18 Adino Atwood | " " Stephen Atwood |

During the fall after harvesting Wm Snow
& I took our little wheelbarrows & went
across the road from the house in Mr
Bakers woods to cut down dead popple
trees and wheel them to the house. We
wheeled one load each to the house
when William had some basket ash
at the door that had laid there all summer
and he said he had rather saw it than
to wheel wood as we was, so he took his
saw (which by the way was the first wood
saw I ever saw) all the wood he cut with axes
& began to saw this ash and I went back to

Ball Hill Cove

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| 6 Isaac Snow | " " " " " |
| 7 Abisha Higgins | " " Cyrus Higgins |
| 8 Cyrus Higgins | " " " " " |
| 9 Richard Stubbs | " " Richard Stubbs |
| 10 Asa Stubbs | " " " " " |
| 11 Elbridge Fifield | " " Fifield |
| 12 Joseph Wardwell | " " Wardwell |
| 13 Joshua Downes | " " Joshua Downes |
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saw I ever saw) all the wood be[^] cut with axes)
& began to saw this ash and I went back to

Ball Hill Cove

leaves I left him sawing just as hard as he could saw. While I was cutting my level I saw a flock of wild geese flying over south close down to the tops of the trees. I wondered why they should fly so low but thought no more of it so when I came out to the fence on the west side of the road in no 26 I saw two men, one standing at Mrs Searns door and the other went to come away, they had pads on their backs and at the same time Mrs Searns run out to the road and down the same crying and screaming at the top of her voice, I thought they had committed some crime and I hid myself under a dead fir tree by the side of the fence until they went up the road when I saw my mother come to the door and look each way up & down, I left my wood on the wheelbarrow & went to the house when she told me that she suspected that William Searns was drowned. This shocked me with a shill and I felt as bad as though my brother was lost and about dark they brought him home in a casket belonging to Dodge Bros.

The circumstances were these, ^{on} I had many a time fished from the dam & sometimes we would take a punt that lay at the North end of the dam and fish in the Pond by some impulse more wonderful than known at the sight of those geese he left his sawing wood and our with all speed to catch ~~the~~ ^{them} ~~them~~ ^{them} he drove to the Pond and they lighted on the South side (which was the only flock I ever knew to light in this part of the County) and when he reached the Pond he took the boat and sculled with all possible

43
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Ball Hill Cove

speed for the geese, while in this act and opposite the sluice his oar slipped out of the sculling hole and he went overboard and sunk. The boat his oar and hat floated to the sluice, Moses Baker who noticed him a moment before from a window in the mill saw the boat and also his hat resting on the sluice. Supposing he was holding on to the sluice Baker ran on the sharp edge of the sluice grabbed his hat and found no body. How he run on the sluice was a wonder but he done it & gave the alarm. Nothing proper to fish after him could be had until they run up the hill to Sabines (now 14 Store) there they took his iron toothed garden rake spliced the handle and went back to the pond which took 15 minutes and the first time they put the rake down they caught him but all exertions were of no avail poor William was a dead corpse. He was so much of a gentleman of his age that he had many mourners and I missed him for a long time,

We lived in Mrs Snows house until about the first of the next March when my Step Father indulged in his favourite hobby (move) Thinking he could do better on a smaller Farm and work a part of the time fishing he took Enoch Holbrooks Farm situated in the large cove about no 29 and 30 This was a splendid little Farm with a brook running through it and an old one and a half story house on it and a

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Ball Hill Cove

Enoch Holbrooks House

new two story house, the new house not finished inside but finished out and not painted, We occupied the east half of the old house E Holbrook the west Capt Holbrook was master of the good Schooner Dove a vessel of about 80 tons burden, Red ocre painted bottom black waist and Polacke rigged and Master Isaac Dunning who builds vessels in Brewer now 1864 caulked and graved this vessel on the beach as long ago as that date, she was owned by Joseph Cole Stephen Atwood W Shaw Moses Baker & Thomas A Snow, her business was coasting and many is the hour George Snow & I have sat on Pine Grove head seeing if we could see the Schooner Doves Jibboom coming up around the point in mill creek reach These spots are as clear to me now as sacred soil,

How People lived at Ball Hill Cove

The Farm which we were now on was a fine rich soil and bore a good crop of grass the nearness to the shore the business of the Cove the hills and brooks carried me fully back for My beloved place Ellsworth more so from the fact that Mr Atwood Thomas Snow & Mr Sabine lived in Ellsworth style I was as happy as could be and always busy. As a matter of business and livelihood during the winter hauling cordwood. Logs cedar &c constituted the main part, on the last of sledging they hauled in spruce poles say 15 & 20 feet long for wear poles and alder & birch

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

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Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrooks House

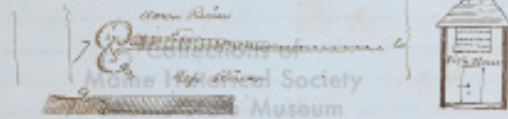
brush to weave the hedge at the same time each house had some of the women weaving by hand the martine or net to enclose one pound of the wier the other being enclosed with brush, when the poles & brush were in one man and a boy went to sharpening wier poles two blocks were set about 8 feet apart, a pole laced on them and a boy sit straddled of the pole the man scarping the end or but to a point at the same time the boy turning the poles as fast as hewn off so they could be drove by heavy malls of wood in the mud After the ice left the river when the water was as cold as snow These poles were loaded in a gundalow carried out just beyond the channel and drove down so the top of the first stakes just come to the top of low tide then another set spotted off and nailed on to them with a base board and floor laid on the tops of the first tier with rough boards They used to build two pounds or round circles say 20 feet across them This being done the martine or fine net was fastened on one pound while the other was enclosed with brush then poles were drove down on a straight line from the pounds to high water mark on the shore This kind of work commanded the highest wages and the most new rum of any business on the River being in the cold water up to a mans waist required a considerable quantity of rum and well it might for a few

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Enoch Holbrooks House

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Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

years following it would show what a man was made of besides making him round shoulder Alewives run first and when the Josh Pear trees bloomed as time as the shad shad always began to run. This came round by the weather being warm enough to make wild pear blossom would consequently warn the water so shad would run up River to spawn and as my children will not have the right idea how wiers were shaped I give a sketch although I cannot represent on paper as they look in the river I give some sections for the sides and hedge but the pounds representing the floor



1 Brush Pound, 2 the Passage from the hedge to the
3 Passage to the Marline Pound 4 the entrance from the hedge to the brush hedge to the shore to the shore
7 the channel or where the shore falls off 8 the gate to enter the wier from boats 9 a section or one breadth of Marline before it is put on. The Marline was about 4 feet wide in webs the same as cloth is wove and was knit with two sticks the same as the women now knit tidies for rocking chairs. The passage at figure 3 was made like an ell pot so when the fish went through instead of going back as they came in they would swim direct for the outside of the wier and strike the net and these try to get through untill the tide left them on the floor. The catching and curing Alewives and shad is a trade and while I was at this place I got quite an

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[illustration]

1 Brush Pound, 2 the Passage from the hedge to pound
3 Passage to the marline Pound 4 the entrance from the hedge 5 the brush hedge to the shore 6 the shore
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Ball Hill Cove

Enoch Holbrooks House

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The taking in was as follows: say half
tide go off and examine the marline pound
to see if any sturgeon was in and if the
was spear them with a gaff and make
them fast so they would not tear the marline
Next go off at one hour before low
water and sometimes before with a small
boat and gundalo take out what fish
there was anchor the gundalo and come
ashore in the Punt. This being low water
we had to drag the boat by the painter up
to the landing the same as you would haul
a hand sled or follow the little channel
made by the stream This getting in a weir
when the fish were alive jumping and kicking
all the dirty water and slime over you
when your clothes were exposed to the sun
they would be so stiff you could hardly
bend them consequently the women were con-
tinually washing for some two month when
fish run. At high tide go off and take
in the gundalo set some empty Barrels in
her and put on a wide board for a table
For shad the first man picked up the
shad give him a souse overboard, hand
him to the next man who split him took
out his back bone passed him to the next
man who give him a scrape with knife
drownd him and throwed him in a Barrel
with salt I used to have every tenth shad
for counting and landing shad I was
small but I could get a barrel in one
day than I had to give 90 cents a bush
for salt and 50 cents for a barrel I could
count shad enough to get one bush of salt

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

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Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrooks House

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and a barrel in a week This would make one barrel of shad in a week Then Capt Hoodley and Capt Griffin used to anchor off the cove and buy the shad at 250 pay in meal pork rum &c Capt Hoodley was as large around as a Hogshead and never come out of the cabin unless he was hoisted out in a chair. The alewives were washed & salted very heavy and in a few days all strung on cedar sticks and hung in a smoke house, a fire built of chip dirt kept going which made the fat try out of them and the lower rows smoked first which had to be hung up on the upper poles and the upper ones hung down on the lower poles This was one of the most disagreeable jobs of the whole stringing alewives as they called it when they were just out of the salt was tedious, shad in those days were 4 cents and bass 2 alewives about 6 cents a dozen fresh or 12 cents smoked To show how early the seasons was then on the 4th of July the light Infantry trained at the cove and the citizens formed a company with sticks for guns and marched to Mr Sabines store and he treated us on ripe currants and currant punch That is a month earlier than we have them now 1864 For amusement on rainy days Mr Snow set on his decanters and tumblers brought in some straight rift cedar Rails sawed them off about 2 or 2 1/2 feet long the fish men would split them up and whittle fish sticks tell stories drink &c till sometimes it would be a late hour Old Josh Downes Lem Nickels Sam Baker Sam Staples Bill Dilano Stephen Atwood some of the old Bucks

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Enoch Holbrooks House

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Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

These wier privileges were valuable property the Bar wier privilege rented for five hundred dollars a year this was situated at Squaw point not on the out lines The Company wier was another good one The fish coming up mill creek reach soon direct for the hedge of the Bar wier then striking for the other shore would next bring up in the eddy at the Company wier this wier the hedge was nearly half a mile long and the wier was so costly that several men took shares in it because one man could not shoulder the whole

Salmon and drifting shad come next two men take two nets and each a boat tie the nets together go up River perhaps 8 miles commence on the top of the tide drift down home some nights they would do very well then again no thing The largest haul I ever help take in was at the Bar wier and we counted out 5 thousand and some hundred shad and forty barrels alewives at one tide, we had to commence taking them at half tide to keep the wier from breaking down This is not a fish story nor a fable. Adino P Atwood now keeping corn & flour store here in Bangor was a boy with me and Joshua Downs now living with his son in Brewer is a living witness) There were Fish wardens whose duty it was to see every Friday and Sunday that the wier gates were open to let the fish run up River and if any gate was found shut a heavy fine was imposed This was so the fish might run up River to spawn

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

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Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrook House

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George Snow & I were decided friends while we lived in the cove we worked together played together and often slept together, we each had a boat and I built a raft with a sail and would carry it around the point and at low tide lower it then on the flood tide bring it to my landing I built me a play house quite a large one and filled it with wooden tools such as caulkers tools bows arrows &c and one day in my absence Dick Patten & George snow tore it down This act I did not like. As we had learned the habits of the fishermen cooking on the shore we used to supply ourselves with pork onions and potatoes and we dug a closet in the bank on the point No 34 built a fire in it and burnt it as hard as a brick then put up a finish in it of rough boards and made a door & put a lock on it. on one occasion we examined a certain salmon net found a little small one in it and cooked full meal in our clay fire place also roasted the salmon. nobody but George & I we had a great feast.

Dick Patten was a great rough blunderer George was always making fun of him so we used to ask him where he was going so as to hear him say he killate instead of calculated to go any where.

Another occasion George & I bought a goose for Thanksgiving day and on the hill in a pine grove behind his fathers house no 22 we had a barbacue all alone to ourselves we built a fire drove down two sticks hung our goose up and roasted it and cooked various vegetables which took about half a day fire potatoes and bows & arrows and celebrated all alone George was the best friend I ever had

Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrook House

51

George Snow & I were decided friends while we lived in the cove we worked together played together and often slept together. we each had a boat and I built a raft with a sail and would carry it around the point and at low tide load it then on the flood tide bring it to my landing I built me a play house quite a large one and filled it with wooden tools such as caulkers tools bows arrows &c and one day in my absence Dick Patten & George snow tore it down This act I did not like. As we had learned the habits of the fishermen cooking on the shore we used to supply ourselves with pork onions and potatoes and we dug a closet in the bank on the point no 34 built a fire in it and burnt it as hard as a brick then put up a finish in it of rough boards and made a door & put a lock on it. on one accasion we examined a certain salmon net found a little small one in it and cooked full meal in our clay fire place also roasted the salmon. nobody but George & I we had a great feast, Dick Patten was a great rough blunderer George was always making fun of him so we used to ask him where he was going so as to hear him say he killate instead of calculated to go any where.

Another occasion George & I bought a goose for Thanksgiving day and on the hill in a pine grove behind his fathers house no 22 we had a barbacue all alone to ourselves we built a fire drove down two sticks hung our goose up and roasted it and cooked various vegetables which took about half a day fired pistols and bows & arrows and celebrated all alone George was the best friend I ever had

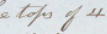
Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrook House

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Every place has its anecdotes. Old Frye Atwood being an odd genius and very swerved he had some pretty sharp enemies. on one occasion for some misdeal in his store he had a splendid pair of large four year old steers and someone cut both their tails off snug up, he used them a long time afterwards.

On another occasion he had a gang of men reaping and he worked with them so when it came meal time they went down to the house and a very poor meal was set before them, all except some pie, so they all sat down to table and the old man took the pie and eat it all up remarking at the same time that some folks always eat the poorest food first and then eat the best but he differed from them for he always eat the best first and then if he was hungry he eat the poorest.

Mrs Sabine was a great checker player and she played a game with a Boston lady that took her all night I don't know which beat.

While I was on this Farm I planted some cranberry beans on a rich place where a house had stood many years and not knowing how far apart to put the hills so I was laughfied at but when I came to stick them I took 4 foot edgings and ran the tops of them together in this form  running the tops of 4 hills to a point. The soil was extremely rich and when they grew they ran all over the top of the poles so

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrook House

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Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrook House

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that the vines became a perfect arch and formed an arbor for perhaps 40 feet square. The Beans hung down as the pods grew and it was the most singular sight I ever witnessed. They grew until the frost struck the top of the vines when the underpart remained green. I was eating some shell beans from a bowl sitting on the door step and snow flew. Mother said this was a curious circumstance eating green beans from the vines when snow flew.

Having described the fishing business on Penobscot River fully I will say that the business was ruined when a dam was built across the River at Veazie and has been on the decline ever since.

In regard to business at Ball Hill Cove cedar and cedar constituted a great portion of the best part. I have seen five acres of solid handsome hard wood piled from the cap sills of the wharf and landing to the road (see no 16). The tiers were all uniform 4 1/2 feet high 3 1/2 feet was the length of each stick. Besides several acres of Logs on the landing ready to roll in the River and raft over to mill creek to be sawed. Each man had his tier of wood commenced on the capsill of the wharf and as he hauled it in all he had to do was to drive on the wharf & unload till spring. What goods he wanted more particularly rum he would buy at the store which owned the wharf he piled on. When the River opened vessels would warp up in the cove lay in the channel and keel in towards the wharf take a large log or tree with one side slabled off flat run a fall from the fore yard or fore peak boom make fast to one end and run this end aboard. Then drive

Ball Hill Cove 53
Enoch Holbrook House

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Ball Hill Cove

Enoch Holbrook House

down two wien poles about half way from the wharf to the vessel and nail a stay across the under side of the tree so it would not spring while wheeling on it. This was generally done on the afternoon then when day light made its appearance no odds what months in the navigable part of the year from 3 to 5 men made a gang one stand at the tier of wood and load barrows another wheel and dump the wood over the hatchway (at the same time sing out under in the hold), this gives the men below warning that he was coming. Vessels lying at different wharves all singing out Under made things lively. curing fish loading vessels running log rafts & as a general thing T A Snow built one vessel every winter made old Ball hill cove a smart place. I took my wife in 1862 & went down to witness the change. The stream & cove has filled up some two feet the wharves crumbled and entirely broke the stores closed the very dam which I raked hay on had a growth of trees perhaps 40 cords of wood to the acre, and my object in pening down these small incidents are to show my children these changes. Shooting arrows was a science among the boys I have made hundreds of arrows and a large number of bows in my play house and exchanged them for hoeing digging ploughing &c. I one day went out a little way from the house in pursuit of bow stock and I found a white maple limb crooked naturally which if I had it to day ten dollars would not buy it. I made a bow of it and when it became seasoned I could send an arrow out of sight in the air I kept it until 1836 when after I left home

Ball Hill Cove

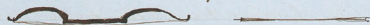
Enoch Holbrook House

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Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrooks House

55

Mother became short of kindling wood and not knowing the value of it she burnt it. The form was like this.



The grain of the wood following the crooks I could bend this bow so as to come almost to the end of a three foot arrow and it would fly back in its original form. My wood which I collected during the summer Mr Staples hauled up in the fall and as we had no shed we made one by standing the wood in pyramids in the yard say 3 cords in a stack thus. The slabs being the covering outside which kept the inner wood perfectly dry. This protected it from the snow and rain.

Anecdote

Mr Staples was a rough hard working man and he made his boys wife and all turn out often at 3 and go to work on his farm but he dug wells and worked laying field and cellar walls. Thomas A Snow lived on the top of no 22 one of the steepest and highest hills around. He proposed to dig a well. Mr Staples was to dig by the day and he dug & dug untill he dug down about one hundred feet, no signs of water. Snow boarded his ship carpenters in his own house one day when all seated at the table, Esqr Snow asked Staples about his well how far he had got down &c. Staples said he guessed he had got almost through for he could hear the Roosters crow on the other side. I went down in this well and could see stars plain in day light he finally came to water and drew it with a double chain and two buckets. Staples was digging another well in the Downs neighbourhood when a stone slipped from the windlass and came

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Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrook House

very near staving him to atones, they carried him home and called a Doctor when the Doct arrived he told Staples he could not live. Staples immediately told his wife to build up a good hemlock fire so he could go through Hell a smapping but he lived many years after and in 1842 when I drove a butcher cart to Frankfort I saw him at work by the side of the road.

School

I went to school during the next winter My teacher was Zebulan going the school house No 13 had two rows of seats, one for the boys and one for girls Lemuel Stillson of Waterville (Stephen Atwoods grandson) George Snow Dick Patten Otis Stone and I sit on the back seat behind the large boys because the lid to the seat was narrow in front, one day I drew a coach with a pencil & a span of horses attached I showed it to George, he drew one and it did not look very well, Dick looked at mine & then George and made up a face at George I laughed or smiled when Lemuel Stillson turned around and took up both feet and shoved me off in the Isle on the floor, Mr Young called us all out and I felt very bad about it, he gave the rest a smart ferriling and gave me one blow with a thin scale which he used in teaching navigation. This was all the blow I ever got in all my school days.

Anecdote

Nathan Baker was rather a bungler at stony and this winter he was about 21 years old and this was his last year in the old school he took up navigation and copied all his sums

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrook House

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Ball Hill Cove
Enoch Holbrook House

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in a manuscript He came to a sum that had a round circle describing a course which he wanted to factsimile. He took a round inkstand and laid it on his book then drew his pen around the bottom snug to the point of the pen so when he lifted up his inkstand the ink being drawn so snug around the bottom it made a great blot and disfigured the circle. Adino Sturvel Elbridge Fifield and others that sit with him laughed at it & him. Baker undertook to cut out the leaf so he took his knife and cut on the sheet instead of holding it up square and in cutting he cut through several sheets of his previous doings this made ~~made~~ them laugh still worse. Mr Young came up to see what the disturbance was when Baker showed him what he had done also the character intended for a circle Mr Young asked him for what purpose he made such a character Baker showed him to represent the one in his Navigation Mr Young asked him if he considered such characters necessary in Navigation. This set the whole school in an uproar and ever after Nathan never got rid of his Navigation doings or circle

Ring Wrestling and Spelling Schools

In our school arithmetic reading and writing occupied much of the time, penmanship was a science worth acquiring (now it is a secondary thing) therefore in order to be good spellers an evening school was given twice a week generally Tuesday & Friday nights. When a spelling school was announced the neighbouring schools more or less visited one another when two scholars one male & one female chose sides and formed each a class of both sexes on each side of the school room and spelled down instead of

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Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

Spelling for places That means when a scholar tried twice to spell a word and missed they were under the necessity of taking their seat. In this way all the best spellers were on the floor till the last two which would sometimes stand for an hour when the last one standing wone the name of being the best speller.

As those the farthestst were always first to church, scholars would congregate here before the evening school and for a general amusement a ring wrestle was put in motion as another excitement.

They were conducted as follows, Two boys or men strike a ring in the snow say 15 feet across it then whoever wished could step in the ring pull off his coat and challenge whoever was disposed to match him at side hugs arms length or at the backs to step in the ring.

I have seen Nathan Baker and Elbridge Fifield take the ring where the snow was two feet deep pull off their boots and wrestle in their stocking feet until the snow became so hard that it would hurt them to fall and then make a new ring where the snow was light and softer These spelling schools and wrestles would sometimes be held as late 11 o'clock at night then the girls and boys some of them travel 2 and 3 miles.

I now make a list of some of the scholars mostly boys who had from 6 to 10 weeks school a year and also what they made on this short term of schooling each year

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrooks House

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Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrook House

59

1833 & 1834

1850 to 1864

These Boys are about the whole number of the school

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Samuel Stone | Master of a Packet <small>Hampden to Boston</small> |
| Otis Stone | Master of a Ship |
| Joseph Wardwell | Master of a Coaster Bangor to Boston |
| Elbridge Fifield | Master Rigger on Ships in Brewer |
| Adino P Atwood | Corn & Flour Merchant Bangor |
| Joshua Downes | Master of a Packet and Coaster |
| Nathan Baker | Never got any higher than mate & a good Rigger |
| Samuel Baker | Farmer on his old homestead |
| Zenus Lawry? | Master of a Schooner coaster |
| George Nickels | Stevadore of Lumber |
| John Martin | Book-keeper and merchant <small>Bangor</small> |
| George Snow | Died in the California Mines |
| Richard Patten | Master of a Brig |
| George Patten | Joiner and Carpenter |
| John Patten | Master Ship builder |
| William Cross | Farmer all his days & full of fun |
| Lemuel Stillson | The largest Carriage & Sleigh Manufacture in <small>Maine</small> <small>Situated at Waterville</small> |

The above is enough to convince one that the boys in my day were of the best of stock endowed with self respect and a will to stand by the true principles of manhood, could the boys at this day enjoy the manhood that these boys possessed and have the same facilities for schools and churches which they now have every man would be a scholar and a gentleman.

I will give one

more anecdote and bid Ball Hill Cove adieu
The above men commenced their seamanship in sail boats and at work loading vessels and when old enough they shipped for the season
It was a crime for a young man to leave a vessel before the season closed and very few such cases ever occurred making it a point of honor to stick to the ship

Ball Hill Cove Enoch Holbrook House

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Ball Hill Cove (Enoch Holbrooks House)

Otis Stone and I were sailing he being Captain of course when the tide was nearly down we went ashore and Otis was going to show me his seamanship. He bet a certain sum that he could shim up the fore stay on a Schooner that laid at the landing go across between the fore and maine mast down on the maine stay and he took off his shoes and done as he said and when he landed on the maine boom the boat was hoisted up to the Davys he jumped down in the boat and set down on the outer rail when the heft tipped the boat on heeled her over so he made a complete somerset and struck on the flats in about 4 inches of water in a sitting posture I laughed and should if he had broke his neck. The distance he fell was about 12 feet the mud being soft he was more frightened than hurt, He always reminded me of it whenever I saw him afterwards.

My Step Father having now laboured in a ship yard boring holes at 20 cents a score & various other kinds concluded if he could live near Hampden corner he could find work at that business the year around. He became acquainted with Reed Harding a ship Carpenter who offered to let him half of his house and as much land as he was a mind to till for 12 dollars a year situated one mile below the Lower Corner. The rent being so small in a good two story house that he made up his mind to give his favourite hobby another push and in the spring we

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Hampden
Reed Hardings House

61

On our removal we found a very good two story House on the west side of the road on a small hill facing the east and overlooking a distance of some ten miles all around. a view of Orington Ball Hill and the River which made us feel as though creation had widened out its beauties, but still there was a bareness which would not charm like the little groves and valley of Ball Hill. The road was the continuation of the same Frankfort Road. This section embraced a quite a village but no stores shops nor places of business. All Farms and orchards pastures and cleared land the fields some of them being tilled for 50 years.

I saw at a glance that the neighbourhood was full of boys and girls and as I had become now old enough to appreciate company I thought I should not be alone therefore I did not feel lonely at first but still it grew sharp and I asked my mother if I could go down and visit old Ball hill cove I got permission and in my short stay away things seemed odd I had no home to run to down by the brook which I had jumped over a thousant times and I made my visit & returned to seek new playmates and friends and let old times be gone.

On Page 62 I give the outlines of the neighbourhood commencing on Patten & Hopkins Hill and extend South to the Lincoln road or Doct Allen Rogers Tavern and apothecary shop then east to the Penobscot River.

Hampden
Reed Hardings House

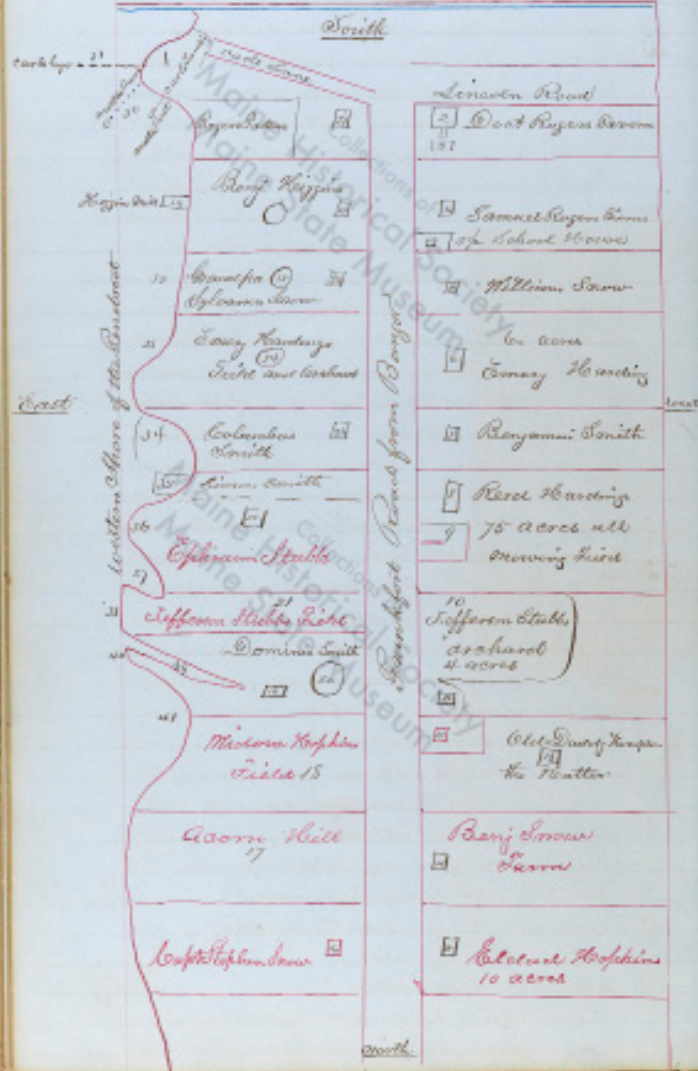
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Hampden
Outlines of Reed Hardings neighbourhood
As it was in the years 1833-45



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Hampden

Outlines of Reed Hardings neighbourhood

As it was in the years 1833-4 & 5

[illustration]

South

[Text at left]

Carls logs carls Landing Carls Lane

Martins Boom Marins Boat

Rogers Pasture

Higgins Mill Benj Higgins

Grandpa

Sylvanus Snow

Emery Hardings

Field and Orchard

Columbus Smith

Simon Smith

East

[sideways at left]

Western Shore of the Penobscot

Ephraim Stuibbs

Jeffersn Stubbs Field

Dominic Smith

Widow Hopkins Field

Acorn Hill

Capt Stephen Snow

[sideways at center]

Franfort Road from Bangor

[text at right]

Lincoln Road

Doct Rogers Tavern

Smauel Rogers Farm

School House

William Snow

60 acres

Emery Harding

West

Benjamin Smith

Reed Hardings

75 acres all

mowing Field

Jefferson Stubbs

Orchard

4 acres

Old Daddy Kempton

the Hatter

Benj Snow

Farm

Edward Hopkins

10 acres

north

Explanation to the Harding Neighbourhood

63

- No 1 Capt James Carls Point & John Martins Boom
- 2 Doct Allen Rogers Tavern and apothecary Shop
- 3 Doct Allen Rogers Apothecary Shop "
- 4 Samuel Rogers Farm 100 acres all mowing
- 4½ School House
- 5 William Snows Farm
- 6 Emery Harding Farm
- 7 Benj Smith Farm
- 8 Reed Hardings Farm
- 9 John Martins garden
- 10 Jefferson Stubbs Orchard 4 acres
- 11 Jefferson Stubbs house & Farm
- 13 Daddy Kempton Residence in the Field
- 12 Widow Hopkins Residence
- 14 Benj Snow Farm
- 15 Eldad Hopkins 10 acres
- 16 Capt Stephen Snow Residence
- 17 Acorn Grove about 3 acres of oak
- 18 Widow Hopkins Field
- 19 Dominic Smith Orchard & House
- 21 Jefferson Stubbs Lower Field
- 22 Ephraim Stubbs house in the middle of the field
- 23 Columbus Smith Farm
- 24 Emery Hardings Lower field & Orchard
- 25 Sylvanus Snow Orchard
- 26 Sylvanus Snow House
- 27 Benj Higgins Farm & orchard
- 28 Allen Rogers Pasture & big Barn
- 29 Higgins Mill Lorenzo D Higgins
- 30 John Martins Boom & Landing on Carls point
- 31 Carls Ledge where I found the man
- 32 Sylvanus Snows Shore
- 33 Emery Hardings Shore
- 34 Sandy Beach where we used to go in swimming
- 35 Simon Smiths Ship yard where Schooner Increase was built

36 Blagsmith Castle ledge

37 Smelt Priviledge

38 Castle point

39 Domenic Smith creek

40 Smiths Point

41 Josiah Hopkins Landing

All the houses

and orchards

were located about

the distance from

the house in which

they are marked

on the outlines

The II Represent

houses

Explanation to the Harding

63

Neighbourhood

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Hampden Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

Having given the outlines of our new neighbourhood I now describe some of its peculiarities on a much briefer scale than I did our previous residence. The people had two occupations for a living. First during all the farming season they attended to their farms and nothing else. Second in the winter they with their horse and ox teams hauled goods from Frankfort to Bangor by the ton and bushel. Hence boys during the summer had to mind their business and tend to their work. During the winter they went to school, but now and then a day would pass itself for recreation. During this spring my lameness was extremely troublesome for a number of weeks. My Step Father went to work in a ship yard for Doct A Rogers at their corner. I can't remember what his wages was but I think one dollar a day and board. The first load of wood we had hauled was by Mr Covell with a yoke of oxen and he found the wood & cut it 8 feet long mostly spruce & Juniper all dry a full load for a yoke of oxen and when asked what he charged for it he looked around it and said he thought it worth 50 cents. I thought it was remarkable cheap but such a load now would cost 3 dollars however this was no cheaper than 12 dollars a year for half of a two story house. The house had an L to it with the chimney torn down and a bed room between the kitchen and next room. In this bed room I built me a bunk and slept in it as long as we lived in the house. The kitchen I made for my work shop & shed. As soon as the ground was open ready for ploughing My Step Father ploughed about three quarters of an acre at the north end of the house adjoining the road the road being level and so much passing I thought it would be a good chance for me to show my skill as

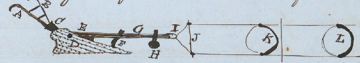
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a farmer and gardener. I had a good taste for both he also ploughed an acre for potatoes back behind the barn which I planted here & dug Doct S S Sanger was building a vessel in Smith yard no 35 direct in front of our house say 1/4 of a mile, in rambling down to see the vessel I saw a favourable chance for drift wood so I procured the landing called sandy beach no 34 of Columbus Smith and paid him in work riding horse to furrow potatoe lanes and the first horse I ever rode was a team horse called Dick stubbs because he bought him of Richard Stubbs I was now full of business I laid up drift wood pieces of boards &c and at the same time laid my garden out to paths according to my own taste. The road is perfectly straight north & south I made a broad Isle east & west with a path all around the square Then I planted Cucumbers Squashes beets Carrots Cranberry beans Corn Peas & potatoe hallahocks red Beans Pumpkins &c every thing square all the rows straight two ways. When my cranberry beans grew I cut some alders and stuck each hill bending the tops over in a regular arch then I went to the shore and selected some of my best long edgings brought them up and nailed them on the sides and on the top in regular lines so when the beans grew they ran all over this arch and the beans hung down between the poles and could be seen from the road also the system of all my other plants I kept the weeds all out nice and very soon people riding bye stopped to view the garden and all the neighbours never saw the like I built me a regular hand waggon and had all the harness whiffle trees yoke &c for 4 or 6 boys I then went into the woods and found a pine tree with a root running out like a plough shear and I made a plough and

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Hampden, Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

Covered the moulboard with hoop iron taken from iron hooped barrels the two prongs which I made the handles of started from the maine stump about a foot from the bottom of the root



- A The natural handle that grew out of the root
- B The branch I sawed off and put in another smaller one
- C Where the tree pronged off
- D The mould board or root after I shaped it
- E The beam which I morticed in made of white maple
- F A hoop Iron Colter run through the beam to the point
- G The beam
- H A wooden wheel set in a maple standard
- I A piece of hoop iron riveted on the end of beam
- J Brace or spreader on the rope for traces
- K Breast plate and the string to go over the boys shoulder
- L Extension rigging for tandrum boys

This plough was the wonder of every one who chanced to see it all over the neighbourhood My corn being planted straight two ways I used to hook from 4 to 6 boys and furrow it out both ways. This was just as good fun as they wanted and they sometimes borrowed it and used it rather rough, One night after sun down Erastus Harding and Capt Stephen snow came up to see my plough, They felt so pleased with it that they wanted to try it so they first one hold the other pull untill they furrowed my corn over some two or three times which put me under the necessity of hoeing it all over again. The regular rule was to hoe corn three times any how. There was but one cast iron plough in that section then and

Hampden Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

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Hampden, Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

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I patterned mine from one of the old fashioned wooden ploughs. The first cultivator I ever saw Columbus Smith had a wrought iron duck foot harrow. He had a piece of very mellow potatoes ground full of barn grass. I told him if I was to hoe that ground by the job I would saw the harrow in two cross wise and put some plough handles in the harrow and hitch old Dick to it and tare the weeds all up and it struck him so favourably that he done so, and I rode the horse to cultivate a days hoeing first. He then hoed it and when he had finished it he said he would not take 50 dollars for my invention. His neighbours borrowed it and in less than two years every one had a cultivator and as the teeth and plough handles cost the most, Eastes & Whittier - employed William Low a pattern maker to get up a cast iron tooth which worked so well that they became in general use (so much for John on farming at that period)

My Garden when it grew, became the Park for the district, My taste was admired and as I was lame I had the sympathy and wellwishes of all, The Boys would as soon as their stent was done come to my garden and offer to come to the shore and even haul me if I would let them in order to enjoy a race harnessed in my waggon, and also shoot with my bow & arrows. Jefferson Stubbs had the previous fall planted 4 quarts of apple seeds which he bought from various children and also had about a hundred small trees which he had grafted and were ready to sit out. He dug his holes 16 feet apart two ways and wanted some one to hold his


67

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Campton, Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

forces while he set them out so I helped him and he designed 4 acres (see no 10) and kept on till he set out 6 acres and as I was so particular it suited him very much so he learned me how to graft which was done by cutting the tree off close to the ground and putting on the scion with wickibe bark for a band and mud balls to keep the air out instead of using a wax plaster as they now do, He had to send to new york to get his scions and all he could get was Baldwins and Ribstone Pippins. see sample  a is the scion split b the stump of the tree scarfed off ready for the scion c the scion and stump put together with a ball of mud put around where the scion and stump meets. He wished to plough among his trees and as all ploughing was done with oxen he would not trust any one to drive among them but me, This orchard now 1864 is the best one in the state and produces 150 different kinds and for years he has exhibited a hundred varieties and more than three fourths the at time drawn all the first premiums. I have had the pleasure of viewing a hundred kinds of apples on tables in our city Hall shown by him every year for some 15 years, He told me that his first crop he gathered in a 3 quart pan my association with the boys in this location changing work with for company &c I learned farming on a scientific scale and it has ever been a source of pleasure to me ever since. The Hay on Reed Hardings Farm was very light, not more than half a crop I help get the whole 75 acres and about this

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Hampden Reed Hardings Neighbourhood First Steamboats

Some the first passenger steamer came on the River to run from Bangor to Boston. This steamer was about an 8 hundred ton Boat commanded Capt Howes and her name was Bangor. Her agent was John W Gamsey a splendid looking man who died a few years ago while he was landlord of the Bangor House. This steamer was a round bow & round stern boat quite short in proportion to her beam and depth. She was a splendid finished and furnished boat and her price was 8 dollars to Boston board free. She run on the route until about 1843 when she was sold to go to Constantinople and has been seen several times there since so of course she must have been a very staunch and thorough boat. In this year another steamer as an opposition boat named the Independence came up the river on the fourth day of July. The news that she was coming was spread all up and down the river and as it was a holly day the banks of the River were lined to witness her approach with both male and female. She was a clipper boat sharp in the extreme both bow and stern and was the largest steamer running then this side of New York. Stephen Snow William Snow Smith boys and myself took some wherries and went out to try the waves she would make as she passed by because some of the men said she would swamp a common boat with her wake. She was a beauty and she went back and then returned I think the next year and run a few years when she run on what has ever been known since as Steammill rock near Greens Pear (The same Pier being covered with the Bangor & Waterville Depot now) and her remains were hauled up in Joppy Cove and there they rest. They kept reducing the fare until Vanderbuilt put on the old Telegraph which run for a dollar and

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at the same time he had boats running on the Kenebec carrying passengers for 25 cents, The first Tow Boat run on the Penobscot was the Taratine a small side wheel boat force with wood commanded by Capt. Smith of Frankfort she run several years when her bottom and back bone was hauled up in Dominic Smiths cove in the outlines (no 39). She had 15 Dollars for vessels a hundred tons to tow to the mouth of the River or Odums ledge Mess Penleton & Ross for whom I have made out many a bill for Towage for put on three first class Propeller Screw Steamers, Names Terror, Capt George W Snow, Nautilus Capt Johnson, May Queen same Capt Smith that run the Taratine and put the rates at six Dollars the hundred tons These Steamers are all alive yet and the Terror & Nautilus run here, the May Queen runs in Boston & is owned by Mess Blanchard & Sherman before the Steamers Bangor & Independence run passengers went to Boston in Packets or Schooners and it would take them from 10 to 25 days to go and return, They used to go every fall and spring consequently buy their goods on 6 and 9 months & make arrangements to exchange their Lumber &c for the same

During this Summer my mother was taken sick and came very near losing her life she barely escaped death and never to this day has she recovered from the shock, although she is now 65 years old. I will not undertake to describe this sickness but will describe its affect on the families future career, My Step Father although I say it myself was the handsomest man I ever saw, Every portion of his limbs and body and features were a perfect model of

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Hampden Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

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a handsome man and he was as smart as he was handsome. He had traveled all over the new England states time and again and he has said he never was Thrown out nor out worked by a man of his inches & heft. I have seen him put his hand on a five rail fence and jump over it with all ease walk under a pole and jump over it, stand on one foot put the other behind his head and jump on one foot all over the room take a broom stick put one end on the floor his left hand close down and put his head under his arm and come up and he has traveled on foot from Waterville to Bangor in 16 hours, I have seen him reap one and a quarter acres of heavy burnt land oats in a day and he would take ten dollars worth of goods and make more money in a week on them than I could on a hundred, but his enemy was drink

After my mother became sick and was sick so long he became discouraged and indulged freely at times, he became in debt to the Doctors and every thing went hard but he never was much in debt for food we lived in this house until the next spring and during the winter we experienced what might be termed hard times mother was still out of health and business was any thing but good. we used a fire place and it consumed a large quantity of wood. Myself Rebecca and Alonzo were all more or less sick which made a house full of trouble and I did attend school but very little Tyler wasgatt was my teacher and a better teacher never carried a ruler for the common branches The neighbours were decidedly liberal in their favours both in visiting watching and help in various ways. The winter was cold deep snow high prices for goods, but a good girl could be hired for 50 cents a week. The winter wore away and when spring came Doct Rogers having moved

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Hampden Reed Hardings Neighbourhood

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Doct A Rogers House Hampden

to Hampden Lower Corner wanted his Barn occupied to keep it in repair and as my Step Father worked for him in the ship yard offered to rent one half of the stand at 12 dollars per year. It being a good two story house with large L shed and two Barns the result of course was move. I think we moved in May and as we were only about a third of a mile from our former neighbours it was a move for the better instead of otherwise. I occupied in company with Joseph Kempton the sand beach as my piling and boat shore while at Reed Harding see no 34. I now made arrangements to occupy Carls Point See no (1). here I had a Boom and boat & I made me a board camp which served as a shelter on rainy days for all the boys in the neighbourhood not at one time but alternately as they laboured around the shores. This was the finest landing on the River but the road and hill from the point to the main Road was quite steep therefore I could not haul more than half a usual load. My brother Alonzo had become the right age to be my constant companion although so small he wished to be with me constant and I remember his noble little form as he sat in the stern of my boat hours while I towed in various kinds of material which I caught afloat. My Mothers health was somewhat better and my sister Eliza Edwards Rayns was born on the 1st of the day in this house. Being now acquainted with all the boys from a mile below Ball Hill Cove to Hopkins Hill a

Doct A Rogers House Hampden

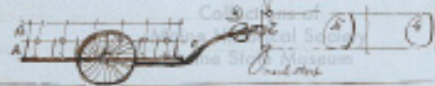
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Doct A Rogers House Hampden

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distance of about three & a half miles it mattered but little to me in what location of the districts I lived in I was as well acquainted in one portion as the other. there fore laying aside my lameness I enjoyed myself during the summer white living here right well. Whenever I worked on the sail it was mellow & easy and could always find employment whenever I wished and get good pay for one of my age and the remainder of the time the shore or the woods and brooks found me boating fishing &c.

During this summer I became a quite a mechanic I made one a cart with hub and spoke wheels and the idea started from an instance of a crooked limb which I found while gunning in the woods that I invented a cart tongue such as are in general use for boy and baby carriages now I made a perfect cart with stake rings side boards snibbels to lip up and all the accoutrements for both a tight body and a sloven hay racks were knot known then but came in use soon after this year



A The side boards B The top rail and stakes put in rings C The crooked tongue D the hand ropes for the two boys on the pole E The yoke to hold up the pole with straps from the rings in the end F The leader ropes for traces G shoulder straps to hold up the traces. This cart loaded for four boys would about five bushel potatoes or a foot of wood I have taken the above cart with Lorenzo D Higgins (who is now colonel L D Higgins) Albert Covell (who is now dead) John & Daniel Smith and in one hour hauled a cord of drift wood from the beach to my pile on the landing and all the time they as well as myself considered it the best fun that could be found

Doct A Rogers House
Hampden

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[illustration]

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