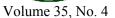
Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House • 1461 Maple Street Hartford Village, Vermont 05047





SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September-October 2022



Hotel Coolidge Mural Tells the Story of Vermont

By Scott Fletcher Photos by Molly Drummond

One of the first things August L. Zollicofer did upon becoming proprietor of the Hotel Coolidge was to decorate one of the hotel's rooms in the style of his native Switzerland. The Swiss Tavern opened at 8 p.m. on February 27, 1946. A newspaper reported that the Swiss Tavern was, "A cocktail lounge in authentic Swiss design. It promises to be a novel and interesting spot for an hour of leisure and quiet enjoyment." (*The Informer of VT, NH, and ME*)

In March, the Hotel Coolidge advertised that the dining room next to the Swiss Tavern would be open for dinner on Sundays. Zollicofer's new restaurant featured northern Italian food, which attracted a loyal following including Dartmouth artist-in-residence Paul Sample and Dartmouth professor Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy. Zollicofer became so popular with Dartmouth faculty that he was eventually invited to manage the dining room at the Hanover Inn on

After Peter Michael Gish completed murals on three walls in a Hotel Coolidge dining room, he painted this barn dance scene in a hotel cocktail lounge. David Briggs, current proprietor of the Hotel Coolidge, calls it the culmination of Gish's work. The painter himself is dancing with woman in the red dress who was the sister of his girlfriend Elsie who has her back to us in the plaid shirt. Elsie's other sister is in the yellow dress, and her brother is in the white shirt to the left. Briggs says that the man in the lower right with an ale bottle in his pocket was a hotel maintenance man. "The barn dance scene shows people living it up and having a good time," says David Briggs. "His word to us is that no matter how difficult and painful Vermont life may have been, we seem to have the energy and determination to celebrate, kick back, and be together."

Continued on page 6.

From the Editor . . .

We try to feature people in Hartford's history who have not gotten the attention they deserve. One such person is Abby Maria Hemenway who came to Hartford in 1882 intent on publishing the next volume

of the Vermont Historical Gazetteer.

Abby was talented and determined. She published the first issue of her *Gazetteer*, featuring a history of Addison County, in 1858. Her goal was to document the human side of life in the early days of every Vermont county. She published the memories of local residents, and the first issues were well



Abby Maria Hemenway

received. But it was a struggle to pay for printing.

In Hartford, Abby spoke with S.L. Farman at the White River Paper Company who offered to help. He announced in *The Landmark* that he would publish future issues of the *Gazetteer* and advertised for a salesman to help sell the latest issue with a unique and personal history of Rutland County.

After that, *The Landmark* has nothing further to say about Abby Hemenway. The fifth volume of her *Gazetteer* was published in 1891, a year after her death. The final volume, covering our own Windsor County, was destroyed by fire before publication. Abby was a friend of Vermont history, but it has little to say about her.

I thought the same might be true of Mills Olcott who is featured in this issue. There is little mention of him in online sources, but Dartmouth's Rauner Library holds a typewritten biography of Olcott compiled from his papers, which are also at Dartmouth. There is also

The Mission Statement of the Hartford Historical Society

To acquire, identify and preserve information and artifacts related to Hartford's past and communicate knowledge of local history through programs, publications, and other interaction with the community.

a brief description of Olcott's four-year struggle to build canals and locks on White River Falls where the Wilder Dam now stands. It's an epic story and we are fortunate that some of it has survived.

The Garipay House is bustling with tours of new exhibits that feature some recent contributions. Please contact us to schedule an appointment.

The HHS thanks Lannie Collins for donating a projector for use in our programs. We appreciate all gifts, especially copy paper. And special thanks to Pat Rondeau for many hours of help around the Garipay House.

Is your mailing address yellow? If so, please take a minute to join or renew your membership using the PayPal form on our website. The address is on our back cover, along with details about our future meetings and programs.

Scott Fletcher, Editor

802-295-2435



Hartford Historical Society

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Mills Olcott Tames White River Falls

Mills Olcott was just twelve years old in 1786 when he attended his first day of classes at Dartmouth College. He may have walked to Hanover from his home across the river in Norwich, VT or his father may have taken him by wagon. It was a short but hilly trip that Mills would take many times before his graduation from Dartmouth in 1790 at age sixteen. Records show that his father paid for tuition but not board, so it is presumed that Mills commuted.

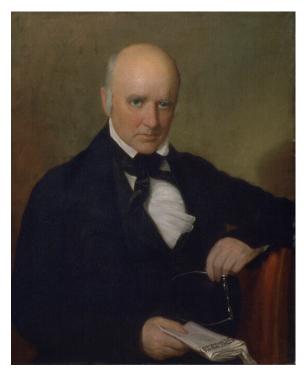
After his precocious start, Mills Olcott led an illustrious life with notable achievements in law, business, politics, and education. He secured a place in local history by building canals with locks

on the New Hampshire side of the Connecticut River so boats could traverse White River Falls without a lengthy portage. The falls became known as Olcott Falls and the community on the Vermont side of the river was known as Olcott. In 1898, it became Wilder.

The canals made Mills Olcott wealthy and enabled him to pursue civic activities until his death in 1845. In addition to his law practice, he served as a member of New Hampshire's constitutional convention, as a representative in the New Hampshire legislature, and as longtime secretary-treasurer of Dartmouth College and member of its Board of Trustees.

Mills Olcott was the son of Peter Olcott who was a brigadier general in the Vermont militia during the Revolution and was present at the Battle of Saratoga when British General John Burgoyne surrendered in October 1777. He later served as the first lieutenant governor of Vermont.

After graduation, Mills worked at the family store in Norwich and helped his father manage his farm and other properties. He showed a keen aptitude for business but decided to study law. He went first to read with Stephen Jacob of Windsor, VT and later



Mills Olcott and associates built a canal with locks that enabled boats to carry goods up the Connecticut River as far as Wells River.

continued with Benjamin West of Charlestown, NH. Mills Olcott was admitted to the bar in 1798 and opened a law practice in Hanover, NH in 1800.

That same year, Mills Olcott married Sarah Porter in the parlor of her home in Haverhill, NH. As Olcott began his law career, the Connecticut River was bustling with flat boats between Hartford, CT and Hartford, VT where the White River Falls prevented boats from going further upriver. There was also a constant flow of pine trees down the river on their way to Springfield, VT and Hartford, CT. The Vermont Legislature sought to increase commerce by approving construction of a canal at White River Falls in

1795, but local businessmen could not find the resources.

In 1798, Mills and his brother-in-law Jasper Murdock advertised land for sale on both sides of the river. It's not clear if they owned the property or were serving as agents. But Mills Olcott was enjoying success in law and commerce. In 1801, he purchased a large home on the Dartmouth campus that had been built by Sylvanus Ripley, son-in-law of Dartmouth founder Eleazar Wheelock.

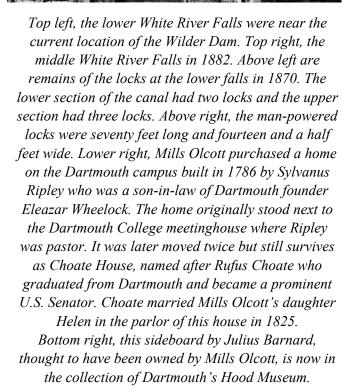
In 1806, Mills Olcott was approached by Gordon Whitmore who had purchased five acres on the New Hampshire shore at Middle White River Falls where a four-foot dam powered a sawmill. Whitmore proposed building a slip around the falls so lumber could pass more easily. Olcott agreed to pay for materials and two-thirds of other expenses while Whitmore would supervise construction. Within weeks, Whitmore decided it would be preferable to build a canal with locks around the middle falls instead. This would mean raising the existing dam by eight feet so water would cover the upper falls. Whitmore said it could be done in two years at a cost of \$4,000. Olcott agreed.

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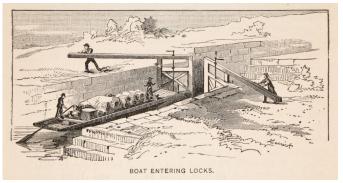
Mills Olcott continued from page 3.















Mills Olcott continued from page 3.

For his investment, Olcott would receive threefourths of Whitmore's property on the river. Whitmore was to repay one-quarter of the money advanced by Olcott within two years of the project's completion.

Construction started in the summer of 1806 but was halted in the fall when a flood carried away half of the new dam. In December, Olcott saw a need for more resources and made his brother-in-law Benjamin Porter a partner in the project. The next year, they formed the White River Falls Company.

Olcott hired additional workmen who eventually numbered over one hundred. Three of these workers were killed in 1808 when a flood washed away much of the dam on the lower falls. After this tragedy, Olcott relieved Gordon Whitmore as supervisor and hired experienced builders to complete the dam and canal.

In 1807, the New Hampshire Legislature granted Olcott and associates, "The exclusive privilege of cutting canals and locking said falls and rendering Connecticut River navigable for boats and lumber from the head of said falls at the upper bar so called to the foot of the falls at the lower bar of the same, commonly called 'Phelps Bar,' provided the same be completed within six years from the passage of the act." Legislation provided that the dam was not to prevent the free passage of lumber down the river, "as heretofore used and enjoyed."

This was the charter Olcott had been hoping for. He purchased the New Hampshire shoreline known as "Phelps Bar," the same year. One more thing Olcott needed was to require that lumber pass through his canals and not just float over the dam. This was a key to the success of the project.

In 1808, the New Hampshire Legislature passed, "An Act Regulating the Mode of Putting Pine-Timber in the Connecticut River." Logs would not float freely. They would be tied in boxes sixty feet by twelve feet, which were formed into rafts to be steered by a crew. At falls, the rafts would be broken into boxes and floated through canals and reassembled. This prevented loss of logs and damage to mills, bridges, and wharves on the river. It also secured the success of the White River Falls Canals.

Olcott's venture opened on May 7, 1810 when three flat boats came through the locks carrying forty-three and a half tons of goods. Each boat was charged two dollars, plus one dollar per ton of freight. One hundred and thirteen boats paid this toll in 1810.

The project had been far more costly and difficult than expected. Olcott calculated the construction cost at \$23,443.89. In 1811, Benjamin Porter owed over

\$3,000 to Olcott who somehow found the funds to buy Porter's interest in the company.

Gordon Whitmore had not repaid his initial loan from Olcott as agreed, and had lost his role as supervisor, but he never gave up his claim to part ownership of the canals. In 1815, he sued Olcott for a percentage of profits, but a Vermont court ruled against him. Whitmore continued to sue Olcott who settled with him out of court in 1821 by giving up a one-quarter interest in the works. In exchange, Olcott was able to purchase a three-fourths interest in land and mills owned by Whitmore on the Vermont side of the river for \$1500.

Lumber dealers and others also sued Olcott who usually prevailed except when a court forced him to lower tolls for a time. Over the years, he estimated that legal fees and other expenses brought his total investment to \$40,000, but the canals provided Mills Olcott a very respectable return for the rest of his life.

While he operated his canal and attended to litigation, Mills Olcott also left his mark at Dartmouth, in the New Hampshire Legislature, and in the legal and banking professions. His family increased and he experienced a mid-life religious awakening that led him to join the Hanover Congregational Church.

The letters received by Mills Olcott, archived at Dartmouth College, show that he was widely admired and respected. After he died at age seventy-one in 1845, one obituary noted that he had a "large soul," with a talent for understanding people.

The New York Observer and Chronicle ran this tribute. "In the death of this estimable man society, learning, religion, share with a bereaved domestic circle in the consciousness of a loss well nigh irreparable. Few men have been more widely known, few more profoundly loved and respected in life, or more sincerely lamented in death. The pen, which would fain pay a becoming tribute to his various worth, finds itself at a loss to present a portrait which, while it shall appear true to his friends, shall not seem overwrought and extravagant to those who had not the pleasure of his personal acquaintance."

Olcott's family continued to operate the canal for years after his death but river traffic declined when rail service arrived around 1850. Locks in Bellows Falls were closed in 1857 and locks at Ottaquechee Falls in Hartland were destroyed by a flood in 1859.

In 1865, a flood finally carried away much of Olcott's dam, and remaining wooden structures were removed the following year. Olcott's Falls were again untamed and remained so until Charles and Herbert Wilder built a new dam in 1883.



The first scene in the 1950 mural by Peter Michael Gish features Mount Ascutney, which the Abenaki called Monadnock meaning, "Mountain rises with no foothills." The Connecticut River is prominent because it was how white settlers began moving to Vermont after the French and Indian War. In the sky, what looks like a ghost is an Iroquois mask as a nod to Vermont's indigenous people. To the right, the mural shows pioneers building shelter and facing harsh weather. The man swinging the axe is a friend of the painter named Bob O'Brien who was a student of Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy at Dartmouth. The young couple to the right depicts Peter Michael Gish and his girlfriend Elsie. In the corner is Mount Mansfield.



The next wall begins with a woman who has just given birth while a man sits helplessly by her side. Then, a lone rifleman heads off to the Battle of Bennington, symbolized by the Bennington Monument in the distance. The Battle of Bennington weakened the army of British General John Burgoyne and contributed to his defeat at the Battle of Saratoga in the fall of 1777. The next image is a communal barn raising. David Briggs, proprietor of the Hotel Coolidge, notes that the face is that of Elwyn Phillips who was once the business partner of his father, Fred Briggs. The biceps, however, were those of Bob O'Brien. Over the double door is Lake Champlain, thoroughfare from Montreal to New York City. Then, a quintessential Vermont hill farmer stands stoically next to a wall in idyllic Plymouth Notch. To the right, farmers pile hay on a wagon and a steam locomotive arrives in White River Junction.



On the final wall, an abandoned farm suggests the lure of the American frontier during the California gold rush and the westward expansion of the 1840s and beyond. Gish then depicts the Morgan horse, which was compact and elegant enough to be a saddle horse, yet strong enough to pull a plow. The mural then features a herd of increasingly abstract horses galloping toward images of wartime destruction and headstones modeled after the cemetery at Plymouth Notch where the Coolidge family rests. Finally, there is a faceless figure standing erect on barren soil as if waiting for whatever an uncertain future may bring.



The barn dance scene graced a cocktail lounge in the Hotel Coolidge during the 1950s and was moved to the café off the main lobby in 1970.

based on his research into the history of Vermont and described how he could transform a three-season porch into an added dining room with a new stone fireplace on one wall and an epic mural on the other three walls. Zollicofer agreed and Gish set to work in exchange for room, board, and a stipend of \$1,000.

Gish covered wooden panels with canvas, mounted them around the room, and secured them with molding. He then told the story of Vermont's settlement, beginning with a ghostly Iroquois mask in the clouds on the far left recalling indigenous inhabitants. Moving to the right, bold images show Mount Ascutney, settlers building log cabins, a woman giving birth and men erecting barns, stacking hay, plowing fields, and going to war. Gish completed the room by gathering stones at Mink Brook in Hanover and helping local mason Bill Guyer build a rugged fireplace with a hand-hewn wooden mantle.

In Zollicofer's cocktail lounge off the hotel lobby, Gish mounted more panels to a wall and painted a barn dance scene featuring himself twirling a woman wearing a red dress. Peter Michael Gish completed the project in about six months. He was twenty-three years old. Gish is now 96 years old and lives in Rhode Island where he continues to paint.

The History of Vermont mural remains powerful and the fireplace is still functional. David Briggs enjoys explaining the mural's imagery to guests and recalling some of the notable people who dined in the room. Today, the lobby of the Hotel Coolidge is known as the Zollicofer Gallery.

Rotary Hears Hotel Head Explain Murals

The Landmark, November 15, 1951

Perhaps unique among the meeting places for Rotary clubs and of especial interest to Vermonters is the "Rotary Room" in White River Junction's Hotel Coolidge. A.L. Zollicofer president of the Junction Hotel Corporation of Vermont and guest speaker of the White River Junction Rotary Club, discussed the history of the room for Rotarians and guests at their meeting Tuesday, November 13.

At the suggestion of Paul Sample, resident artist of Dartmouth College, Mr. Zollicofer employed Peter Gish, a Dartmouth student studying under Mr. Sample, to design and paint a set of murals for the Rotary Room. The room is done in old growth pine paneling, which came from a barn in Vershire as did the handhewn beam serving as the fireplace mantle. While the fireplace was also constructed by Peter Gish of native Vermont stone, his murals are the room's most significant aspect.

The various panels of the murals, around three sides of the walls, depict the history of Vermont life, in particular, but in a larger way the development of the American nation as a whole. The early settler, expansion and growth westward, the rise of industrialism, the uncertainty of the present, the hope for the future are among the ideas portrayed by the artist. Gish spent weeks in study and research before starting the project, which in all took over six months to complete.

Scenes represented among the panels show specifically, the Green Mountains, the activity of pioneers in clearing and settling the land and in developing the agriculture of the state. Also shown is the conflict between the peace of pastoral living and the rise and development of industry. Other panels depict wars between states and nations leading to our present uncertainty and raising the question, "What hope is there for the future?

At present Peter Gish is studying in Paris. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and is the son of an investment banker in New York City. An older brother of the artist was killed in action in World War II. Peter Gish, himself, is a pilot in the Marine Air Corps Reserve.

Wild West Show Comes to Town

The Landmark, July 26, 1895

On Tuesday thousands upon thousands of people, including many hundreds of our townspeople, congregated in this locality to witness for the first time those phases of life so contrary to modern civilization, that are exemplified by Buffalo Bill's Wild West exhibition and Congress of the World's Rough Riders.

The street parade, which took place at 2 p.m. exhibited the entire aggregation to good effect. Col. Cody was the cynosure of all eyes, indeed, he was the chief object of interest, the one great magnet of

Col. W. E. Cody, the king of them all, won immense applause by his sharpshooting at falling objects in mid-air while riding at full speed.

attraction during the day. The parade was not marked by the glitter and glare incident to the retinue of a circus or the show of caged animals, but was nevertheless an

object of intense interest to the thousands of spectators, who literally packed into every nook and corner along the route of the parade, impatiently awaiting the tardy coming.

Next to Col. Cody, Indians were the objects of greatest interest. Veritable warriors of many tribes, all well skilled in the use of the scalping knife and Winchester rifle. The initial performance commenced at 2 p.m. in the presence of about 12,000 people of all ranks and callings and of many nationalities. The press, the pulpit, the bar, the store, shop and farm were each represented, and women, lovely were present in great numbers.

The exhibition was marked by unqualified genuineness In the horse race between a cowboy, a Cossack, a Mexican, an Arab, a Gaucho, and an Indian with the Indian broncos and Russian and Arabian horses was absolutely real for the reason that the competitors and the horses they rode faithfully represented the types advertised. Then, how very novel and entertaining were the object lessons afforded by the exhibition of the lasso performers; the wing shots by Miss Annie Oakley and Johnnie Baker; the Cossacks and their feats in horsemanship; the pony express showing how letters and telegrams were distributed across the North American continent previous to railways and telegraph wires?

The military musical drill was the feature of the exhibition, the entire ring being occupied by a detachment from the 7th United States Cavalry from Ft. Riley, detachment from the 5th Royal Irish Lancers, detachment from French dragoons of Republique Francaise, detachment from



Garde Cuirassiers of his high majesty Wilhelm II.

One of the principal features was the attack on the Deadwood mail coach by Indians. The vehicle is the genuine old coach, now rickety with age, that was used many years ago on the route between Deadwood and Cheyenne, and in which many people have been killed. The attack upon the wagon train and the attack by Indians upon a settlers' cabin were incidents illustrative of the hardships endured by the early settlers and frontiersman who opened up the great west civilization.

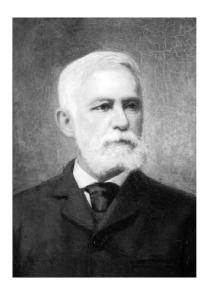
Col. W. E. Cody, the king of them all won immense applause by his sharpshooting at falling objects in mid-air while riding at full speed. This and the inimitable horsemanship exhibited by other skilled performers with vicious broncos, were scenes never before witnessed by thousands of the vast audience assembled under the enormous canvas and who dispersed at the close of the performance thoroughly well satisfied with every feature of the most unique and wonderful show ever given in this state.

There are 600 men and 200 horses attached to this exhibition and they require 53 railroad cars for transportation. The big tent has a seating capacity for 18,000 people, but was not all used here. The cost of running such an enterprise per diem figures up into many thousands of dollars. It is however an exhibition of immense educational value which is worthy of, and receives the moral support of, the most enlightened people.

Charles T. Wilder in the News

The Founder of the Olcott Mill Dead

The Landmark, August 20, 1897



Charles T. Wilder, 66, of Wellesley Hills, MA, died Saturday at his summer home in Olcott. At an early age, he was admitted to partnership In the Boston firm of Wilder & Co., paper dealers, which was established by his father in 1840. Mr. Wilder and his brother H.A. Wilder, have constituted the firm since. They

have been large manufacturers of paper, principally for newspaper printing, having mills at Olcott, VT and Ashland NH. Charles T. Wilder giving his chief attention to the manufacturing and spending most of his time at Olcott was a man of great business energy and achievement. His constructive work at Olcott, utilizing a great water power always before unemployed, damming the Connecticut River and putting up extensive mills, all evinced thorough workmanship and courageous purpose.

The Wilder Benefaction

The Vermont Standard, September 30, 1897

The employees of the Olcott Falls company in Hartford were treated to a genuine and agreeable surprise at the close of work Saturday evening, with an order on the National bank or White River Savings bank at Hartford, or a sum of money, was presented to each employee, according to the length of service and wages received by each, together with a card, upon which was a photo-engraving and an explanation of the gift by Treasurer Herbert A. Wilder in the following words, "Kindly accept the distribution of \$10,000 left by Charles T. Wilder, the late president of the Olcott Falls company, as a parting remembrance from him to the employees of this company."

Mr. Wilder was accustomed to present each employee having a family with a turkey on Christmas

of each year, and he was held in high regard by all in his employ. This gift and the \$12,000 left to the town of Hartford for building an iron bridge across the Connecticut River at Olcott, provided the name of the village and public business offices are changed to "Wilder," will not comprise all that he has done for the village created by the location of his pulp and paper mills. Mr. Wilder has also left \$90,000 for a free public library, which is to be erected at the corner of Norwich Avenue and Hawthorn Street, and which will be a lasting memorial to a warm hearted and public spirited man. Altogether Mr. Wilder, although in business in town only about sixteen years, has left nearly \$150,000 to be distributed for the benefit of his fellow men within a radius of ten miles of Hartford.

The Wilder Library

The Vermont Standard, June 23, 1898

The Wilder club and library building at Wilder, work upon which has been commenced, will be a handsome structure. The main building will be of brick, 54 feet 8 inches by 51 feet 8 Inches. It is one story high with a commodious basement. In the latter a billiard and recreation room, toilet room with shower bath, and the boiler and coal rooms will be located with apparatus for supplying the entire building with steam heat. A bowling alley is provided for in a projection 27 feet 8 inches long from the main building.

In the body of the main building will be the library, reading room, smoking and card room, and a hall with seating capacity for about two hundred persons. The entire building will be lighted by electricity. The estimated cost is \$15,000. This will be defrayed from a bequest of \$30,000 in the will of the late Charles T. Wilder for erecting a suitable building for the purpose named and providing towards its maintenance. It will be located just above the post office in the village of Wilder, and will stand a fitting memorial to the liberality of its founder.

Turkeys Distributed

Rutland Daily Herald, December 6, 1905

One hundred and twenty-seven turkeys were distributed among the employees of the International Paper Company, who have families, at Wilder last week. The late Charles T. Wilder left a fund for an annual Thanksgiving gift of this kind.

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Hartford Historical Society Newsletter

Yesterday's News

West Hartford News

The University Press Club announces that Irene L. Newton, a senior at the University of Vermont, has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, national honor society whose members are chosen on the basis of high scholastic standing and character. *The Landmark*, December 19, 1940

It Hash to Be You

A Brooklyn man has just found his sister from whom he has been separated fifty years. She was the cook in his boarding house and he recognized the style of her hash. *The Landmark*, March 4, 1892

Pass the Offering Plate The Landmark, December 20, 1884

Rev. S.I. Briant preached an interesting and forcible discourse last Sunday and as a result, the evening service was rather better than usual.

Smile!

Our photographer has moved his goods and chattels back to Hanover. Now who is going to take our handsome faces? *The Landmark*, March 22, 1884

Full House

The Junction House is full constantly proving that it is one of the best kept hotels in the state. *Vermont Journal*, October 1, 1881

Lost The Landmark, May 18, 1922

Two prominent Junction young men in a Ford in the wilds around Quechee following a dance there one night last week. A kind motherly dame took pity on the swains in their plight about two-thirty a.m. when their nerve gave out before did the Texaco gas in the tank and gave them comfortable lodging until morn. Neither a Philadelphia nor a Washington lawyer could have told them where they were, before the rescue was made. Just a few more turns of the wheel would have brought them over the hill from Dewey's Mills to the center of the town--but they knew it not. Six-thirty is a nice time, indeed, to come bowling into town sleepy and sheepish!

Doggone

Mrs. Lake of Hartford informs us that a stray shepherd dog is at her house and it would please her to have the owner call and get the same. She has a dog of her own and wants to get rid of this one. *The Landmark*, February 7, 1890

Green Tomato Pickles

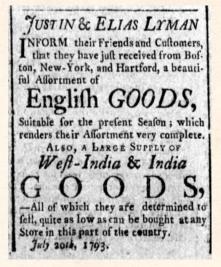
Take green tomatoes, slice evenly and finely with or without sliced onion. To one gallon allow two quarts of vinegar well spiced with cloves, cinnamon, and ground mustard, with a half pound of sugar added. *The Landmark*, October 18, 1884

For the Record

We generally manage either to tell three small lies every week or else one big one. We last week said that Mrs. George Lyman was "stone blind." That was one lie, she can distinguish daylight from darkness but that is about all. *The Landmark*, May 17, 1884

The name of Elvis Preslev. when spoken aloud, reminds some of a steam engine about to go tearing up a track. And if you've ever caught his act on "Stage Show", it. the Dorsey's figures. One moment, Elvis coasting along with a song, like that steam engine with the fires banked. The next moment, he's on fire. His legs begin to shake and jump, his head snaps up and down, his hair whips the air, and he jiggles his leather-covered guitar like a bartender working a cocktail shaker. Even though he's just a growing boy of 21, R-C-A Victor's new country and pop artist has soared along the stardom track so fast in his 18month old career that now, besides his motorcycle, he owns two Cadillacs, one pink black, the other canary yellow. The boy from Tupelo, Miss. has arrived now, in a fashion that hasn't helped him shake the fingernail biting habit. He says, "It's all happening so fast there's so much happening to me that some nights I just can't fall asleep. It scares me, you know . it just scares me."

St. Albans Daily Messenger, February 20, 1956



Vermont Journal, August 5, 1793

Hartford Historical Society

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HHS Calendar

THE GARIPAY HOUSE MUSEUM is open by appointment only. Please call 802/296-3132 or email us at info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.org. Phones/email are checked twice a week.

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS are open to the public on the first Monday of the month at the Garipay House at 6 p.m. (Please check for exact date.)

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 - "Farming in the Jericho District." Presented by George Miller. 7:00 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ; 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village. Masks optional.

Wednesday, November 9, 2022 - "Vermont's Sheep Farming Era." Presented by Steve Taylor. 7:00 p.m. at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ; 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village. Masks optional.

The **Genealogy Center** on the second floor of the Hartford Library is open Fridays from 2-6 p.m. and by appointment. Please call Carole Haehnel at 802/295-3974 or email her at: chaehnel151@comcast.net. Interested in helping residents explore their family histories? Please contact us at info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com.

Websites

Hartford Historical Society: http://www.hartfordhistory.org/

HHS Membership Form: http://www.hartfordhistory.org/?page id=437

Hartford VT Historical Society Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/hartfordvthistory Hartford History Timeline: https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/1456118/History-of-Hartford-Vermont/

Very Vermont - Stories from the Green Mountains: https://veryvermont.exposure.co/very-vermont