

THE SUTTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN



SUTTON, MASSACHUSETTS

SUTTON'S STEPPING STONES
Carilyn E. Philbrook, *Editor*

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POSSIBLE NEWSPAPER FROM SUTTON'S YESTERYEAR?

POLITICAL NEWS OF 1889

Feb. 22-President Cleveland approved the following bill--to admit into the Union, North & South Dakota, Montana and Washington.

March 4-Benjamin Harrison and Levi P. Morton took the oath as President and Vice President of the United States.

March 11-President Harrison nominated J. D. Washburn of Massachusetts to be the Minister to Switzerland.

Feb. 26-The Emperor of China was married to three wives.

March 9-News of the wreck of the Spanish steamer "Remus" off the Philippine Island. Forty-two persons drowned.

Died -

In Oldstown, of Malignant Fever of only 43 hours continuance, Achsa Junei age 12 years, a very promising and interesting daughter of Calvin P. and Lucy Ann Stevens. [1845]

LOCAL NEWS FROM SUTTON

In 1768, Sutton voted to pass a resolution to encourage manufacturers and individuals to invent and manufacture new things. The reason for this was to help the colonies to rid themselves of their dependence on England. So Sutton helped by doing its share.

When the Revolutionary War broke out in the 1770's, Sutton had a few guns and no armory to make guns. So Asa and Andrus Waters erected an armory to make guns by waterpower by Singletary.

Asa Waters II improved the making of gun barrels which used to be made by welding them together and grinding them by hand before a revolving stone. Asa invented the process of welding them together by power under the trip hammers. The method now was made wasier, quicker and cheaper and was invented in 1817.

Thomas Blanchard invented a machine he called a lathe that is

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LOOK WHAT A LITTLE INTEREST CAN DO!

by CARILYN E. PHILBROOK

In the early 1820's some gentlemen from Providence, Rhode Island, were traveling through Manchaug. Randall Green, Jonathan and Samuel Congdon seriously pondered over the idea that Manchaug Pond, Stevens Pond and Douglas Reservoir could be used to help manufacture cotton yard goods. The gentlemen bought some land nearby so they could build their mills and start to manufacture their products.

By 1830, they had acquired about 200 acres of woodland, three cotton mills the original ones, eleven dwellings, etc. The mills were busy, the thread made at #2 mill was woven into print cloth at the other mills. The procedures used in the cotton mills were carding, spinning, dressing, weaving, spooling and warping the cotton.

When the building of the addition to #1 mill was completed, the wooden mill was no longer needed, so it became a tenement house and a storehouse for the surplus machinery. The textile machinery was too heavy for the wooden mill. The new #1 mill manufactured printed cloth until 1873 then "Fruit of the Loom" came along.

The three mills mentioned had in their basements breast wheels which furnished the power to run the machinery. In 1835 they manufactured 640,650 yards of cotton goods. In 1876 they manufactured 6,328,050 yards of "Fruit of the Loom." They increased production because the mill owners built dams and a reservoir.

In 1873, B.B. and Robert Knight from Providence, Rhode Island, purchased an interest in the mills. One day in 1871 Robert Knight brought a trademark to the U.S. Patent Office. The design was made fifteen years before by an apple farmer's daughter who lived near the Hudson River in New York.

The daughter loved to paint pictures of apples. Her father owned orchards and also ran the general store. One day, the girl laid her painting of the red apple beside a bolt of muslin. A customer came into the store about that time and said, "please sell me some of that muslin--the one with the big red apple." The girl's father had her paint one red apple after another and pasted them on the bolts of cloth. That cloth soon became a favorite at the store. Cont'd p.3

A RARE COLLECTION OF SUTTON DOCUMENTS 1720 - 1778

In June 1976, Mr. Edward Judice of Wendell Depot, Mass., wrote to the Sutton Historical Commission that he had acquired twenty-five Sutton documents. At an October Sutton Historical Society meeting, it was recommended to buy the documents and Mr. Wilfred Stockwell generously offered to fund the purchase of them.

The papers represent the legal, millitary and civil aspects of Sutton citizens during its early settlement. Because of their unique historical significance it was proposed to publish them in booklet form. The need for easily read text was apparent and Mrs. Alice Riley "deciphered" the originals for publication.

A forty page booklet with soft covers includes reproduction of the originals, a script type face "translated" copy of each, a table of contents listing document index, chronological index and name listing.

A limited edition of two hundred and eighty copies were printed as a Society service to the community. A pro rated price of two dollars per copy has been established to defray cost of publication.

LITTLE INTEREST (cont'd)

Mr. Robert Knight, a friend of the merchant, wanted to use the apple label for his entire line of textiles. Placing the apple on the label, it became the first printed label used. "Fruit of the Loom" was the descriptive line on the trademark. Over the years, two clusters of grapes and leaves were added to the apple. The present version was finalized by 1921.

Many changes took place in Manchaug because three gentlemen took an interest in the flowing waters of Manchaug.

BOOK LIST OF 1800's

A War-Time Wooing and
Between the Lines

by Capt. Charles King, U.S.A.
How to see Europe on fifty cents
a day and

The Tramp at Home

by Lee Meriwether Special Agent
of the U.S. Dept. of Labor
Baldwin's Pre-Historic Nations

by John D. Baldwin Member of
the American Oriental Society

The Sutton Historical Society is an organization that exists to promote research and learning in the history of the Town of Sutton, Massachusetts; to acquire, protect, and preserve property, historical documents, relics and objects; and promote celebration of patriotic and historic anniversaries.

We meet monthly for various programs of historical significance. The public is cordially invited to attend any of our programs.

All persons who love Sutton and who wish to see its historical character preserved are welcome to become members of our active and growing society.

LOCAL NEWS (cont'd)

made for turning irregular forms while a cutting tool shapes the material. He showed his invention to the Sutton residents in the late 1810's or early 1820's.

D. T. Dudley and Son Co. was established in 1825. Now the shuttles no longer needed to be sent from England.

Henry F. Rice, in 1883, started to manufacture Dobby Chains in his shop. By doing this he invented a Dobby Peg to help others in the work.

The people in Sutton also helped with the production of wool, flax, steel, paper, glass, hemp, makings of nails, tinsplate, salt, buttons and other things called necessities in those days.

FREEDOM NOTICE

I hereby certify that I have sold WILLIAM FREDERIC, my minor son, his time until he shall be of age--and shall claim none of his earnings after this date.

PETER FREDERIC

Witness--Elijah Gordon
Bangor, Maine October 10, 1856

To: The Sutton Historical Society
Mr. Keneth Hoover, Treasurer
Box 127
Manchaug, Mass. 01526

I/We are interested in joining
the Sutton Historical Society.
[Check one of the below]
Family membership at \$5 per yr _____
Single membership at \$3 per yr _____
Junior membership at \$1 per yr _____
[under 18 years of age]

Signature

[Please print] Name

Address

Please make checks payable to the
Sutton Historical Society

TABLE OF AGGREGATES

Total number of polls,	709
Tax on each poll,	\$2.00
Total value of Personal Estate,	\$360,605.00
Total value of Real Estate,	914,056.00
Total Valuation on May 1, 1882	1,272,661.00
Total tax for state, county, city and town purposes,	16,803.93
Rate per cent total or rate per \$1000,	12.00
Money at interest, and other debts due the persons assessed, more than they are indebted or pay assessed, more than they are indebted or pay interest for, unsecured,	13,200.00
Total number of horses	386
Total number of cows,	609
Total number of sheep,	126
Total number of neat cattle other than cows,	378
Total number of swine,	226
Total number of dwelling houses,	475
Total number of acres of land assessed,	20,159½

HENRY F. RICE,] Assessors
 J. PATCH STOCKWELL,] of
 BENJ. TOWNLEY] Sutton

From
 SUTTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Box 127
 Manchaug, Massachusetts 01526

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