

Marble Interests of Rutland--No. 1.

The use of marble for ornamental and artistic purposes dates from the remotest antiquity. The term marble is derived from the Greek word marmaros, which signifies to flash or gleam, and is applied to varieties of carbonaceous limestone of a granular and crystalline texture, Italy, with its famous quarries at Carrara, has long been noted in both ancient and modern times for its abundance of marble, and it is the source of a rival of no mean pretensions in the products of the Rutland hills. The extent and variety of this Vermont mineral is something beyond the general knowledge of a majority of our Vermonters. When investigated and thoroughly ventilated it will be found by those who take the pains of ascertaining that it ranks foremost among the manufacturing industries of the Green Mountain state. It is the foundation of the future, as well as of the present, wealth and prosperity, not only of Rutland itself, but of a large number of neighboring villages and towns, scattered either hand from Dorset in Bennington county through to Middlebury in the county of Addison. The gleam and the sparkle of white marble is to be seen all along this route, and is constantly cropping out in new views and promising quarries in every town between the two points mentioned. Its development is ever on the increase. Forty-five years ago the valley at the foot of West Rutland, where the village of West Rutland now is, was a dreary waste of swamp land not worth a song. Mr. William F. Barnes, who had previously moved to New York, returned to Rutland, in 1838, a limited capital in his pocket, and set himself to calculating the marble into quicklime. While engaged in this idea occurred to him that this marble might be used in the manufacture of tombstones. Acting at once on this suggestion he bargained for a portion of the hillside, giving in payment therefor an old horse. He sold the same property thus acquired for \$130,000. Mr. Barnes was, therefore, one of the earliest PIONEERS IN THE MARBLE BUSINESS in Rutland. Born in Pittsford, in 1806, of poor parents, he lived a frugal, hard-working life all his days. His perseverance and energy brought him wealth and enabled him to carry out many works of benevolence and public spirit, which still remain as monuments of his great and generous heart. The hotel at West Rutland, which he built, and the marble works at one of his quarries, a block of marble weighing about one hundred pounds became deluged above where he was standing, and some sixty feet above his head, and he, the sufferer, through to say, survived until the fourth day succeeding the accident when he breathed his last, deeply mourned by the entire community.

Mr. William Y. Ripley came to Rutland in 1837, from Middlebury, and established himself in the marble business in 1841. He soon became one of the leading manufacturers, and built up a trade which early promised the wealth and commercial standing which characterized the latter days of his own life and blessed the future of his children. Mr. Ripley died seven years ago, and was succeeded by his son, leaving the marble business to his two sons, Gen. William Y. W. and Gen. Edward H., who still carry it on under the firm name of "Ripley Sons." Both these sons, in their earlier days, were prominent among the volunteers on Vermont in the rebellion, and won their respective ranks by deeds of gallantry and daring. Gen. William Y. W. succeeded his father as president of the Rutland National Bank. Gen. Edward is vice-president of the same bank, also owner and proprietor of the Rutland opera house. Their sister, Mrs. Julia C. Dorr, is known far and near for her works of both poetry and prose. Another sister, the wife of C. M. Fisher, Esq., of Vergennes, went down on the ill-fated Atlantic, in 1873, with her husband, while returning home from London.

General H. Henry Baxter was a prominent owner and a controlling force in the marble business at West Rutland twenty-five years ago. He owned the quarry at Bellows Falls, originally, but since the time named has been in the hands of Rutland during a portion of each year. He was a prominent promoter and organizer of the old Rutland marble company, and did much toward the development of the marble industry in this section. Other business interests have demanded his time and attention for the past twenty years or so, but he has always taken a pardonable interest in the prosperity of the marble business and in the welfare of Rutland as a town. He built the Baxter bank building here, one of the finest structures for banking purposes in the State, and he owned a residence here, one of the handsomest private residences in the general. John N. Baxter, Esq., a brother of the general, has long been known by his connection with the marble business, and is now one of the handsomest private residences in the State. John N. Baxter, Esq., a brother of the general, has long been known by his connection with the marble business, and is now one of the handsomest private residences in the State.

At the present time Rutland is blessed, not only by a number of "money kings," but by men who may be rightly termed as "MARBLE KINGDOM." We have spoken at length of the pioneers; let us briefly mention a few of the others, carrying on the business handed down to them by Barnes, and Ripley, and Baxter. The foremost among these beneficiaries is ex-Gov. Redfield Proctor, who has become interested in the marble business in 1860. Previous to that he had been known by his gallant record in the army and as a willon practitioner at the Rutland county bar. During the litigation between Messrs. Ripley, Barnes, and Baxter, and the Rutland Falls Marble Company, Col. Proctor was appointed receiver in the matter. He became interested in mind and finally in pocket, and the marble business has since been in his hands. He is now the president of the Vermont Marble Company, organized in 1880 by the consolidation of the Rutland Marble Company and the Sutherland Falls Marble Company, of which we shall speak more at length hereafter, and which we may say is doing the largest marble business of any one firm in the world. Governor Proctor now resides at Sutherland Falls, where he has lately built himself a handsome residence near, but overlooking the marble interests there. The superintendent of this company is Hon. N. P. Simons, well-known throughout the state as one of the ablest advocates at the bar of Rutland county, but who has now, to all intents and purposes, given up the law and thrown his whole soul and energies into the marble business.

Ex-Governor John B. Page became interested in the Sutherland Falls Marble Company about the same time with Governor Proctor, and aided materially in the development and growth of the marble business at that point. He is now a prominent stockholder in the Dorset Marble Company, which has its offices here. The Sheldon family have long been foremost in the marble business at West Rutland, and the firm of Sheldon & Sons, composed of Charles Sheldon and his sons, John A. and Charles H., is still one of the richest and most promising in the trade. The marble business of Rutland, as briefly outlined, and which the past year exceeded the sum of two million dollars in sales, will be more definitely sketched in further communications.

Randolph.—Rev. W. S. Blaisdell and Rev. L. O. Smerdon exchanged pulpits last Sunday. W. E. Blodgett has been sick the past week.

Norman Morgan is visiting at Dr. Henan Morgan's.

The hay crop is very large, help scarce and wages high this season.

Mrs. V. H. Pember is visiting her son, Jay Read Pember, at Woodstock.

Mrs. L. A. Noyes has a passion flower in bloom, which is very curious.

Mrs. SIMON DEXTER of Montpelier is stopping with her father, Daniel Eaton.

L. JENNIE WASHBURN is at home on a vacation from Mary Fletcher Hospital, Burlington, where she is a nurse.

The ladies of St. John's church of West Randolph will hold a grand fair and bazaar in DuBois & Gay's hall, Thursday afternoon and evening.

Payston.—The relatives of Henry McGurk arrived in town on Tuesday. They came direct from Ireland. Mr. McGurk has been keeping tacheol's hall all the spring, and a female housekeeper is to him a welcome guest.

Waterbury.

STILMAN ROGUES of Boston, a former resident of Waterbury, was a visitor here last week.

THERE was an occasion on Saturday when the school committee were again experienced. For the want of a piece of security, officers are compelled to make guests of prisoners in custody, which may be agreeable to the latter but it is not right that it should be imposed upon the school committee. It is to be hoped that at once the quarters it is reported to have engaged for its involuntary guests.

B. F. ARMITAGE of Northfield, has been hired as principal of the Village school for the year ensuing. Mr. Armitage taught here two or three years ago and gave good satisfaction. Since then he has had valuable experience as a teacher and should make an acceptable principal. He is a thorough scholar, conscientious and thorough going. Now let the parents take hold with him and his assistants when the time comes, and all do their best to have a school the Village will be proud of.

At the annual school meeting for the village district the committee was instructed to examine into the needs of the school with reference to the sufficiency and effectiveness of the school facilities and to report at some future date. The committee has been busy with the matter referred to, has arrived at some conclusions and has called the adjourned meeting for Friday evening of this week at eight o'clock. The matter of general interest is the building the highest school building in the village, and the local voters in school-meeting should be present to attend to it.

The young ladies of the Congregational society gave a very satisfactory entertainment at the church on Wednesday evening last. The program was made up of music, recitations, tableaux, etc. The humor was liberally mingled with the serious and the sentimental all the parts were well performed and some of them with a felicity that is not excelled by professionals. Particularly happy was Orator Puff's rendering of "The Seminary's Deliance," and the song "The Olden Days." The operetta was capitally performed and the listeners had many a hearty laugh over its moving incidents. For an impromptu affair the performance was creditable to all engaged in it. It also furnished material among the young ladies and gentlemen that is worth cultivating and utilizing for entertainment on future occasions.

H. J. MAY of Bolton came to the village Saturday morning apparently loaded for an outing. He had his man with him and he had domiciled themselves at Brother-in-law Eaton's, near the tub factory. In the course of the forenoon a sound of revelry came from that direction and the outside indications were that the rites of hospitality were being somewhat strained. Officer Pickett happened to be in the tub mill and he was directed by his chief to make a reconnaissance. When he arrived on the scene he found the doors were being slammed in his face and locked, the windows dropped and secured, and a grin of defiance was on the faces of the inmates. A signal corps at the railway station signified that the enemy was beating a retreat via the main line of the Consolidated Railway of Vermont. Officer Pickett was good wind and managed to get the right of way over all trains, opened the throttle and bore down upon the fleeing peace breaker. Before reaching "Slip hill" he overhauled the culprit, who innocently wanted to know "what about the row was about?" Something that resembled the claws of a crab operated by a forty horse power engine, at the foot of the hill and taking a bottom mortgage on the side beneath the formation "Ben" vouchsafed as he reversed and put on the air brakes. Mister May was marched back to town, an attempt to jump out of the car ending in an involuntary and not a gentle seat on the soft side of a steel rail. Ed Farrar here reinforced Pickett's division, and the prisoner was duly haled before Justice Lease and amerced \$12.40 in fines and costs, for drunkenness. Mr. Pickett, continuing the qualities of a plucky and persistent officer in undertaking such an excursion with the mercury at summer heat. May's face bore the marks of a couple of knock-down blows, the marks administered by his entourage, and return for similar courtesies; but no charges were made for breach of the peace.

One of the oldest and most prominent mercantile firms in Washington county, or in this State, is that of Messrs. Arms & Haines, of this village. The senior member of the firm C. N. Arms, is a veteran merchant, to the honor roll. He began his mercantile life in 1817, as clerk for D. W. Carpenter. In 1843 he engaged as clerk with J. G. Stinson, and four years afterwards became his employer's partner, under the firm name of Stinson & Arms. In 1853 he succeeded Henry Woodward, and continued the store now occupied by E. Wyman, to whom he sold out after thirteen years of trading "on his own hook." Unhappily as a fish out of water when not in trade, two years later Mr. Arms bought out the firm of J. G. Stinson, and in 1857, he and H. Haines was taken in as partner, and the present firm of Arms & Haines formed, which did a flour, feed and grocery business in the store now occupied by J. G. Stinson. In 1871 this firm succeeded S. Brown & Co., near the depot. Mr. Haines, a native of Cabot, came here in 1861, a young man from Greensboro, where he had been a short time in trade, and bought of J. G. Stinson his stock, goods and block of stores. He carried on a dry goods and clothing business alone till 1865, when C. E. Richardson, under the firm name of Haines & Richardson, became a partner. Subsequently he sold out and, as stated above, formed his present partnership with Mr. Arms. For fifteen years, without much friction, the firm has done a large and steadily increasing trade, at wholesale and retail, in flour, feed, groceries and the innumerable articles of comfort, necessity or luxury, for consumption or service, in the household or in the vocations to which the people of Vermont are devoted. Mr. Arms loses nothing of the skill and alertness which marked the younger years of his mercantile life. He is probably better and more familiarly known to a large number of people with whom he has personally traded, than he is even the old merchants of the state at the end of their careers. He has the native tact and address of the born merchant, and though not so young as once was, he is always found at his post with a keen eye to business, and in his dealings, believing that it is better to wear out than to rust out. Mr. Haines is the "soldier general" of the firm and spends his time for the most part on the road. He is a conscientious, a thoroughly honest and conscientious gentleman, and the firm's growing trade and prosperity is in no small degree due to his representation among its distant customers by its junior member. The firm is well made up, its place of business is at the center of a large tributary country and it is bound to extend its sales much beyond their present limits.

Sharon.—George Boardman is not so well for a few days, and Mrs. Arnold Kemp is on the sick list.

Mrs. IRA MAXHAM is visiting at Chester Downer's.

F. S. LEE of Putnam, Conn., was in town last week.

Mrs. EDNA BLAKE of St. Albans is visiting at N. Q. Moore's.

Mrs. HOPKINS has moved from Connecticut into the Congregational parsonage.

Mrs. JENNIE FAY has gone to Quebec to work in Judge Porter's family for a few weeks.

GRACE CHAMBERLIN closed a very successful term of school last week in district No. 3.

Williamstown.

MISS FANNIE CARLETON has gone to Fargo, Dakota.

MR. AND MRS. JAMES S. ARBOTT were in town over Sunday.

REV. O. D. CLAPP is visiting friends in town. His health is somewhat improved.

DR. C. L. RYAN, young son of John Lynde, came from the West a few days ago.

DR. BAILEY'S house approaches completion, and will doubtless be occupied before many weeks pass.

OUR ex-townsmen, Myron Bass of Chicago, is seeking health in the East, at Saratoga and the seashore.

OUR national capital fellow, Frank Beckett and John Walker, are expected home this season for a little vacation.

LOMA and Kate Bass are taking a carriage ride to Derby, the true way to travel for pleasure in Vermont, at this season.

ALICE ENSOY, for many years an invalid, was at church on Sunday last. She is able to ride out quite frequently of late.

OUT of town visitors at the Gulf Springs hotel on Thursday last, swelled the number of diners at Mr. Lang's table to sixty.

The high prices and scarcity of good horses here in Vermont, at this season, is very remarkable. No other kind of stock rules as high, or is as scarce here.

REV. GEORGE CROCKETT of Barre preached at the Methodist Episcopal church last Sunday. Next week he will work from Barre will conduct the services.

FRIENDS of our ex-townsmen Henry A. Ainsworth of Moline, Illinois, will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his marriage the last of this month at Moline.

Mrs. M. M. CLARK of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, wife of one of the firm of wagon manufacturers, whose goods are being sold hereabouts, is visiting the family of O. H. Dickinson.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE LYNDY of Plainfield were in town last Saturday. Mr. Lynde has recently bought a very handsome car. He knows how to drive, and thrive on the lumber business.

At last we are to have a new house here. It was purchased in New Bedford, Mass., and is a great improvement on the old one in appearance. Its cost is very handsome, one and a half cents about four hundred dollars.

Mrs. NURIE R. GRAHAM CLARK, an authoress, was in town several days last week, the guest of Mrs. Elisha K. Bingham. We are glad to hear that she is doing so well, and beautiful scenery about us, and hope she may find something here, to work up, as wamp or wool, in her future writing.

ELISHA MARTIN, son of Denison Martine, has taken a wife into his arms, and removed to Highgate, Dakota, where he is operating the mill. His cousin, Cory Watson, of this place, is spending his summer vacation in the same place.

Mr. W. B. WATSON has engaged to teach in the Highgate academy, to be built on the site of the old school house, and return last Thursday, being on the road ten hours. The distance traveled was sixty-five and one-fourth miles, as registered by a cyclometer on Sherman's road, which he had used for his fair riders not accustomed to long distances.

K. P. BLANCHARD opened a meat market and commenced running a meat cart Monday. "Kim" will get a good trade, as he gives good meat and at reasonable prices. He will also sell his nice choice table butter, and other good dairy, and his fortune is made, if the Enterprise will only tell him where to find the business beef, mutton and pork, that it intimated last week was to be had.

Mrs. K. BARNEY of Providence, R. I., occupied the desk at the Methodist church Sunday forenoon, delivering a very interesting sermon. In the evening she gave a temperance address in the same place, under the auspices of the Young Women's Christian Temperance Union of this place. The house was well filled considering that only a few hours' notice was given. Mrs. Barney is well liked here, and a good speaker.

THERE was a suit or arbitration at E. W. BENTON Monday forenoon, between Geo. W. Tilden, assisted by Justice R. E. Patterson, on the case being John Row v. Dexter Row, in regard to the right to pay for the highway just above the "Trow's" Dexter Row exchanged pupils last Sunday morning.

A. W. FISHER of Washington, D. C., was in town last Tuesday. He will be remembered by many of our citizens as a very successful plunger with here about twenty-five years ago.

A YOUNG child of Mrs. Cora Whitehill was badly burned with boiling water about two weeks ago and now lies in a very critical condition. It is thought it cannot recover.

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Barre.

BENJAMIN TENNEY is at home, having finished his college course at Dartmouth.

W. A. PERRY and P. G. Camp went to Saratoga on Monday to spend a few days.

JASON C. BUDGET and wife went to Old Orchard Tuesday, to be gone a week or ten days.

E. L. SMITH is putting up a new stone shed west of the railroad track and north of the rest of the sheds.

WILL KELLEY and George W. Mann are building a new stable at the Templeton meadow, near the stone sheds.

The works at the fork shop are partially shut down to take account of stock and look over matters generally.

ORVILLE W. LANE is in town for a short time, being away from Plymouth, N. H., on leave of absence from the army.

D. W. MOVER and wife and A. B. Averill and wife left here Friday for York Beach, Maine, they driving their teams down.

G. W. CROCKETT is excavating and putting in walls and underpinning on his lot at Twingville, preparatory to putting on the timbers.

REV. W. M. KIMMELL and wife are away on a vacation; they have been gone some two weeks and are to remain a week or so longer.

N. S. ROBINSON is erecting a dwelling-house near his father-in-law, Enos Farr. He is putting on the roof and will occupy, as he is present on the work right along.

The Sunday-school excursion from Barre to Burlington, with a ride on the lake, is to come off on Wednesday, August 1st. The train leaves Barre at eight o'clock A. M.

REV. P. McMILLAN started on a vacation trip on Friday evening last. He will visit New York city and other places before his return, which will be about September 1st.

MR. NILES of Plainfield ran a meat cart into town two days last week, selling thirty-five and six or eight weeks' business.

The freight tonnage at this place during July was reported as compared with the same month received in June, 1882. The shipments during the month included 187 tons of granite as compared with 395 tons of granite in June, 1882. The fall term of two weeks will commence August 29th, and close November 9th; the winter term of twelve weeks will commence November 12th, and close February 15th, with a week's recess from December 25th to January 1st, the spring term of twelve weeks will commence February 25th, and close May 9th. This arrangement is made to accommodate those who wish to teach during the year.

JAMES N. JOHNSON, Esq., and his son, Luther, started last week for a short trip to Boston and vicinity. Dr. Porter, Misses Abbie and Hattie Carpenter, have been stopping with him a few days. Helen McClean has been in Montreal for a fortnight. Miss Sinclair, a teacher in St. Johnsbury academy, has been visiting her aunt, Miss Biggs. Mr. Holt and wife of Iowa have been visiting Mrs. Holt's father, D. P. King. Henry L. Field of Boston was in town over Sunday. On the 11th of June, F. A. Patton, the pilot of the steamer, was taken last Sunday by E. L. Field. C. A. Edgerton, Jr., and wife went to Waterville Friday with relatives from Brooklyn, and returned Monday.

CABOT—A praise meeting will be held at the Congregational church next Sunday afternoon. The singing will be conducted by Professor George Foster of Brooklyn, N. Y. All are invited to attend and join in the exercises.

JAMES ROOKES of Nebraska is in town visiting his parents.

C. H. WING has three sisters visiting him from Newburyport, Mass.

T. A. TOWN and family started for Old Orchard beach last Saturday.

B. ROGERS has moved into the widow Perry's house near Sprague's store.

FRANCIS BAXTER has rented Mrs. Farr's house at the upper part of Main street.

REV. MR. BAXTER and Rev. Mr. Russell exchanged pupils last Sunday morning.

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Northfield.

MISS LIZZIE KNAPP is repairing her house on Main street.

THERE will be no further services at the Universalist church until August 29th.

A SMALL party from this village has been camping at Berlin pond the past week.

The railroad gives half fare to Montpelier this week Friday, on account of the circus.

PROFESSOR C. W. EMERSON has bought the Howe place on Highland avenue for \$1,900.

THE Universalist society has a lawn party at Professor Charles Edden's this Wednesday evening. All are invited, and a good time may be relied on.

The ladies of the Congregational society will give a lawn party on the church grounds this (Wednesday) afternoon and evening. If the weather is favorable, the tables will be set in the yard.

B. F. ARMITAGE is to teach the graded school at Waterbury the coming year. Mr. Armitage is to be congratulated upon getting so good a school, and the town upon securing such an efficient and experienced teacher.

A SUPPORT has been placed under the weak place in the foot bridge. It would seem advisable to give some care to our village bridges, as the one at the north end of Pleasant street is, apparently, about ready to collapse.

The bridge remains in statu quo. The builders are doing all in their power to get out the iron work, and it will probably arrive before the end of the week. Although the summer weeks put on at their expense, but the selection did not think it was necessary. They propose to put on a better bridge than they contracted for, to compensate for the delay.

At the Good Templars' lodge meeting last Friday evening, F. T. Egerton a side presented the comedy, "Trying it on," and this week a play will be given by members of H. L. Clark's side. The regular quarterly election of officers will occur this week. Although this summer quarter is the hardest one in which to keep up the interest, the attendance and interest have been unusually good this summer and quite a number of members have been added.

The directors of the graded school have elected the last year's board of teachers, but it is not yet known how many will return. The arrangement of terms for the coming year will be as follows: The fall term of twelve weeks will commence August 29th, and close November 9th; the winter term of twelve weeks will commence November 12th, and close February 15th, with a week's recess from December 25th to January 1st, the spring term of twelve weeks will commence February 25th, and close May 9th. This arrangement is made to accommodate those who wish to teach during the year.

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