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By GEO. H. BEAMAN.

[illegible]

HISTORICAL INCIDENTS OF THIS VICINITY—No. 12

DEPOSITION OF CHARLES BUTTON

[illegible] Rutland a place called Durham on the [illegible] Otter Creek in the west side of the Green Mountains in the county of Charlotte [illegible] New York, of [illegible] duly sworn [illegible] Rutland [illegible] that the deponent was [illegible] with Joseph Spencer on the same tract since the eighth day of February [illegible] and was landed off [illegible] current money of New York for his services. That about [illegible] Saturday the [illegible] Rutland [illegible] Baker, [illegible] Rutland [illegible] came to the house of Benjamin Spencer, Esq., of Durham, who [illegible] in the county of New York and [illegible] the said Spencer and carried him off at two miles to the house of Thomas Green of Kels [illegible] in custody until Monday morning. The [illegible] at the said meeting [illegible] the said Spencer, whether he would choose to be tried at the house of Joseph Smith in East Durham, or at his the said Spencer's own house. The said Spencer replied, that he was guilty of no crime, but if he must be tried he would choose to have his trial at his own house; the arrest then proceeded with said Spencer to his own house and proceeded to try him before Seth Warner of Bennington, the said Rutland Baker, Doctor Allen and Robert Cochran who sat as Judges. The said Judges charged the said Spencer with being a great friend to Congress and a friend of New York, and [illegible] a commitment of the County of Charlotte [illegible] said Judges found him guilty and passed sentence that for the said Spencer's house should be burned to the ground and that he should be [illegible] the state of Vermont. Spencer then [illegible] said Judges, that his wife and children would be ruined and his means of their support wholly destroyed if their house was burned. Warner then declared Spencer's house should not be wholly burned, that only the roof should be taken off and put on again, provided Spencer would declare that it was put on since the New Hampshire title and purchase, a right under the charter from the last mentioned government. These several conditions Spencer complied to exactly, upon which the matter dismissed.

That a party of the said [illegible] came to the deponent's house on the night of [illegible] for gold or silver as the deponent is informed, and broke open the doors and searched the house for the deponent, which they did not find, as he was gone to Crown Point, to take Stephen Worsely upon a writ issued against him at the suit of Samuel Argyle and one Spencer. That upon the deponent's return home with the said Worsely immediately another party of the said robbers took the deponent, alleged him to discharge the said Worsely, and said Smith and others of the said robbers the next day declared they would pull down the said house and give him the Hickory-ned, meaning the Tory, would flog him [illegible] against Thunder which is see [illegible] Hickory-ned.

The party charged was deponent to give the said Worsely six shillings current money of New York, for taking him the said Worsely [illegible] said Worsely to [illegible] said Worsely to [illegible] made the deponent [illegible] [illegible] the said Worsely [illegible] [illegible] Hickory-ned [illegible] [illegible] chase [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]